

Donald Warden^(1937-)



2001-2008: Publisher, Owensville Gasconade County Republican

1991: President, Missouri Press Association

1987: President, Central Missouri Press Association

Warden's father and mother purchased the Republican in 1949. Don was a printer's devil at age 13. He learned to operate the Linotype. He attended the University of Missouri after high school. In the early 1960s, Don worked for the Suburban Journals in Wellston and for the Richmond (Mo.) Herald. In 1963, the Warden brothers, Don and Tom, became business partners with their parents, then in 1977 bought their parents' shares of Warden Publishing Company. Don was advertising and production manager and co-publisher with Tom until 2000 when Tom retired. The Wardens were quick to adopt new technology, among the first in Missouri switching from hot metal typesetting to offset printing and using computers for news and ad composition. Don Warden retired in 2008, turning over the operation to his son, Dennis, the family's third generation of newspaper publishers.