

HELEN WILBERS

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Who | I'm a journalist with a strong background in freelance writing, copy editing and the sciences, particularly biology. My writing has earned Associated Press and Missouri Press Association awards and helped rebuild the reputation of the Fulton Sun, the small-town newspaper I reported for from 2016-21 and led as editor from 2019-21.

WHAT, WHEN AND WHERE

Fulton Sun (Callaway County, Missouri's only daily newspaper)

Editor, June 2019-February 2021; reporter, September 2016-June 2019

Produced news content for seven digital editions and one print edition each week. Wrote and photographed 10-14 stories weekly on a broad variety of topics, including local government, schools, crime, science, agriculture and small businesses. As editor, managed reporters, guided new journalists in developing their news noses and assigned and edited stories while continuing to cover preexisting beats.

Awards include:

- 2020 Missouri Press Association best breaking news story, [1st](#) and [3rd](#) place (dailies, class 1).
- 2020 MPA best story about rural life/agriculture, [2nd place](#).
- 2020 MPA best story about history, [3rd place](#).
- The United States Tiger Foundation's Distinguished Journalism Award (2020)
- 2018 Missouri AP Media Editors best spot news, [1st place](#).
- 2017 APME best investigative/in-depth reporting, [1st place](#)
- 2017 Missouri Press Association [3rd place](#) for outdoor story; [honorable mention](#) for breaking news.

Skykit (Digital signage company)

Freelance writer, November 2015-September 2016

Ghostwrote weekly 1,500-word posts about digital signage for Skykit's blog and Sixteen:Nine under Skykit CEO Irfan Khan's name. Posts attracted two to four new customers per week for Skykit. Penned a 50,000 word complete guide to digital signage, to be used in Skykit's marketing.

The Echo (Taylor University's weekly student newspaper)

Copy chief, August 2015-May 2016; copy editor, August 2013-May 2015

Worked in a small team to edit student-written pieces for clarity and grammatical correctness, assuring all pieces conformed to AP style and offering writing advice.

Livingstone Corporation

Copy editing and writing intern, May 2015-September 2015

Project 1: Study Bible for Thomas Nelson. Style-tagged, edited for conformation to the NKJV style-guide, edited for clarity, copy-edited 1,700 notes on Greek and Hebrew words.
Project 2: Collection of pastor Chuck Swindoll's insights on Isaiah and Matthew for Tyndale House. Style-tagged quotes and edited them for brevity, clarity and grammatical correctness.

Freelance writer/editor

2012-2017

Completed a wide variety of freelance projects, including writing cover stories for Church Libraries and Christian Communicator, scripts for Fresh Perspectives (a Taylor University radio program) and a story for [GreenPrints](#), among others.

How | Education

Taylor University, Upland, Indiana. Bachelor of Science in professional writing, biology minor (May 2016)

Technical proficiencies

Microsoft products (Word, Excel), Google Docs and Sheets, NewsEngin, Hootsuite and Photoshop.