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carolynemerick3 (LinkedIn)

Top Skills

Video Production

Broadcast Engineering

Adobe Creative Suite

Certifications

PMI Agile Certified Practitioner (PMI-ACP)® - Cert Prep

Certified SAFe® 5 Agilist (SA)

Certified SAFe® 5 Advanced Scrum Master (SASM)

Certified Professional Scrum Master (PSM 1)

Publications

A leap of faith: New owners take over historic Nebraska newspaper

Carolyn Emerick

Adapt and Overcome

United States

Summary

With more than 20 years of experience in the media industry, I am dedicated to amplifying the stories, voices, and daily realities of rural communities across southwest Nebraska. As a Principal owner of Southwest Nebraska News LLC, I lead our transition from a traditional weekly print newspaper to a modern, multimedia news platform—one that blends video, radio, digital reporting, and community-driven storytelling.

My career has been shaped by collaboration, creativity, and connection. From developing in-depth local coverage to producing broadcast-ready multimedia packages, I thrive at the intersection of journalism, digital innovation, and community engagement. I'm passionate about mentoring emerging storytellers, preserving local history, and building media products that truly serve the people they represent.

As we expand our digital footprint into 2026 and beyond, my mission remains the same: to deliver high-quality, meaningful content that honors rural Nebraska and strengthens the visibility of underserved communities. If you're interested in local journalism, multimedia production, or collaborative storytelling, we need to connect.

Experience

Southwest Nebraska News LLC

Publisher and Media Director

January 2025 - Present (1 year 2 months)

Nebraska, United States

I oversee the day-to-day operations of our multi-platform digital newsroom, ensuring that content is accurate, timely, and aligned with our organizational standards. I supervise editorial staff, coordinate story development, manage production schedules, and maintain the overall quality and integrity of the publication.

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Key Responsibilities:

- Supervise and mentor reporters, editors, and contributors.
- Assign and prioritize news coverage, features, and special projects.
- Oversee story editing for clarity, accuracy, grammar, and style.
- Ensure deadlines are met across print and digital platforms.
- Collaborate with design, photo, video and web teams to package content effectively.
- Maintain the newspaper's editorial voice and uphold journalistic ethics.
- Monitor local, regional, and national news to guide coverage decisions.
- Manage newsroom budgets and resources.
- Coordinate coverage of breaking news and oversee crisis response.
- Represent the organization at public events and in the community when necessary.

Paramount

Sr. Technical Program Manager; DevOps, Infrastructure Engineering, Info Security

May 2022 - December 2024 (2 years 8 months)

- Strategize and facilitate on-time delivery and expected quality of complex, backend infrastructure initiatives, supporting a wide range of cross-functional dependencies and requirements.
- Sustain and support alignment with Continuous Exploration (CE), Continuous Integration (CI), Continuous Deployment (CD), and Release on Demand practices.
- Drive prioritization, planning and execution across multiple Engineering organizations by partnering with colleagues and teams, including Senior Leadership, Directors and Stakeholders.
- Collaborate closely with Release Management, Site Reliability Engineering, Security and Compliance, Operations and Vendor Partners.
- Analyze, monitor and communicate the health, risks and compliance of committed initiatives. Document and measure progress. Gather and evangelize program success stories.
- Recognize and adjust to constant business change, despite difficulties or setbacks: new requirements, evolving priorities, and emerging practices. Proactively mitigate program risks to any extent possible.
- Coach DevOps team leaders and individual contributors to appropriately prioritize tactical and strategic work.

- Actively contribute across multiple Release Trains and Systems Teams, including Program Increment (PI) Planning. Evangelize and uphold best practices in SAFe and Agile Program governance. Ensure value proposition and business impact for every delivery is aligned with org-wide strategies.
- Continually develop technical understanding of DevOps and Architecture frameworks to include: AWS, Kubernetes, Terraform, Universal Deployment pipelines, database management, automation, observability and product security. Monitor and encourage effective utilization of virtual resources.
- Develop, strive for and achieve consistent, measurable self-development goals according to DevOps and Project Management Office professional development plans.

Sling TV

Sr. Delivery Manager, DevOps and Metadata Services

January 2022 - May 2022 (5 months)

Denver Metropolitan Area

- Driving technical initiatives within the DevOps teams while wearing several hats, including: Scrum Master, Product Manager and Delivery Manager using Agile software delivery best practices
- Liaising between engineering teams, stakeholders, technical experts, business partners to clarify user stories and deliverable expectations
- Facilitating technical discussions centered around metadata, pipelines and multiple development environments
- Guiding a geographically diverse team to recognize and mitigate integration challenges while launching enterprise-wide systems
- Determining procedural guidelines to establish a successful delivery process within the live linear and video-on-demand engineering vertical
- Proactively removing obstacles to drive momentum and progress.
- Identifying and resolving communication gaps, managing issue escalations and providing support to teams balancing competing priorities
- Evaluating consumer feedback and instituting changes as necessary to manage expectations
- Assisting with the production of comprehensive project plans and documentation to enable the project to be managed against a clear set of defined deliverables and milestones
- Conducting all scrum events, to include the program retrospective and any follow-on action recommendations as required
- Producing program documentation and creating knowledge libraries designed to train and support end users

Harmonic

Sr. Program Manager, Technical

July 2021 - December 2021 (6 months)

- Manage Strategic Technology Program initiatives, focusing on agile software development (SDLC), hardware manufacturing, logistical deployment and production readiness. Aggregate budget: \$241 million+
- Accountable to Senior Executive teams for tracking and reporting program metrics, successfully completing milestone deliverables and proactively managing risk.
- Engage with and lead internal and external, cross-functional teams to execute on-time delivery of greenfield technology solutions.
- Work closely with Architects, Programmers, Engineers and Business Systems Analysts within a highly matrixed organizational structure to align product design and delivery to highly-ranked Fortune 100 organizations.

Comcast Technology Solutions

Technical Project Manager

August 2020 - July 2021 (1 year)

Denver Metropolitan Area

- Manage Program-level, multi-year strategic technology initiatives, focusing on hardware and software deployment, logistics and operations coordination, and customer readiness for Satellite and Terrestrial signal distribution. Aggregate budget: \$80 million+
- Accountable to Corporate Legal and Regulatory team for tracking and reporting FCC Compliance across the Comcast organization.
- Liaise with Television Content Providers, Domestic and International Satellite Service Providers to ensure operational and logistical goals are achieved for each project phase. Scope of Work review and execution.
- Collaborative Leadership: Presents project metrics and strategies to Executive Leadership; Manages Stakeholder Communications; Facilitates Scrum meetings with cross-functional project teams.

NBCUniversal Media, LLC

Technical Project Manager

January 2020 - August 2020 (8 months)

Distribution Engineering Division

- Managed, tracked, and controlled project issues on strategic high-profile programs to ensure timely and quality product delivery. Aggregate Budget: \$25 million+

- Communicated with Executive Leadership, Directors and Organizational Stakeholders to Develop and present program and project metrics, status, operational and organizational data analytics.
- Drove project delivery and collaborated with multi-disciplinary teams through the entire project lifecycle from evaluation, initiation, data analytics and through hand off to the on-air support teams.
- Collaborated with a 5-person team to develop foundational framework for a new Project Management Office, to include establishing best practices and process improvements across the organization and designing Jira workflows to support the efforts of the PMO.
- Ensured the efficient and reliable achievement of project deliverables while paring down technical debt.

Alpha Video

Project Manager

July 2019 - December 2019 (6 months)

- Managed large-scale venue broadcast production projects including stadiums, arenas and casinos; Aggregate Recognized Revenue: \$15 million in first six months of employment.
- Diligently administered project contract scope, budget and schedule while mitigating risks to overall project success.
- Controlled projects from initial kick-off, implementation, project closeout and handoff to service.
- Developed, monitored and maintained real-time Business Intelligence and project analytics to identify project efficiencies, streamline labor and workflows to improve overhead cost factors.
- Liaised with Clients, Consultants, General Contractors on large-scope projects from ground-breaking until Certificate of Occupancy.
- Developed site-specific Safety Plans and 5S Quality Plans, incorporating Lean Construction practices to reduce waste, improve quality, increase efficiency, promote safety and encourage continuous improvement.
- Engaged Finance/Accounting and Purchasing teams to manage accurate and timely product procurement, client billing and vendor payments.

AVI-SPL

Project Manager

April 2018 - June 2019 (1 year 3 months)

- Managed the overall direction, coordination, implementation, execution, control and completion of Audio Visual (AV) technology integration projects

- with Enterprise-level, Fortune 500 clients, Federal and local government agencies and universities. Aggregate Recognized Revenue: \$7 million+
- Ensured projects achieved time, scope, budget, quality, safety and client satisfaction requirements.
 - Collaborated effectively with Construction team leadership and Project Stakeholders to efficiently dovetail AV installation with established construction schedule and related dependencies.
 - Reviewed, developed and negotiated Statements of Work and project contracts to determine project scope, time to deliver and resource allocation.
 - Facilitated project meetings with Sales Managers, Technical Engineers, Client Resources, Technical Support, Finance, and Subcontractors.
 - Communicated effectively and regularly with client/owners and General Contractors including schedule management, change orders, and on-site visits.
 - Responsible for managing conflict and resolving all project-related issues.
 - Maintained and developed strong partner relationships with focus on improving customers' perception of service, quality, on time delivery, responsiveness, and problem solving.

Kroenke Sports & Entertainment

Broadcast Engineer

October 2013 - April 2018 (4 years 7 months)

- Assisted Chief Engineer in all facets of technical project management, network operations and engineering.
- Supervised and managed activities in a dynamic, live prime-time television production environment, providing 24/7 content to an audience of 33 million+ domestic and international subscribers.
- Collaborated with Executive Management in developing, analyzing and successfully managing departmental capital expenditure budgets exceeding \$1 million annually.
- Designed "Train to Retain" development tool for management coaching and team member growth.
- Liaised with Human Resources; Assisted Chief Engineer with developing job descriptions, recruiting, interviewing and training new engineers.
- Authored and maintained Standard Operating Procedures technical documentation for internal and external audiences.
- Maintained, diagnosed and repaired equipment, to include bench work resource estimates and acquiring quotes and purchase orders.

Broadcast Media, Print Media

Independent Contractor

August 2010 - October 2013 (3 years 3 months)

- Entrepreneurial successes included talk radio engineering, journalism, photography and technical consulting during transition from military to civilian workforce.

US Army

5 years 11 months

Broadcast Engineer | Signal Corps

June 2009 - October 2010 (1 year 5 months)

Baghdad, Iraq

- Managed American Forces Radio Television Service Network Operations Uplink Station (FWD), providing communications to 80,000+ U.S. Forces in the Operation Iraqi Freedom theater of operations.
- Acquired and maintained inventory and distribution of broadcast communications assets. Aggregate Inventory Value: \$4 million+
- Trained Soldiers to install and maintain satellite antennas and to recognize faults in the transmission system.
- Mentored Soldiers to meet and exceed professional standards and personal goals, ultimately resulting in their promotions and Command awards recognition.

Public Affairs Training Sergeant | Training Division

June 2008 - June 2009 (1 year 1 month)

Denver, Colorado

- Hand-selected by Senior Leadership to serve as Public Affairs Officer subject matter expert for the Command Training Group.
- Assisted in planning, coordination and execution of computer simulation exercises during Command Staff pre-deployment training for military battalions.
- Provided verbal and written observations of deploying units' progress and overall mission readiness, including preparing and delivering Executive-level presentations.
- Coached Non-Commissioned Officers on Public Affairs and Command Special Staff doctrine, regulations and best practices.

Broadcast Journalist | Public Affairs Corps

December 2004 - June 2008 (3 years 7 months)

Baghdad, Iraq

- Produced and marketed television, radio, print media news packages and press releases to international and domestic military and civilian media outlets, reaching an audience of 18 million+ viewers.
- Senior Radio Producer; created and marketed stories to National Public Radio, reaching 800+ radio stations.
- Tracked and analyzed marketing efforts for submitted media packages.
- Provided reports and status briefings to Commanders and Field Grade Officers.
- Supervised, organized, trained and mentored junior-enlisted Soldiers.

National Institute of Management Services, Inc.

Director, Marketing and Operations

August 2001 - December 2004 (3 years 5 months)

- Prepared approximately 100+ proposals annually for submission to prospective clients.
- Managed the event planning life cycle to include market research, designing and emplacing advertising, vendor partnerships, contracting with venues and coordinating travel arrangements for keynote speakers.
- Designed marketing materials and coordinated 24 marketing events per year.
- Efficiently coordinated all CRM and Access database administration activity.
- Launched and maintained corporate website; managed internet marketing.

US Army

Signal Intercept Operator | Russian Linguist

July 1991 - July 1999 (8 years 1 month)

Education

Western Governors University

Bachelor of Science - BS, Marketing · (2020 - 2024)

Defense Information School

Radio and Television Broadcasting Technology · (2009 - 2010)

Defense Information School

Broadcast Journalism · (2004 - 2005)

Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center

Russian Language and Literature · (1992 - 1993)