

845 "S" Street
Lincoln, Nebraska 68508-1226
(402) 476-2851 / NE 800-369-2850
Fax (402) 476-2942
Web Site: <http://www.nebpress.com>
E-mail: nebpress@nebpress.com



Nebraska Press Association

Nebraska Press Advertising Service

For Immediate Release - April 22, 2016

KEARNEY, NE - Sharron Hollen, G. Woodson "Woody" Howe, J.P. O'Furey (posthumously) and Matt Waite, will be added to the Nebraska Journalism Hall of Fame during ceremonies to be held October 21, 2016 in Lincoln, NE.

The Hall of Fame inductees were announced at the Friday, April 22, awards banquet as part of the 142nd Annual Nebraska Press Association Convention in Kearney, NE. The banquet was attended by more than 130 Nebraska journalists. The NPA is the state's oldest trade association, comprised of all 169 daily and weekly newspapers in Nebraska.

The UNL College of Journalism and Mass Communications is a co-sponsor of the Nebraska Journalism Hall of Fame.

The Hall of Fame was started in 1973 by Jack Lowe, retired longtime editor and co-publisher of the Sidney Telegraph. The Hall of Fame honors persons who have distinguished themselves in printed journalism.

Sharron Hollen worked at the North Platte Telegraph for 48 years as a reporter. She wrote her "Reporter at Large" column by traveling to 17 countries and writing about people, places and things. She started at the Telegraph right out of high school, in 1962, and continued as a reporter until her retirement in 2011.

G. Woodson "Woody" Howe's career at the Omaha World-Herald spanned 36 years, serving 24 years as a member of the company's board of directors. He joined the Omaha World-Herald as a reporter in 1962, and went on to serve as city editor, editor and senior VP for news. Woody led a legal effort in Nebraska that resulted in a landmark First Amendment case, Nebraska Press Association vs. Hugh Stuart.

A University of Nebraska-Lincoln graduate, Matt Waite is a professor of practice at the UNL College of Journalism & Mass Communications, and started the first drone journalism program in 2011. The Drone Journalism Lab, under his direction, has been at the forefront of the changing regulations for drones in the U.S. Prior to joining the faculty, he was the senior news technologist for the St. Petersburg Times in Florida, and the principal developer of the Pulitzer Prize-winning PolitiFact.

Following a nearly 20-year newspaper career as a reporter and circulation manager at several Ohio newspapers, J.P. O'Furey started his Nebraska newspaper career in 1915, when he purchased the struggling Cedar Co. News in Hartington, NE, and quickly built it into a profitable and prestigious newspaper. In 1932, he was elected to the Nebraska State Senate, representing the 10th District. O'Furley died in 1937 at the age of 61.

###