

Journalist Tips

- We are using AP style writing for ANM News
 - I strongly emphasize you all read up on AP style. It's not complicated, and it will help many of you out. Basic premise behind AP is short paragraphs, 2-3 sentences. This forces writers to take the shortest path to the point.
 - AP also makes for a much easier read and they are more likely to be read and shared
 - *Be sure to read the ANM News AP Style Quick Guide in our Facebook Group.*
- Please keep in mind when writing and reporting, there has to be a happy medium when reporting the news and being the news. Try to stay away from using I, me, myself, and pulling yourself into the story unless you absolutely have to.
- Try not to use extremely long titles. We need to keep in mind on the social media sharing aspects and fitting it all in.
- Please stay away from abbreviations and all caps as much as possible.
- Remember that we are journalists and should be reporting the news based on facts more so than emotions. This doesn't mean we do not write certain phrases at times to get our emotions across, but just keep in mind to limit these in the everyday reporting pieces of news.
 - Emotion and passion for the subject, unless it is a commentary or opinion piece, will come through in the angle. That's as emotional as a straight reporting piece should get.
- Use the days of the week in your reports instead of "yesterday or today" and try not to use the same phrasing in back-to-back sentences such as "17-year-old girl", instead just use teen or girl in the next one.

These are only helpful hints and tips for you to grow and become a much better reporter.

Hope it helps!

In Liberty,

J Craig

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