

Newspaper Content Checklist

Advertising

- Classified Advertisements
- Company or Business your ancestor worked for or owned
- Grocery and dry goods stores ads (for historical context)
- Runaway Slaves Search and Reward (in the South)
- Ship departures

Births & Deaths

- Birth Announcements
- Card of Thanks printed by the family
- Obituary and Death Notices
- "Community Pioneer" article upon passing
- Funeral Notice
- Reporting of the event that lead to the death, or the funeral

Legal Notices and Public Announcements

- Auctions
- Bankruptcies
- City Council Meetings
- Divorce Filings
- Estate sales
- Executions and punishments
- Law Suites
- Marriage Licenses
- Probate Notices Tax Seizures
- Sheriff's Sale

Lists

- Disaster Victims
- Hotel Registrations
- Juror's and Judicial Reporting
- Letters left in the Post Office
- Military Lists
- Newly Naturalized Citizens
- Passenger Lists (Immigrants and Travelers)
- Unclaimed Mail Notices

School Events

- Graduation
- Honor Rolls
- Sporting Events
- Theater Productions

News Articles

- Accidents, Fires, etc.
- Featuring your Ancestor
- Front Page (for the big picture)
- Industry News (related to occupations)
- Natural Disasters in the Area
- Shipping News
- Social History Articles

Social News

- Anniversaries
- Church Events
- Clubs (Associations, secret societies, fraternal organizations, etc)
- Engagements
- Family Reunions
- Visiting Relatives
- Parties
- Trips Made
- Gossip Columns
- Illnesses
- Weddings and Marriage announcements