



# AP Associated Press

the **essential** global news network

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## AP/ONE Awards Banquet is March 29 in Tulsa

The annual AP/ONE Awards Banquet is nearly here. The date is March 29 and the location is the Double-Tree Warren Place in Tulsa. The hotel is located at 6110 South Yale Ave, Tulsa, OK. Phone: 1-918-495-1000.

The event starts at 7 p.m. and Mark Thomas from the Oklahoma Press Association will be there with his annual bloopers show. Mark was unable to attend last year so he has promised to include some of last year's classics to produce a double treat for the DoubleTree.

Tickets for the banquet are \$50 each and reservations may be made by calling or emailing Cara Robertson, [crobertson@ap.org](mailto:crobertson@ap.org), 800-522-3522 or 405-525-2121. Email is preferred.

## Nine Oklahoma journalists will be honored April 4 during the 38th annual induction ceremonies of the Oklahoma Journalism Hall of Fame at the University of Central Oklahoma.

Inductees are William P. Bleakley, publisher of the Oklahoma Gazette of Oklahoma City; Gerry Bonds, anchor for the Oklahoma Educational Television Authority; Ann DeFrange, a reporter and editor for The Oklahoman; Donna Barron Evers, journalism professor emeritus of Cameron University in Lawton; Bill Harper, operations manager of the Tulsa World; Lindel G. Hutson, Oklahoma bureau chief for The Associated Press; Paul B. Southerland, photographer for The Oklahoman, and Barbara A. Walter and Bill Walter, co-publishers of the Hennessey Clipper.

Dr. Terry M. Clark, chairman of the sponsoring Mass Communication Department at UCO, will be will be master of ceremonies. "The annual ceremony has become an informal homecoming for distinguished previous honorees," said Clark.

Honorees are selected by a committee composed of members of the working press, Society of Professional Journalists and the Hall of Fame.



The AP's Sean Murphy interviewed N. Scott Momaday at the Oklahoma History Center. Momaday, who won the 1969 Pulitzer Prize for fiction for his first novel, "House Made of Dawn," visited the museum before being honored as the 2008 recipient of the Oklahoma Humanities Award.

It was the first visit to the museum by the 73-year-old Momaday, a Lawton native and member of the Kiowa Tribe of Oklahoma.

"It's a wonderful exhibit," he said. "I've been meaning to get over here for a look."

Momaday is the second recipient of the Oklahoma Humanities Award, presented annually by the Oklahoma Humanities Council to individuals who have made important contributions to the humanities in the state. Wilma Mankiller, the former principal chief of the Cherokee Nation, was the inaugural recipient last year.

# OKLAHOMA MEMBER SHOWCASE

## FEBRUARY PHOTO OF THE MONTH WINNERS

**1ST PLACE - Jennifer Knight, Enid News & Eagle**



Douglas Fire Department's Nicholas Kramen, firefighter, pulls more hose to reach the edge of a flaming grass fire in Covington, Okla. Monday, Feb. 25, 2008. The fire burned about 100 acres of grass, brush and hay bales.

**2ND PLACE - James Gibbard,  
Tulsa World**



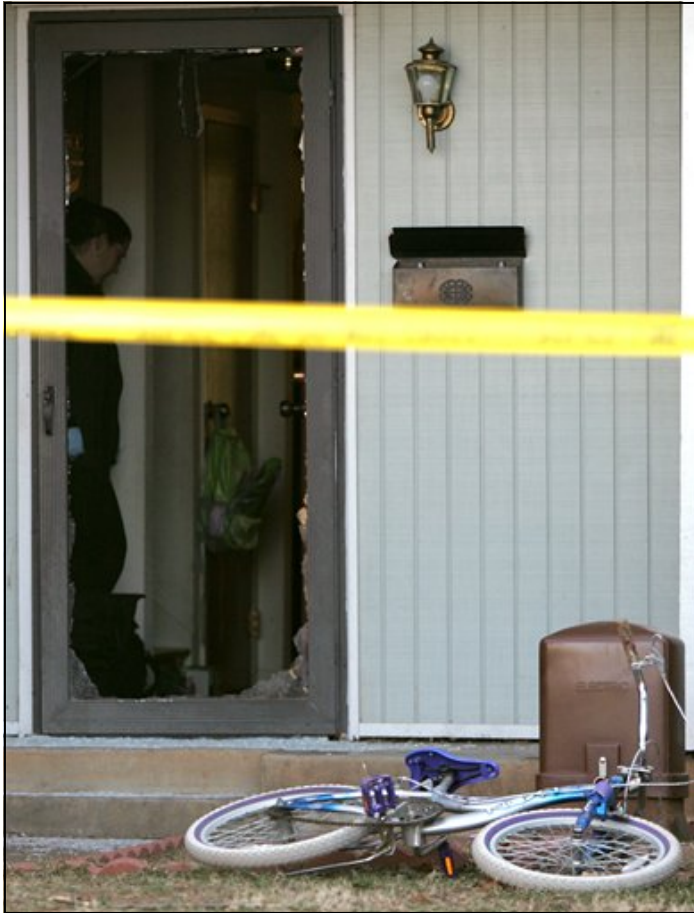
The victim of a car wreck, right, is comforted by her mother, who would not give name, after her SUV was overturned in a collision with another car near the University of Tulsa in Tulsa, Okla., Monday, Feb. 11, 2008.

**3RD PLACE - Jim Beckel,  
The Oklahoman**



Arizona cornerback and 2008 Jim Thorpe Award recipient Antoine Cason, right, is hugged by Willa Sue Howell, of Oklahoma City, after he gave her an autographed photo during his visit with patients at the Jim Thorpe Rehab Hospital in southwest Oklahoma City on Tuesday, Feb. 12, 2008.

# Member Contributions



*A child's bicycle lays in the front yard while investigators work inside the house that was the scene of a murder suicide on Tinker Air Force Base in Oklahoma City. (John Clanton, The Oklahoman)*

**The Tulsa World** provided a story about a legislative proposal for a public vote on reducing residential property tax increases. The newspaper also provided a story about the death of Dennis Letts, a retired university professor and actor who made his Broadway debut this season in his son's acclaimed production of "August: Osage County."

**Dave Koester of Oklahoma City's KOCO-TV** provided the first word of the early morning arrest in Oklahoma City of a man wanted in the previous night's shooting death of a Norman woman he had met through a dating service.

**The Oklahoman** provided a story about a state board recommending parole for a man who has served 10 years of a 45-year prison sentence for second-degree murder. The newspaper also provided a story about a state program to promote gun safety through a video focusing on two boys who died in accidental shootings.

**Kevin King of Tulsa's KTUL** sent stories of four Jenks middle school students being suspended for creating fake MySpace pages in the names of teachers and administrators and then including derogatory comments and images on the pages.

He also provided stories about a Sand Springs police investigation of possible steroid use by officers clearing those suspected of using the drug and of the manhunt for a man who escaped from law officers in Cherokee County as they tried to arrest him on a federal firearms charge.

**The Edmond Sun** provided a feature about the eye disease known as macular degeneration.

**Debra Woodall of Tulsa's KRMG** had the stories of the Tulsa Zoo proposing increases in the price of tickets and of a Sand Springs company filing a lawsuit against the city's planning commission.

A story about accusations that a Fairview teenager and his mother manufactured explosive devices came from the **Enid News & Eagle**.

*Right: With his father John, Left, watching, Booker T. Washington High School offensive guard John Williams displays his University of Kansas cap after signing his letter-of-intent to play football for the school during a signing ceremony in Tulsa. (Stephen Holman, Tulsa World)*



From **Ken Henson of Oklahoma City's KWTV** came breaking news about a fire at the Wynnewood refinery being caused by a propane leak and of a huge fire breaking out at a tire plant near Goldsby that destroyed the tire plant and several nearby businesses.

**Henson** tipped again with breaking information about a large grass fire near Newalla that threatened several homes in the area.

**The Bartlesville Examiner-Enterprise** had the story of an effort to change the city's charter so that a mayor could be elected at large, instead of by the council.

**The McAlester News-Capital** provided a story about a giant water-filled sinkhole near the city's Southeast Expo Center.

**Oklahoma City's Journal Record** provided a story about United Airlines adding a second nonstop flight from Will Rogers World Airport to Los Angeles to help business travelers who want to continue on to Asian cities.

**Doug Warner of Oklahoma City's KWTV** provided first word of an early morning fatality crash on I-40 in Yukon in which a man driving east in the westbound lanes was killed and traffic on the interstate's westbound lanes was shut down for four hours.



*Evan Reynolds, 5, carefully pulls his model engine down the track lost in the magic of the miniature railroad world while his father and other members of the Northwest Oklahoma Model Railroaders Club held their monthly meeting Saturday. (Rowynn Ricks, Woodward News)*



**The Lawton Constitution** provided a story about a multi-school lockdown that occurred after police received a tip, which turned out to be a hoax.

**Mike Smith of KWEY in Weatherford** sent the story of the Butler School District deciding to ask voters to approve annexation of the small district into the Arapaho district.

**The Muskogee Phoenix** provided a story about the possibility that accreditation could be revoked for the financially strapped Lost City School District.

Information of the death in Iraq of a 19-year-old soldier from Ardmore came from **Charlie Haldeman of KXII**.

**The Norman Transcript** provided a story about the conviction of a man on first-degree murder charges for a fatal shooting that occurred during a party in which tribal songs are played in honor of veterans.

*Left: Oklahoma State's Andrea Riley celebrates in front of Texas' Brittainey Raven, left, and Kristen Nash (32) after OSU's 71-66 win in Stillwater, OK. (Bryan Terry, The Oklahoman)*



*Heater Cooper, Assistant District Attorney, in Ardmore, Ok, Speaks to children who are working on their own special book of memories during a live-book party for foster children. (Don Alquist, The Daily Ardmoreite)*

**Charlie Taraboletti of Bartlesville's KRIG** provided breaking news of Washington County Treasurer Stan Stevens submitting his resignation after being charged with drug crimes. He also had the story of former Bartlesville Mayor Ron Nikkel filing a lawsuit against the City Council in an effort to be reinstated after the council voted to oust him from office

**The Shawnee News-Star** provided a story about a veteran attorney who pleaded no contest to 10 charges that he molested male teenage clients whom he had represented while working for the Oklahoma Indigent Defense System.

**Brian George of Woodward's KWOX** provided the story of the former director of the Woodward Arts Theater being arrested for embezzlement by using theater credit cards to buy more than \$10,000 in personal items.

**The Woodward News** provided a story about a California psychic who has been assisting the Woodward County Sheriff's Office in trying to find the body of boy who went missing in 2002.

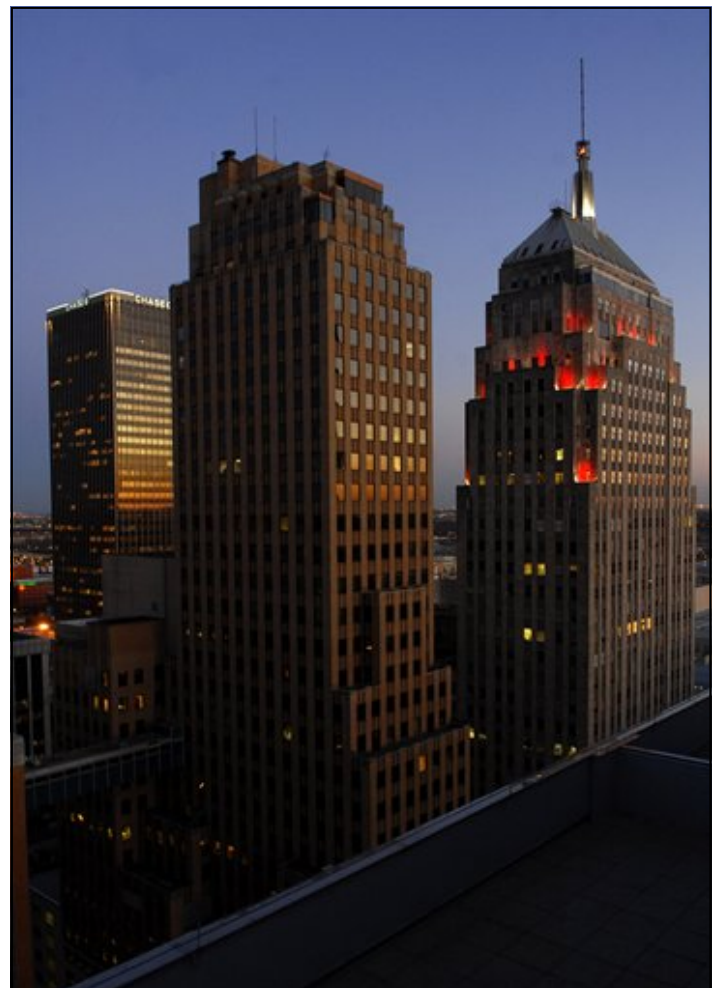
**Chris Russell of Tulsa's KOTV** sent information about the state Department of Human Services being sued by a national child advocacy group over treatment of foster children and of murder charges being filed against a long-time Tulsa real estate agent in the shooting death of a man in her home.

He also sent first word of Sand Springs police investigating possible steroid use by officers, the Watts School District closing its doors because of a flu outbreak and the death in the Mayes County jail of a man who had been arrested and shot with a Taser following a lengthy stand-off with police.

**From the Ada Evening News** came the story of construction workers discovering an 80-year-old time capsule while working at the First Baptist Church.

**The Anadarko Daily News** provided a story about the firing of one Caddo County police chief and the indefinite suspension of another.

**The Daily Ardmoreite** provided a feature about a man whose business specialty is horse shoes.



*Right: Red lights glow on the outside walls of the first National Center in Downtown Oklahoma City for the first time as a celebration of Valentine's Day and as a visual symbol announcing the beginning of an upcoming multi-million dollar renovation project on the landmark building set to begin March 12. (Jennifer Pitts, The Journal Record)*

# From the AP Staff



**Murray Evans** had a national story on a decorated airman who chased his wife out of military housing before killing his two young children and himself.

Evans had a national sports story on coaching legend Eddie Sutton and his observation that his sons and grandsons pushed him back into coaching.

Evans also had a national story marking the seventh anniversary of the plane crash that killed 10 men associated with the Oklahoma State University basketball program.

Evans also had a national sports profile on Wes Welker, the New England Patriots' star receiver, who played high school football in Oklahoma.



**Jeff Latzke** had a national sports story with word that an NCAA appeals committee had reinstated the University of Oklahoma's wins from the 2005

Holiday Bowl season, partially overturning a ruling in the infractions case involving former quarterback Rhett Bomar.



**Statehouse Correspondent Ron Jenkins** had national stories on John McCain winning the state's Republican presidential primary and

Hillary Clinton winning on the Democratic side.

He also had a national story about Republican Mike Huckabee defending a previous remark that Mitt Romney didn't reach "political puberty" until recently.



**Justin Juozapavicius** had a national profile on the billionaire benefactor who has stepped in to bail out Oral Roberts University.

Juozapavicius reported that a former senior accountant at Oral Roberts University alleged that more than \$1 billion annually was inappropriately funneled through the school.

Juozapavicius had several national spot stories on an environmental lawsuit in which Oklahoma is suing Arkansas poultry companies, litigation that could have broad effect on the poultry industry.



**Oklahoma City newsmen Sean Murphy and Tim Talley** had several national spot stories on a gruesome trial involving a man

accused of killing a 10-year-old girl as part of a cannibalistic plot.



**Newsman Tim Talley** had a national spot story about Oklahoma House Speaker Lance Cargill, who resigned his post after a series of embarrassing revelations, including not filing state personal income tax returns.



The AP is in the process of developing four new regional desks designed to improve service and get you the news you need instantly, complete with images, sound and video.

The first, located in Atlanta, will be responsible for a 13-state South region and is expected to be up and running in April. That desk will be followed by the development of three other regional desks – East, Central and West – that will be operating by the end of 2009.

Regionalization is about getting you information more quickly. It's about building a core team of editors focused on providing a range of multimedia content that is more relevant locally, regionally, nationally and internationally.

This is not a new concept for the AP. We already use it overseas, where the simplified structure has improved our news delivery. We currently have regional editing desks in Mexico City, Bangkok and London.

Regionalization will move many editing duties outside of New York and put them closer to reporters and editors in the field. Editors filing national stories will be more familiar with local and regional issues that affect those stories. All of our formats will work together more closely than ever. Video, multimedia and photo coordinators will operate under one regional editor, improving coordination and cooperation.

You'll be hearing more about our plans and progress in the weeks ahead.

# AP Product News

## Save time and money with AP Page Ready Baseball

Opening Day is just weeks away and AP is again offering Page Ready: Baseball, a popular service that delivers AP baseball agate in a page-ready module that saves you time and money every night. *AP Page-Ready: Baseball* frees your sports desk from the labor-intensive task of assembling baseball agate, while also appealing to advertisers because of its organized and consistent look. Newspapers have been able to pair the agate presentation with advertising that covers the cost of the product and also allows them to make a profit on it.

Delivered via the Web and available in Quark XPress and Adobe InDesign formats, *AP Page-Ready: Baseball* gives you an eye-catching presentation that meets your needs whether you feature linescores, box scores or expanded box scores. It's easy to use; all you need is an Internet connection and software most newspapers already have. AP also offers a full lineup of other sports agate products:

- Team-by-Team Schedules
- Expanded box scores
- Weekly Averages
- Team-by-Team Stats
- MLB Pitching Comparisons
- MLB Mug shots



*AP Page-Ready: Baseball* also provides you with one of four modules depending on the sports content available at your service level. If content in any of these modules isn't available at your AP service level, you can purchase it separately:

- Standings and Linescores
- Standings and Box Scores
- Standings and Expanded Box Scores
- Standings, Regular Box Scores and One Expanded Box Score



Please contact your Chief of Bureau for further information.

## MARCH MADNESS

Give your readers a full NCAA package as the frenzy builds. Hosted Custom News offers a College Hoops front with the latest stories, headlines, interactives, AP's TOP 25 Poll for Men's and Women's Basketball, Brackets and much more.

For information, call your chief of bureau or check out [www.ap.org/newspapers](http://www.ap.org/newspapers) and click on Services.



## 'Ask AP,' a Q&A column that takes on readers' news questions, goes weekly



"Ask AP," a Q&A column The Associated Press began publishing seven weeks ago, has officially gone weekly.

The Q&A initiative, in which AP reporters and editors answer questions about the news sent in by the public, is being made available for use online and in newspapers every Friday morning.

Readers are invited to send news-related questions to the e-mail address [newsquestions@ap.org](mailto:newsquestions@ap.org), with "Ask AP" in the subject line. Several questions are answered in each weekly installment, which also includes a call for additional questions.

Over the past several weeks, AP received questions from around the United States on topics ranging from the presidential campaign and the war in Iraq to college football and gas-rationing coupons.

Newspaper editors have reacted enthusiastically to the new feature, and many have expressed an interest in using Ask AP each week in their pages or on their Web sites.

"I like this feature and I can see us using it in print on Sundays and, of course, somewhere on the Web," Peoria (Ill.) Journal Star Managing Editor John Plevka wrote in an e-mail to AP. David Hill, editor of the Daily Reporter in suburban Indianapolis, was excited about the first Ask AP installment: "We used it in our weekend edition. Pretty cool!"

For more information, see the latest Ask AP column on the AP corporate Web site at [http://www.ap.org/pages/about/whatsnew/wn\\_022908a.html](http://www.ap.org/pages/about/whatsnew/wn_022908a.html).

### Syndicate your local video



Local news often sparks national interest. Consider making your local video work harder for you than ever before with the latest enhancement to AP's Online Video Network. Members who upload local video to their players can now syndicate that content to the rest of the network – over 1800 Web sites. Every time your video plays on another member's site, you'll earn a share of the ad revenue.

### In just a few weeks, you will be able to share your content with other affiliates in the network and here are some of the impressive features:

<b>Syndication Rules – Share your content while remaining in control of it.</b>	The local video content management tool will allow you to create rules so that you can decide where your content can be featured across the AP network of affiliates.
<b>Tool Facelift – More useable too!</b>	We've redesigned the interface so you can intuitively create rules and navigate new features.
<b>Transcoding – Updates and additional formats.</b>	We've updated our transcoding engine and enabling a few of the transcoding types we've blocked in the past. Here's the new list of supporting transcoding types: .mov, .3gpp, .gxf, .lxf, .mpg, .mlv, .m2v, .m4e, .mpe, .h264, .vob, .yuv, .3g2, .3gp, .3gp2, .asf, .dv, .qt.
<b>Inline Player – Buy one get one free!</b>	With this release the Inline Player is included as part of the video tool. This also includes a large thumbnail feature.
<b>Monitoring Update</b>	We've instrumented the new features we've added, and updated some of the current features, with the same monitoring technology so that we know, before anyone else, if things go awry.



## APME partners to offer free local training on congressional earmarks; member editors invited to join national reporting project targeted for early June

Earmarks loaded into congressional spending bills have increased more than 60 percent since George Bush has been president. Bush complained about the unchecked spending during his State of the Union speech but Congress has failed to act.

Local reporters often have difficulty uncovering and evaluating the hundreds of requests made by their local representatives and reporting the story to tax-paying readers. But the Associated Press Managing Editors is working to change that with training and a national reporting project.

Partnering with open government groups, APME is offering on-site and Web-based education this spring to help you determine whether the bacon brought home to your community amounts to good public policy ... or political pork. APME will provide free coaching in 10 cities (list below) to help reporters and editors use the latest Web-based research tools to dig deeper into databases. Federal data provided by Taxpayers for Common Sense and [Opensecrets.org](http://Opensecrets.org) will illustrate the local connections between earmark appropriations placed in federal spending bills by members of Congress and the campaign contributions made to representatives from individuals, companies and the lobbying firms they employ.

Those who can't attend one of the in-person sessions can participate through Webinars on April 7 and April 9 from noon to 5 p.m. EDT.

In addition to the training, AP's Washington bureau will produce a national overview of earmarks to accompany your local reports. AP will be looking for the best work by local reporters to include in the national overview. APME's goal is for newspapers nationwide to publish stories on earmarks en masse the first weekend of June.

The training is geared for local reporters -- giving them the tools to find beneficiaries of earmarks in their districts and then go out do reporting. Expertise in computer-assisted reporting is not necessary. The project will give reporters who don't have CAR training an easy way to access federal data online and then use it in stories.

Senior Fellows Bill Allison and Larry Makinson of the [Sunlight Foundation](http://SunlightFoundation.org) will conduct the training. Allison worked with Donald Bartlett and James Steele to produce groundbreaking investigative reporting, while Makinson pioneered computer-assisted money-in-politics reporting as a journalist in Alaska and at the Center for Responsive Politics. Journalists leaving the one-day sessions will understand how to use just-released technological tools to find earmarks relevant to their regions, and to connect the dots on campaign finance spending and lobbyist disclosure statements to members of Congress who secured the earmarks.

Flying under the banner of "Sunlight NewsTrain", this effort provides newsrooms large and small with the practical tools to produce journalism that hits with pinpoint accuracy. An ambassador from each of the newsrooms listed below will help coordinate the sessions. There is no charge; lunch will be provided. Space is limited. To register for a session near you or to get more information, please use the links below.

**For links to meeting registration: <http://www.apme.com/news/2008/022908partnerships.shtml>**



### **DATES AND LOCATIONS**

**March 17: The News Journal, Wilmington, DE**  
**March 19: Richmond (VA) Times-Dispatch**  
**March 21: Atlanta Journal Constitution**  
**March 24: Arkansas Democrat-Gazette, Little Rock, AR**  
**March 26: Oakland (CA) Tribune**  
**March 28: Tacoma (Wash.) News Tribune**  
**March 31: St. Louis Post-Dispatch**  
**April 2: TENTATIVE....Denver**  
**April 4: The Cincinnati Enquirer**  
**April 22: The Arizona Republic, Phoenix**

### **Webinars**

**April 7, noon - 5 p.m. EDT**  
**April 9, noon - 5 p.m. EDT**

### **Membership:**

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# AP Money & Markets

With the economy on everyone's mind, check out examples of all the print and online options for AP Money & Markets at [www.ap.org/markets](http://www.ap.org/markets). Get general information about the service, and see detailed descriptions and samples of all the modules the service offers, including our new package Money & Markets Extra, geared to weekend use. We're "thinking outside the stox" to find innovative, consumer-friendly ways to provide financial and economic news and save you time.

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## AP Money & Markets



### >> Thinking Outside the Stox

The Associated Press is "thinking outside the stox" to provide newspapers new and innovative ways to present readers with analytic, explanatory and forward-looking financial data. AP Money & Markets is a new service designed to offer print and online content that reflects the changing world of financial data – essential information for readers and investors.



### >> Key Features

- > New ways to offer readers what they need to know fast, with a concise, informative mix of data, short text and graphics
- > An unmatched opportunity to build local brand by spotlighting the companies, industries and mutual funds that matter most to readers
- > Ability to be unique, especially online, and to improve competitive position against aggregators and portals
- > Cost-efficient, customizable print and online content offers an opportunity to benefit from nascent online traffic



## Special Editions

The "Pets" Special Edition is available. Stories include how to protect pets against coyotes; the rise of the pet birthday party; the latest on the declawing debate; and the latest in home veterinary care. Stories will be accompanied by photos and video.