Calendar of Events

Events

June 18, 2015

NPA/NPAS Summer Board Meetings (conference call)

August 13, 2015

NSAA Media Meet & Greet (Includes continental breakfast) 9:00am, NSAA Office, Lincoln, NE

October 1-3, 2015

National Newspaper Association (NNA) Convention & Trade Show St. Charles, MO

October 23, 2015 NPA/NPAS Fall Board Meetings Lincoln, NE

October 23, 2015

Journalism Hall of Fame Banquet Nebraska Club, Lincoln, NE

Webinars

May 21, 2015

Arming, Incenting & Organizing Your Sales Team - and Driving Digital Dollars Too Online Media Campus

CONTACT INFO: Telephone: 800-369-2850 or 402-476-2851 FAX: 402-476-2942 Legal Hotline: 402-474-6900

E-mail: nebpress@nebpress.com Web Site: http://www.nebpress.com

Better Newspaper Contest TABs have been mailed

A copy of the NPA Better Newspaper Contest TAB was mailed (Thursday and Friday of last week) to the newspapers that were unable to attend the NPA Convention last month.

We do have extra copies of the TAB available, so if you'd like an additional copy (while supplies last), contact the NPA office at nebpress@nebpress.com.



Prepare now for 2016 Contests

As you'll recall, in March of this year, the NPA Contest Committee announced that beginning in 2016, NPA's Better Newspaper Contest will switch to a digital/online format for contest entries and judging. At our convention last month, the Illinois Press Association, who designed and will implement the online contest program that NPA will use, demonstrated how the electronic contest will work, for newspapers that were able to attend.

To make the transition (from hard copy to digital entries) as smooth as possible, we recommend that newspapers begin now to prepare for the 2016 Nebraska Better Newspaper Contest:

- Create an electronic folder on your desktop or serve and name it CONTEST ENTRIES 2016.
- As you put together each issue of your newspaper, pay attention to the excellent investigative reporting, the unique ad designs, promotions, photos, columns and website video, create PDFs of your work, label them for easy identification and put all of them into the folder. (You might also want to include the issue date that the item was published, for easy reference).
- Then, when you receive the Call for Entries for the 2016 Nebraska
 Better Newspaper Contests, your newspaper will be well ahead of
 the game. Entering the contest will be easy and, better yet, you won't
 overlook that first-place winning entry because you forgot about it or
 couldn't find it.

These steps should help the transition go smoother as we make the switch to electronic contests!

NPA/NPAS Staff

Allen Beermann

Executive Director

email: abeermann@nebpress.com

Jenelle Plachy

Office Manager/Bookkeeper email: jp@nebpress.com

Rob James

Sales Manager

email: rj@nebpress.com

Carolyn Bowman

Advertising Manager email: cb@nebpress.com

Susan Watson

Admin. Asst./Press Release Coordinator

email: nebpress@nebpress.com

Violet Spader Kirk

Advertising Sales Assistant email: sales@nebpress.com



Last chance to register for weekly newspaper conference in Columbia, MO

With a registration deadline of May 13, this is your last chance to register for the 2015 conference of the International Society of Weekly Newspaper Editors, June 24-28, 2015, at the Reynolds Journalism Institute, Missouri School of Journalism, Columbia, hosted by Gary and Helen Sosniecki. **Non-members are welcome.**

ISWNE was founded in 1955 to encourage and promote high standards of editorial writing, facilitate the exchange of ideas and foster freedom of the press in all nations.

If you can't attend the entire conference, Friday-Saturday registration is \$159 and includes a full day of journalism-focused programs on Friday and, on Saturday, the half-day editorial-page critique, the highlight of every conference, topped off with the awards banquet that evening. You'll need to arrange your own housing.

The conference is packed with programs about journalism past, present and future. For a registration form and more information about the conference, go to http://www.iswne.org.

"Freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction... It must be fought for, protected, and handed on..."

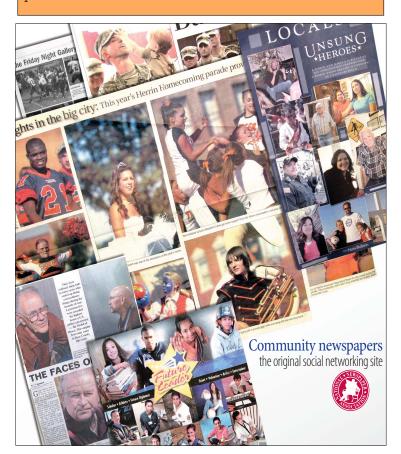
- Ronald Reagan (July 6, 1987)

Be prepared: Newspaper Disaster Checklist

In times of crisis, all eyes turn on the press for immediate and accurate news coverage. But what happens when the press becomes the victim of a disaster?

From flash floods, tornadoes and other natural disasters to power outages or a loss of an important staff member, trauma is almost impossible to predict. But through effective preparation, newspapers can continue to function in spite of setbacks.

Attached to this week's Bulletin is a Newspaper Disaster Checklist, prepared by the Ohio Newspaper Association, it covers the ins and outs of an adequately prepared staff, to help you keep operating on all platforms in times of disaster.



Editorial: Subscribers deserve an apology

By Dennis Morgan, Publisher, Elgin Review and President, Nebraska Press Association

Editor's Note: This editorial was published April 29, 2015, in the Elgin Review and is reprinted here with permission.

For weekly newspapers, the day after publication can be the slowest day of the week. Here at the Elgin Review, Thursday is the day when we focus on tasks like doing print work, paying bills, etc.

Last Thursday turned out to be an extremely busy day, not for the reasons mentioned above. Instead, we spent the afternoon answering phone calls trying to offer an explanation for why some subscribers didn't receive their newspaper. Not only were we taking these phone calls, other weekly and daily newspapers in the state were also.

For whatever reason, the U.S. Postal Service (USPS) failed to get our newspapers into the hands of our subscribers across the state. We learned the Albion newspaper, also mailed Wednesday, failed to make it to Elgin subscribers on Thursday, Friday or Saturday. The Neligh News had issues as well as other papers. As of Monday, other newspapers in the state experiencing similar problems with last week's issue were Sutton, Stromsburg, Ainsworth, Ravenna, Mullen, Fremont, Fairbury, Petersburg, St. Edward, Dodge, Hickman, Pierce, Superior, Ponca, Arapahoe, Callaway, Wauneta, Imperial, Papillion, Springview, Central City, Ogallala, Gothenburg, Orchard, Bloomfield, Humphrey, Wisner, Clarkson, Leigh, North Platte, David City, Laurel, Plainview, Burwell, Hooper/Scribner, Fullerton, Blue Hill, Bassett, Wakefield, Niobrara, Spencer, Stanton, Osmond, Pender and McCook.

For our newspaper, the problem doesn't rest here in Elgin. We do our part. As instructed by the USPS, we use the right labels, we put the papers in the right tubs and deliver it to the post office well before the time

when the mail truck leaves. We've never been told we were doing anything wrong.

All subscribers' papers are mailed on the same day, Wednesday, every week. From here they now go to the Omaha processing & distribution center. Newspapers are classified by the USPS as Second Class/Periodicals, postage is paid in advance based on the weight and the number of papers being mailed out. In most, but not all towns, newspapers are the largest customer the local post office has. Despite that fact, the quality of service provided to newspapers is less than satisfactory and appears to be getting worse.

Let me make it perfectly clear, at the Elgin Review we have an excellent working relationship with Postmaster Sandy Zabka and Postal Clerk Dawn Meadows. They are pleasant to work with, a credit to their profession. The problem isn't at the local level.

The problem manifested itself when the USPS closed regional processing & distribution centers in Norfolk and Grand Island, moving those operations to Omaha. Service, in particular, the delivery of newspapers has suffered. For example, the Albion and Petersburg papers now arrive on Mondays where, in the past, it was Thursdays.

It's not just newspapers. A First Class letter mailed from the Elgin Post Office, now takes three days to arrive in Lincoln where, in the past, it used to be next day. What can you, the subscriber, and we, the newspaper, do? One, call (402) 930-4490 to voice your concerns about the inadequate delivery service being provided by the USPS. We, working with the National Newspaper Association, will make our concerns known not only at the Omaha office, but with the Postmaster General in Washington, D.C. In the meantime, our subscribers and postal customers in general, deserve an apology and a promise to do better.

USPS Announces New Postage Rates for May 31

Member alert, National Newspaper Assn (NNA), May 7, 2015 The U.S. Postal Service has announced the final postage rates for 2015, effective May 31. The Postal Regulatory Commission today approved the rates. The rate implementation was delayed by a dispute between the Postal Service and the regulators who objected to the way some rates were calculated. Some adjustments have been

made to final rates since the proposed rates were first announced. But nothing significant changed from these charts, or the May Postal Tips column, that is in common use by community newspapers, shoppers, or free newspapers, according to Max Heath, NNA postal chair.

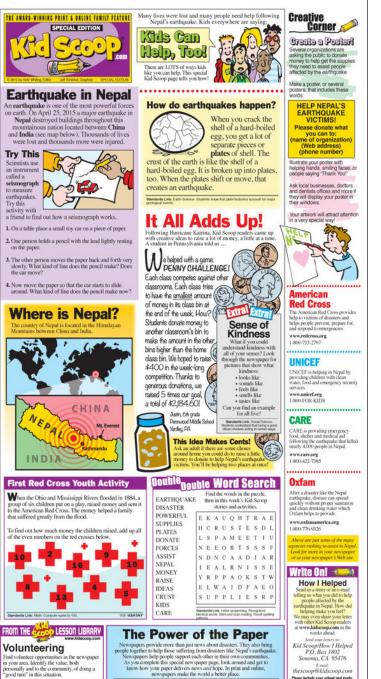
To see Max Heath's rate charts for Standard and In-County mail, go to http://www.nnaweb.org/pub/doc/periodicalandshopperpostalcharts.pdf. Outside-County prices are too complex to calculate with varying bundle sizes and containers.

Content That Works, KidScoop donating proceeds to Save The Children

Content That Works/KidScoop is donating 100% of the proceeds of the sale of this page to Save The Children's Nepal earthquake disaster-relief efforts.

To purchase this page (below) to publish in your newspaper, go to:

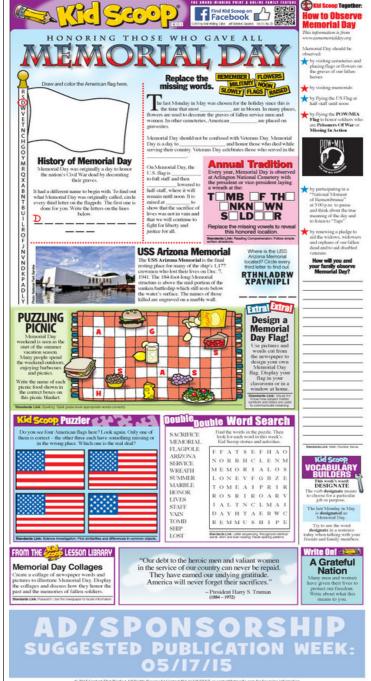
http://store.contentthatworks.com/products/ kidscoop-earthquake-in-nepal for details, or contact Dan Dalton, dan@contentthatworks.com, 909-793-9890.



NIE Memorial Day page available through May 22

Through the Newspapers In Education (NIE) program, Content That Works and Kid Scoop are offering this MEMORIAL DAY page for a one-time cost of \$95.00. Designed to have a sponsor ad across the bottom, you could recoup some of the cost with a local sponsor. Three page sizes offered: full-pg broadsheet, half-pg broadsheet and TAB page.

The page is only available for two weeks – now through Friday, May 22. To purchase and download the page, go to: http://store.contentthatworks.com/products/kid-scoop-memorial-day-2015 Contact: Dan Dalton, Content That Works, dan@contentthatworks.com, 1-909-793-9890.



Note to teachers and parents: Kid Scoop's Special Negal Earthquake Edition was designed to give you the viocals/sary and background needed to better undenstand the news articles about this historic disaster.

Classified Advertising Exchange

May 11, 2015

ADVERTISING MANAGER for suburban Omaha weekly community newspapers. Looking for a sales manager with a proven track record who is a leader. Our newspapers are located in two of the fastest growing communities in Nebraska. The potential is waiting for you. Email resume to: penny@dcpostgazette.com, or mike@gretnaguide.com.

SPORTS REPORTER: McCook Gazette is looking for a reporter to join our Sports team. The successful candidate will:

- Be responsible for sports content for daily (Mon-Fri) afternoon newspaper and newspaper web site
- Cover all local and regional sports activities including 15 high schools and one community college
- Design, manage photos and assist in paginating the sports pages
- Write game stories while working on a deadline
- Be capable with a camera
- Recruit & oversee stringers and help them develop into productive writers and photographers
- Maintain regular contacts and relationships with coaches, players and athletic officials McCook is located in Southwest Nebraska, 275 miles east of Denver and 290 miles west of Omaha. It is a very rural community where high school sports is King. Send resume, cover letter, and clips to Shary Skiles, sskiles@ocsmccook.com or mail to Publisher, McCook Gazette, PO Box 1268, McCook, NE 69001.

RETAIL AD SALESPERSON needed at Holdrege Daily Citizen. Earn salary and commission. Position is open May 1. If interested, call Bob King, 308-995-4441, or email job application to holdregecitizen@yahoo.com.

FOR SALE: Arapahoe Public Mirror and the Elwood Bulletin, located in south-central Nebraska are now for sale. Small, community weekly newspapers that are turn-key operations. Great staffs, great communities, great investment. For more information contact publisher Gayle Schutz, 308-962-6305 or email: bgsfarms80@gmail.com.

ATTACHED TO THIS WEEK'S BULLETIN:

Classified Advertising Exchange, Newspaper Disaster Checklist.

ORDER SAFETY VESTS THROUGH NNA

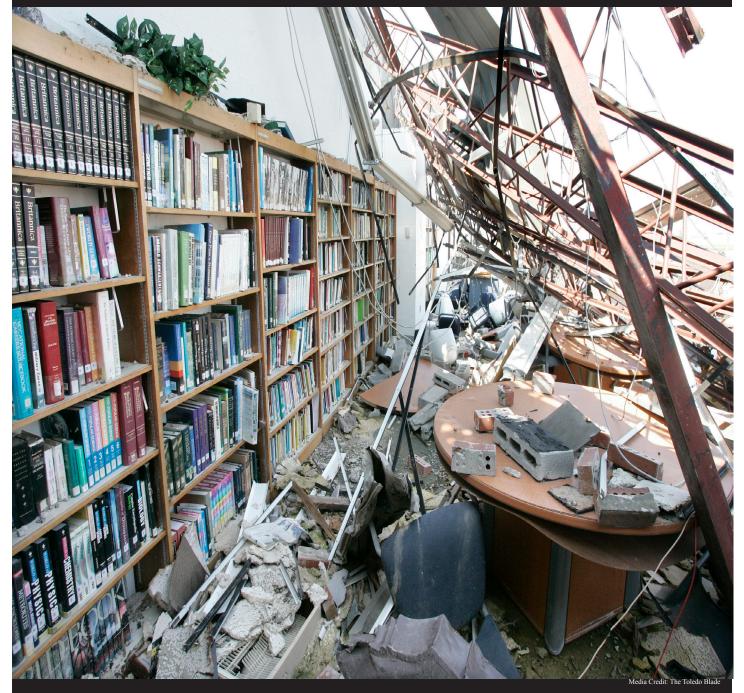
U.S. Dept. of Transportation regulation requires media representatives who work within the rights-of-way of federal-aid highways to wear a specific type of high-visibility safety vest. This applies to all newspaper employees - not just reporters & photographers. NNA offers ANSI Class II-2004-107 safety vests with reflective markings and Velcro closure. In large letters on the back is the word PRESS. Sizes S-XL, \$19.50 ea.; sizes 2XL-4XL, \$21.50 ea. (plus S/H). To order, call NNA at 573-777-4980.

Advertising in the Classified Advertising Exchange is only \$4.00 per week for non-members. (Approximately 25 words, if you have a longer ad, there is an additional charge of \$1.00 for the ad with a 50 word maximum.) It's a great way to sell or find equipment, hire a new employee, advertise a service which you provide, sell or buy a newspaper. Only Nebraska member newspapers may advertise for help wanted for Nebraska newspapers. No out-of-state help wanted advertisements accepted.

Just mail, email or fax us your ad copy by noon Friday to get it in for the week's Bulletin. If you have questions, call NPA, (402)476-2851, NE: 800-369-2850, FAX: (402)476-2942 or email: nebpress@nebpress.com.

THE DISASTER CHECKLIST for Newspapers

Courtesy of The Ohio Newspaper Association and The Oklahoma Press Association



A comprehensive checklist to help newsooms prepare for the worst

THE DISASTER CHECKLIST FOR NEWSPAPERS

The newspaper has a very unique and important responsibility to the community in times of disaster and must plan to operate in a crisis. Developing a checklist of items leads to the development of a disaster plan, which will provide the publisher and staff confidence that they are prepared to fulfill their obligation to their community, neighbors, family and friends. In times of crisis you are needed more than ever!

PREPLANNING

Preplanning is the most important step in avoiding or knowing what to do in case of a disaster. Setting a calendar date each year to update the plan, review the list, make a new inventory tape, talk to employees, have a disaster training exercise, and other related matters is the easiest way to ensure this important item doesn't slip through the cracks in the hectic schedule of a newspaper.

CHECKLIST 1 Pick a disaster – any disaster

- YES NO
- ? I have made a list of all possible disasters that might affect my paper. (Include tornado, flood, bomb, fire, sabotage, lawsuit, computer system failure, key employee death or disability, other types.)
- ? I have ranked the list of disasters from most likely to least likely.
- ? I have evaluated what areas of my operation would need to be restored first if a disaster strikes my whole paper, or just a portion of my business.

CHECKLIST 2 We're OK here – How about YOU?

- YES NO
 - I have made decisions on what to do if the paper avoids a direct disaster, but the disaster involves my town, subscribers, advertisers, employees, a family member, independent contractors, or our key suppliers.
- Place I have made a list of steps to take (for all areas including news, advertising, legal notices, circulation, accounting, business operations, etc.) if one of these "contingent" disasters affects my newspaper.
- ? I have made a list of key employees we depend on for the basic newspaper function and what the key responsibilities of those employees are in order to get the newspaper published.
- Programmer is spared, but disaster strikes their own homes or families.
- Programmer in Employees know whether they can take vacation or sick leave for disaster-related absences.
- I have thought about what to do if any employee or a family member is killed or disabled by a disaster.
- I have set priorities on what additional lines of business (i.e. print shop, office supplies, book store, tag agency, etc.) the newspaper might operate, and how they will be affected by the disaster.

CHECKLIST 3 I'll get by with a little help from my friends

- YES NO
- ? I have made a list of which newspapers or businesses I will call on to help with critical newspaper functions.
- ? I have a list of their names, numbers, and critical functions they are to perform.
- ? I have documented my newspaper's technical configurations.
- ? I have a list of the software that is critical to publishing the paper.
- ? I have a list of other "non-publishing" software, such as accounting and circulation, that would be necessary to complete other functions of the newspaper.
- ? I have a list of the exact number and type of machines I need.
- ? I have a list of alternate phone numbers to use in case of a disaster.
- I know where to get Internet access and email for me and my staff.
- ? The staff knows where to assemble if the newspaper equipment or offices are unusable.
- [?] If I print other newspapers, I know where I would send my customers.
- ? If I print other papers, I have a list of other printers and know what to tell them so they help my customers immediately.

- [?] If I am printed elsewhere and my printer has the disaster, we have discussed where to go and what to do.
- We know what to tell carriers, post office workers, convenience store distributors and others in case there are changes in the method of delivery of the newspaper.
- ? The local police, fire and medical personnel know us, will vouch for us, and won't panic and shut us out when the TV stations and helicopters arrive on the scene.

CHECKLIST 4 My insurance policy doesn't cover WHAT?!!

- YES NO

 My insurance agent has been out to my paper in the last year to see my operation.
- My policy is tailored to specific needs of my newspaper; not a general policy.
- I know where my insurance policies are located, and keep them in a safe place.
- I have reviewed my policies in the past year with my agent.
- ? I have reviewed the list of my equipment and clearly understand what is covered by insurance and what is not.
- ? I have replacement cost insurance, including incidental costs.
- [?] I have business interruption coverage, and know the length and limits of that coverage.
- [?] I am certain my insurance policy covers all the risks that I listed above.

CHECKLIST 5 But it's worth more than that to ME!

- YES NO
 [?] I know the true value of each piece of property.
- I know the true business interruption costs if I could not publish as usual.
- ? I can explain and justify these values to a claims adjuster.
- ? I have determined some items are minor and not worth covering.
- I have determined that some risks are unavoidable and not covered them with insurance.
- P I have decided it is not economically feasible to cover some property/risks.
- ? I have determined there are other factors influencing my decision to cover or not cover some property/risks.



The aftermath of a devastating tordando that struck the Toledo area on June 5, 2010. Photo courtesy of The Toledo Blade

CHECKLIST 6 Let me show you around

- YES NO

 [?] Local fire personnel have toured my paper in the past year to familiarize their personnel with our building, hazards, exits, etc.
- [?] Local medical personnel have toured my paper in the past year to make sure they know how to get in and out of the building in case of a medical emergency.
- ? Local police personnel have toured my paper in the past year to make sure they know about my property and can protect my paper in case of a
- ? I have made changes to my building, hazards, etc. since the last visit of my local fire, medical and police personnel.
- ? I have a copy of the layout of my paper, and a listing of addresses and phone numbers of key personnel.
- ? I have a listing of alternate addresses and phone numbers for key personnel.
- ? I have the paper layout and personnel lists in a secure, accessible place in case of a disaster.

CHECKLIST 7 If I had to do it over again...

- YES NO

 [?] I have thought about what parts of my business I
- would change if I had to restart, from the ground up, the newspaper or any other businesses I operate.
- ? I have thought about what new offices and/or equipment would be required if my paper becomes damaged beyond repair.
- I have made a calculation about how much income I would need to keep the paper alive while waiting on insurance settlements.
- I know the state law on how many issues I can miss before I lose my status as a legal newspaper.
- I have thought about exactly how long it would take to restore my paper to normal operation after each type of disaster.

CHECKLIST 8 Didn't we have something over there?

YES	NO	
?	?	I have made a detailed, room-by-room inven-
_	_	tory list of everything at the newspaper.

- My inventory also has descriptions and model numbers of all pieces of equipment and software.
- ? In the past year, I have made a videotape of my entire operation.
- ? I have set a date each year to videotape everything in the operation.
- ? I know if I there is any "third party property" at my newspaper office.
- ? I have included "third party property" in my inventory list.
- ? I know if "third party property" is included in my insurance coverage.
- ? All employees understand whether their personal property would be covered by insurance.
- ? I have stored my paper's detailed inventory list and videotape in a safe and secure place.
- ? We know the location of all racks and how we would distribute papers if they were destroyed.

CHECKLIST 9 I thought you knew how important that stuff was!!!

YES NO ? I have a written list of all vital records pertaining to my newspaper.

- ? I have backed up all my computer information.
- ? I have a regularly scheduled plan to back up all computer information.
- ? I store the back up information and copy of all vital records in a safe and secure place.

CHECKLIST 10 What would we do without you?

- YES NO
- If the publisher does not serve as the disaster manager, the staff knows who will be in charge.
- ? I am emotionally and physically ready, willing and able to be the disaster manager for my newspaper.

- ? Our paper is prepared to be the hub of information for townspeople, before, during and after the broadcast media have left the area.
- ? I have made a list of immediate actions to take and which staff people are responsible for what items in the event of a disaster.
- ? I have the list stored in an easily accessible and secure place, and staff knows where it is.

CHECKLIST 11 Quiet on the set! And ... ACTION!

- Our newspaper staff knows the basics of our action plan in case of a disaster.
- Our basic action plan includes important names and phone numbers.
- ? In the past year, we have had a fire drill or other disaster training exercise.
- ? We set a specific date each year to have a disaster training exercise.
- ? Our staff knows what to do if the disaster happens during working hours.
- ? Our staff knows what to do if the disaster happens when the office is closed.
- ? A copy of basic staff actions are posted in the building as a quick employee guide.
- Property Employees have a copy of the basic action plan and their responsibilities at their home.
- ? The employees know what records to safeguard.
- ? The employees know to minimize physical damage, such as location of fire extinguishers.
- ? I know which employees are trained for First Aid and CPR.
- I know which employees will be called away if the National Guard is called upon, or if they are volunteer fire, ambulance, police personnel.
- ? I have made contingency plans for the absence of those employees.



OHIO NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION
1335 DUBLIN ROAD, SUITE 216-B
COLUMBUS, OHIO 43215-1000
614-486-6677
WWW.OHIONEWS.ORG