

Teaser: Caele Pemberton isn't afraid to step out of her comfort zone.

In three counties, Caele covers nine school districts ranging from kindergarten to college level as well as nonprofits.

"I take on nonprofits because no one in my company is dedicated to them," Caele said. "I love getting to know the key community members."

Caele wasn't sure what she wanted to do after college, and she originally thought she would stay in Stillwater, Oklahoma, after graduation. After realizing staying in Stillwater wouldn't work out, Caele took the plunge and moved all the way to north central Indiana to work for Kokomo Tribune. The unthinkable happened after moving across the country.

"As soon as I moved here, a tornado destroyed my apartment," Caele said. "I saw how powerful a small community is because so many people opened their homes to me. I couldn't think of a more caring town to live in."

Prior to graduation, Caele wrote for the school newspaper, played in the Humans vs. Zombies intramural and interned at several TV stations.

"I know Humans vs. Zombies sounds lame, but I met so many cool people and got involved on campus," Caele said. "I now have friends all over the country who I can reach out to."

During her time at OSU, Caele had many long, tiring nights in the Paul Miller Building.

"Colton Gambill and I had the best times together," Caele said. "One night, we stayed in the building until 2 a.m. and ordered pizza. We had so many of those stressful nights, but they are unforgettable."

Caele learned many valuable lessons during college and her time as a working professional. Since she graduated in May 2016, Caele didn't have a chance to receive 2016 awards but is hopeful for this year's awards. Caele also described how great it feels when someone likes a story she writes. To be successful in the workforce, Caele said sophomores and juniors should try to have many internships during college.

"You can have really good grades," Caele said. "But if you have no experience, then no employer will look at you."

As for graduating seniors, Caele emphasized how important it is to be fearless and push yourself out of your comfort zone. Caele found her move to Kokomo, Indiana, to be rewarding. She found a job and community she loves.