FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Lisa Strohl Email: <u>lisas@pa-news.org</u> Phone: (717) 703-3071

Jim Lockwood of *The Times-Tribune*, Scranton, is honored with inaugural Public Notice Award

HARRISBURG, Pa., Oct. 28, 2014 – Jim Lockwood, staff writer at *The Times-Tribune*, Scranton, is the 2014 recipient of the Pennsylvania NewsMedia Association's Public Notice Award, receiving a \$200 cash award.

In its inaugural year, the Public Notice Award recognizes excellence in journalism that draws reader attention to public notices. This cash award is sponsored by *The Legal Intelligencer*, Philadelphia. The winning entry will be entered into the national competition to vie for the 2015 national award of \$700.

Jim Lockwood is the 2014 winner for his coverage of Scranton city government. From grant requests to proposed cell towers to commuter taxes to closed meetings, Lockwood frequently used public notices in his stories. His reporting shed light on a wide range of city actions and proposals, while alerting the public to plans and upcoming hearings.

According to the judges, Lockwood is recognized for his "persistent use of public notices in his reporting, and his commitment to spotlighting their power. His stories consistently and concisely informed the Scranton community by explaining processes, highlighting legal requirements and encouraging involvement."

The PNA Public Notice Award will be presented Nov. 7, 2014, during the PNA Annual Convention at the Omni William Penn Hotel in Pittsburgh, PA.

The PNA, founded in 1925, is the nonprofit trade association for print and digital media in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Its mission is to advance the business interests of Pennsylvania news media companies and to promote a free and independent press. It has more than 300 newspaper and media members, including daily, weekly, and college newspapers and online publications.

###