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TRG
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An August 14, 2019, supplement to the Tribune Record Gleaner

Decision to merge three papers kept them alive

Bob Berglund had just finished printing the latest editions of The Loyal Tribune and The Spencer Record on an early summer day in 1969 when the telephone rang. It was neighboring publisher Albert "Abbie" Neuenfeldt calling with a business proposition. That call would set in motion a change in the local news coverage scene that has impacts yet today.

Berglund and his wife, Florence, were still relative novices in the weekly newspaper business when Neuenfeldt's call arrived. They had purchased The Tribune and The Record from Bill and Jeane Hesse only nine months earlier, and like Neuenfeldt with his Greenwood Gleaner, were focused just on getting another week's issue to press.

Neuenfeldt's news was sudden. "He called me up and told me his linotype (press) broke and he wasn't gonna' fix it," Berglund said. Would the Berglunds be interested in adding a third small newspaper to their operation?

At the time, it wasn't unusual for small towns like Loyal, Greenwood and Spencer to have their own newspapers — even Dorchester and Granton had their own in the previous 10-20 years — but Greenwood was about to lose its hometown publication. Berglund made the quick decision so that would not happen.

Within a week, a plan was hatched to merge The Tribune, The Record and The Gleaner into one publication. The first issue of the merged papers came off the presses on June 19, 1969. Before long, the tag "TRG" caught on.

Berglund paid just \$2,500 for the Gleaner, but all he received was the paper's name and its subscription list of about 400 names. Neuenfeldt kept the commercial printing part of the business, and agreed to be the merged paper's Greenwood reporter.

The Berglunds were distributing about 700 copies of the Tribune at the time and 200 copies of The Record. The addition of The Gleaner's 400 copies to the press run added more work as well as costs such as more paper. Berglund said he didn't contemplate such matters in that first week.

"There wasn't much time to think," he said. "We just came out the next week with the new paper."

In those days, local weekly papers were largely funded by advertising from their own towns. In adding Greenwood, Berglund said he at first had difficulties drawing in many advertising dollars. In addition, there was a problem in that regional advertisers like Northern States Power and Ford Motor Company would often buy an ad in each paper. With just one paper instead of three, the ad revenue for two editions was lost.

The merger also meant more work for the small staff in the Loyal Tribune office. On the printing press used there at the time, only four pages of a newspaper could be printed in one run. A 4-page section would run through, but was printed on only one side. The run then had to be fed through again to print the other side. For a 16-page paper, that meant four separate time-consuming runs, and then each paper had to be hand-assembled and hand-labeled for mailing. That process took the better part of two days in itself, Berglund said.

The Tribune had to add more staff people soon after the TRG began, and even then, the workload was too much. In 1972, the staff put together a special Progress Edition for Spencer, but Berglund said he couldn't

squeeze in the time to get it printed. He decided to have that job sent to a Chippewa Falls press. Seeing how convenient that was, Berglund soon after began sending all the papers out to be printed.

Meanwhile, there were new challenges in producing a newspaper that now covered three communities. When a paper such as The Loyal Tribune only is concerned with its one town, there are few decisions on which news items get better play. With a paper covering three towns, which town gets the front-page space?

Berglund said he decided early on he would take it week-by-week, and let the news events speak for themselves.

"We decided we wouldn't worry about that," Berglund said. "Just whatever happened to be the news that week got the front page."

Still, folks in each town saw the TRG as its own.

"You always had people talking about The Tribune or The Record or The Gleaner. They hung on to that for years," Berglund said.

In the first year of the merged TRG, Berglund said he wondered if the move had been worthwhile. There was more work, for sure, and more costs, but not a corresponding revenue increase. Telling Florence that, Bob said she reassured him it would eventually pay off.

"Oh, yes, she said "We're meeting new people and you'll be going places where you never thought you'd go," Bob said.

The subscription base slowly grew as local residents got used to the TRG serving all three towns. At first, a subscription cost just \$3 per year. That low cost was due in part to an old Postal Service rule that allowed newspapers to be mailed free in the county of their publication. That dated back to the days of Benjamin Franklin, Berglund said, when newspapers were the sole means of keeping the public informed.

That law changed in the 1970s. Even as subscription rates climbed with the rising costs of postage, newsprint, labor, etc., the subscription base grew to more than 3,500



The first merged issue of the Tribune Record Gleaner (TRG) published on June 19, 1969, carried a front-page photo of Albert "Abbie" Neuenfeldt and Bob Berglund with a story describing how the new combined publication was born.

by the late 1980s. Berglund said the merged paper eventually worked well because of the connectivity between the local towns. There were people in Spencer who once lived in Greenwood, for instance, or Loyal people with family in Greenwood.

"You found out they were related," Berglund said of the towns. "They knew somebody. They were kind of connected."

Berglund thinks back with some trepidation to that sudden decision to buy a third paper and combine them all into one. Faced with the need for a quick decision, he said he did it in part because he did not know if a would-be competitor would swoop in and buy The Gleaner.

"If the neighbor is gonna' sell the farm next to you, do you buy it?" he said. "There wasn't much time to think."

Berglund does think there is a strong chance that the Greenwood Gleaner could

simply have folded in June 1969.

"I don't know how much we could've done," he said. "At least Abbie set me up to have a subscription list."

That long-ago decision to merge the papers may have been the key to saving all of them. Given the rise of the Internet and social media, continued problems with postal service costs and delivery issues and other factors, neither the Tribune or The Record or The Gleaner would likely be alive today had they not been combined when they were.

"The papers would be gone," Berglund said. "I think of that. It's important that each community still has some way to get their message out."

The newspapers also remain as a permanent record of what happens in Loyal, Greenwood, Spencer and Granton. Berglund said he notices every day how a news post on Facebook in the morning is gone by the afternoon, yet a newspaper's pages are there in ink on paper forever.

We print what happens today for tomorrow's history. How else are you going to keep that history?" he said.

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Reporter now plays role at paper she grew up reading

by Cheyenne Thomas

Whether we would like to believe it or not, newspapers play an important role in our lives. Having been a reporter here at the Tribune Record Gleaner for the past three and half years of my life, it would be easy for me to say newspapers are important just because it's my job. But, after looking back through the past 50 years of TRG publications, it has really struck me just how important newspapers are in recording the events of our lives, both yours and mine.



Cheyenne Thomas became aware of her hometown newspaper's role while growing up in Granton, and now works there as a reporter.

Reflecting back on my childhood years, I never thought then that I would end up writing for the local paper as an adult and covering events in the Loyal, Greenwood, Granton and Spencer communities. Growing up just on the edge of town in Granton, I was more concerned in those days with the usual problems of a kid: completing my schoolwork and having fun when the opportunity arose.

Even while I was wrapped up in my own life, there were events going on at the time which would play important roles in my childhood development, events I can now look back on with a better lens via old TRG copies. Though I hadn't noticed it at the time, the TRG was there, covering the events going on in my hometown, from the possibility of school closure during the recession to special classroom activities and people just trying to make a living here.

It wasn't until I reached middle school that I began to pay more attention to the local paper. I couldn't tell you an exact date, nor could I tell you what the first thing I read was actually about, but if memory serves, I believe I started to care about the content of the paper for the same reasons many people start: my name was in it.

When I reached eighth grade, my older brother joined the Granton High School cross country and track teams. The TRG covered his exploits, along with the other high school players of the day, and it wasn't long before my parents began collecting copies of the paper in order to cut out articles and pictures to keep in a scrapbook. I took notice of this and while cheering on my brother and occasionally glancing at the TRG, waited for next season to arrive.

Finally, it came. I joined the Granton cross country and track teams in the fall of 2011 and quickly began to see some personal success in the sports in addition to some coverage in the paper. After a race was over, I soon found myself waiting eagerly for the TRG to arrive each week, just to see what they had written about it.

There is a certain amount of pleasure one gets from seeing their name recorded in print and I felt a lot of it in those days. Sometimes just my name and a time would appear, other weeks, a whole sentence would be dedicated to my latest run. All would be cut from the paper, highlighted, and stored in a scrapbook which I still have today.

Several things occurred then that I now realize helped prepare me for the role I have now. The first was something I was angry about at first: the co-op of the Granton cross country team with Loyal and Greenwood. At the time, other Granton sports were being co-oped too - like football with Greenwood and volleyball with Loyal - (the constant switches of Granton co-ops were well-documented in the TRG) but all it meant for me was longer travels, late nights and unfamiliar surroundings.

Trying to work through it all and understand just what was happening to the world I had known for so long - the little one, revolving around my life in Granton - I found myself turning to the TRG for more than just my own results. Hordes of information were in there, I found, and soon I was reading about other sports, laughing at the humor of The Born Lesar column and discovering area events through the more serious articles in the paper. I grew less selfish and my eyes were finally open to the outside world.

Eventually, I came to terms with Granton's co-oped sports and began to accept the other members of my team from Loyal and Greenwood as a sort of extended

family. No longer limited to running around on country roads outside of Granton, I became familiar with the layout and places in Loyal and Greenwood as we ran all over those towns for practice. Occasionally, I would pass the TRG building on Main Street, never knowing then the building I ran past would end up being the place I work at now.

By the time my senior year at Granton High School had swung around, I could say I was a regular reader of the TRG. Reading the paper when it arrived each Thursday in the mailbox

had turned into an escape, something fun to do to pass the time away. It was an especially good way to take my mind off thinking about any future career beyond high school.

At the time, I had no idea what to do for a future career. In my mind, there were literally thousands of choices before me, I could do anything, but had to settle on only one. I knew the choice I made then, no matter how small, would have an effect on everything and anything else I would do in life. It terrified me.

So when graduation day finally came - yet another event of my life covered by the TRG - I still had no plan. Regardless, I was certain my plan of not having a plan would somehow all work out, with no physical evidence to back up my certainty. As a result, I ended up working for a time at a local greenhouse and later at the Granton School District at its after school program. Successful? No, not really, but without direction, I didn't know what to do.

Of all things, it happened to be the local paper that once again provided the direction I needed. In the January following my graduation, my mother had seen an advertisement for a reporter position at the TRG (in, of course, the TRG) and encouraged me to apply. I did so, and was quite surprised and overjoyed to be offered the job just a short time later. At long last, I had come full circle, going from a selfish teenager caring only about their name in the local paper to actually being a part of creating the local paper.

In the three and a half years since then, I have continued to learn about and write for the paper I consider to be where I belong. I enjoy going out each week to speak to people about the things they do, covering local meetings and events and taking pictures of those unsuspecting kids out just being kids. Every day, I get to relive the past and get to see people react with the same happiness I know I must have felt knowing that something I did was going to be in the paper.

Seeing these things every day, I now realize even

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to the
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and many more to come!

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before my time, people felt the same way about the TRG as I do. Paging through old copies of the paper in preparation for the TRG's 50th anniversary, I saw interactions between the area's residents and the newspaper through stories about the events of the time, opinion pieces, advertisements and even photos, which showed what life was like back then.

In each of the instances, someone took the time and effort to record these goings on. When it was originally written, the writer may only have had the purpose of informing the public of what the current events were in the area. But as time goes on and the years pass, these newspapers have become primary records of our local history, and maybe even the only ones.

I have thought about this a lot, and have come to the conclusion that, in the end, the only things remembered about us are the things we leave behind. When people study the past - be they archeologists or historians - something needs to remain from the people or things that lived before in order to learn anything about it. If nothing was left behind, there is no way they will be able to know if it existed or not.

The same is true about ourselves and the lives we lead in this area. When we want to know local history, we can turn only to the local papers and hope it's recorded somewhere in the old, yellowed pages. If it's not, there's no other place where it can be found. It is gone forever. No news broadcast would ever cover one of our local parades or board meetings, no daily nationwide paper will care about how our communities come together in a success or a tragedy. Those kind of things are only covered by the local paper, and without that, no one will really remember us after we're gone.

If we don't take the time ourselves to leave something behind, we'll become a lot like the lost civilizations of ages past. That's something I hope will never happen in my lifetime, and I hope you don't want it to happen either. Only together will we be able to record the events of our own day to cut out and store in our scrapbooks, to reminisce about with the children or grandchildren of generations to come and to leave behind for anyone else who dares to seek it out.

Happy 50th anniversary to the Tribune Record Gleaner. May it be around for another 50 years and more, to share the news of the special things we have here in Loyal, Greenwood, Granton and Spencer, both today, next week, and in the years to come.

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Hometown papers print the news no one else does

by TRG Editor and former publisher Dean Lesar

In 2010, the Tribune Record Gleaner was at a business crossroads. The economic downturn of two years earlier had taken its toll, slicing into advertising revenue as local businesses were forced to cut back their spending. A phenomena that was largely unseen as recently as a decade earlier — that thing called the Internet — was claiming subscribers as people had new options for their news. Faithful readers of the TRG — the local newspaper for Greenwood, Loyal, Spencer and Granton — weren't aware of it, but it was perilously close to a final edition.

No one was more acutely anxious over that predicament at the time than me, the publisher who would have had to make a decision to end the local communities' local newspaper tradition that dates way back — to 1890 for Greenwood, 1894 for Loyal, and 1913 for Spencer. Fortunately, a way out appeared as TP Printing owners Kris O'Leary and Kevin Flink agreed to buy the TRG and add it to their print products that at the time included the Central Wisconsin Shopper and Tribune Phonograph and Record Review weekly papers. With TP Printing's in-house printing press and the resources of the combined publications, the TRG was again on solid financial footing to continue to be the local news source for its hometowns.

The old saying goes "You don't know what you have until it's gone" probably applies here, as those of you who count on us to bring you the local school and sports news, the obituaries, the feature stories, etc., never realized there was a chance the TRG could have vanished eight years ago. You kept receiving your copy every week as some of you have done for decades.

As we commemorate the 50th anniversary of the merger of the Loyal Tribune, Spencer Record and Greenwood Gleaner into one publication — as well as the 125th anniversary of the first issue of The Loyal Tribune — it's probably more important that we look ahead instead of backward. Sure, it's noteworthy that Bob and Florence Berglund's gamble in 1969 not only paid off but allowed each paper to live on and thrive, but the anniversary reminds those of us who work for the hometown newspaper of the role we play in keeping this business going. And it is a business, keep in mind, like any other in our small towns, it must make money to continue. A notion still exists out there that newspapers are somehow public enterprises and should publish everything for free, but if the revenue from advertising and subscriptions does not outweigh the costs of printing, mailing, labor, insurance, etc., well, there would be no edition next week.

And just what would that mean, if your TRG just

stopped showing up in your mailbox one Thursday, or if there were no copies on the Kwik Trip newsstand? Where then would you find out — as you did in the July 31 issue — who was running for Miss Loyal this year, about a local family that has an established blueberry patch, about a local couple who turned a former Loyal Main Street business into a community rec center, about Greenwood's citizen of the year award recipient, about the Spencer football coach who led the North team in the annual state high school all-star game ... I could go on, but I'm guessing I made my point. Truth is, you might find out about some of the items we cover, but not all of them in one place, in your mailbox every week. For about 80 cents. Not bad, when you think about all the expenses that go into creating that copy each week.

Weekly newspapers date back well over 100 years now. They began to spring up in small towns as communities popped up in this part of the state, and as the printing "technology" of the day allowed small entrepreneurs to turn out a few hundred copies of a publication on a hand-cranked press. Papers back then charged maybe a penny for the locals to put in a classified ad to try to sell their chickens, and an annual subscription may have gone for \$1. Even as late as 1969 — when the TRG was first formed — the newsstand price of a single copy was still only 15 cents, and an annual home-delivered copy went for all of \$3.

Through the years, many small towns have lost their community newspapers. Granton had one of its own for some time, as did many other little burghs. For a time in the early part of the century, there were still papers printed in languages such as German to cater to the first-generation immigrants who settled the rural Wisconsin farmland. Gradually, as populations changed and the newspaper industry evolved, most of those small papers were no longer profitable, and they disappeared. Such would likely have been the case for



Dean Lesar is the current TRG editor and owned the publication from 1998-2010 until selling it to TP Printing Co.

The Tribune, The Record and The Gleaner. Alone they may well have failed; combined, they thrived. Imagine through the years how many things about your local community you might not have known had there been no paper in Loyal, Greenwood or Spencer.

Think, too, how many times there has been an item in the paper that directly pertained to you. How many times were your kids' names printed because they had made their school honor roll, or because they scored 10 points in a basketball game? How many times has there been a birth announcement, or an engagement announcement or an obituary (yes, news-

papers are obliged to print the bad news as well as the good) involving your family or friends? How many times have you seen a picture of one of your neighbors doing something in the community? How else would you have known that your cousin got a speeding ticket, 'cuz she wasn't about to tell you? When your local city decided to raise water rates, where did you read about it? When your local school was about to ask for more tax dollars to build a new addition, where did you read the rationale for it? How many times over the years have you or someone you know said, "Did you see that in the paper?"

Of course, some of you may also have a gripe because this or that was not covered. There is a probably a good reason for that. For one, we don't print gossip, so it's true that many of the things you hear on the street will never make it to print. Often times, that's because it's not true, or at least cannot be verified. There are other times something is not covered because we just can't get to everything, or because many of the activities in our small towns happen every year, and it may not be deemed as newsworthy to cover them every time. In other cases, we just don't know about something. Try as we might to keep our ears always open, we miss things. You can help with that by giving us a holler if there's something coming up that you think would make a good news item.

And speaking of what lies ahead, just what about the future of the TRG, and community newspapers in general? Much has been said and written in recent years about the demise of the newspaper industry, a phenomena that has been amplified by the "fake news" conspirators. As to that, I can only speak to the situation at this small town weekly publication. Nothing we print is fake; care has been taken with each item we publish to ensure it's factual. If we can't verify it, it doesn't get put into ink on paper. Is there fake news being disseminated on the

How many times there has been an item in the paper that directly pertained to you. How many times were your kids' names printed because they had made their school honor roll, or because they scored 10 points in a basketball game? How many times has there been a birth announcement, or an engagement announcement or an obituary involving your family or friends? How many times have you seen a picture of one of your neighbors doing something in the community?

Please see Hometown, page 6

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Newspapers here to stay as long as communities care

by TRG Publisher Kris O'Leary

I was born into the newspaper business. When I was two my parents sold their weekly newspaper in Illinois and moved to Abbotsford after purchasing The Tribune Phonograph and Record Review in 1971. That's when I started going to work with my mom. I was put down to nap on the stack of mailbags they used to send the newspapers to the post office. I would sit on a stool and watch my dad run the small job presses in the downstairs of our main street apartment. I visited with the newspaper people who came to our office to get their papers printed.

For a long time I believed there were mice living in the lead type cabinet because I misunderstood the printing term "type lice" was type mice. The type lice prank used imaginary lice to get the best of unsuspecting people and young kids like me.

Being a newspaper kid meant inserting flyers and collating papers. There were fun times like hide-n-seek in the paper rolls and sitting on a vibrating table that made me talk funny. It also meant attending newspaper conferences at the Holidome in Stevens Point where I got to meet other newspaper kids from other newspaper families. No one else in town understood what it was like, but these kids did. Our parents worked long hours, often nights and weekends. It was during these conferences that I got to know Bob and Florence Berglund and their children. Mark and Shelly were closer to my age. I think Sue and Jackie got stuck watching us in the pool.

I went away to college and came back and married a dairy farmer. I had a career outside the newspaper industry but I knew I wanted to return to the family business one day. That day came suddenly when my dad died of a heart attack in May of 1997. By then my husband had sold the farm and was running the newspaper press. I quit my job and helped my mom and husband keep the business going. By then my parents had acquired The Star News in Medford, the Central Wisconsin Shopper, and The Shopper in Medford.

Over that time we have had five children and added another newspaper to the family, the Courier Sentinel in Cornell. Our oldest son John is working at the newspaper, Lucinda is in college, Conrad is in high school and Warren and Hazel are in middle school.

In 2010, my husband Kevin and I had a conversation with TRG owner Dean Lesar about purchasing this newspaper. He was happy to get out of the business end of the paper and focus on writing. We were happy to have him stay on as editor and his mother Mary Ann Lesar as proofreader.

Over the past nine years we have said goodbye to Phil Greschner and Darin Bogdonvich in sales, Ashley Kadolph in ad design, and reporter Mark Berglund. We have welcomed current staff reporter Cheyenne Thomas, ad designer Karie Schmidt, and sales rep Dawn Damrow.

Enough about the past, what about the future? I can tell you that I am very optimistic about community newspapers. You've probably heard, "newspapers are dying, the Internet is going to replace print, only a fool would buy a newspaper." I'm no fool. Within the last 50 years I have seen tremendous changes in the industry as far as technology goes, but the need for a community to be informed about what is happening at the local level has not changed. People still care about what is hap-



TRG publishers Kris O'Leary and Kevin Flink and their children (counter-clockwise from upper left) Lucinda, Hazel, Warren, Conrad and John.

pening in their schools and local governing boards. The newspaper covers those meetings to let you know what happened. People want to know how their local sports team is doing. The newspaper reporter is there writing stories and taking pictures that still get cut out and put in scrapbooks. People want to know what is happening in the courts and police blotters. The newspaper has this information. People want to know who has welcomed a new family member and who has lost a family member.

The newspaper also covers fun events at school, the library, and communities' events and celebrations. The newspaper lets you know about new businesses in town and those businesses run advertisements to let you know about their products and services.

You could probably find out about all these things if you have the time to search the web and find the right websites and Facebook pages. The newspaper has it all packaged for you and delivered to your mailbox.

At this time I don't think print is going away anytime soon. Just look at the comeback of bookstores, library checkouts and vinyl records. If there is a time print is no longer relative, the local newspaper will still be around online or whatever new technology comes along. The only way the newspaper will go away is if you, the reader, no longer cares about what is happening in your hometown. I'm committed to the communities we cover. I hope that you are too.

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~ Congrats! ~

Josh Rakovec owner

It takes a team of dedicated employees working toward a common goal to produce a community newspaper, and the Tribune Record Gleaner has been fortunate over the past 50 years to have outstanding ones. These are the folks who cover the news, sell and design the advertising, lay out the pages and meet a deadline each week to get your issue in the mail or on the news racks. These are the people who have contributed to the TRG over the years (by year of hire).

<p>★ 1968 Jean Hesse Dean Poehnel Barb Schlaghaft Margaret Roder</p> <p>★ 1969 Cheryl Schlaghaft Albert Neuenfeldt Sue Ann Olsen Julie Zettler Kris Knack Milt Knack</p> <p>★ 1970 LaVerne Kadolph Dorothy Voit Inez Spuhler</p> <p>1970 Gerald Zettler Cathy Spuhler Sherry Fulwiler Ken Neumann Barb Babich Don Bohy Jeanette Bentzler</p>	<p>1971 Gerry Florence Kathy Gardner</p> <p>1972 Allen Roder Janet Wehrman Ruth Korn Angie Fravert</p> <p>1973 Mary Murray Mary Ann Lesar Dawn Scheller</p> <p>1974 Mitch Prior Larry Smith Dee Rowley</p> <p>1975 Violet Mechelke Bryan McNeely Greg Steiner Doug Zaleski Vida Garbisch</p> <p>1976</p>	<p>Julie Milz Donna Geiger Jacklyn Loos</p> <p>1977 Margaret Speich Paul Pawlowski Karen Kramer</p> <p>1979 Bruce Felix Tom Lindner</p> <p>1980 Joanne Fredrickson Jon Burnett</p> <p>1983 Bonnie McMyler</p> <p>1984 Darla Rueth Kris Aumann Scott Schultz Deann Hanson</p> <p>1985 Brian Paynter</p>	<p>LaVern Spuhler</p> <p>1986 Greg Shriver Dean Lesar</p> <p>1987 Mark Berglund Jill Fortuna Melissa Hinkelmann Brian Lampsa</p> <p>1988 Melissa Meacham Richard Druschke Nikki Jo Gardner</p> <p>1989 Wayne Sheldon Diana Schmidt Lisa Ratsch Ferne Neuenfeldt</p> <p>1990 Shelby Loos Karie Schmidt Donna Odeen</p>	<p>1991 Helen Reineking Heather Olson</p> <p>1993 Lisa Murphy Sharon Gerot</p> <p>1994 Kelly Engelberth</p> <p>1995 Sharlene Burch Betty Mrotek</p> <p>★ 1996 Carrie Schmidt Connie Lesar</p> <p>1997 Barb Knack</p> <p>1998 Kevin Boneske</p> <p>1999 Rebecca DeWitt Scott Fragale</p>	<p>2000 Ken Luchterhand ★</p> <p>2001 Kelly Kobs</p> <p>2002 ★ Crystal Knudsen Jeremy Jones</p> <p>2006 Dori Lichty Kelly Villiers</p> <p>2007 Ashley Kadolph</p> <p>2010 ★ Phil Greschner</p> <p>2012 Todd Schmidt</p> <p>2016 Cheyenne Thomas</p> <p>2018 ★ Darin Bogdonovich Dawn Damrow Karie Schmidt</p>
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Hometown, from page 4

Internet and elsewhere? Of course there is. But consider the source. The Internet has no voracity regulation. Anything goes. That's just one more reason why you should get your news from a reputable newspaper.

It is true, as well, that many newspapers have gone out of business in recent years, or in some cases, have discontinued a print version in favor of online products. Those are big-city papers, mind you, and small community papers like this are not subject to the same economic pressures. We fill an important niche in covering the news nobody else does. Where else, for instance, would you have seen the listing we published last week of local college students who are excelling at their post-secondary institutions? Where else could you have read about a Loyal native now living in Georgia who's been a Franciscan sister for 60 years?

Local community papers — this one included — have a strong future as long as there are readers out there

who still value what we do. Advertisers will continue to spend their money with us because they understand that we reach local people who wouldn't be buying our paper unless they were reading it. No, the newspaper industry is not as lucrative as it once was, but neither is dairy farming or any other of a number of vocations. That doesn't mean we're going away; we'll find the efficiencies necessary to put out another issue next week.

Will the TRG make it 75 years? A hundred? That we can't say. With the way things change these days, it's anyone's guess what is around the next corner. Who 25 years ago could have guessed what an impact the Internet and social media have had on the way information is spread today? This we can say with certainty. There will be another edition of the TRG next week and the one after that, and in it you will find local news items that no one but us saw as important enough to report. That's what we do.

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Volume 125

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1969-2019

Tornado hits north of Loyal (July 6, 1983) **Willard has prospects of yet another bank** (Aug. 18, 1976)

They will build it: Clark Board votes to expand courthouse, jail. (Jan. 15, 1997) **Granton Board debates guns in school for educational purposes** (Dec. 12, 2001)

Slap! Spencer considers community-wide attack on mosquitoes (May 6, 1998)

Granton FFA named top in nation (Nov. 10, 1976) **Parade of pets, moths, army worms infiltrate area** (July 12, 2000) **Greenwood Indians to battle for title** (Oct. 30, 1969)

Manufacturers say they're prospering in Clark County (April 25, 2012) **VA tabs Loyal as treatment center** (Sept. 15, 1987)

Greenwood primed for national television appearance (May 4, 2011)

Heavy rains wreck rural roads (Oct. 8, 2014) **Three schools looking at athletic cooperation** (Oct. 21, 2009)

Greenwood to hold turkey give-away for four weeks (Nov. 31, 1972) **911 Fully Functional** (Oct. 13, 1998)

Wheel tax idea goes flat (Oct. 8, 2014)

Loyal to provide low rent and low-cost housing for elderly (Aug. 7, 1969) **Spencerama plans canceled for 2002** (June 15, 2002)

Shelter honors Willard settlers (Oct. 1, 2003)

Signing of railroad bill ends 5 year fight for passage by Clark County group (June 1, 1972)

Spencer looks forward to good water (March 7, 1979) **Dirt dispute not settled yet** (Sept. 28, 1983)

Stores open tonight in Loyal and Spencer (Nov. 20, 1969) **Loyal Library has a new home** (Jan. 21, 2004)

Area Pseudorabies scare officially over (Aug. 1, 2007)

Schools OK conference revisions (Dec. 20, 2006) **Twister** (June 8, 2005)

Corn Fest goes Golden (Aug. 20, 2008) **No more noise** (Oct. 7, 1998)

Open House

August 21, 2-6 p.m.

at the TRG office, 318 N. Main, Loyal



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Spencer **Record** est. 1879

Greenwood **Gleaner** est. 1891

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