

Stephen A. Cheslik

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Who I am

As a writer, photographer, designer and editor, I have accomplished far more than I ever hoped.

As a reporter, I have had my heart wrenched as I watched a mother learn her children were dead. And, I have flown high upon winning statewide honors for my words.

As a designer, I have torn apart pages on deadline as events have reshaped my community, and had the opportunity to rethink and reshape a newspaper's look. I've collected design honors at the corporate, state and international levels.

As a supervisor, I have learned it can be as great a pleasure to have an employee succeed far beyond their own expectations, as it is to hold a product you have pushed from concept to completion.

Now, I am looking for new challenges and new ways to participate in the world around me.

What I want

A chance to be part of a team striving to make our communities a better place.

What you get

- More than 20 years of newsroom experience as a designer, writer, editor and manager.
- Extensive experience managing projects, relationships and budgets.

A career in brief

The Virgin Islands Daily News, St. Thomas, United States Virgin Islands

- Managing Editor, May 2019 to present
- Deputy Executive Editor, January 2013 to April 2019
- News Editor, October 2008 to January 2013

As managing editor, primary responsibilities include oversight of the daily news report, production and editing of The Virgin Islands Daily News, a daily newspaper serving the United States and British Virgin Islands. In addition to oversight of writers, freelancers, copy editors and designers, projects have included the creation of a weekly entertainment section, taking the newsroom lead on the installation of a content management system and taking the lead on the selection of a new e-edition platform with the goal of reducing piracy and cutting expenses by 50 percent. Since joining The Daily News, the paper has won the Associated Press Media Editors' Public Service Award for journalism excellence four times, the group's First Amendment Award twice, its Freedom of Information Award and the organization's News Reporting Award.

The Columbian, Vancouver, Washington

- News Editor, September 2007 to October 2008

As news editor, responsibilities included oversight of the design and editing of The Columbian, a 50,000-circulation daily newspaper serving Clark County, Washington. With an approximately \$1 million budget for wire services and salaries, The Columbian's 18-member copy desk included graphic artists, designers and copy editors. Successes included implementation of a new content management system, renegotiating The Columbian's weather contract for a 59 percent cost savings and a one-third reduction in overtime costs.

Casper Star-Tribune, Casper, Wyoming

- News Editor, December 2004 to August 2007

The Casper Star-Tribune is Wyoming's only statewide newspaper. As news editor, duties included the oversight and training of a five-member copy desk, news and features design, planning and participation in an enterprise-wide effort to improve quality. Activities included scheduling, hiring, reviewing employee performance and spearheading an in-house redesign of the Star-Tribune. Successes included reducing the desk's yearly turnover rate.

The Post-Star, Glens Falls, New York

- Assistant News Editor, May 2002 to December 2004

As assistant news editor, duties included assisting in the oversight of an 11-member desk, producing news and features pages on deadline, approving pages to be sent to press and editing of reporters' work.

Cordele Dispatch, Cordele and Americus, Georgia

- North Region Central Desk Chief, June 2000 to April 2002
- Night News Editor, May 1998 to June 2000

Duties touched on all areas of editorial production from photography and writing, to copy editing and design. As desk chief, duties expanded to include oversight of designers.

Select national awards

- Associated Press Media Editors awards for Public Service and News Reporting
- Finalist, Scripps Howard Award for Community Journalism
- Award of Excellence, Society for News Design annual contest

Education

- Bachelor of arts degree from Berry College in Rome, Georgia

