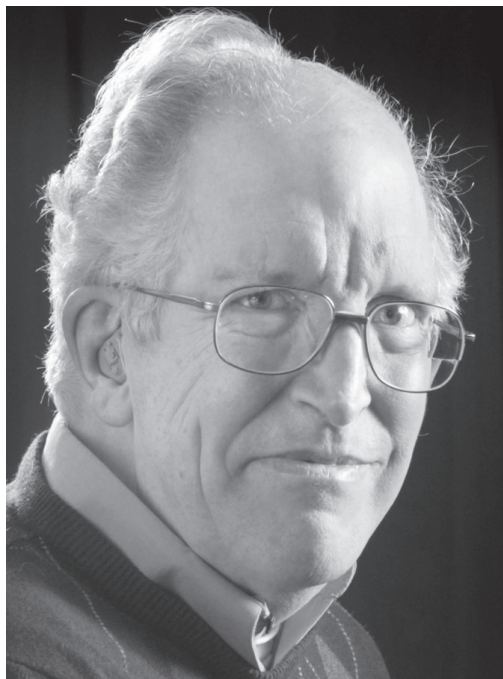


Ron Jennings (1949-2012)



Reporter for The Sedalia Democrat for 35 years. Ron Jennings, a native of Stanberry, wrote news, reviews and “people” features for The Democrat, joining the daily in June 1972, fresh from the University of Missouri School of Journalism. He retired in 2007. His true calling was in telling the stories of everyday people. He considered writing weekly columns, beginning in the 1980s, a great privilege and honor, and he strived to highlight the accomplishments, interests and thoughts of Sedalia residents. He won several Missouri Press Association awards for feature and column writing. In retirement, he helped publish a book of his favorite columns entitled *Reflections and Ruminations of an Aging Rookie*. A local columnist referred to Jennings as a “measuring stick” against which all Sedalia Democrat writers are compared. His community connections ran deep, and his love of Sedalia showed in his work. Jennings said: “When writers are allowed to express themselves in their own style, readers benefit.”