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January 28, 2010

Dear Friends of the *Troy-Somerset Gazette*:

This year marks an exciting milestone for the *Troy-Somerset Gazette*; our 30th year of publication! I am especially proud that in those years, we have never missed a weekly edition. There were a couple of ice storms, when electrical outages threatened that record, but our diligence and creative solutions saved the day!

In the course of that time, we have seen changes in our community, the economy, and the newspaper industry. Troy has grown and prospered. It was a growing suburb when we started. It is now a thriving city; a wonderful place to raise a family and the site of the destination Somerset Collection.

The economy, especially for the newspaper business, has not been kind. Rising costs and the popularity of the internet as a news venue has forced many stalwart publications out of existence. At the *Troy-Somerset Gazette*, we are well aware of that circumstance. Even as we cut costs, however, our founding focus remains true: Provide our readers with the best source of local business and community news every Monday morning.

We do that most effectively with your assistance. You let us know about the important events in your life and neighborhood. We appreciate those tips. Last, but possibly the most important, you patronize our advertisers -- they make this publication possible and they are your business neighbors in this wonderful community.

Sincerely,

Claire M. Weber, publisher

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