

Washington ▼

A central pillar of President Trump's politics is a sustained assault on the free press. Journalists are not classified as fellow Americans, but rather "The enemy of the people." This relentless assault on the free press has dangerous consequences. We asked editorial boards from around the country – liberal and conservative, large and small – to join us today to address this fundamental threat in their own words.

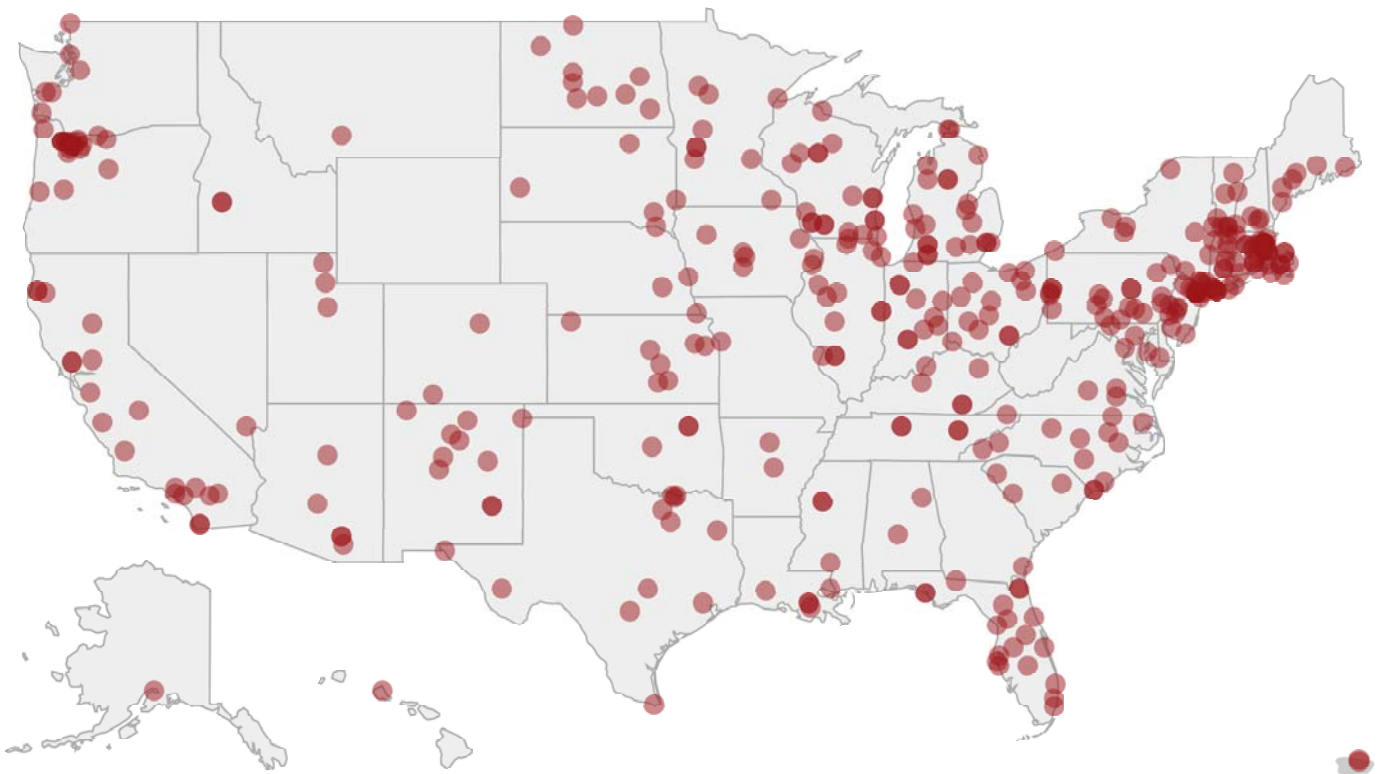
Replacing a free media with a state-run media has always been a first order of business for any corrupt regime taking over a country. Today in the United States we have a president who has created a mantra that members of the media who do not blatantly support the policies of the current U.S.

Washington

Our subscribers support a free press. Please join that effort.

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More than 400 news outlets from around the country have joined our effort to support a free press. Scroll below to read them. We will be updating the list as more editorials are published.



Alabama

Anniston

Anniston Star

Editorial: The core principles of journalism

Trump's taunts don't diminish the importance of America's media

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Washington

Anchorage

Anchorage Daily News

Why attacks on free speech and the free press are so dangerous

“If the press is the enemy of anything, it is corruption and waste by those in positions of power in our society.

Arizona

Tucson

Arizona Daily Star

The free press is not the ‘enemy of the people’

“The First Amendment protects your right — your need — to know more than what your government tells you. At a practical level, we journalists sit through boring government meetings and learn about public school financing formulas, so you don’t have to. It’s not as lofty a statement as the First Amendment, but it serves. Why would you give that away?

Flagstaff

Arizona Daily Sun

The press is not the enemy of the people

Phoenix

Arizona Republic

Journalists, don’t let Trump’s attacks on media keep us from doing our job

“Donald Trump has called the media many things: “the lowest form of humanity,” “lowlifes,” “scum” and “disgusting.” Journalists have heard it all before, and long before Donald Trump was cooing in his pram. It goes with the territory.

Sahuarita

Sahuarita Sun

Time for media, Trump to reflect

“As a third-generation newspaperman, I find the language and persistent attack on a profession that reaches to every community in this country to be vile and un-American.

Tucson

TucsonSentinel.com

Shooting the messengers: Trump’s attacks on free press ‘enemies’ undermine our democracy

“The president rails about “fake news” to distract from inconvenient truths, but there is no alternative to a free press: democracies run on facts. Informed citizens are the foundation of our country’s success.

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North Little Rock

Times of North Little Rock

Editorial: We are not the enemy of the people

We tell the stories of our communities, from the new Italian Festival to football players under those bright Friday Night Lights. We are always by your side.

Clinton

Van Buren County Democrat

Friends like these

Not everybody likes it when their business is put out for public review, even when it's public business, even when it deserves review, even when it's done by the guy from the paper.

California

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Washington

Not the enemy

At this point, it would be easy to tune out the president's constant rebukes—to trigger the internal “blah, blah, blah” button. But that would be normalizing his attacks, so resist the temptation.

Coachella Valley

Coachella Valley Independent

Anger and Divisiveness Are the Enemy—Not the Free Press

I could go into details here about how this rhetoric is right out of the authoritarianism playbook. I could elaborate on how the news media is not one big, cohesive entity, but instead, many hundreds of publications with all sorts of different editorial philosophies and viewpoints, ranging from sharply liberal to staunchly conservative. I could go on and on ... but I won't. I'll just again repeat: If we can't communicate with each other, democracy doesn't work.

Idyllwild

Idyllwild Town Crier

Fake news, American institutions and the presidency

Apart from our free press and the Electoral College, Trump has attacked the judicial branch of our government, our military and civilian intelligence communities, his own Department of Justice, the FBI — and even the NFL. Of course, he enjoys freedom of speech, but when he uses it to attack these established and treasured American institutions, he attacks our American way of life.

Seaside

Monterey County Weekly

Free Speech

We launched this “Free Speech” feature right after Trump was elected. We weren't so much clairvoyant of what was to come as proud of our place in a long history of people making a living utilizing the protections enshrined in the First Amendment.

Humboldt County

North Coast Journal

Enough, Mr. President

These attacks, this vicious rhetoric, have created two very real dangers: Short-term, it increases the dangers inherent in doing our job. Long-term and far more important, it undermines the very basis of our democracy.

San Diego

San Diego Union-Tribune

How we restore faith in journalism

Distrust is not easy to dismantle. But journalists at The San Diego Union-Tribune and nationwide will keep advocating for a free and fair press. With this president. And the next. And the next. And the next. And all who follow.

San Jose

San Jose Mercury News and the East Bay Times

Editorial: President Trump, we are not the nation's enemy

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Washington

Denver

Denver Post

We tell the truth: Denver Post decries Trump's attacks on journalists

Journalists in The Denver Post newsroom spend their days in pursuit of the truth. There's no political agenda belying their printed words, just a desire to inform the public.

Pagosa Springs

The Pagosa Springs SUN

We are not your enemy

Last month, after The SUN called out the county for allowing the jail advisory committee to hold meetings behind closed doors, we received an email about the matter stating: "If ever there were an example of the importance of an independent press, this is it." We agree.

Connecticut

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Washington

Reporters As “The Enemy”? Take A Closer Look And You Decide

Is this really what the enemy looks like? Climbing creaky stairs in old town halls for 7 p.m. meetings. Sitting on folding chairs for hours. Writing stories on those meetings that same night. Getting up too early the next day to do it again.

Falls Village

Lakeville Journal and Millerton News

Perspective on truth, lies, respect and hate

Americans may not like the news they see or hear but they should not hold that against those who report it. In short, don't shoot the messenger.

Meriden

Record-Journal

Journalists are not the ‘enemy’

Unable to carry on in the light, the president attempts to drag us all into a dark labyrinth where rules don't apply and some vacant concept of winning seems attainable. This is the playground of “alternative facts.” But news organizations do not play in that dark playground. They perform in the light, and as such they are not the “enemy of the people” but precisely the opposite.

Willimantic

The Chronicle

Trump's rhetoric hits all media hard

So when he continues to attack the press as a whole with almost demonic disdain without any proof of inaccuracies, he's not hurting the feelings of journalists. They're tough men and women. They can take it. What he's doing is undermining democracy itself.

Darien

The Darien Times

There is nothing more American than a free press.

We are the enemy of governmental secrecy, of public self-servants and of lies — we are the enemy of absolute power seekers and the enemy of efforts to propogate an uninformed electorate so as to manipulate it. From the tiniest newspaper with no budget to an international journalistic powerhouse — we are the enemies of those who would seek to hide the truth from you.

New London

The Day

Uniting our voices in defense of a free press

Only information coming from the president or news and social media sites he deems worthy is acceptable.

Delaware

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Washington ▼

Don't shoot the messenger

But shooting the messenger, either literally or virtually, is exactly the bulls-eye that the President of the United States is creating in labeling the press the “enemy of the people.”

Florida

Washington

In defense of democracy's defenders

In less flowery terms, the role of the press is to keep an eye on the henhouse.

Bradenton

Bradenton Herald

President Trump, we're not 'enemies of the people.' End your war on our free press

Everywhere in the country, any matter that an official doesn't want to talk about or that a reader doesn't want to hear about is "fake news" now.

Daytona Beach

Daytona Beach News-Journal

Trump's cynical effort to cast the press as 'enemies'

"Fake News." Trump wields that phrase like a bully with a truncheon.

Jacksonville

Florida Times-Union

The war between Trump and news media must end

Even those who have little reason to defend Trump have found the media's coverage excessive at times.

Melbourne

Florida Today

What our investigative journalists expose isn't fake news

The reporters aren't the enemy of the people. They pursue real stories intended to right wrongs and help the least among us.

Jacksonville

Folio weekly

The King's Speech

It is the infant terrible of a king's greatest hope that the people will rise against us media tyrants who hold his monarchy hostage, wielding our mighty pens of insistence to verify facts and tell objective truths, of analyzing and critiquing and speaking truth to power, of presenting a broad variety of views, so long as these be based in reality.

Gainesville

Gainesville Sun

We're not the enemy of the people

it is doubtful these words will make a difference to Trump or his most steadfast supporters.

Highlands County

Highlands News Sun

Dad for democracy

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Washington

Brunswick

Brunswick News

Time for Trump's journalist attacks to stop

We understand that not all journalists are ethical and doing their jobs properly. No industry is without its faults. But on a large scale, there are journalists in communities across this great nation who are informing and fighting for the little guy against bloated government bureaucracies that, if unchecked, will trample on basic rights of its people.

Hawaii

Honolulu

Honolulu Civil Beat

The 'Enemy Of The People' Is Actually Doing Its Job

President Trump's sustained attacks on the media represent a danger to a free press and democracy itself.

Idaho

Boise

Boise Weekly

No, we're not your enemy. Never have been. Never will be.

It may seem obvious, but at this particular moment in our nation's history, it's important to say these words with clarity: There is *nothing* fake, disgusting or sick about pursuing the truth.

Lewiston

Lewiston Tribune

Up Front: Who we aren't, and who we are

There's a difference between what "is said goes on in judging, and the court, and what actually happens."

Moscow

Moscow-Pullman Daily News

Who we aren't, and who we are

We are your neighbors. We are sisters, brothers, aunts, uncles, dads and moms. We are grandmas and grandpas. We're taxpayers. We're hunters. We're fishermen. We're river rafters. We're artists. We're conservatives. We're liberals. Some of us own guns, some don't.

Illinois

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Washington

This newspaper is the ‘enemy’ of all that hurts ‘the people’

Arlington Heights

Daily Herald

Not enemies, but voices of the people / In midst of assaults on press, we all must defend principles of First Amendment

When all news media are approached with reflexive contempt and the only voice we are urged to respect is the one at the head of the government, we represent something very different from the ideals that so many people have sacrificed for, that have served us as a people in a manner unprecedented throughout human history and that have lit a beacon of democracy envied and copied around the world.

Canton

Daily Ledger

Freedom for all...with the exception of journalists?

Just prior to the 2016 presidential election I saw a disturbing meme.

Peoria

Journal Star of Peoria

President’s attacks on the press must stop

You can call us and we pick up the phone. You email us, and we reply. We cover the news to inform you, and we get both sides of an argument. We live by a code of ethics. Just like a teacher, firefighter or police officer, you will find few people who are as committed to their work as a public servant than a journalist. It’s not a job, it’s a calling.

Metamora

Metamora Herald

A Free Press is Essential to a Free Society

“We all have an obligation to ourselves and each other to protect the freedoms provided to us in this great experiment. Exercise your rights, get involved, and vote in every election.”

Galesburg

Register Mail

Editorial: We believe in power of good journalism

We don’t believe the American people need a tutorial from the president about what to watch, read or believe. Our founding fathers trusted the people enough to give them the power to control and change our government.

Trenton

Trenton Sun

Standing with the “mainstream media”

President Trump is correct about one thing: fake news is a real and pressing threat to our democratic principles. But having turned governance of the most important nation on earth into a game of Constitutional Three-Card Monte, he wants you to turn over the

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Washington

Democracy requires press freedom

There is an unshakable feeling that this country may be at a tipping point. Either we get a grip and get back to our founding principles of fact-driven dialogue, debate and decision-making, or we go off the deep end.

Connersville

Connersville News-Examiner

We are not enemies of the people

Newspapers have been called enemies of the people before, mostly by some of the people afraid of what the people would do if they knew the truth. It happens on the national level and, sometimes, locally.

Kokomo

Kokomo Tribune

A free press works for you

If a free press is to disappear, who will hold our elected officials accountable? Who will monitor new businesses, crime and community health? Who will be the voice for the voiceless? Will you? If you're anything like us, you'd better be prepared to die trying.

Jeffersonville

News and Tribune

Defined by purpose, not president

Politicians have a vested interest — their careers — in driving the narrative, controlling the message. It's not unusual for presidents to be at odds with reporters. The difference between President Donald Trump and his predecessors is that 45 seeks not just to control the message, but to serve as puppet master over those who deliver it.

South Bend

South Bend Tribune

Nothing fake about our mission

The words still ring true today — an objective look at the region; meaningful journalism; frank and fair reporting about our area. We're not your enemy. We just want to help make this community stronger. There's nothing fake about that.

New Castle

The Courier-Times (New Castle)

We are not enemies of the people

Newspapers have been called enemies of the people before, mostly by some of the people afraid of what the people would do if they knew the truth. It happens on the national level and, sometimes, locally.

Bloomington

The Herald-Times

Trump's attacks on media can't go unchallenged

He's attacking the institutions and individuals who tell the stories of our nation and their communities, small and large; who work to hold the powerful accountable; and who seek to give voice to the underserved and underrepresented. His rhetoric divides and causes

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Washington

Ames

Ames Tribune

Free press, democracy, being jeopardized under Trump

Let's be brave enough to stand up against such ignorance and protect not only the right to a free press, but also your right to speak freely, and "peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances."

Des Moines

Des Moines Register

Media are not the enemy of the people; a free press is critical to democracy

Reporting on growing federal deficits, climate change, disasters, voting records of lawmakers, government spending, immigration and numerous other important and controversial issues every day is not "fake news."

Eldridge

The North Scott Press

TAKE NO DELIGHT, PLEASE, WHEN THE PRESIDENT BASHES THE PRESS

A friend who was editor of a weekly in northern Iowa made statewide news a while back when an assailant with a gun confronted him in his office. Luckily no harm came of it, but it's a constant reminder. Editors everywhere have their own stories of intimidation.

Kansas

Lawrence

Lawrence Journal World

Who's the real enemy here?

When Trump says "these people, the fake news" he's including hundreds of American newspapers like the Journal-World that have built centuries-old businesses based entirely on the credibility of the news they deliver.

Topeka

Topeka Capital-Journal

Press isn't 'enemy of the people'

The refrains are as familiar as they are tiresome. "Fake news." "Biased reporting." But there's a new melody now, a new thread added by President Trump. "Enemy of the people." It's an old phrase, one used all the way back in Roman times, as well as the Soviet Union against dissidents. A form even appeared in Nazi Germany, when Jewish people were called an "enemy of the state." "Enemy of the people."

Marysville

Marysville Advocate

In defense of press freedom

Our editorial writers challenge those in power and question government when necessary. Sometimes government and other authorities fire back in an attempt to intimidate. As one fellow editor wrote this week. "We stand up to bullies. It's our job."

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Washington

Glasgow

Glasgow Daily Times

Defined by purpose, not president

Morehead

The Morehead News

Trump using Nazi game plan in media bashing

“Trump himself describes the independent free press as “the enemy of the people”. When asked early in his presidency why he was using his *anti*-media tactics, Trump replied to a TV reporter: “I do it to discredit you all and demean you all so when you write negative stories about me, no one will believe it.”

Elizabethtown

The News Enterprise

Stand against president's slur

“The public may enjoy labeling physicians as quacks, lawyers as shysters or car salesmen as hucksters, but we all know trusted doctors, attorneys and car dealers and turn to them when their skills and services are needed. When in need of reliable information, Americans turn to an independent news media.

Corbin

Times-Tribune

Defined by purpose, not president

“The Founders of this nation, who traded blood for independence, understood the value in a free press to ensure leaders remain true to their constitutional duties, and to the people they serve.

Louisiana

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Washington

Protect a free press

Houma and Thibodaux

The Courier and Daily Comet

Trump's message on the press is dangerous and wrong

"A free press is crucial to people who value freedom and rely on an open exchange of ideas. To label it anything else is to attack the very principles on which our great nation was founded."

Houma

The Houma Courier

Trump's message on the press is dangerous and wrong

"Enemy of the people" is a time-honored slogan hurled by some of the worst dictators in history. It is purposely meant to attack an entire group and make all of the members the recipients of a single message of hatred.

Slidell

The Slidell Independent

National media has new ploy against President Trump

"It's downright amusing to see how angry members of the national media corp have become about Trump."

Thibodaux

The Thibodaux Daily Comet

Our opinion: Trump's message on the press is dangerous and wrong

"A free press is crucial to people who value freedom and rely on an open exchange of ideas. To label it anything else is to attack the very principles on which our great nation was founded."

Maine

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Washington

The media is the enemy only if you don't want to know what your government is doing

News organizations don't serve governments. They serve you, the public.

Augusta

Kennebec Journal

Our View: A free press is the best defense against tyranny

We are devoted to a process that puts the truth of the matter ahead of who wins and who loses. That doesn't always make us popular, but it is one of the few bulwarks standing between freedom and tyranny

Machias

Machias Valley News Observer

#Freepress

It may not surprise you to hear the Machias Valley News Observer falls somewhat below the radar of any nationwide attacks on the press. That is not to say, however, that we are wholly unaffected by what is happening in our nation.

Portland

Portland Press Herald

A free press is the best defense against tyranny

Normally we let our work speak for itself, but these are not normal times. Today, we are taking a moment to defend an institution to which many of us have devoted our lives.

Lewiston

Sun Journal

There's truth, then everything else

We are members of a proud, free and independent press, and each one of us feels a call to duty to confront and carry the truth in every word and every image of every day. That's about as real as it gets.

Maryland

Baltimore

Baltimore Sun

News media won't back down under pressure from president

Hagerstown

Hub City Post

Hub City Post: Sparking more community conversations

"We will promote our local community, but we will also tell the truth about that community—blemishes and all. This is what we offer."

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Washington

Journalists are not the 'enemy of the people'

Pittsfield

Berkshire Eagle

Our Opinion: Trump's assaults on press are assaults on democracy

Brockton

Brockton Enterprise

We are not the enemy

Chatham

Cape Cod Chronicle

Unmoored

When perception is skewed by ideology and propaganda, facts suddenly become negotiable. Thus we are unmoored, and our society drifts into swift and dangerous currents. Journalism isn't designed to be comfortable. It's designed to keep us off the rocks.

Hyannis

Cape Cod Times

Trump, tweets and the truth

The true enemy of any democracy is ignorance, and the only way to battle ignorance is through the acquisition of knowledge: a single set of well-researched, incontrovertible, unbiased facts.

Cape Cod

CapeCodWave.com

The Media Is Not The Enemy Of The People - An Editorial

The world is made up of facts. And one fact is that journalists, those people asking questions of the highest authority in the land, are American patriots.

Boston

Daily Free Press

EDITORIAL: Journalists are not the 'enemy of the people,' they are the people

Northampton

Daily Hampshire Gazette

Journalists performing public service are not the enemy

Trump's rhetoric has fueled some Americans' distrust of journalists and further blurred the line between fact and opinion in the minds of some news consumers.

Lynn

Daily Item of Lynn

We (are not the enemy of) the people

The media — the people who have answered a calling to report the good, the bad, and the ugly that happen in our world — are not the

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Washington

We stand for the First Amendment, defend the truth

Ironwood

Daily Globe

News media not the enemy

It's important to stand up for the good work of the media that sheds light on the news of the day. Sometimes these are happy stories, sometimes they are not. Not everyone comes across looking as good as they want to.

Detroit

Deadline Detroit

We Stand with Our U.S. Colleagues Against 'Fake News' Claims

The president, so they say, isn't much of a reader, so perhaps he doesn't know these words, attributed to Buddha: "Three things cannot be long hidden: The sun, the moon and the truth."

Detroit

Detroit Free Press

Defending my profession amid 'enemy of the people' rhetoric

Grosse Pointe

Grosse Pointe News

OUR VIEW: Press call to action

The Grosse Pointe News agreed to participate, because we fear readers do not truly realize how dangerous it is to be labeling responsible media "enemy of the people" and accusing the press and news broadcasters of fabricating "fake news." Most media consumers realize the anti-press rhetoric is meant to "muddy the waters" over negative reporting of government affairs, but we fear some less thoughtful readers and viewers might see the name-calling as a "call to action" of a more dangerous kind.

Holland

Holland Sentinel

Our View: Power of the press a sacred trust with readers

Houghton Lake

Houghton Lake Resorter

Freedom's defender

We believe the newspapers that tell the stories of communities throughout this land, from the largest to the smallest, serve as beacons of freedom and hope.

Statewide

MLive Media Group (8 newspapers)

A free, independent press is America's watchdog, not the enemy.

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Washington

Spring Valley

Bluff Country Newspaper Group (Chatfield News, Fillmore County News Leader, Spring Grove Herald, Spring Valley Tribune, Tri-County Record)

Constant attacks on free press transcend partisanship, threaten American values

His words embolden people at his political rallies to threaten the news people covering the events. They allow others to copy his “fake news” claim when unfavorable coverage appears. Even more concerning, people are becoming more agreeable to his view that he should have broad power to quiet those who challenge him.

Duluth

Duluth News Tribune

Free press: Our protection from tyranny

An independent and free media — and local news in particular — is our protection from tyranny and our guard against the oppression of those who would take advantage of us. Our nation’s democracy hinges on the accountability and the checks and balances ensured by a responsible press.

Alexandria

Echo Press

Dirty war against media must end

Journalists are being undermined and attacked, not on the basis of facts but because someone powerful doesn’t agree with what they are reporting.

Elbow Lake

Grant County Herald

Calling the press ‘enemy of the people’ will lead to violence

Montevideo

Montevideo American-News

The enemy of my enemy...

Trump’s repeated and blatant attacks on the media not only fan the flames of anger and distrust among his believers, but they are also a direct attack on the Constitution of the United States, and therefore could be considered as treasonous speech. There can be no doubt about his intentions: control the media, control the people.

Benson

Swift County Monitor-News, Benson, MN Grant County Herald, Elbow Lake, MN

Attacks On Journalists Will Lead To Violence

That’s just about as real as it gets.

Mississippi

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Washington

The ultimate friend of the people

Oliver Emmerich, a conservative Mississippian who founded the company that has owned this newspaper for decades, understood more than most the danger of championing a free and independent press.

Greenwood

Greenwood Commonwealth

Imperfect but indispensable

Greenwood

The Greenwood Commonwealth

Imperfect but indispensable

Our reporters and editors — as do journalists throughout this nation — believe what they do is an honorable if demanding calling, one that very few will get rich at, one that can cost you friends, but one that is essential if democracy is to survive as we know it.

Missouri

Kansas City

Kansas City Star

President Trump, we're not 'enemies of the people.' End your war on our free press

The animus you see directed at CNN's Jim Acosta isn't just reserved for the White House press corps. Everywhere in the country, any matter that an official doesn't want to talk about or that a reader doesn't want to hear about is "fake news" now.

St. Louis

St. Louis Post-Dispatch

Truth under attack

Trump is inflicting massive, and perhaps irreparable, damage to democracy with these attacks. This will end only if Republicans stop trying to defend Trump's harsh rhetoric and join Democrats and independents in calling for him to stop.

Montana

Bozeman

Bozeman Chronicle

Journalists aren't the enemy; we are you

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Washington

Falls City

Falls City Journal**We are not the enemy, we are your peers, friends, and neighbors**

Criticism is something that comes along with what we do. It's difficult, but expected with each printing of the paper. However, we are not the enemy, we are your peers, friends, and neighbors.

Seward

Seward Independent (4 publications)**Trump's attacks on media unfair**

We hold people in power accountable for their actions. Some think we're rude to question and challenge. We know it's our obligation.

Nevada

Las Vegas

Las Vegas Sun**Take it from the Founding Fathers: Journalists are Public Ally No. 1**

With real Americans in danger of suffering harm, and with farther-reaching damage a possibility, we urge Trump's supporters to reconsider his attacks and call upon congressional leaders to denounce them.

Reno

ThisReno.com**Attacks on The News Media Are Attacks on Democracy (Opinion)**

No doubt about it: The news media should be held to a higher standard; however, the insults, attacks, harassment, and wholesale ad hominem dismissals of the news media are intellectually shallow, serve only base human instincts of fear and anger, and are ultimately harmful to the very democracy these folks claim to represent.

New Hampshire

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Washington

Enemies of the people

Journalists are compelled by the tenets of their chosen field to hunt for the truth regardless of who tells them to back off.

Keene

Keene Sentinel

Precious priority: A free press

We strive to enlighten public discourse on topics of civic consequence; to ask tough questions on your behalf, following your hard-earned tax dollars and holding up for public accountability those in power who serve the citizenry

West Lebanon

Valley News

The Wider Danger in Trump's Troubling Attacks on Journalism

For many years it has been the general practice here at the Valley News not to respond in kind to critics of our coverage, even when the paper's motives and good faith are questioned. The working theory is that journalists are not and should not be in the business of getting into public arguments; that we expect public figures to have a thick hide, and it is unbecoming to display a thin skin when they push back; and, most of all, that our coverage rises or falls on its own merits, as determined by the readers we serve, not on the opinion of those whom we cover.

Nashua

Nashua Telegraph

Free press imperative

Throughout the newspaper's history, the pages of The Telegraph have chronicled the presidency of New Hampshire native Franklin Pierce, the Civil War, the invention of the telephone, World War I and World War II, the assassination of President John F. Kennedy, a plethora of presidential candidates campaigning in the New Hampshire primary, and the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, along with numerous other historical events.

Portsmouth

Seacoast Online

The president and the press

As the president and press corps battle it out on the national stage, we remain deeply committed to the mission of our news organization, which like real estate, is local, local, local. Ultimately, we are answerable to the readers and the communities we serve and it is to them we must remain credible.

Manchester

Union Leader

Trump's assault: 'Enemy of the people' slander

It is disturbing because too many Republican politicians, concerned solely with their own security at the next election, have abdicated any responsibility to call out Trump on this.

New Jersey

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Washington

Joining in solidarity with the Boston Globe, others

Verona

Insider NJ

We Stand Against Craven Attacks by Trump and for the Free Press

“This President did not singlehandedly make routinely personal and profane what should be an independent but finally common cause of gravitas, but his ongoing attack on the media – his tweet fits at CNN and The New York Times among others, in addition to nullifying the solemnity of his own elected position, can only ultimately add to the world’s rancor, insecurity and ugliness, and instead of appealing to the better angels of our nature as Lincoln once urged, further diminish the sacred trust of E Pluribus Unum.

Secaucus

Jersey Journal

Attack on the press is an attack on America

“True Americans must not tolerate these efforts to undermine the free press.

Jefferson Township

The Jefferson Chronicle

We Have Met the Enemy, and It Is Not Us

“We believe this attack against the press has the propensity not only to turn into another historical misstep, but also to loosen a brick in the foundation of our democracy.

Malaga

The Sentinel of Gloucester County

Call for action to protect the freedom of the press

“The job of a reporter is not about glamour and makeup like you often see on television. The majority of reporters and journalists work part-time and make under \$30,000 a year. They usually receive no additional benefits. To lump all reporters and journalists in the same boat as ‘the enemy of the people’ is certainly not an accurate statement.

Trenton

The Trentonian

Information is critical to keep a free society free

“Undermining the free press is a distinctly un-American message for someone with such patriotic branding.

New Mexico

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Washington

A Check on Power: Journalism, free speech are what helped Make America Great in the first place

If we buy into this falsehood of the news media as “the enemy of the people,” we will be leaving our children and our grandchildren a weakened democracy vulnerable to the whims of tyrants. And that is the very antithesis of Making America Great again.

Los Alamos

Los Alamos Daily Post

Newspapers Across America Speak Out In One Voice Today Against Attacks On Press

We’ve been complacent. We thought everybody knew how important a free press was to our world and that all this talk about us being the enemy of the people would be dismissed for the silliness that it is. But the reckless attacks have continued, instigated and encouraged by our president.

Santa Fe

Santa Fe New Mexican

Here since the beginning — a free press

The press is independent, designed to be a watchdog — on government, the powerful and any forces that operate secretly and without sunlight.

Roswell

The Roswell Daily Record

Erosion of trust in media damages democracy

When there is an erosion in the public’s trust in the media, the potential for damage is enormous, both here and abroad. We once set an example of free and open government for the world to follow. Those who seek to suppress the free flow of information are doing so with impunity. The role journalism plays in our free society is critical.

Taos

The Taos News

Defending free press

Our reporters let readers know what is really happening in government. We sit through interminable government meetings and analyze them for readers. We dig through public records and interview officials, so our readers know what is happening with their tax money.

Belen

Valencia County News Bulletin

We are not the enemy; We are the people

When the leader of the free world works to erode the public’s trust in the media, the potential for damage is enormous, both here and abroad.

New York

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Washington

We are not the enemy of the people

Join our united message in support of free responsible speech because if the press is muzzled, you could be next and not one will be there to shine a light on it.

Westchester and Putnam counties

Examiner Media: [The Examiner](#), [White Plains Examiner](#), [Northern Westchester Examiner](#), [Putnam Examiner](#)

Newsprint Tariffs and Fake News Mantra a Threat to Democracy

Citizens from across the country, of all political stripes, must stand against the systematic attacks on journalism and journalists. Our democracy's ability to breath healthily depends on it.

Geneva

Finger Lakes Times

A free press is not the enemy

No matter what our President, the most powerful man in the world, tweets or says in a misguided attempt to erode the public's trust in the media, we will steadfastly stick to our belief that the role journalism plays in our free society is a critical one, so indispensable that even our earnest Founding Fathers had the foresight to seek to protect it nearly 250 years ago. It also is one of the components that truly makes America great.

Garden City

Garden City News

It trickles down

With cries of "Fake News" and suggestions that supporters assault reporters during rallies, President Trump has taken our country down a road we should be very afraid of.

Northern New York

Johnson Newspaper Corp. [5 dailies and 12 weeklies](#)

Pressing back on Trump: Attacking journalists hurts ability to hold officials accountable

The president wants his supporters to conclude that what they're learning from media outlets isn't real. Don't trust your eyes and ears, he tells them: "Believe me!" Well, someone who has Mr. Trump's history of lying can't be taken at his word on this.

New York

New York Daily News

Cut it out, Mr. President: Stop vilifying the news media

When a critical mass of our fellow citizens reflexively distrust everything that is written or broadcast because it is written or broadcast, reading not with intelligent skepticism but dismissive cynicism — or, more often, not reading at all unless a piece has the sickly perfume of propaganda — we lose the ability to expose and repair problems in our government.

New York

New York Times

A Free Press Needs You

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Washington ▼

Last free article. [Subscribe now](#) →

Washington

First for a Reason

We're simply holding our public officials and some of our institutions to account – on your behalf – because if we don't, who will? And we're not quitting. That's because we all share the belief that journalism is essential to the functioning of our democracy.

Wilmington

Star News

Trump's attacks on press go too far

We want to be very clear – our complaint is not with any Trump policy. Voters will get to judge the policy results. Our complaint is that the president, through the false and absurd claims that journalists are “enemies of the people” who “only make up stories,” is intentionally trying to undermine an institution the founders deemed important enough to protect with the First Amendment.

Shallotte

The Brunswick Beacon

Free press essential to our freedom

Regardless of political leanings, newspapers at their core are champions of the public's right to know about the issues and events that affect it.

Elizabeth City

The Daily Advance

We are not the enemy

In a democracy, the press is not supposed to shower public officials with accolades and praise every decision. We exist to ask questions, dig for facts and uncover the truth hidden behind public relations spin sessions. We ask the questions that members of the public cannot ... We challenge authority, because officials are human beings who can make mistakes and sometimes make decisions based on self interest instead of public interest.

Greenville

The Daily Reflector

We are not the enemy

In a democracy, the press is not supposed to shower public officials with accolades and praise every decision. We exist to ask questions, dig for facts and uncover the truth hidden behind public relations spin sessions. We ask the questions that members of the public cannot ... We challenge authority, because officials are human beings who can make mistakes and sometimes make decisions based on self interest instead of public interest.

Fayetteville

The Fayetteville Observer

'Fake news' and all the president's taunts

Taking everything this president says as literally true can be a dangerous mistake, even for his most ardent supporters. And we see worrisome signs that many people in the Trump “base” would gladly restrict the freedom of the press to report and opine on the president's actions.

Rocky Mount

The Rocky Mount Telegram

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Washington

Bismarck

Bismarck Tribune

We aren't the 'enemy' when covering news

Washburn

Leader-News

Don't be deceived by 'fake news' claims

“And even when you are told otherwise, remember that we aren't your enemy. We're your neighbors, your co-workers. We're the people who wave as you drive by every day, the ones you greet on the sidewalk. We're behind you in line supporting our local businesses, next to you at school events supporting area students.

Ohio

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Washington

Not the enemy of the people

Quite often, that comes in terms of covering municipal and county meetings. People are busy and can't always sit in on these kind of official gatherings. The press is there to sit in for those who can't attend, to let them know what their leaders on the local level are doing. These meetings are sometimes, honestly, a bit boring, focusing on the formation of a task force to study this or that esoteric concept. At other times, they can mean you wake up one day with a gun range bordering your property, or a hog farm, or who knows what. It's our job to give you a heads-up as to what's coming down the pike.

Athens

Athens News

In attacking journalists, Trump damages all Americans

This is terribly galling for the hundreds of thousands of journalists who do their jobs far away from the national stage.

Canton

Canton Repository

Fake news' label doesn't fit local newspapers

We are an "enemy" only of those who stand in the way of truth.

Chagrin Falls

Chagrin Valley Times

Local news is real news

We are indeed your lens into your community. We are not your enemy. Unlike some posts on Facebook and other social media sites, we verify our facts before publication. We are not anonymous. We stand by the veracity of our work.

Elyria

Chronicle-Telegram

The media are not the enemy

Our mission is to serve the public good, in part by using the freedom granted us under the First Amendment to hold the powerful accountable.

Cincinnati

Cincinnati City Beat

We Are Not Your Enemy

CityBeat has been a voice in Greater Cincinnati for nearly a quarter of a century now, publishing a print edition weekly and producing regular content throughout the week online to try to help keep you informed of what is happening in your city. Over the past 24 years, we have faced intimidation and efforts to shut down our attempts to report on matters important to our community, from religious organizations to business leaders to government officials. We, of course, stand with the rest of our sisters and brothers in the press to say to all citizens, "We are not your enemy."

Columbus

Columbus Dispatch

What's the value of a free press? Judge for yourself

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Washington

Oklahoma City

Oklahoman

President's "fake news" claims hurt all media

President's "fake news" claims hurt all media

Tulsa

Tulsa World

We are not your enemy

But the president's attacks are neither fair nor accurate. He has mistaken those who disagree with him (editorially) for traitors. He has mistaken facts that are uncomfortable to him (in news stories) for sedition. In turning those who critique him into "enemies of the American people," he is equating himself with the nation, a dangerous and wrong presumption. He is not the American people, and we are not their enemy.

Oregon

Last free article. [Subscribe now](#) →

Washington

It's time to stop the false attacks on the media

Reporters Peter Wong, Ray Pitz and Blair Stenvick sit through countless government meetings, long into the night, not to invent fake news, but to cover how your tax dollars are being used in your community by the people you elected

Cannon Beach

Cannon Beach Gazette/Seaside Signal

America's newspapers always by your side

The Dalles

Dalles Chronicle

Editorial: Media loyalty lies with the people

Estacada

Estacada News

Contra to reports, we are not your enemy

We tell the stories of our community — like today's goofy front-page story about sandwich lovers, or of the concerns of the local school superintendent regarding the temporary loss of a school resource officer.

Eugene

Eugene Weekly

We are not the enemy.

Trump's incessant threats are a real danger, not just to the people who write, photograph, edit and deliver the news — but to democracy itself.

Forest Grove

Forest Grove News-Times

It's time to stop the false attacks on the media

Photojournalists Jaime Valdez and Jonathan House don't shoot fake events. They sprint from assignment to assignment, providing images of your neighbors, your community, your events

Gresham

Gresham Outlook

Contra to reports, we are not your enemy

On rainy January days, we're the people's eyes and ears at Gresham City Council meetings, or at Centennial School Board meetings

Hillsboro

Hillsboro Tribune

The news isn't 'fake' just because you see things differently

We see "fake news" used as an epithet, and ad-hominem attacks hurled at people simply doing their jobs, by powerful people who do not appreciate that journalism is as American as apple pie.

Hood River

Hood River News

Last free article. [Subscribe now](#) →

Washington

Washington D.C.

Center for Public Integrity

Center for Public Integrity Board of Directors condemns President Trump's attacks on the press

“Fair, rigorous criticism of the press is welcome and expected, but attacks labelling it as the “enemy of the people” or “dangerous & sick” are neither appropriate nor responsible.

Southeastern US

SizingUpTheSouth.com, (Society of Professional Journalists - Region 3)

The press isn't “fake”

“If the President can get away it, other leaders may see an opening to treat journalists the same way.

Pennsylvania

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Washington

Journalists are not ‘enemy of the people’

Times joins nationwide call to action to defend attacks on journalists as ‘enemy of the American people’

Levitt Town

Bucks County Courier Times

We’ve been complacent

Sunbury

Daily Item, Sunbury, Pa.

Let’s be clear: We are not the enemy

There are tens of thousands of journalists who care about those communities who work hard for not a lot of money in many cases and who do not deserve to be derided or in fear of their personal safety for doing their jobs.

Elizabethtown

Elizabethtown Advocate

We Need Freedom of the Press, Not Freedom in Name Only

“The danger of Trump’s temper tantrums, though, is what happens when his supporters get caught up in them.”

Ellwood City

Ellwood City Ledger

Ledger joins nationwide call to action to defend attacks on journalists as ‘enemy of the people’

In today’s world of the 24-hour news cycle, sometimes we make a mistake in the rush to sort through conflicting information and tell a story. We then do our best to correct the error and learn from it.

Ellwood City

Ellwood City Ledger

Journalists are not “enemies of the people”

Not all news is happy news. We cover the tragedies, the crime, the tax hikes, the shady backroom deals. Just because it makes us uncomfortable, or angry, doesn’t mean it’s any less true.

Erie

Erie Times News

Our view: Freedom of the press is your freedom

Gettysburg

Gettysburg Times

Real, honest and credible news

Lancaster

LNP/LancasterOnline

Freedom of the press is essential in every community, including our own

We’re not going to ask President Trump to cease being annoyed by the media. We’d just urge him to manage his annoyance as Jefferson

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Washington

Guaynabo

El Nuevo Dia**Presidential attacks turn their back on democracy**

“ President Donald Trump’s unfounded and systematic attack against the press seeks to silence an essential institution in our democratic society, which mission is focused on providing reliable information that promotes citizen welfare.

San Juan

NoticEl**A merced de lobos**

Rhode Island

Newport

Newport This Week**Enemy of the People: ‘Shush! It Could Get Worse’**

“ Who else has attacked the media in order to assure that he is seen in the same light that he sees himself, accusing it of falsehood, so it will be invalidated by the time it becomes necessary for society to trust what’s being reported?

Providence

The Providence Journal**Trump attacks the messenger**

“ Presidents, whether or not they are pleased with news reports, should acknowledge and respect the idea that journalists must be free from government control.

Warwick

Warwick Beacon**The press isn’t perfect, but it also isn’t ‘fake’**

“ Regardless of whether you think Trump is a saving grace for the nation or he is helping steer us off a steep ravine, his attacks on the press can, in no way, shape or form, be considered healthy for our democracy.

Newport

The Newport Daily News**News media standing up to Trump**

“ We at this paper have seen firsthand the impact that a claim of “fake news” can have. We very recently were accused of trying to manufacture news, of staging an event so we could report on it.

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Washington

Anderson County

Anderson Observer**Newspapers hold up mirror to make our country great**

I have always approached my job with three goals: report the truth wherever it may be found, holding up a mirror to advocate for what is good in or for the community (state and nation) and hold up the same mirror to those who seek to do harm to others as part of their own actions or agendas.

Florence

SC Now Morning News**Media must be fair to readers, president**

The Boston Globe has called on newspapers across the country to publish editorials today denouncing the president for his “attacks” on the free press. I just can’t.

South Dakota

Aberdeen

American News**President’s attacks against the media have consequences**

Long after the president is gone, the seeds of mistrust he has so carefully cultivated will grow into a divided, angry population for generations to come.

Freeman

Freeman Courier

Anytime the credibility of news media is brought into question — whether it’s a mistake we make, a mistake another newspaper makes or an attack from an elected official — it’s felt locally.

Jamestown

Jamestown Sun**This is not fake news**

Newspapers are the first to admit they are not perfect, but on all levels we are serious about what we see as our core roles: documenting the daily and weekly history of our towns and serving as watchdogs to protect the public’s interest

Tennessee

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Washington

#FreePress: The Press Is Not the 'Enemy of the People'

“Enemy of the American people.” These words are blunt instruments used to bludgeon an industry that has already been severely wounded due to economic factors. Newsrooms are losing staff and resources.

Nashville

Tennessean

Journalists are friends and allies of the people

We are also not a monolithic group. We are made up of individuals with a passion for telling stories and with a commitment to accuracy and *fairness*, and not all of us think, vote or act alike.

Memphis

Commercial Appeal

Enemy is 'fake news,' not the free press

To some, “fake news” is any news report or commentary that gets one or more facts wrong, or that misrepresents the facts. To others, it's any news report or commentary that doesn't jive with what you think or know to be right and true.

Texas

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Washington

Journalists are watchdog neighbors, not enemy of the people

It's the job of Statesman reporters to bring you articles that may make you uncomfortable.

Marfa

Big Bend Sentinel and Presidio International

We are your friends, your neighbors, your local journalists

Dallas

Dallas Morning News

The First Amendment helps the people hold elected officials accountable

It said, "Rope, Tree, Journalist, some assembly required."

Denton

Denton Record--Chronicle

We are not fake news — we are your news

But you also know we are fulfilling our responsibility when we ask the tough, probing questions of the candidate you supported, when we seek the records documenting the operation of the agency in which you serve, when we continue to call those elected leaders who never pick up the phone.

Sherman

Herald Democrat

A world without a free press is one without a safeguard of freedom

Without the work done by journalists, Twitter feeds, Google News pages and that article your mom's friend's daughter shared on Facebook would dry up and there would only be recipe videos and pictures of babies and kittens. Admittedly that might seem brighter, but a world without a free press is one without a safeguard of freedom.

Houston

Houston Chronicle

The real enemy of the people? It's not the press

Longview

Longview News-Journal

The free press is not the nation's enemy

We are not the enemy. We, like you, are the American people.

Texas

The Brownsville Herald, The Monitor, Valley Morning Star

Who we are

The job can be painful. We see our neighbors pulled from the wreckage of auto collisions; we are there when violence erupts in our neighborhoods. We share the families' joy when their sons and daughters return from military deployment, and we share their pain when they return as casualties of war. Sometimes, we are those families. After all, our reporters are your neighbors. We shop beside you and attend church with you. Our children share local classrooms. And we care — how can we not, after witnessing the triumphs and tragedies, the joys and pains that mark our neighbors' daily lives?

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Washington

Provo

The Daily Universe

A professional #freepress is the antidote to fake news

As journalists, we equip people with information and facts so they can fight their own battles. We exercise our constitutional right by reporting so that the people can continue to exercise their constitutional duty to act.

Vermont

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Washington

Our Opinion: Freedom of the press is a Vermont value

Our opinion: Press freedom is a Vermont value

Wilmington

Deerfield Valley News

False narrative of “fake news” is the real threat

“Those attempts to destroy rational discussion, to discredit what media reports, are the real threat to the United States.

Hardwick

Hardwick Gazette

Truly Fake News

“The president’s enthusiastic misrepresentations are not the real problem. When he leaves office, the challenge of disinformation being mistaken for fact will not stop. The true challenge lies in our ability to think critically, to separate fact from very dangerous fiction.

Brattleboro

The Commons

Make no mistake: This attack on our free press — your free press — is deliberate and calculated.

“Those words are just enough to convey to the president’s supporters that those of us in the press, any of us, all of us, are not to be trusted, ever. That we are disloyal and damaging. That we need to be reined in and silenced.

Randolph

The Herald

No, Journalists Are Not the Enemy

“The relationship between the working press and the President of the United States appears to be growing more tense with each passing year.

Stowe

Stowe Today

No, Mr. President, the press is not an ‘enemy of the people’

“This, in a nation whose motto is E Pluribus Unum — “Out of many, one.” Newspapers are often the court of last resort.

Virginia

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Washington**We've been complacent**

Petersburg

Progress Index**An open invitation to Donald Trump**

“We are concerned, Mr. President, that statements you make from your bully pulpit are blanket indictments of an industry whose people only are trying to do their jobs and provide for their families, just as any other honest, hard-working member of the labor force would do.”

Virginia

Rappahannock News (Washington, Va.) Culpeper Times (Culpeper, Va.) InsideNoVa.com (Northern Virginia's leading news web site)

In defense of a free press

“From the White House on down, it is time to back off the vitriol. The press and its practitioners can — and at times should — be criticized. But a free press should be bolstered, not buffeted by incendiary attacks.”

Henrico

Henrico Citizen**The press is not your enemy**

“At face value, we at the Henrico Citizen don't really belong in this discussion. After all, we don't cover the federal government or national politics — the breeding grounds for the divisive vitriol that has been spewed from many sides at the nebulous “media.”

Washington

Washington

Will you believe the propaganda or fight ‘fake news’ attacks?

Knowing now that a majority of Republicans — the same people I and my coworkers have been interviewing, photographing and using as trusted sources for decades — suddenly think we’re “enemies of the American people” is a gut punch.

Long Beach

Chinook Observer

Join America’s free press in defense of freedom

The Chinook Observer isn’t your enemy. Neither is the rest of the American press. Be annoyed all you want at errors we make, or if we exhibit instances of bias, insensitivity or laziness. But don’t believe anybody who says we’re pursuing any agenda, other than digging out the truth and reporting it as well as we can.

Aberdeen

The Daily World

Trump’s press attacks have real consequences

When the president turns to propaganda and a phrase such as “enemy of the people,” it has a totalitarian ring that should concern us all, no matter where we are on the political spectrum. It divides us. It puts everyone on one side of the other. It’s no way to run a society.

Montesano

The Montesano Vidette

Hello, and I am not your enemy

However, what President Trump also is saying is “Trust only me.” There’s a saying in journalism that I learned about 20 years ago: If your mother tells you she loves you, get a second source. The news is not the enemy. Ignorance is the enemy.

Blaine

The Northern Light

No excuse for fake news rhetoric

Newspapers are the first to admit they are not perfect, but they are serious about what they see as their core roles: documenting the history of our towns and serving as watchdogs to protect the public interest.

Wisconsin

Washington

Etc.: Our Free Press

Truth can survive 'fake news'; it cannot survive disinterest

Eau Claire

Eau Claire Leader-Telegram

Phrases damaging for free press

A report on a policy or comment is not fake news simply because it is critical of the subject matter. Journalists work too hard at their craft to have a story brushed off simply because a flippant tweet or ill-informed comment takes issue with it.

Fennimore

Fennimore Times

Don't dismiss, debate

The nature of power is such that it must be constantly examined and held in check or it corrupts our institutions. When I listen to people attacking the news, I hear two voices, those who feel disempowered and those who seek to harness the collective power they represent. Whatever we may feel about the shortcomings of the media overall, they have been instrumental throughout our history by striving to hold up a light to the workings of power, that the people may harness the leaders of our institutions rather than our leaders harness the people.

Kenosha

Kenosha News

Nothing 'fake' about this: Working hard to inform

So who is the "enemy of the people," after all? Well, they shop in the same stores as you. They pay taxes just like you. They send children to schools just like you. They volunteer for organizations that help others just like you.

Lake Geneva

Lake Geneva Regional News

Time to stand up for a free press: We're not the enemy of the people

If we're unwilling to accept news that upsets us, or if we're indifferent to differing views simply because we don't want to deal with them, we're essentially giving up on the notion we can ever truly be "one Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

Milwaukee

Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

Editorial: As Founders intended, democracy functions best with a free, independent press

Often those in power react angrily when held accountable. Most recently it's been by attacking any negative report as "fake news." But politicians come and go, political parties move in and out of power. A free and independent press holds them all accountable, giving citizens the knowledge they need to stay in charge, just as our nation's founders intended.

Ripon

Ripon Commonwealth Press

One thing worse than the 'enemies of the American people' ...

But when the government falls short, the public may never know it if the press are silenced by a president who divides the nation by

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Washington ▼

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