

Lanier County News
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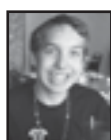
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OUR GOAL: Lanier County News is created proudly for the citizens of Lanier and the surrounding area by Good Shepherd Media in Lakeland, GA. Our goal is to produce a quality, community oriented newspaper that you, our readers, are proud of. We will reach this goal through hard work, teamwork, loyalty and a strong dedication toward printing the truth.

OUR POLICIES: Letters to the Editor are welcome. Please sign and include address, telephone number and e-mail.

•Liability for an error in advertising will not exceed the cost of space occupied by the error.

•All pictures are filed after publication, but may be picked up by the owner at Lanier County News office in Lakeland.

DEADLINE: the deadline each week for all news and advertising copy is Monday at 5:00 p.m. Submittals can be placed in the drop box located by the door of the Lanier County News office.

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OPINIONS & VIEWPOINTS

How to write addresses

By June Casagrande

One of the most common things I have to change in the articles I edit is the way addresses are written. Here's an example typical of the stuff that comes to us:

The museum is at 281 Maple Ln., Topeka, KN, 50022.

There's nothing wrong with that. In fact, there's almost no wrong way to write an address. And, of course, getting it right is much more important than making it pretty. But the way that the AP and Chicago style manuals tell editors to write them can be beneficial to any writer who wants to go easy on their readers' eyes and doesn't have an editor to help them.

The most important thing is consistency. An article or blog entry that changes its address style from one sentence to the next isn't doing the reader any favors. It's jarring and can detract from the information: "The museum, located at 9120 Third Street, moved from its former location at 9128 43rd Terr. in order to be closer to its corporate offices at Three 82nd St."

So here are two simple approaches, based on the two major editing styles, that can make your addresses more flowing and integrated into a larger message.

Many newspaper styles say to use numerals for everything in an address, including numbers less than 10. They abbreviate only "Street," "Avenue," and "Boulevard," making them "St.," "Ave.," and "Blvd." But they only abbreviate these terms when they appear with an exact street address. If the street name stands alone, the street name shouldn't be abbreviated. So, according to this style, you'd write:

The museum is at 281 3rd St., at the corner of 3rd Street and Wilshire Boulevard

Newspapers don't use postal codes for states. So it's "California" instead of "CA." If you want to mirror newspaper style, avoid those two-letter postal abbreviations. On the other hand, if you like the handy two-letter versions better, you can make that a style rule for your own website or blog.

Also, many newspapers don't include the state for any address in the state the newspaper covers. So, for example, in the Los Angeles Times, cities mentioned are always considered to be within California unless expressly stated otherwise. "They visited Fresno; Eureka; Eugene, Oregon; and Spokane, Washington."

Book and magazine styles don't like abbreviating street names. They usually spell out Boulevard regardless of whether it appears in "100 Wilshire Boulevard" or just plain old "Wilshire Boulevard." And no styles I know of ever abbreviate Drive, Circle, Terrace, Way, or Place. So if you want an easy-to-remember and easy-to-read style, just either spell out every street name or spell out all but Ave., St., and Blvd. appearing with street numbers, use numerals for all numbers, and only include states when they're not obvious.

— June Casagrande is the author of "The Joy of Syntax: A Simple Guide to All the Grammar You Know You Should Know." She can be reached at JuneTCN@aol.com.



Valdosta Monkey's Thoughts & Opinions

Send your questions for

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Weather Warnings: Who's responsible

Originally published April 16, 2020

I didn't get my warning! Who's to blame? In a nutshell...you are.

In today's world there is absolutely no reason to be caught off guard when storms approach. In wake of the last few weather outbreaks here in Lanier/Lowndes County I've read where many of you humans seem to be looking for someone to blame because you were caught with your proverbial pants down.

Hurricanes/Tropical Systems often times come our way. We watch them for days sometimes a week or more while they develop out in the Atlantic Ocean just off the coast of Africa. There is no reason for a Hurricane/Tropical System to catch anyone off guard.

Pop-up evening Thunderstorms might catch some of you off guard and rightfully so because they're sneaky and just kinda pop up.

Tornadoes can be sudden or part of an advancing weather system that already has a history of producing tornadoes.

If a weather system is advancing on your locale then you probably should be concerned about the possibility of a tornado and consider yourself under a self-imposed "Tornado Watch"

I've seen the posts and heard the talk about the obsolete siren system here in Lakeland/Lanier County. I understand the desire to feel safe but shouldn't that be everyone's responsibility and not just government officials?

I've heard people say that they can't hear the sirens inside their home...well guess what? The sirens are telling people to GO INSIDE and SHELTER not step outside to listen to the siren and gawk at the sky.

The other evening when the weather conditions changed rapidly I got one Tornado Warning and 10-20 seconds later I lost my electricity.

What did I do? I got my humans and their beloved dog Izzy into their safe space, I made a post which simply read "TORNADO WARNING—SEEK SHELTER NOW!! THIS IS NO MONKEY BUSINESS!!" I then sent a handful of text messages warning of the coming twister. Then I listened for on oncoming train.

All that happened in a matter of just a couple to three minutes.

My point?

Warnings, Sirens, Alerts, etc...are all good and work best when all are utilized. However, depending on where a funnel cloud is when it dips down and makes contact with the ground and becomes a tornado and where you are when that happens may not leave time for a warning to go out. In other words, your ONLY warning might be the sound of that freight train heading straight for you and your family.

What I'm saying is that you humans need to learn to start showing some personal responsibility for your own well being.

Be alert to your regional weather and forecast for your area.

Buy a weather alert radio. Follow Weather Heads on social media, like Valdosta Monkey, check out Georgia Storm Troopers (GST) on Facebook, listen to your local weather forecast.

If you really want advanced weather alerts you should use "Zello" (an App in the App Store) and join GST there and you'll get weather alerts before your local TV station has a chance to work them into their lineup.

If you have questions or want to learn more about Georgia Storm Troopers, just search for Valdosta Monkey on Facebook, inbox him and ask to speak with Weather Monkey and he'll hook ya up with me..

You are invited to "Like" and "Follow" Valdosta Monkey on Facebook and visit his webpage at www.valdostamonkey.com

