Kentucky Journalism Hall of fame bios 2011

Bill Bartleman

Reported for The Paducah Sun from 1972 to 2010; chief reporter and columnist on government and politics for 35 years. Helped direct paper’s coverage and chronicled West Kentucky’s gradual, historic shift away from Democratic roots. Attended most sessions of the Kentucky General Assembly, covering both regional and state politicians. Helped the rest of the state understand relatively isolated West Kentucky through his writing and television appearances. Demonstrated unswerving dedication to the public interest. Native of Chalfont, Pa.; 1971 journalism graduate of Murray State University; taught journalism and advised student newspaper at MSU, 1981-1985; became director of community relations for Mid-Continent University, 2010. Winner of Lewis Owens Community Service Award from Kentucky Press Association, 2011.

Jackie Hays Bickel


Robert Carter


Albert “Al” Dix
Publisher, for nearly 35 years, of The State Journal in Frankfort, both a state-capital newspaper and a community newspaper, owned by Ohio-based Dix Communications. A Republican in a Democratic town who kept news columns fair, held officials and institutions accountable, and gave free rein to editors and editorial writers. Confidant of state officials and community leaders, but also a reporter’s publisher; mentored several who went on to successful careers at major papers. State Journal founded Kentucky Book Fair in 1981. Native of Ravenna, Ohio; graduate of Dennison University; served in U.S. Army Intelligence. Died in 2009.

Tom Loftus


Ed Shadburne

Helped bring Kentucky broadcast journalism into modern era. As secretary-treasurer of Kentucky Broadcasters Association for five years in 1960s, built KBA to level where it could pay an executive director. Built local news operation of Louisville’s WLKY-TV as station’s vice president and general manager, 1963-70. Executive vice president and general manager of WHAS-TV-AM-FM, Louisville, 1970-75; improved operations and won numerous awards. Vice president and general manager of General Electric-owned TV and radio stations in Nashville, early 1980s. Native of Louisville, Navy veteran of World War II. Began career at WHIR Radio, Danville, while attending Centre College. Worked at stations in Tampa and Fort Myers, Fla., Paintsville, Ky., Mobile, Ala., and Colorado Springs; owned and operated WCPM in Cumberland, Ky., and WHAN in Haines City, Fla.; managed WLOU in hometown of Louisville. Left retirement in 1996-97 to oversee merger of Louisville public TV station with KET.