

# Welcoming another change for our little community newspaper

By Tony Ends  
DEPARTING EDITOR

It's time again for me to step aside from editing *The Independent-Register*.

I spent most of this past Saturday introducing new editor Robin Orvino to the paper, to Brodhead, and to the surrounding community that I've called home since 1994.

If you subscribe to this weekly paper and read it regularly, you'll recall I agreed last May to edit the paper temporarily.

It's the fifth time I've edited *The Independent-Register* since 2015.

I've covered the tasks when editors needed a vacation or had a family emergency. I've done so when editors moved away, or took other jobs, or devoted time to loved ones who needed them.

Once again, it's been challenging to juggle editing responsibilities with other life and work tasks. Yet it's been as deeply rewarding as any position I've held in journalism across 43 years.

I hope to keep writing and reporting for *The Independent-Register*

from time to time. That will be as much as my full-time job writing and editing for a federal agency permits.

That job of three years is based in the Washington, D.C. metro area, and I'm actually writing this column from there this week.

So many good people, groups, and public servants contribute time and talent to the life and lives of our Brodhead and Green-Rock county-line area.

It's an honor to serve our city and villages, townships, and rural communities in the Sugar River watershed, farming area, and natural landscape we all love.

Please continue to send your news and notes to my successor at [news@indreg.com](mailto:news@indreg.com).

Robin is as committed to public affairs reporting as I am.

Like me, she's devoted herself to studying journalism and putting what she knows to work for all sorts of publications.

Like me, she has a deep respect for all people, genuine interest in their stories,

loyalty to public service.

No one can edit a 16-page publication alone on deadline every week without making mistakes – no matter how hard he or she tries.

We must be graceful to ourselves and to each other.

We don't wish anyone harm. We don't make errors or misunderstand one another deliberately.

When we make or repeat the mistakes of others, we can and do print an apology and correction – if we know to do so.

Honest communication is part of a shared community newspaper's mission to inform one another.

It supports a broader mission to sustain a quality of life in the present and preserve a historical record and legacy for our children and grandchildren.

Many, many people in the Brodhead area have kept that newspaper mission alive across 162 years.

Your support, with my continued support, keeps that history, that mission and purpose, alive.

Thank you. It's always a pleasure serving with you.