

(1941-) Douglas Davis



1985: Publisher, owner, *Lamar Democrat*

1986: President, *Ozark Press Association*

A few years before Davis and his wife, Rayma, bought the Democrat, he was sent to Lamar by his employer, the Boone Group. The newspaper was losing money, and merchants were boycotting. A troubleshooter at newspapers since earning his business degree at the University of North Alabama, Davis approached civic and business leaders and told them they had the support of their newspaper, and the newspaper wanted to be a part of promoting Lamar. Davis served on the Lamar City Council for 10 years, leading efforts to improve the city's swimming pool, community auditorium, landfill and airport. The Democrat sponsors a program to teach journalism to high school students and provides scholarships for newspaper interns. Davis has served in numerous civic and service organizations in Barton County, on MPA committees, and as a member of the Board of Governors of Missouri Southern State University, Joplin.