

2014 BNC, BNAC & NAE



FIRST PLACE, best breaking news photo, daily division,
By Chris DeVitto | The Palatka Daily News, Palatka, FL

STUDENTS INJURED—Putnam County firefighters and county emergency medical personnel work on one of students injured when a Putnam County school bus overturned near the intersection of State Route 21 and Baden Powell Road.



Amanda Stevens and Allysa Kinder hug after finding out a family member, a student involved in the bus accident near Hawthorne, was safe and suffered only minor injuries at the scene of the accident.

Putnam County firefighters and county emergency medical personnel prepare to transport an injured student after a Putnam County school bus overturned near the intersection of State Route 21 and Baden Powell Road.

**NNA's 2014
Better Newspaper Contest,
Better Newspaper Advertising
Contest & Newspapers And
Education Winners**

A supplement to Publishers' Auxiliary

BNC & BNAC OVERVIEW

Entries came from 40 states. 193 newspapers sent in a total of 2,245 entries, and 138 newspapers were selected as winners and received a total of 541

awards. California had the most combined BNC/BNAC wins with 80, followed by Texas with 68 and Wyoming came in third with 55 winning entries.

NAE FUN FACTS

Entries came from 11 states. 22 newspapers sent in 22 entries; 14 newspapers were selected as winners and received a total of 17 awards. Kidsville News!, a

literacy and educational newspaper, based in Fayetteville, NC, sponsored the contest.

BNC FUN FACTS

1,862 entries were received; 530

were selected as winners.

BNAC FUN FACTS

383 entries were received; 113 were selected as winners.

Basketball season previews - Page B1
Allegan High School grad finds peace in Idaho - Page A7
Thursday, Dec. 12, 2013 \$1.00

The Allegan County News
Signups for health care continue

By Ryan Lewis
For those who would like their coverage to start Dec. 1, they must sign up for the health insurance. HealthCare.gov is the website where people can go to get coverage. The site is designed to provide information on the Affordable Care Act to the health insurance market.

Former teacher pleads to CSC charges
Santa's helpers visit throughout Allegan County

By Daniel Popova
A former Pleasant Hill School teacher pleads guilty to charges of child abuse. Santa's helpers from the Pleasant Hill School visited throughout Allegan County.

Wayland district scales back science classroom construction
Church choir director accused of CSC

In the Village Roadhouse, Santa's helpers visited throughout Allegan County. The church choir director is accused of child sexual abuse.

GRAND OPENING JOBS
WISE COUNTY MESSENGER
WISDOMS
DAILY STRUGGLE
GOD'S RAPPER
NEW HEIGHTS

Wise County
Momentary distraction ... lifetime of change
BY BRANDON EVANS
Everything changed in 15 minutes. Every day when Chelsea Lutz goes to school, she would always just go to school, she would always just go to school.

Head Start cutbacks won't affect Wise
Early voting starts Monday

Head Start program in Wise County will be unaffected by federal cuts. Early voting for the May 11 city council election starts Monday.

OWNERS OF 1999 OR NEWER CHEVY OR GMC TRUCKS QUALIFY FOR JAMESWOOD
\$12,000 TOTAL SAVINGS
2013 1/2-TON JAMESWOOD CREWCABS

HONORING MANDELA
Sioux City Journal
CASINO DISPUTE
RULING
REQUEST
IMPACT

HARD ROCK HALTED
State judge blocks construction of Hard Rock Sioux City Hotel & Casino
BY JEFFREY M. HARRIS
Sioux City's new hotel and casino project has been halted by a state judge.

Sioux City eyes \$22M investment in future of ruling
More state traffic cam oversight gets approval

MIR. GOODFELLOW
DOLLAR TREE
MIR. GOODFELLOW
DOLLAR TREE
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DOLLAR TREE

NNA's 2014 Better Newspaper Contest, Better Newspaper Advertising Contest & Newspapers And Education Winners
A supplement to Publishers' Auxiliary
WENDY McDONALD, Sales and Sponsorships Manager
STANLEY SCHWARTZ, Communications Director

BEST AGRICULTURAL STORY
Daily & Non-daily Division, circulation 6,000 or more
1st Place—Farm and Dairy, Salem, OH—Out of sight, out of mind: Solar power makes sense on some farms. Credit(s): Chris Kick.
2nd Place—Antelope Valley Press, Palmdale, CA—Fresh farm crops. Credit(s): Julie Drake.

BEST BREAKING NEWS PHOTO
Non-daily Division, circulation 10,000 or more
1st Place—The Livington Parish News, Denham Springs, LA—Sheriff's Valentine surprise. Credit(s): David Normand.
2nd Place—The St. Louis American, Saint Louis, MO—Shot on his block. Credit(s): Wiley Price.



FIRST PLACE,
best feature photo,
daily division

By Jeff Storjohann
Daily Times Herald, Carroll, IA

RELAY FOR LIFE LUMINARIES—
Brandon Bohac looks inside a luminaria bag while helping light candles during Friday's Carroll County Relay For Life celebration event held at Carroll Athletic Field. The luminaria display is part of the fundraising for the relay, but more importantly, it is a tribute to cancer survivors and to individuals who have lost their battle with cancer. Hundreds of the white bags lined the running track at the stadium, and each had some type of personal message written on it. Bohac is the son of Kevin and Christy Bohac, and his brother, Tyler, also helped with the luminaria project. By the end of closing ceremonies Saturday morning, the event had raised \$212,367.

BEST BREAKING NEWS STORY

Daily Division

1st Place—Journal-Courier, Jacksonville, IL—Five murdered in Manchester. Credit(s): Journal-Courier staff.

"I could picture the news staff scrambling to get the facts of and responses to this horrific shooting in a small town. More than any other entry, this one conveyed the urgency of breaking news. The writing was perhaps not as polished in other entries, but obviously completed with a true newsroom spirit to hit the streets with as much as possible, as quickly as possible."

3rd Place—Wyoming Tribune Eagle, Cheyenne, WY—Charges dismissed after DNA clears man. Credit(s): Kelsey Bray.

"It's obvious a great deal of time and research went into covering Mr. Johnson's release. This a well-crafted, comprehensive review of the case, including comments from multiple sources. Really a great story in a tough category. Had five people not been killed in Manchester, subsequent placings of entries might have been altogether different."

Honorable Mention(s)—Yankton Daily Press & Dakotan, Yankton, SD—Santee Sioux Honors Code Talker. Credit(s): Randy Dockendorf.

BEST BREAKING NEWS STORY

Non-daily Division, circulation 12,000 or more

1st Place—The Times Leader, Wilkes-Barre, PA—Wilkes-Barre's deadliest year. Credit(s): Roger DuPuis/Edward Lewis.

"Lots of research—great use of graphics and photos! Layout is fantastic; story is well-written. I just can't say anything negative about this entry. Superb!"

2nd Place—The Examiner, Beaumont, TX—DWI killer transferred. Credit(s): Clay Thorp.

"What a great investigative story! Fantastic reporting!"

3rd Place—Chino Champion, Chino, CA—Demolition drama in Chino Hills. Credit(s): Marianne Napoles.

"Talk about being in the right place at the right time! For the reporter to just happen to be there and get this story is remarkable. Love the front picture—it completely tells the story! Well-written; good story."

Honorable Mention(s)—Antelope Valley Press, Palmdale, CA—Powerhouse Fire. Credit(s): Claudia Lopez, Chuck Bostwick, Samantha MacConnell.

BEST BREAKING NEWS STORY

Non-daily Division, circulation 6,000-11,999

1st Place—Hood County News, Granbury, TX—I saw the tornado coming for us. Credit(s): Kathy Cruz.

"What an amazing story! I got goose bumps reading the first paragraph, and they continued throughout the entire story. Great

job of making me feel like I was right there—seeing and hearing the action. Absolutely terrific!"

2nd Place—The Standard Banner, Jefferson City, TN—Talbot man saved from burning home. Credit(s): Steve Marion.

"What a great story! The lead immediately drew me in and you never lost my attention. The quotes were the perfect compliment to the story—nice job!"

3rd Place—Cody Enterprise, Cody, WY—Nothing short of cold-blooded. Credit(s): Heidi Hansen.

"What an awful tragedy! The story had all the basics covered, but I would have liked a little more raw emotion."

Honorable Mention(s)—The Brunswick Beacon, Shallotte, NC—Justice for Jaronn. Credit(s): Jackie Torok and Renee Sloan.

BEST BREAKING NEWS STORY

Non-daily Division, circulation 3,000-5,999

1st Place—Iowa Falls Times-Citizen, Iowa Falls, IA—Buried Alive. Credit(s): Sara Konrad Baranowski and Corey Meints.

"This is a gripping story that keeps you on the edge of your seat, wondering what will happen next. The headline immediately caught my attention and kept me reading until the end. Writers did a fantastic job of providing quotes and details of a dramatic rescue effort. I love that the story is broken up into sections (may want to consider using sub heads at the top of those sections). Great sidebar story about training, etc. Wonderful team effort by solid writers!"

2nd Place—The North Scott Press, Eldridge, IA—She's Gone. Credit(s): Scott Campbell.

"Great job with working the personal angle into the lead of the story. I love how the story weaves together quotes from residents, eyewitnesses, fire officials, etc. Good use of drop quotes, sidebar stories. Excellent overall package of a horrible breaking news story that impacted many people."

3rd Place—Hickman County Times, Centerville, TN—Tornado rips up Coble. Credit(s): Bradley A. Martin.

"Good job in highlighting eyewitness accounts to a terrible tornado. The writing is solid with a nice job of working in personal reaction from various sources. Interesting and impactful quotes used throughout the story to share the human emotion of what happened."

Honorable Mention(s)—Daily Times Herald, Carroll, IA—We truly believe we saved her life. Credit(s): Jared Strong; Wise County Messenger, Decatur, TX—Chase Ends Here. Credit(s): Jimmy Alford, Joe Duty, Brandon Evans, Todd Griffith.

BEST BREAKING NEWS STORY

Non-daily Division, circulation less than 3,000

1st Place—The Imperial Republican, Imperial, NE—Julie Hanes safe, her captor dead in kidnapping ordeal; Hanes already had protection order. Credit(s): Jan Schultz/Russ Pankonin.

"Great in-depth story. Nice job of covering all perspectives, and

giving good details and history leading up to this incident. Riveting story—I couldn't stop reading!"

2nd Place—The Ark, Tiburon, CA—Blackie's Pasture blast rocks Southern Marin. Credit(s): Teri Roney and Kevin Hessel.

"I loved the lead! You did a really nice job of tying in a significant local event from the past, which made this story even better."

3rd Place—Winters Express, Winters, CA—Utter shock and horror. Credit(s): Debra DeAngelo.

"While as reporters we always like it when stories come to us, this isn't exactly the way any of us would want it! You did a really nice job of covering the details of this case—though I would have liked just a little bit more information about just 'who' she was."

Honorable Mention(s)—Sangre de Cristo Chronicle, Angel Fire, NM—Angel Fire plane crash kills four Texans. Credit(s): Eric Heinz.

BEST BUSINESS FEATURE STORY

Daily Division

1st Place—Sioux City Journal, Sioux City, IA—Year after uproar, BPI still struggles. Credit(s): Dave Dreeszen.

"Well-constructed, well-written, good graphic—can't miss topic that touches everyone, regardless of where they live."

2nd Place—Sioux City Journal, Sioux City, IA—Will this bubble burst? Credit(s): Dave Dreeszen.

"Subheads would have reinforced structure. The reporter puts lots of legwork into his story, giving context and background to the event."

Honorable Mention(s)—Yankton Daily Press & Dakotan, Yankton, SD—A Special Serving. Credit(s): Randy Dockendorf.

Note: No Third Place awarded in this division

BEST BUSINESS FEATURE STORY

Non-daily Division, circulation 6,000 or more

1st Place—Community Impact Newspaper—San Marcos | Buda | Kyle Edition, San Marcos, TX—Little America Miniature Horses. Credit(s): Wes Ferguson.

"Very good lede, easy to read, and unusual subject."

2nd Place—Wilson County News, Floresville, TX—Best Business Feature Story. Credit(s): Robert McDonald.

"Liked the idea, well written, easy to read"

3rd Place—News-Register, McMinnville, OR—Savage Apps. Credit(s): Molly Walker.

"Would have been stronger with better lede, but story was an easy read and current, timely topic."

Honorable Mention(s)—Leelanau Enterprise, Lake Leelanau, MI—Wine makes a tasty profession. Credit(s): Alan Campbell; Rochester Business Journal, Rochester, NY—Appetite for risk. Credit(s): Smriti Jacob.

BEST BUSINESS FEATURE STORY

Non-daily Division, circulation less than 6,000

1st Place—Hendersonville Lightning, Hendersonville, NC—Big Forest. Credit(s): Bill Moss.

"Absolutely phenomenal piece of work from start to finish. This entry truly embodies what a business feature story should be. Rich and full of details, this story grabs the reader, and leads them through until the end."

2nd Place—Port Aransas South Jetty, Port Aransas, TX—Schlitterbahn: Inside look at effort to build new water park. Credit(s): Dan Parker.

"This is an in-depth look at a subject of interest to a wide variety of readers. What makes it stand out it is the richness of the details as the writer dives deep into the subject rather than providing a surface glance."

3rd Place—Moonshine Ink, Truckee, CA—Shifting Into High Gear. Credit(s): Kara Fox.

"Excellent approach to an unusual topic. Writing is clear and concise, while providing plenty of details for the reader."

Honorable Mention(s)—The Commercial Record, Saugatuck, MI—Charter fishing: old sport, new friends. Credit(s): Scott Sullivan.

BEST BUSINESS STORY

Daily Division

1st Place—Sioux City Journal, Sioux City, IA—Casino plans have public funding in play. Credit(s): Dave Dreeszen.

"Article is very well written. Writer took a complicated subject (TIF) and was able to explain it in a very understandable way. Good job."

2nd Place—Yankton Daily Press & Dakotan, Yankton, SD—Freeman Welding Course Sparks Interest. Credit(s): Randy Dockendorf.

"Well written."

3rd Place—The Union, Grass Valley, CA—The Road Ahead: What's in store for South County? (Multi-story report). Credit(s): Matthew Renda/Jennifer Terman/John Hart (photographer).

"You lost me in the first paragraph. Watch being too descriptive and 'cute.'"

BEST BUSINESS STORY

Non-daily Division, circulation 6,000 or more

1st Place—Community Impact Newspaper / Round Rock | Pflugerville | Hutto, Pflugerville, TX—Pflugerville makes a splash. Credit(s): JP Eichmiller.

"Excellent."

2nd Place—Leelanau Enterprise, Lake Leelanau, MI—Home Sale Blitz. Credit(s): Alan Campbell.

"The writer took a dry subject and gave readers a chance to see it from a different angle—good job."

3rd Place—Mount Desert Islander, Bar Harbor, ME—Acadia

Why are women so touchy about age?

Few ladies seem to find humor in the inevitable fact we all get older

BY ROBERT M. WILLIAMS JR.
The Blackshear Times,
Blackshear, GA

First place, best humorous column
daily & non-daily division, circulation 3,000 - 7,999

A diplomat is a man who always remembers a woman's birthday but never remembers her age.

—Robert Frost

Why are women touchy about how old they are?

It's only until a woman has lived long enough to outlast most of her peers that she'll eagerly boast of her longevity. And, this is despite the fact most women, unless they've abused themselves with alcohol, drugs or smoking, look younger than their actual age—often far younger. Some have naturally good genes, a few have had some “work” done, but most look younger simply because they have so many easy-to-use, effective aids in staving off Mother Nature. It's amazing what a little powder and paint can do. I met a mother-daughter duo a few weeks ago, who appeared to be about 45 and 25 respectively. I was genuinely shocked to later learn they were 68 and 42! A 73-year-old friend could easily have passed for 53.

Where's the justice?

I look in the mirror daily and see what appears to be a 70-year-old man—but only recently marked my 63rd birthday. Twenty-plus years with gray hair have long made me look older, but I've gotten used to it ... I think. Women seldom do.

Shopping recently gave me a hint of how women feel about birthdays. My son turned 32 a few weeks ago. Browsing the birthday card racks was an interesting study in human nature and society. Birthday cards are available now for nearly every member of today's blended families.

Serious or humorous cards offered specialty messages for everyone from a daughter or son to step-uncles. Finding a funny card for my son wasn't difficult at all. But, when I remembered my wife also has a birthday approaching, it was easy to notice a difference in status.

While there were ample choices of “humorous” birthday cards for husbands, children, siblings, etc. ... I could only find one tiny slot

allotted to “Humorous Birthday—Wife.” And it contained only two not-so-funny cards to choose from.

There were at least three sections devoted to “Humorous Birthday—Husband.” Is that more proof women may lack a sense of humor regarding birthdays?

I learned the hard way many years ago my wife can find little humor in noting advancing age.

She was about to reach that milestone 40th birthday when I thought it would be really clever to publish one of those birthday message ads in our newspaper to mark the occasion. (Yes, I agree, she doesn't look that old ...) If I'd just left it at that, I might not walk with a slight limp today. But noooo, I thought she'd “enjoy” a little joke. Hidden away in an old album I ran across a photo of my bride taken shortly after she'd had her first child. She was at the beach, soaking wet, and in a bathing suit. This also happened to be when she weighed the heaviest ever in her life. The salt and sand had eradicated any trace of makeup. Few of us look our best squinting into the sun after a sweltering day on the sand. In other words, it wasn't her most flattering snapshot.

I decided printing that photo, next to one as she looked at 40, all gorgeous and glamorous, would be a good idea. I'd show how she was really getting more beautiful with age! I thought it was a good idea. She was getting “better, not older.” Get it?

I was out of my mind.

A plea of temporary insanity was of no help, however, when she opened the newspaper the next day.

That was more than two decades ... uh ... that was a while back, though. Today, she is even more beautiful. If I had improved as much over all these years as she has, I'd want everyone to notice! Maybe this time she will see the humor in celebrating her beauty and her birthday and take it in good humor if I reprint that photo here alongside a recent snapshot showing how alluring she ...

Note: Robert is unable to finish this column. It may be a while before he is able to see well enough to type.

Thank you for reading The Blackshear Times.

— Robert's wife

Corp. Credit(s): Rob Levin, Dick Broom.

“Even though I am not from the area, I was able to pick up on the emotional as well as financial impact being felt by Acadia Corp and the community. Fine reporting.”

Honorable Mention(s)—Miami Today, Miami, FL—New terminal shows dredging could restore Miami River. Credit(s): Marilyn Bowden.

BEST BUSINESS STORY

Non-daily Division, circulation less than 6,000

1st Place—Buffalo Bulletin, Buffalo, WY—Waiting for a boom. Credit(s): Holly Kays.

“This is an excellent story—well-organized, researched and connected to the sources. The story, told through the eyes of those who have lived through the boom and the bust of WY's mineral-based economy, was very effective from beginning to end. The explanation of the drilling process and other technical information was targeted and not overwhelming. The story was easy to understand as an outsider but contained important information that local residents would find useful and compelling.”

2nd Place—Myrtle Beach Herald, Myrtle Beach, SC—Carolina Forest lands call center, 670 jobs. Credit(s): Charles D. Perry and Tom O'Dare.

“These stories are well constructed. The newspaper's role as a watchdog for the people is fulfilled by investigating the past of such call centers in other locations. It is a cautionary tale for journalists who might otherwise think only of celebrating the arrival of a new corporation in their community.”

3rd Place—Lahontan Valley News, Fallon, NV—Sequestration/military budget cuts. Credit(s): Steve Ranson.

“Excellent coverage of the potential impact of lost wages due to federal sequestration on local community.”

Honorable Mention(s)—Hendersonville Lightning, Hendersonville, NC—Investors deciding bank's fate. Credit(s): Bill Moss.

BEST EDITORIAL

Daily & Non-daily Division, circulation 10,000 or more

1st Place—The Taos News, Taos, NM—Let's talk about openness and transparency in government. Credit(s): Joan Livingston.

“Great editorial! What a way to be the watchdog of open government and what the local officials are doing.”

2nd Place—Sioux City Journal, Sioux City, IA—What's the deal on these city issues? Credit(s): Michael Gors.

“A very unique way to address city issues. Eye-catching and to the point makes this easy for readers to see and understand what is going on in the community.”

3rd Place—The Times Leader, Wilkes-Barre, PA—Violent crime calls for wide response. Credit(s): Mark Jones.

“Good editorial about a major issue in the local community. Nice pullout box with solutions to the problem. Might have put more emphasis on community help higher in the editorial, but overall good job.”

Honorable Mention(s)—The Union, Grass Valley, CA—Our View: Here we go again Credit(s): The Union Editorial Board.

BEST EDITORIAL

Daily & Non-daily Division, circulation 6,000-9,999

1st Place—Cody Enterprise, Cody, WY—Rep's rude response not 'WY values'. Credit(s): Bruce McCormack.

“Good editorial! What a way to call out a state representative and inform readers of what the representative is doing in state government.”

2nd Place—The Transylvania Times, Brevard, NC—Keep Public Notices In Newspapers. Credit(s): John Lanier.

“A great editorial about an issue all newspapers are facing right now. What makes this editorial great is the local spin on the issue. It shows how people are affected if public notices are not in newspapers.”

3rd Place—The News-Gazette, Lexington, VA—“Responding To Tragedy With Needed Reforms.” Credit(s): Ed Smith.

“This is a good editorial on a tough subject. It's a little too long and wordy, but it sheds some light on an issue that needs to be discussed.”

Honorable Mention(s)—The Transylvania Times, Brevard, NC—The Education Disconnection. Credit(s): John Lanier.

BEST EDITORIAL

Daily & Non-daily Division, circulation 3,000-5,999

1st Place—Hutchinson Leader, Hutchinson, MN—County has gone gun crazy. Credit(s): Doug Hanneeman.

“A well-argued editorial with just the right dash of emotion. Well done.”

2nd Place—Wise County Messenger, Decatur, TX—No enemies behind these lines. Credit(s): Wise County Messenger staff.

“Great tone. Does good job of explaining what a newspaper does—and why.”

3rd Place—The Edgerton Reporter, Edgerton, WI—Editorials-03-06-2013—GunsY-iPadsNo. Credit(s): Diane Everson.

“A well-reasoned defense of the public's right to know.”

Honorable Mention(s)—Buffalo Bulletin, Buffalo, WY—Bulletin viewpoint, “We missed the list.”

Honorable Mention(s)—The Edgerton Reporter, Edgerton, WI—Editorials-02-13-13—13For2013. Credit(s): Diane Everson.

BEST EDITORIAL

Daily & Non-daily Division, circulation less than 3,000

1st Place—Sangre de Cristo Chronicle, Angel Fire, NM—Red River is not above the law. Credit(s): Jesse Chaney.

“Proper outrage at abuse of official authority. Nice.”

2nd Place—Hendersonville Lightning, Hendersonville, NC—McCrary to farmers: Drop dead. Credit(s): Bill Moss.

“Good emotion. Strong opinions. Nice.”

3rd Place—Point Reyes Light, Inverness, CA—Ranchers say survival hinges on elk relocation. Credit(s): Tess Elliott.

“Good explanation. Could use a dose of emotion.”

Honorable Mention(s)—The Clarendon Enterprise, Clarendon, TX—HISD should keep focus on town's future. Credit(s): Roger Estlack; The Imperial Republican, Imperial, NE—New graduation requirement a positive step. Credit(s): Jan Schultz.

BEST EDITORIAL PAGE(S)

Daily & Non-daily Division, circulation 6,000 or more

1st Place—Wyoming Tribune Eagle, Cheyenne, WY—Wyoming Tribune Eagle sets of editorial pages—Feb 2 & 3. Credit(s): Staff.

“I had a tough time between first, second and third places, and I'm not an indecisive person. Love, love, love the way you get to the point by listing The Issue, We Believe, and the fact that you ask for their opinions, but I wish your edits were shorter. Excellent personal column. Layout and design is excellent, as are the cartoons. Good amount of letters to editor. These are well-rounded op/ed pages. Congrats!”

2nd Place—Leelanau Enterprise, Lake Leelanau, MI—Editorial pages. Credit(s): Enterprise editorial staff.

“Super local edits and columns. The Call and Comment is a great read, but I wonder if it doesn't cut down on the letters to editor because they are slim in the editions submitted. Your layout is clean, and it works. I noticed no masthead, but thankfully you did let the reader know who wrote and what their job title is at the newspaper.”

3rd Place—The Washington Missourian, Washington, MO—Washington Missourian editorial pages. Credit(s): Bill Miller Sr.

“Well-written and to-the-point editorials. Layout is a bit heavy, but it works for you. Plenty of letters editor. I hate the column jumps, but your edits make up for it somehow.”

Honorable Mention(s)—The Ellsworth American, Ellsworth, ME—Editorial pages. Credit(s): Staff, Antelope Valley Press, Palmdale, CA—Opinion pages. Credit(s): Aaron Campbell.

BEST EDITORIAL PAGE(S)

Daily & Non-daily Division, circulation less than 6,000

1st Place—Mount Desert Islander, Bar Harbor, ME—Editorial Pages. Credit(s): Staff.

“Wonderful blend of opinion items ranging from national issues to hyperlocal ones. I love the triple-editorial format as well as their content. If I were in charge, I'd swap the layout of the pages because the lead editorial page is very gray, and I'd try to limit the length of letters, possibly converting longer ones to columns, but that's quibbling.”

2nd Place—West Point News, West Point, NE—Editorial pages. Credit(s): Willis Mahannah.

“Broad mix of items. Excellent and gutsy editorial on school prayer. Nice layout.”

3rd Place—The Clarendon Enterprise, Clarendon, TX—Clarendon Enterprise opinion page—April 18 and 25. Credit(s): Roger Estlack and Fred Gray with letter writers Chris Moore and Tom Stauder.

“Nice variety on a single page, and I like the placement on P. 2. Disclaimer over the editorial is a nice touch, but the name of Fred Gray's column is a turn-off.”

Honorable Mention(s)—Iowa Falls Times-Citizen, Iowa Falls, IA—Best Editorial Pages. Credit(s): Times Citizen Staff.

BEST EDUCATION/LITERACY STORY

Daily Division

1st Place—Wyoming Tribune Eagle, Cheyenne, WY—Teachers will soon get graded. Credit(s): Aerin Curtis.

“This is a comprehensive look at the effect new teacher evaluation standards will have on the local school district. The newspaper went in depth to interview a wide range of sources, looking at the issue from a variety of angles. The story was well organized, thoughtful and compelling.”

2nd Place—Yankton Daily Press & Dakotan, Yankton, SD—The Passages of Life. Credit(s): Randy Dockendorf.

“Compelling topic well explained in this story that breathes life into the experiences of inmates through their own writing.”

3rd Place—The Union, Grass Valley, CA—Charting a new course? (Multiple story report). Credit(s): Jennifer Terman/John Hart.

“This story would have benefited from a review of charter school performance. Statistics on the number of charter schools and the dwindling number of traditional public schools are interesting, but are the charter schools benefiting students by giving them better instruction with regard to test scores or placement in post secondary education/careers?”

BEST EDUCATION/LITERACY STORY

Non-daily Division, circulation 6,000 or more

1st Place—The Standard Banner, Jefferson City, TN—Reach for Reading. Credit(s): Steve Marion and Ronnie Housley.

“It isn't long, but full of good writing, especially the lede, which set up the story's relevance. Congrats.”

2nd Place—The Washington Missourian, Washington, MO—Collaborative Learning Takes on a Whole New Meaning. Credit(s): Karen Cernich.

“Thought the use of modern technology was unique. Well written and tantalizing lede.”

3rd Place—The Examiner, Beaumont, TX—Attendance fraud at BISD. Credit(s): Jennifer Johnson.

“Good investigative stuff, well written.”

Honorable Mention(s)—The Livingston Parish News, Denham Springs, LA—Reading by touch. Credit(s): Jamie Webb.

BEST EDUCATION/LITERACY STORY

Non-daily Division, circulation less than 6,000

1st Place—Westmore News, Port Chester, NY—Bullied student slits her wrists, distraught parents speak out. Credit(s): Claire K. Racine.

“This story is well constructed. It is a moving account. The reporters did a thorough job in verifying in the information. It could have offered more context offering up survey data about bullying and possibly information about attempted suicides among youths.”

2nd Place—Arizona Capitol Times, Phoenix, AZ—Arizona Capitol Times—Best education. Credit(s): Ben Giles.

“This is an excellent story on a proposed bill to arm teachers in rural schools. The story sought out a variety of sources and told both sides of the debate very well. The use of a real-life example with differing opinions on how it would be handled in a school setting added a dimension to the story that might otherwise be missing.”

3rd Place—Arizona Capitol Times, Phoenix, AZ—Arizona Capitol Times—best education. Credit(s): Gary Grado, Josh Coddington.

“This story is very well done. It explains the advantages and disadvantages of implementing the new education standard in a very clear manner. It defines the fiscal and operational challenges of the new standards. The sidebars with the stories of district’s of varying sizes and their views on the standards were very helpful.”

Honorable Mention(s)—The Westbury Times, Westbury, NY—BOE Talks Illegal Residents. Credit(s): Betsy Abraham.

BEST ENVIRONMENTAL STORY

Daily & Non-daily Division, circulation 9,000 or more

1st Place—The Union, Grass Valley, CA—To restore & protect: SYRCL celebrates three decades of Yuba River stewardship (multi-story report). Credit(s): Matthew Renda/John Hart (photographer). “Timeliness, research and reader interest—those are all present here in spades. This category had at least 10 entries deserving recognition for solid environmental reporting, and this coverage stood out for its depth of detail, clarity of writing and accessible structure. Great, great job.”

2nd Place—The Sun, Santa Maria, CA—Don’t eat the fish. Credit(s): Camillia Lanham.

“Close, close second. This article brings important information home with excellent writing, tone and clarity. Where others in this category resorted to complex sidebars, this piece used concise, accessible writing.”

3rd Place—Sierra Vista Herald, Sierra Vista, AZ—Where has all the water gone?

“Great writing, tons of info presented in clear graphics and sidebars, good organization. Excellent and vital work.”

Honorable Mention(s)—Community Impact Newspaper—Sugar Land/Missouri City Edition, Houston, TX—Cities make plans to limit groundwater use. Credit(s): John Rigg, writer, Melenie Yuen-designer; The Examiner, Beaumont, TX—Cattail Marsh. Credit(s): Clay Thorp.

BEST ENVIRONMENTAL STORY

Daily & Non-daily Division, circulation less than 9,000

1st Place—Moonshine Ink, Truckee, CA—Saga of the Quagga. Credit(s): David Bunker.

“Very nice overview of an issue that is clearly very important to Lake Tahoe area residents. Includes both the science involved and the personalities who are key players in the problem and the research behind it. Good work!”

2nd Place—Jackson Hole News & Guide, Jackson, WY—Park bombs litter slopes. Credit(s): Mike Koshmrl.

“Good in-depth look into how the Yellowstone area has traded one potential safety hazard for another. Good background, as well as what’s being done currently to address the issue.”

3rd Place—The Times—Blooming Prairie, Blooming Prairie, MN—Best Environmental Story. Credit(s): Rick Bussler.

“Although this may seem like a very basic story on the surface, it’s one that we all should do—and more than once! Good job taking an issue the community should care a lot about and dedicating the space and effort to highlighting how much more needs to be done.”

Honorable Mention(s)—The Chaffee County Times, Buena Vista, CO—Scar near Pine Creek. Credit(s): Maisie Ramsey.

BEST FAMILY LIFE/LIVING SECTION/PAGES

Daily & Non-daily Division

1st Place—Sioux City Journal, Sioux City, IA—Siouxland Life magazine Jan. 2013. Credit(s): Journal staff.

“Bright, fresh content. Exceptional photos, especially the food shots. A pleasure to read. This section is planned and executed at a very high level. Bravo.”

2nd Place—Mount Desert Islander, Bar Harbor, ME—Living Pages. Credit(s): Staff.

“What a creative and inviting section. Great use of art. Strong design and story selection.”

3rd Place—Jackson Hole News&Guide, Jackson, WY—Valley.



FIRST PLACE,

best original editorial cartoon, daily & non-daily division

By Ross Mayfield
The Sun
Santa Maria, CA

Credit(s): Staff & Johanna Love, editor.

“Lively and readable newspaper with a sense of fun and buoyant creativity. This staff is clearly in touch with the community.”

Honorable Mention(s)—The Ark, Tiburon, CA—Home 4/13 & Home 9/25. Credit(s): Staff; Palatka Daily News, Palatka, FL—Current; Palatka Daily News. Credit(s): Trisha Murphy.

BEST FEATURE PHOTO

Daily Division

1st Place—Daily Times Herald, Carroll, IA—Relay for Life luminarias. Credit(s): Jeff Storjohann.

“Nice image with beautiful lighting and strong composition.”

2nd Place—The Union, Grass Valley, CA—Feast your eyes on fall. Credit(s): John Hart.

“Love the lighting and setting the subject and the airborne leaves with the trunk of the tree. Excellent composition. Without this composition, it’s a so-so shot. The photographer helped make it something more.”

3rd Place—Sioux City Journal, Sioux City, IA—The day after. Credit(s): Jim Lee.

“Nice moment on the porch after a tornado ravaged this house. A storytelling image.”

BEST FEATURE PHOTO

Non-daily Division, circulation 10,000 or more

1st Place—The Tribeca Trib, NY, NY—Stepping Back in Time. Credit(s): Carl Glassman.

“This is a beautiful moment—actually several beautiful moments—of dancers at a senior center. And I love the quote: “I can’t walk, but I can dance. Isn’t that amazing?” Boy, that’s a winner! A crop (on the left) to bring me in a little closer probably would have helped make this image even stronger. A memorable shot.”

2nd Place—The Livingston Parish News, Denham Springs, LA—Mudders. Credit(s): John Dupont.

“This is a nice feature moment of people on a slip and slide coming right at you while their ‘wake’ nails a bystander. Great faces and water action. Nice moment well played on page one.”

Honorable Mention(s)—The St. Louis American, Saint Louis, MO—Welcome to first grade, Mr. Jones. Credit(s): Wiley Price.

BEST FEATURE PHOTO

Non-daily Division, circulation 6,000-9,999

1st Place—The Standard Banner, Jefferson City, TN—Could it be sibling rivalry? Credit(s): Dale Gentry.

“Wonderful job of capturing a moment in time with great expression. It’s obvious the photographer invested a good amount of time into the assignment and also performed the due diligence to get the background story for the cutline. Entry stands out in a solid field. Kudos!”

2nd Place—Jackson Hole News&Guide, Jackson, WY—High Hoops. Credit(s): Brad Boner.

“Outstanding photograph with really good composition. The most unique entry in the field. Photographer clearly went ‘the extra mile’ for the shot, which captures the essence of the climate and the community served by the newspaper. Good job.”

3rd Place—Vilas County News-Review, Eagle River, WI—Frigid Fundraiser. Credit(s): Anthony Drew.

“Good action and timing on the shot. Expression tells it all on this one, as the reader can almost feel the impact of the icy water. Very good entry.”

Honorable Mention(s)—Malibu Surfside News, Malibu, CA—Gifts of Song. Credit(s): Chris Bashaw.

BEST FEATURE PHOTO

Non-daily Division, circulation 3,000-5,999

1st Place—Douglas Budget, Douglas, WY—OH, WOW, LISTEN TO THAT. Credit(s): David J. Olender.

“It’s all in the eyes! What a fantastic photo. You grab the moment at the perfect moment.”

Second Place—tie—Wise County Messenger, Decatur, TX—Good Book. Credit(s): Joe Duty.

“Each of the 900 crosses can be seen in his worn hands. What excellent detail; your lighting was perfect!”

Second Place—tie—Lahontan Valley News, Fallon, NV—Cuteness at the Country Fair. Credit(s): Steve Ranson.

“Just a wonderful, wonderful photo. You caught both children perfectly and framed it just right.”

3rd Place—The North Scott Press, Eldridge, IA—Time for a little lunch. Credit(s): Jim Turley.

“Oh what detail! What wonderful color! Just a fantastic shot!”

Honorable Mention(s)—Claremont Courier, Claremont, CA—CHS Thespians. Credit(s): Steven Felschundneff.

BEST FEATURE PHOTO

Non-daily Division, circulation less than 3,000

1st Place—Tioga Tribune, Tioga, ND—Liquid sunshine. Credit(s): Resa Haukedahl.

“Outstanding composition. Beautiful expression and very clean stop of action. This photo is no doubt attached to a fridge door somewhere. The best entry in the field. Kudos to the photographer.”

2nd Place—Litchfield Independent Review, Litchfield, MN—A lifetime of love recaptured. Credit(s): Jenny Berg.

“Wonderful job of capturing expression and a very touching moment. If it’s true that a picture is worth 1,000 words, then this one is worth 10,000. Very nice work.”

3rd Place—Lake Country Sun, Graford, TX—Fire School offers training. Credit(s): Mark Engebretson.

“Good job of backlighting. Photo of the hazy blaze looks like the moon’s corona. Nice work.”

Honorable Mention(s)—The Journal, Crosby, ND—Ridin’, Ropin’ and Livestockin’. Credit(s): Cecile Krimm; Missouri Lawyers Weekly, St. Louis, MO—Bell ring, o8-28. Credit(s): Karen Elshout.

BEST FEATURE SERIES

Daily & Non-daily Division, circulation 6,000 or more

1st Place—The Manhattan Mercury, Manhattan, KS—Seizure service dog. Credit(s): Megan Moser.

“Great series! Loved the flow of the writing and how you chronicled every step of how the dog responded to Ashley. Nice job explaining epileptic seizures. It’s definitely a heart-warming story and you conveyed a side to therapy dogs that most may not be aware of. Thanks for bringing this to the attention of your community.”

2nd Place—The Homer Horizon, Orland Park, IL—Getting past the preconceptions. Credit(s): Bill Jones.

“What a unique idea to write a feature on the different churches that make up your community. It was educational, descriptive and interesting to read about each of the churches. Of particular appeal was how you went behind the walls of the church, so to speak, to give the reader a flavor for the church and the leaders.”

3rd Place—News-Register, McMinnville, OR—Stopping By. Credit(s): Starla Pointer.

“Terrific idea to spotlight local people, places or activities in a series like this one. It is impressive that Starla has told nearly 600 stories in 11.5 years. Her writing is solid, and this certainly gives anyone who picks up the News Register a flavor of the community and the people who live there. Nice job!”

BEST FEATURE SERIES

Daily & Non-daily Division, circulation less than 6,000

1st Place—Douglas Budget, Douglas, WY—Finding Beauty. Credit(s): Jen Kocher; Photos Adam Herrera.

“Three stories worth reading. Series was good topic to explore and well-written; made you want more.”

2nd Place—Daily Times Herald, Carroll, IA—Kenzie’s Crash. Credit(s): Jared Strong.

“A lot of time and effort spent. Good series, a good read.”

3rd Place—Wise County Messenger, Decatur, TX—Cross Roads. Credit(s): Brandon Evans, Joe Duty.

“Good stories, well-written.”

Honorable Mention(s)—Milton Times, Milton, MA—On Patrol with Milton’s Finest/Human Element Key. Credit(s): Kathy Kurtz Ferrari; The Allegan County News, Allegan, MI—Long history, proud roots. Credit(s): VA Ransbottom.

BEST FEATURE STORY

Daily Division

2nd Place—Sioux City Journal, Sioux City, IA—That’s not our town. Credit(s): Molly Montag.

“Nice lede. Writing gives you a feeling for the town and the horrible crimes that have occurred. Nice flow.”

3rd Place—Wyoming Tribune Eagle, Cheyenne, WY—Dark family secret unravels. Credit(s): James Chilton.

“Like the lede. Keeps you reading on. Story holds your interest and keeps reader with it to learn more about this sad story. You did a nice job telling a somber story in a way that kept the reader involved and interested until the very end.”

BEST FEATURE STORY

Non-daily Division, circulation 15,000 or more

1st Place—The Examiner, Beaumont, TX—The high price of addiction. Credit(s): Sharon Brooks.

“This is a powerful story with a terrific lede that immediately sets the tone for what is expensive about this addiction. The reader learns a lot about the progression, the disease of addiction and this crippling drug through meaningful quotes and the voice of a user who still maintains he has scary days. Hats off to a well executed message in a feature story.”

2nd Place—The Washington Missourian, Washington, MO—Goats for Hire. Credit(s): Karen Cernich.

“The headline is simple and direct and at first, a reader might pass by this story, having missed so much. The writing is crisp and

the story content is interesting in a time when the simplicity of this age-old remedy for unique problems still works. The writer covered lots of questions that a reader might begin to wonder about, and the business angle is fascinating. This story writes itself to 1A."

3rd Place—The Orland Park Prairie, Orland Park, IL—Whole lotta filmmakin' going on. Credit(s): Heather Warthen.

"This story is a delight to read. The writer uses clear, short paragraphs right from the beginning to bring a reader into the enthusiasm and passion the subject has for both Elvis and filmmaking. The human side of an early Elvis Presley is something a reader feels will be revealed in the film being made, and the enthusiasm for the project is contagious because of this writer's enthusiasm. Very good job."

Honorable Mention(s)—Farm and Dairy, Salem, OH—Finding forgiveness: Abused as child, local man says only way forward is to forgive, let go of past. Credit(s): Chris Kick; The Universe, Provo, UT—Technology and realtionships. Credit(s): Brooke Weenig; Chino Champion, Chino, CA—African girl holds key to Chino Hills family's heart. Credit(s): Brenda Dunkle; The Examiner, Beaumont, TX—Gang activity in Southeast TX. Credit(s): Sharon Brooks; Farm and Dairy, Salem, OH—More than s'mores: Teens turn off technology during forestry and wildlife camp. Credit(s): Susan Crowell.

BEST FEATURE STORY

Non-daily Division, circulation 10,000-14,999

1st Place—The Wilmette Beacon, Orland Park, IL—Starry night. Credit(s): Joe Coughlin.

"Engaging feature from start to finish. Nice turns of phrase throughout and very solid scene setting make this the best feature story in the competition. Nicely done!"

2nd Place—The Tribeca Trib, NY, NY—History Goes Packing. Credit(s): April Koral.

"Good description of the flood waters coming into the museum and the impact that water had on the museum and its exhibits. Very readable feature!"

3rd Place—The St. Louis American, Saint Louis, MO—Family of opportunity. Credit(s): Story by Rebecca S. Rivas, Photo(s) by Wiley Price.

"The lead sets the scene and draws me in, then the story keeps me interested through to the end. Nicely written!"

Honorable Mention(s)—The Ellsworth American, Ellsworth, ME—Praise the Lord and Pass the Ammunition. Credit(s): Steve Fuller.

BEST FEATURE STORY

Non-daily Division, circulation 6,000-9,999

1st Place—Cody Enterprise, Cody, WY—Finding peace 45 years later. Credit(s): Corey Morris.

"I was instantly drawn into this story and then thrown a twist that made me want to read on. Great combination of writing skills, storytelling and reporting to tell a compelling story."

2nd Place—Leelanau Enterprise, Lake Leelanau, MI—Hometown Hero. Credit(s): Patti Brandt.

"Great work at drawing the reader into the story."

3rd Place—Malibu Surfside News, Malibu, CA—Malibu musical savant finds voice through music. Credit(s): Ashleigh Fryer.

"Good job drawing us into the subject's world."

Honorable Mention(s)—Hyattsville Life & Times, Hyattsville, MD—A Hyattsville Fish Story. Credit(s): Chris Currie.

BEST FEATURE STORY

Non-daily Division, circulation 4,000-5,999

1st Place—Wise County Messenger, Decatur, TX—What might be in there... Credit(s): Bob Buckel, Joe Dudy.

"Great job at truly telling a story; the essence of any great feature.

The author took a rather mundane topic and crafted an interesting story that draws readers in, keeping them turning the page to read the entire story. This entry stood out above the rest."

2nd Place—Fountain Hills Times, Fountain Hills, AZ—Wounded Walk. Credit(s): Ryan Winslett.

"Good job drawing the reader in from the start, making the reader want to know more about the pair's story."

3rd Place—Wise County Messenger, Decatur, TX—Ashlie lives on. Credit(s): Erika Pedroza, Joe Dudy.

"Good work telling a compelling story."

BEST FEATURE STORY

Non-daily Division, circulation 2,000-3,999

1st Place—The Journal, Crosby, ND—Last Blast for old arena. Credit(s): Cecile Krimm.

"Anyone with an affinity for youth or high school sports will love this story. It's less about hockey than it is about an old friend, a building that has outlived its useful life, but is beloved for the very things that make it a candidate for replacement. Well told. And save me a rink burger."

2nd Place—Missouri Lawyers Weekly, St. Louis, MO—The Gun Divide. Credit(s): Scott Lauck.

"Well-researched and well-reported piece that exposes the deep emotions on both sides of the gun issue."

3rd Place—Missouri Lawyers Weekly, St. Louis, MO—The Feminine Critique. Credit(s): Melissa Meinzer.

"Any good story idea is worth stealing, and I'm assigning this one

IT TAKES A VILLAGE IDIOT

BY R.L. CRABB



SECOND PLACE,
best original editorial cartoon, daily & non-daily division

By R.L. Crabb
The Union, Grass Valley, CA

to my courts reporter today. Well done, great approach to a topic that everyone in the courthouse will talk about for days."

Honorable Mention(s)—Sangre de Cristo Chronicle, Angel Fire, NM—Landowner takes cattle problem into his own hands. Credit(s): Jesse Chaney.

BEST FEATURE STORY

Non-daily Division, circulation less than 2,000

1st Place—Hendersonville Lightning, Hendersonville, NC—Storm of the Century. Credit(s): Bill Moss.

"Making history come alive is sometimes an inundating task, but you made it look easy. Great amount of time and effort is shown in this story. Great read."

2nd Place—Glenrock Independent, Douglas, WY—"You can't say no to God, can you?" Credit(s): Jesse Bishop.

"Good human interest feature. Volunteers have a good story to tell, and this lady is good."

3rd Place—Glenrock Independent, Douglas, WY—I'll carry you home... Credit(s): Kasey M. Orr.

"Sometimes good stories just come to people, as this one did. It was a good read. Thought lede could have been stronger and more anecdotes about the boy."

Honorable Mention(s)—The Commercial Record, Saugatuck, MI—South Manitou/Saugatuck: Keepers of the light. Credit(s): Scott Sullivan; Eden Valley-Watkins Voice, Eden Valley, MN—Plantenberg Served with Famous "Kissing" Sailor. Credit(s): Laurie Schultz; The Plainwell & Osego Union Enterprise, Allegan, MI—For the love of the game and each other. Credit(s): VA Ransbottom; Arizona Capitol Times, Phoenix, AZ—Arizona Capitol Times—Best feature. Credit(s): Gary Grado.

BEST HEADLINE WRITING

Daily & Non-daily Division

1st Place—Wyoming Tribune Eagle, Cheyenne, WY—Wyoming Tribune Eagle—July 20 & Sept. 14. Credit(s): Staff.

"Powerful headlines utilize wide variety of techniques for drawing the readers into the stories. Good use of space and fonts to grab attention. This attention to creativity enhances the reader experience and makes it easier to turn skimmers into readers."

2nd Place—The N'West IA REVIEW, Sheldon, IA—Best headline writing. Credit(s): Staff.

"Good clean approach to headline usage. Style is consistent throughout publication."

3rd Place—Hutchinson Leader, Hutchinson, MN—Hutchinson Leader—Best headline writing. Credit(s): Staff.

"Crisp, clear headlines provide multiple access points for the reader. Subheads are properly integrated as needed."

Honorable Mention(s)—Wise County Messenger, Decatur, TX—July 10 and Sept. 11 headlines. Credit(s): Wise County Messenger editorial staff.

BEST HEALTH STORY

Daily & Non-daily Division, circulation 6,000 or more

1st Place—The Manhattan Mercury, Manhattan, KS—The choice. Credit(s): Megan Moser.

"Story well-told. Very informative piece that could affect many in the same situation."

2nd Place—The Chronicle, Chester, NY—Maternity ward's closure divides community. Credit(s): Ginny Privitar.

"Very detailed, but clear identity of the dispute surrounding the closure of the maternity ward. Nice use of statistics and solid interviews to inform the community about the status and background."

3rd Place—News-Register, McMinnville, OR—Seeking Justice. Credit(s): Starla Pointer.

"Nice detailed story. Good background info and detail. Overall comment for this category: Other excellent entries were submitted in part and therefore were ineligible for judging. Entrants, please check your entries to make sure all jumps are included."

Honorable Mention(s)—Yankton Daily Press & Dakotan, Yankton, SD—Healthy Discussion In Viborg. Credit(s): Randy Dockendorf.

BEST HEALTH STORY

Daily & Non-daily Division, circulation less than 6,000

1st Place—Arizona Capitol Times, Phoenix, AZ—Arizona Capitol Times—best health. Credit(s): Luige del Puerto, Jeremy Duda.

"Excellent article on a complicated, emotional issue. This article breaks down Medicaid funding and the Affordable Care Act, and puts it into manageable pieces for readers."

2nd Place—Mount Desert Islander, Bar Harbor, ME—Unfit To Drink. Credit(s): Mark Good.

"Excellent article on an important issue. In this community, the problem of contaminated wells was around for decades. Good examples from the community of how contaminated wells impacted families, as well as great details from the EPA and DEP about the dangers of this water."

3rd Place—The Paynesville Press, Paynesville, MN—250-Pound Weight Loss Journey. Credit(s): Ellarry Prentice.

"Many people can relate to Evans in this story. They struggle with weight loss, diabetes, lack of exercise and more. Writer deftly included statistics that show Evans is the face for many in the nation."

Honorable Mention(s)—Hickman County Times, Centerville, TN—Wrestling with war's impact. Credit(s): Bradley A. Martin.

BEST HUMOROUS COLUMN

Daily & Non-daily Division, circulation 8,000 or more

1st Place—The Northbrook Tower, Orland Park, IL—Getting back in the saddle at spin class. Credit(s): Dayna Fields.

"Yes, this is humorous. Painful, but amusing. Humorous way of pulling reader into the column to share your agony and your self-admitted, not-so-bright decision to do the spinning. You have spun a tale the reader can enjoy and empathize with; plus, you also provided the reader some insight into the decisions that are part of your work week. Well done."

2nd Place—Antelope Valley Press, Palmdale, CA—Riding in the elevator, scared of Roger Ebert. Credit(s): Aaron Campbell.

"Amusing with a pointed punch line. The writer does an interesting job of putting a finger on an interesting incident. Reader gets the point of the young man's fear. Touch of suspense at the beginning, but reader has the feeling something amusing is coming. Thumbs up on this one; two thumbs up if it were a bit shorter."

3rd Place—Brentwood Press, Brentwood, CA—A reflection in selfies. Credit(s): Samie Hartley.

"Amusing take on a current cultural phenomenon, the selfie. Presented and written well. Aside from poking a little fun, the writer is also making a cultural statement. Nice to see writer taking amusing look at both herself and a cultural fade enveloping such a large segment of society. It's her selfie in print, not a cellphone snapshot."

FIRST PLACE,
best feature photo,
non-daily division
circulation less than 3,000

By Jenny Berg
Litchfield Independent Review
Litchfield, MN

A LIFETIME OF LOVE RECAPTURED—
Onlookers applaud as Litchfield resident Bill Olson endearingly admires his bride during a ceremony to renew their vows after more than 66 years of marriage.



Getting back in the saddle at spin class

DAYNA FIELDS
The Northbrook Tower
Orland Park, IL

First place, best humorous column
daily & non-division, circulation 8,000 or more

Last week, my co-worker Megan Maginity, with The Winnetka Current newspaper, wrote about the gym Spynergy.

It wasn't long before Megan was plotting with April, The Current editor, a time and day to take a spinning class.

Now to me, it looks like these two women are more than in shape. April sticks to a steady gym routine with discipline, and Megan enjoys jogging outdoors. But if my co-workers wanted to subject themselves to the vicious, gruesome exercise known as spinning, then that's their business.

"Are you in?" said April as she suddenly turned to me with an encouraging smile. Yeah right, because when I work out, I really want a 5-foot-8 blonde with a workout obsession there to encourage me.

With all eyes on me, I hastily committed.

"I'm in," I said. "I took a couple spinning classes in college. I don't remember it being that bad."

Granted, I was in pretty good shape in college—at least compared to today, when somehow my three-hour-a-week exercise routine has been replaced with a three-hour-a-day commute.

The spinning room at the North Suburban YMCA is not intimidating. And since it was a Wednesday at 6 p.m., it was not a packed house.

Plus, the instructor seemed very friendly, so how hard could this be?

"Do you have a towel?" the instructor

asked me as he adjusted my seat.

"No, but I brought a water bottle," I said proudly.

"Grab some paper towels—you're going to need them," he said—OK, now I'm slightly worried.

April and Megan both mounted their bikes like pros.

I hesitantly stepped on and adjusted to the small, hard rubber seat. Then April gave me a brief tutorial on the knob in front of me—give it a turn to the right or left to increase or decrease resistance—and the positions—hands go on the bars, hands on the top of the bars or stand up off your seat.

And then, without much opportunity for review, the music was on and we started.

"A turn to the right," I heard the instructor call out.

Everyone started spinning, and I caught on fast enough.

In fact, I made it through the entire warm-up just fine.

"Let's crank it up," he yelled. "Two turns to the right."

OK, that did some damage.

"Position three," he yelled, and we all leaned forward, putting pressure on my thighs.

Tough, but still doable.

"Now out of the saddle!" he commanded, and everyone rose to their feet.

My legs are starting to burn. April and Megan, however, look like they are almost having fun with this.

"Half turn to the right, position one," he yelled.

Back on my seat, I glanced at the clock—oh no! It's only 6:15? How can that be?

I thought I had at least 30 minutes down.

I needed something to occupy my mind. Maybe planning this week's paper?

Think. Village Board. The Elizabeth Manaster column.

"Out of the saddle, two turns to the right. This is it; push yourself!" I heard.

I rose to my feet, and I felt the sharp pain shoot through my legs as I tried to stabilize myself mid-spin.

OK, quick! Beauty pageant winner, place on Page 10. Photo shoot with Karina Lluengo tomorrow at 1—don't forget. She's your L&A cover. And the guys are taking care of Dining Out this week.

"Thirty-second sprint, right here!" he yelled. I looked up at the clock—only 6:25? Dang!

OK, the Chamber of Commerce Meal packing event—edit it, and place it on Page 7.

Ron Bernardi's birthday on Thursday—it's the cover, make it good. Karen Firsell turned in her North Shore Mom column—edit it, place it on Page 25.

"Position three, full turn to the right, you can do it!" he shouted. Clock—6:35 p.m.

Sports! I thought quickly—first day of football; get ribbon-cutting photo for the new turf; get volleyball game covered; edit the Nick Hardy piece, place it on Page 39.

"Out of the saddle!" he said. I'm thinking about bailing, but I'm so close!

Congressman Brad Schneider at UPS, 8 a.m.—don't miss it. The Dailey Method opens, Page 12. Edit the Youth Services' Rummage Sale; edit the press release from the Park District; edit the new Jessica Steinberg column. Get her mug shot.

Place on Page 16.

"Position three!" I heard.

Clock—6:45—will this torture never end?

Format rosters and schedules for Junior Spartans football; write captions for soccer photos; trim The Scene; think up main headline—Birthday bash? Birthday break?

Birthday boy? I think I like that last one ... anything else?

"Great job class, it's time for the cool-down," I heard a comforting voice say in the background of my thoughts.

Clock—7 p.m.—I made it.

But as I unloaded myself from the height of my bike, I immediately felt my legs go limp. My 5-foot-8 counterparts, however, bounced off their bikes with ease, gabbing away about something that I was too tired to listen in on.

All I could think about was getting myself home, showered and in bed.

"So Wednesdays work for you then?" they both practically said in unison as they turned my way.

Quick—an excuse—anything! But I just couldn't think—my brain was mush.

I was exhausted, and the human thought process just wasn't working anymore.

"Wednesdays are good for me," I said slowly, clearly suffering from a cognitive meltdown. "If it's good for you?"

Of course, the worse pain from a spinning class does not come until the following day, when I found it extremely difficult to move from my desk, let alone do any of those tasks on my list.

Guess I'll just start writing this week's editorial then—that doesn't involve much movement.



FIRST PLACE, best sports photo, non-daily division, circulation 3,000-4,999
By Kasey M. Orr | Douglas Budget, Douglas, WY

CINDERELLA GOING TO THE BALL—Triston Gray jumps into the arms of Austin Zimmer after he steals home and wins the first game of the tie-breaker tournament at Nida Field July 18.

BEST HUMOROUS COLUMN

Daily & Non-daily Division, circulation 3,000-7,999

1st Place—The Blackshear Times, Blackshear, GA—Why are women so touchy about age? Credit(s): Robert M. Williams Jr. "Very witty!"

2nd Place—Wise County Messenger, Decatur, TX—Words that are starting to bug me. Credit(s): Bob Buckel.

"Wonderful read"

3rd Place—Claremont Courier, Claremont, CA—Lex in the City (Claremont Courier). Credit(s): Mellissa Martinez.

"Enjoyed reading this column ... very true."

BEST HUMOROUS COLUMN

Daily & Non-daily Division, circulation less than 3,000

1st Place—Lamesa Press-Reporter, Lamesa, TX—Six on a plane certainly bests three in a row. Credit(s): Russel Skiles.

"This column is well done. It is a topic many of us can discuss first-hand. The narrative was well done, and compared to other entries, this did not sound like a paper written about 'What I did last summer.' Mr. Skiles, excellent."

2nd Place—Hennessey Clipper, Hennessey, OK—Rubber gloves are in style at our house. Credit(s): Barb Walter. "Loved your story-telling techniques and how you used

description. The first part definitely hooks the reader."

3rd Place—News Letter Journal, Newcastle, WY—Have gun, will get lost. Credit(s): Amy Menerey.

"This is a good piece of writing and amusing."

Honorable Mention(s)—The Journal, Crosby, ND—Whines & Roses—I have a sleeveless bone to pick with you, Mrs. Obama. Credit(s): Cecile Krimm.

BEST INVESTIGATIVE OR IN-DEPTH STORY OR SERIES

Daily Division

1st Place—McAlester News-Capital, McAlester, OK—Prison riot anniversary. Credit(s): James Beaty, Kandra Wells, Kevin Harvison, Brandy Jeffreys.

"Nice piece of work. The numerous connections of current DOC staff who were resident children/teens at the time of the 1973 riot are portrayed well. Nice tie-in to current Big Mac status and changes that have been made to ensure a higher level of safety. A great peek into the political picture of it all, as well. Very thorough and informative edition on a topic that has to be near and dear to the hearts of your community members."

2nd Place—Sioux City Journal, Sioux City, IA—The Mystery in Brule Creek. Credit(s): Nick Hytrek.

"Extremely interesting and very thorough. Nice resource comparison for looking at how investigations were conducted over 40 years ago. The current contact/interviews with family members of the missing girls was very effective. This was nicely broken up with subheads to ease readability, and gave a clear picture of the mystery disappearance. Great job."

3rd Place—Sioux City Journal, Sioux City, IA—A Sentence Not Served. Credit(s): Nick Hytrek.

"Nice specific personal story to draw the reader's attention. Great follow-through and research of sentencing structure in the state to make a good, valid, fact-based point."

BEST INVESTIGATIVE OR IN-DEPTH STORY OR SERIES

Non-daily Division, circulation 10,000 or more

1st Place—Vineyard Gazette, Edgartown, MA—Story/Series—Best In-Depth Series—Coastal Erosion. Credit(s): Tom Dunlop & Sara Brown, principal writers; Ray Ewing, principal photographer.

"The combination of solid stories, lovely photography, strong design and useful online components made this the clear winner."

2nd Place—The Examiner, Beaumont, TX—BISD money man on spending spree. Credit(s): Jennifer Johnson.

"Dogged reporting led to indictments and news of millions

wasted and stolen by local school district employees, where district management hated to see the paper come out and taxpayers loved it."

Honorable Mention(s)—The Sun, Santa Maria, CA—Start by believing. Credit(s): Amy Asman.

BEST INVESTIGATIVE OR IN-DEPTH STORY OR SERIES

Non-daily Division, circulation 3,000-9,999

1st Place—Jackson Hole News&Guide, Jackson, WY—Airport leaders fly high in Maui. Credit(s): Mike Koshrml.

"While other government agencies stay home or travel on the cheap, this reporter showed how all five members of the airport board spent big money traveling to Hawaii's big island each year for a conference. After the stories came out, the trips slowed considerably."

2nd Place—Daily Times Herald, Carroll, IA—Born to Kill?. Credit(s): Jared Strong.

"Good work done in a hurry on a killer who fell through the system's cracks."

3rd Place—The Alamance News, Graham, NC—What are DOJ's cases against sheriff? Credit(s): Tom Boney Jr., Tomas Murawski, Janice Crisp, Kristy Bailey.

"When government agencies square off against each other, it takes the newspaper to stand in the middle to seek to find out what's going on. This collection of stories offers a glimpse into who's saying what and what might not be true in complicated issues related to sensitive topics."

Honorable Mention(s)—The Alamance News, Graham, NC—Loaves & Fishes. Credit(s): Kristy Bailey.

BEST INVESTIGATIVE OR IN-DEPTH STORY OR SERIES

Non-daily Division, circulation less than 3,000

1st Place—The Western News, Libby, MT—Overtaxation in Lincoln County. Credit(s): Phil Johnson.

"Taxpayers were paying millions more in taxes than they should have been, and it took the newspaper to figure it out. This paper literally stood up for taxpayers with the sort of oversight that makes newspapers an indefensible check on the power of government. A fine collection of stories that stayed on top of the issue."

2nd Place—Missouri Lawyers Weekly, St. Louis, MO—Hais coverage (Series). Credit(s): Melissa Meinzer.

"Excellent work in bringing light to the purposely darkened business of lawyer discipline hearings. The paper and reporter deserve commendation for spending the time, effort and legal fees to fight what ought to be open to the public."

3rd Place—Tioga Tribune, Tioga, ND—Law & Oil. Credit(s): Amy R. Sisk and Resa Haukedahl.

"Nice work by an overworked news staff to chronicle the booming need for more law enforcement in this oil-boom town. The combination of well-told stories with both humans and data, and strong images make it a winner."

Honorable Mention(s)—Hendersonville Lightning, Hendersonville, NC—Legal fights imperil restitution promises. Credit(s): Bill Moss.

BEST LOCAL NEWS COVERAGE

Daily & Non-daily Division, circulation 6,000 or more

1st Place—The Washington Missourian, Washington, MO—Missourian Best Local News Coverage Category. Credit(s): Staff.

"From politics to community events, this publication clearly reflects the news happening in its coverage area. There is a balanced mix of in-depth and briefs to appeal to a wide variety of readers. Stories are thoroughly researched and professionally presented with all the necessary angles covered."

2nd Place—The Standard Banner, Jefferson City, TN—Standard Banner news coverage. Credit(s): Various.

"Whether it is community politics or a round-up of local school events, this publication has clearly demonstrated a commitment to local news. Not only do the stories provide information, but they provide a basis for the reader to understand why the stories matter to the community as a whole."

3rd Place—Cape Gazette, Lewes, DE—Cape Gazette March 8; Cape Gazette Sept. 27. Credit(s): Staff.

"Comprehensive mix of local stories reflects attention to detail. Solid reporting on all levels."

Honorable Mention(s)—The Livingston Parish News, Denham Springs, LA—March 10, Sept. 1.

BEST LOCAL NEWS COVERAGE

Daily & Non-daily Division, circulation 3,000-5,999

1st Place—The Alamance News, Graham, NC—Best local news coverage.

"How much more local can you get when a newspaper exercises its right to obtain information for readers through a legal challenge? From start to finish, this publication demonstrates why the local newspaper is the heartbeat of a community. Solid combination of story topics and photographs."

2nd Place—Mount Desert Islander, Bar Harbor, ME—Local news coverage. Credit(s): Staff.

"Good combination of local coverage representing wide variety

What do you do when your child disappears?

BY STACIE CHADWICK
The Villager
Greenwood Village, CO

First place, best serious column
daily & non-daily division, circulation 3,000 - 5,999

Last Friday, my 8-year-old daughter, Essa, stayed home from school with a bad case of everyone-else-in-my-class-is-sick-so-I-wanna-be-sick-too-itis.

As a mother, I've experienced these strange illnesses before. My son, Taylor, once had I-can't-go-to-school-because-I-sprained-my-ankle-and-halfway-through-my-day-off-started-limping-on-the-wrong-foot syndrome, and my other daughter, Grace, recently struggled with I-didn't-get-my-book-report-finished-therefore-I'll-cry-until-my-face-turns-an-unnatural-shade-of-puke-so-I-can-stay-home-and-finish-it disorder.

Needless to say, I'm usually unsympathetic to the sudden onset of these strange and often fleeting maladies, but last week, when Essa came down the stairs looking like this, I caved.

Knowing Essa wasn't that sick (she had a sinus infection), I asked her to take our dog, Wrigley, to the bathroom while I shuffled Grace into the car for the four-minute drive to school. Completely unhurried and in zero danger of receiving a dreaded tardy slip, I pulled out of the garage and left Essa behind with Wrigley, talking to a neighbor who lives up the street.

This part bears repeating, so I will. I intentionally, without thought or concern, drove off without my 8-year-old daughter.

When I got home, Essa was gone.

When you leave your child alone and assume that upon returning she'll be at the kitchen table coloring, in the bathroom, or en route to her room in search of a favorite book only to find she isn't anywhere she's supposed to be?

The sound of her absence is deafening.

My first thought was that Wrigley had gotten loose, so I immediately ran to the backyard and up into the scrub oak calling their names. No luck. I then jumped into my car and drove the area where we often walk our dog. Twice. Still no Essa. I came back home and searched the house, yard and scrub oak again. Nothing. I next called a monitoring company (when you adopt a dog, the shelter often puts a microchip in him so he can be returned if he's lost), with the hope Wrigley's chip could be tracked.

It couldn't. Still alone, battling the roaring silence in my house, and scared out of my mind, I started to cry, and in that state of panic, called our neighborhood security. Our security officers, in turn, contacted the county sheriff, and within five minutes, three security vehicles and two patrol cars screeched to a halt in front of my house.

In almost 13 years as a mother, I'd never, not even for a second, lost a child.

For me, the most poignant moment in that endless vacuum of time was pulling Essa's child identity card from my wallet to give to the police officer; the one you think you'll never use. She's wearing her favorite softie bunny T-shirt, a pair of puppy earrings that she begged me to let her clip on for her school picture, and a huge grin. My baby was right in front of me, only she wasn't. It was just a picture of her smiling at the world from the confines of a one-dimensional, laminated card, surrounded by information only meant to be used under the worst possible circumstances.

One officer took the card and left, and I covered my face and sobbed ... a release of emotion so guttural and deep that it felt like the entire world

had shifted beneath me, shaping itself into a self-created prison I had never, in my darkest nightmares, expected to know.

As I turned toward the house, I saw a little girl and her dog walking down the street in my peripheral view. My little girl and my dog. The confluence of emotions I felt in that moment is almost impossible to describe. Love. Relief. Incredulity.

Happiness. Disbelief. Thankfulness. Wonder. I could use a million different descriptors and never get it right.

As she approached, I saw that Essa wasn't alone. She was with the neighbor I'd left her talking to when I took Grace to school. That neighbor, who's name I don't know, who's house is somewhere up the street, who I've exchanged small talk with when I pass her walking our dogs but who's never been invited into my family's life, and who appears to be my age (which is to say, not young), thought it was OK to take my daughter for a 45-minute walk without my permission.

Even more disturbing to me, however, was that Essa thought it was OK too.

And that's why I'm telling this story. There are at least three important emotions I left out above in trying to describe how I felt when Essa came home. Anger, embarrassment and shame.

I was embarrassed to call the police when I couldn't find my daughter.

I was ashamed to admit I'd left her alone.

I was angry with the woman who took her for a walk without my permission.

I was angry with Essa for going.

But most of all, a thousand times over, on top of my conscience, through my heart and back, I was angry with myself. I'm a mother.

My primary job is to protect my children. My secondary one is to teach them. I did neither in this case.

Somehow, between raising three kids, skirting in and out of once strictly bound parameters that have loosened with time, brushing hair and trimming nails, packing healthy lunches and hiding Halloween candy, I neglected to teach Essa the many shapes a stranger can take, and that just because you recognize someone doesn't mean you can walk away with them. To her, the lady she left our house with was a nice person with a dog who she could trust. To me? That lady was, and still is, a stranger.

How could I have allowed such a huge disconnect between the two?

Once Essa was safely inside, a compassionate police officer explained that she falls within an age range of children who have a difficult time determining who a stranger really is. We all tell our children the classic "stranger danger" stories, often revolving around a creepy man at the mall who attempts to lure them into his car with candy. But what about an adult who doesn't fit that description at all? What about a person that an 8-year-old girl, who still believes in Santa and considers her favorite stuffed animals to be among some of her besties, might see as a friend just because she seems nice?

When it comes to dealing with adults, I've always taught my children to be kind, polite, and to defer to authority. I've never told them to pull back, be suspicious, say "no," or walk away. It's a gray area, but it's one that she, and every child, should better understand.

Last Friday, I set off a chain of events that ultimately resulted in the payment of a small price for lessons my entire family has now learned. You only have to turn on the news to see that I was lucky.

of interests. I especially noted the mix of in-depth stories and news briefs, both of which help to engage readers."

3rd Place—The North Scott Press, Eldridge, IA—Best local news coverage. Credit(s): Staff.

"This publication has packed plenty of news coverage within its pages. This thorough coverage is demonstrated by a solid mixture of in-depth news and feature stories, as well as photos and news briefs. Of special note is the diversity of topics covered."

Honorable Mention(s)—Wise County Messenger, Decatur, TX—March 23 and Sept. 7, Local news coverage. Credit(s): Wise County Messenger editorial staff.

BEST LOCAL NEWS COVERAGE

Daily & Non-daily Division, circulation less than 3,000

1st Place—Sangre de Cristo Chronicle, Angel Fire, NM—Sangre de Cristo Chronicle: Best local news coverage. Credit(s): Staff.

"By far my favorite, with page-after-page of local articles in a clean, well-designed package. Abundance of local photos and almost (if not completely) devoid of any canned articles. A beautiful publication representative of the Cimarron River area it serves."

2nd Place—The Ozona Stockman, Ozona, TX—The Ozona Stockman local news coverage.

"In a category dominated by exceptional local papers, none embodied the character of the traditional hometown paper better than the Ozona Stockman, where headline local news really is a sheep show champion. It just strikes me as a paper doing a great job of serving its community with the news they want and need."

3rd Place—West Point News, West Point, NE—Local news coverage. Credit(s): Staff.

"Another great example of a traditional hometown newspaper packed with local news. Too bad the nun won't get to go bear hunting."

Honorable Mention(s)—Tioga Tribune, Tioga, ND—Tioga Tribune. Credit(s): Cecile Krimm, publisher.

BEST LOCALIZED NATIONAL STORY

Daily & Non-daily Division

1st Place—Wise County Messenger, Decatur, TX—Chase Ends Here. Credit(s): Brandon Evans, Joe Duty, Jimmy Alford, Brian Knowl, Todd Griffith, Kristen Tribe.

"Fantastic reporting with thorough follow-through and clear details. The 'Anatomy of the Chase' was a great visual of the action. The follow-up stories represented solid investigation, and editorials shared the impact of the story that came to your front door. Extremely well done."

2nd Place—Port Aransas South Jetty, Port Aransas, TX—Life or death: Native Port Aransas describes terror attack in Algeria. Credit(s): Jim Dubois.

"Cobb's account of being at the center of a terrorist attack was relayed with great clarity and detail. Nice job."

3rd Place—The Fayette County Record, La Grange, TX—Local Doctor Recalls Seeing JFK The Day Before He Died. Credit(s): H.H. Howze.

"Outstanding report of a local tie to a national event. Not only

did you tell Dr. Bailey's story of seeing JFK the day before he was assassinated—you reflected superbly on the political climate of the '60s through Bailey's story. Nice job!"

BEST NEWSPAPER WEBSITE

Daily & Non-daily Division

1st Place—Hendersonville Lightning, Hendersonville, NC—HendersonvilleLightning.com.

"All of the elements of a great site are right here. Easy navigation, excellent integration of ads—which don't distract from the copy. Excellent use of photos at the top of the stories. You've used a nice balance of color and white space. The color doesn't distract, but there isn't so much white space to make it like many "clean" sites today. This gives it life. Excellent integration of social icons in the comment area. The breakout boxes look very nice with each story. Poll questions are a great way to get readers involved. Very nice photo slider in the Lightning Photos section. The top navigation featuring communities is an excellent breakout. People can easily go to the section they need, then look at what's happening around them. They don't have to look for it. Readers can also get local daily weather on any page they visit. The advertisements are not distracting and do not overshadow your content the way they do on other websites. Your mobile site is excellent—extremely easy to navigate, easy to read. Every element is clean and responsive to mobile devices. One suggestion: Increase the font on stories. It looks OK on mobile, but is a bit small and not quite dark enough on desktops or laptops."

Third Place—tie—News-Register, McMinnville, OR—NewsRegister.

com. Credit(s): Staff.

"Your site is well-organized and aesthetically pleasing. It is difficult to have that much information in a design that doesn't become too crowded. The open source blog—where readers submit news—is a great way to keep readers engaged, while getting fresh content and tips on big stories. Your digital archives works beautifully."

Third Place—tie—Lakota Country Times, Martin, SD—www.lakotacountrytimes.com.

"Excellent site! Full of information important to the community, including news, features, employment and more. Nice, clean design doesn't sacrifice color—which many do today. Very easy to navigate. Those who are not logged in still get good information from the site. Mobile and tablet versions are a must in this digital age. Great job!"

Honorable Mention(s)—The Times Leader, Wilkes-Barre, PA—www.timesleader.com. Credit(s): Staff; Vineyard Gazette, Edgartown, MA—Best newspaper website; The Pilot, Southern Pines, NC—The Pilot.com. Credit(s): Pilot Staff; The St. Louis American, Saint Louis, MO—Stlamerican.com. Credit(s): Ishmael H. Sistrunk and Kenya Vaughn.

BEST OBITUARY

Daily & Non-daily Division

1st Place—The St. Louis American, Saint Louis, MO—Final bow to Pelagie Green Wren. Credit(s): By Kenya Vaughn.

"Brevity doesn't always equate to brilliance, but when a writer has a wealth of material from which to choose, and chooses only the very best, then brevity really pays off. Here, no reader could walk away from

Six on a plane certainly beats three in a row

BY RUSSEL SKILES
Lamesa Press-Reporter
Lamesa, TX

First place, best humorous column
daily & non-daily division, circulation less than 3,000

Combined, we were about three and a half butts wide on a three-butt row of airline seats.

But that was OK. I was just glad to be on the plane.

Even though I never even saw the snow, I had to weather Lubbock's blizzard Monday in my own way.

All because of an effort to save a few hours on a trip to and from Austin.

A good flight schedule from Lubbock should have allowed me to make the trip and get back home quicker than flying out of Midland or driving.

Everything was fine when I left Sunday.

A winter storm warning already was in effect to the north, but Lubbock's forecast called for temperatures in the 40s when I'd be back Monday evening.

Of course that changed rather drastically.

Thus began a sometimes-frustrating, sometimes-comedic, trip home.

Despite what I had been hearing about the weather, the airline's website was showing my flight as "on time" when I left downtown Austin about 4 p.m.

Monday.

Same when I checked the monitors at the airport

after being chauffeured by a friend through Austin's notoriously bad traffic.

It was still listed as "on time" when I reached the gate after only partially disrobing to get through airport security.

Hopes for a quick trip home, however, took a turn when my wife called and said the Lubbock airport had been completely shut down since earlier in the afternoon.

Then the airline employee at the gate announced my flight—still listed as "on time"—would be going to Dallas instead of straight to Lubbock.

She seemed to think everybody already should have known that.

Typing and peering at her monitor, she said there was no way I would be flying into Lubbock from anywhere that evening.

And, she informed me, all flights to Lubbock on Tuesday were now booked solid as well.

But she could get me there on Wednesday!

By then I was considering renting a car for the six-hour drive to Lamesa.

Eventually, I settled on taking the flight to Dallas, where I would then choose between an early-Tuesday flight to Midland or face a somewhat shorter rental drive home.

Thus began my travel adventure.

To my surprise, only six of us boarded the flight that was now bound for Dallas.

Yes, that's right, six passengers on a 137-seat Boeing. We were outnumbered by the crew.

I got an entire row of seats to myself, and could

have had half the plane if I had wanted.

This wasn't going to be bad after all, I thought, anticipating being pampered with all the pretzels, drinks and attention I could possibly want.

Wrong!

Instead, we were informed the flight was going to be bumpy and everyone, including attendants, would stay buckled up for the short duration.

After the craft wobbled and bounced to a landing in Dallas, I tracked down the last flight to Midland that night and was put at the top of a standby list for the fully-booked flight.

One passenger—apparently an airline employee—got bumped to a rumble seat in the back of the craft but I was lucky enough to get on board.

That's when I found myself in the middle seat on the back row, sandwiched very, very firmly between two guys who each exceeded my own sizeable girth.

We three quickly became well acquainted—physically well acquainted.

The least movement rippled down the entire row.

Every bump on the flight threatened to drop the big guy on my left into the aisle, smash the slightly smaller guy on my right into the window recess, or squash me thinner than any diet could ever achieve.

Luckily, my seatmates were both pretty easy-going fellas.

And even though I was flying to a different airport, I was gonna make it home on Monday night rather than Wednesday.

The crying baby in the next row wasn't a bit of a bother.

these 15 paragraphs and fail to know dance teacher Pelagie Green when, the life she led and the people whose lives she made better. Kenya Vaughn attended the service at the funeral uncovered nothing but gems, including these quotations from those who knew Pelagie best: (1) 'She was a queen to little black girls and boys with two feet and a dream'; (2) 'We sat there with bloody toes, hair in a bun, tattered shoes, holes in your leg warmers, smiles from ear to ear'; (3) 'There were performers in the Murry chorus who didn't want to perform with her because she was black. But along with the death threats, she got letters international letters of support—including a telegram from Leontyne Price'; (4) and this imitation of Pelagie's demands, delivered by a former student: 'Make the mirror sweat, or you're not dancing hard enough. If you can't keep up, miss girl, someone else will have your job.' Finally, the last two paragraphs are perfect. I won't quote them. Please read them. Please read the whole thing."

2nd Place—Claremont Courier, Claremont, CA—Ray Collins; 'From doo-wop to Zappa, 'Village Greeter' had venerable music past. Credit(s): Sarah Torribio.

"Sarah Torribio blended excellent interviews with a thrilling chronology. By doing so, she captured a life lived so individually and unapologetically that all readers, whether they're fans of rock 'n' roll or classical music, will have at least a few moments that will cause them to say, 'I wish I could have done that.' All the anecdotes were vivid, but the one that sticks out was Scott Feemster's recalling the time he met Collins in a record store and asked Collins to wait 'so (Feemster) could get a Zappa-enthused coworker who would love to meet him. When he returned, Mr. Collins had wandered away.' That so perfectly illustrated both Collins' antipathy toward Frank Zappa and his 'wander(ing)' nature. Every reader found himself or herself looking forward to the next paragraph."

3rd Place—Hutchinson Leader, Hutchinson, MN—Tenacious, respectful' leader dies at 92. Credit(s): Terry Davis.

"What makes this stand out is that Elaine Black is a neighbor, not an elected official or otherwise titled person in the community; rather, she is a woman who made her mark by never accepting the status quo. The mention of her hometown, Sleepy Eye, in the lead was inspired, because her eyes were anything but sleepy. The specifics of her work—saving the cupola, her AFS activism, the penultimate paragraph's description of her Gibraltar-like certainty that her small

club could host the district convention—capture that 'Tenacious' streak the headline refers to. Thus, the obituary is not all platitudes, but includes real-life examples of how she pushed forward. And writer Terry Davis deserves great credit for spotting a charming oddity. Elaine, from Minnesota, and DJ, from Oklahoma, met in CA, inspiring this amusing sentence: 'The northerner and southerner who met out West completed their points of the compass link by getting married Dec. 21, 1943, out East at the Aberdeen Proving Grounds in Maryland.' (I'll give Terry a pass on labeling an Oklahoman a "southerner," but only because Minnesotans deserve some leeway, considering the weather they uncomplainingly endure.)"

Honorable Mention(s)—Door County Advocate, Sturgeon Bay, WI—On her own terms. Credit(s): Warren Bluhm, Ramelle Bintz, and Samantha Hernandez; Hendersonville Lightning, Hendersonville, NC—A mountain original passes away. Credit(s): Bill Moss.

JUDGES NOTE: This was by far my toughest judging assignment ever. Close to half of them were excellent, an extraordinary number. Any of those had the potential to be at least honorable mentions. I've never been so challenged to make decisions.

BEST ORIGINAL EDITORIAL CARTOON

Daily & Non-daily Division

1st Place—The Sun, Santa Maria, CA—Mayfield: Moonlight panga cruise. Credit(s): Ross Mayfield.

"Detail, detail, detail. Everything here works beautifully together: the menacing crew at the back of the boat, the bales (clearly of marijuana), the name of the boat, the promotional-looking text with the punch line at the end, even the clouds that accent the moon. There is a reason we call them 'cartoons': They're drawn like the funnies, but they deliver a message that is savagely fun. What also makes this entry stand out is that the color and detail refuse to allow a reader to look away. Once you're hooked, you're going to digest the message."

2nd Place—The Union, Grass Valley, CA—It takes a village idiot. Credit(s): R.L. Crabb.

"Funny, nostalgic, sarcastic. Some people too young to know the 'Burma-Shave' tale won't get it, but that's OK, not everyone has to get every attempt at commentary. Furthermore, the message shines through even if a 10-year-old sees it. The art is simple, clear and fun,

no wasted effort, but nothing left out."

Note: No Third Place awarded in this division

BEST PERFORMING ARTS STORY

Daily & Non-daily Division

1st Place—Jackson Hole News&Guide, Jackson, WY—Shimabukuro. Credit(s): Rich Anderson.

"Loved this well-written article. The reporter did his homework and did background information on not only the person he interviewed but the ukulele, too. And, he told his readers where to go on YouTube to find a video of the performer. It was great and deserved to be the leader of the pack!"

2nd Place—The Examiner, Beaumont, TX—Theatre of War. Credit(s): Kevin King.

"Well written article Writer gives the background of the book used, plus he tells what the medal is and does an outstanding interview with the actor. The article has a good flow."

3rd Place—Community Impact Newspaper—Southwest Austin Edition, Pflugerville, TX—The Austin Harmony Project Inc.. Credit(s): Kelli Weldon.

"The writer did a super job on explaining this project, which helps adults with developmental disabilities. Except for the head, reading the first few paragraphs don't show the disability, only the talent. The background is there and so is the fact a new program has been added. The sidebars are helpful as they give the meaning of developmental disabilities plus the funding for the program and a map. These help the reader understand the project."

Honorable Mention(s)—News-Register, McMinnville, OR—Works and Plays. Credit(s): Starla Pointer; Antelope Valley Press, Palmdale, CA—Party with Marty. Credit(s): Brittany McShea; The Examiner, Beaumont, TX—Teen plays harp with heart. Credit(s): Sharon Brooks.

BEST PHOTO ESSAY

Daily & Non-daily Division, circulation 12,000 or more

1st Place—The Tribeca Trib, NY, NY—Practicing to Make Perfect: The Gelsey Kirkland Ballet Academy. Credit(s): Carl Glassman.

"This essay is done to perfection—kudos to the photographer and the page designer. Wonderful variety in size and content of photos;

layout tells a real story and gives each photo room to breathe."

2nd Place—The Times Leader, Wilkes-Barre, PA—WY Valley Riverfest. Credit(s): Bill Tarutis.

"Strong mix of photos here in a pleasing design/layout—each photo is 'readable' for both content and context. The photos definitely convey the story, and the layout shows a strong hand at editing."

3rd Place—The St. Louis American, Saint Louis, MO—Back-to-school. Credit(s): Lawrence Bryant.

"Adorable and useful content in these back-to-school fashion scenes pulls this essay to the winners' circle. It's not always easy to work with younger models and still capture the context of the scene. These photos definitely convey students ready to be up-to-date and fashionable for school, but definitely doesn't pander to the topic either. The designer wisely let the photos stand as is without resorting to gimmicks. Nicely done."

Honorable Mention(s)—The Tribeca Trib, New York, NY—Inspiring: Giant Sections of WTC Antenna Arrive. Credit(s): Carl Glassman.

BEST PHOTO ESSAY

Daily & Non-daily Division, circulation 6,000-12,000

1st Place—Hood County News, Granbury, TX—Miracles and mayhem. Credit(s): Mary Vinson.

"This special section deserves all the praise it gets. As a photo essay, it is a thorough summation of the aftermath of what must have been a grueling experience. It's not just pictures of the tornado damage. It's also shots of the recovering-injured on crutches and in line; it's paramedics busy with triage and escorting survivors to safety; it's family happily reunited with their pet. The photographer went well above and beyond and really captured this event. Her pictures tell a stunning story."

2nd Place—Jackson Hole News&Guide, Jackson, WY—Butcher of Hog Island. Credit(s): Price Chambers.

"Close second. This collection of pictures benefits greatly from subject matter but captures this family-owned slaughterhouse in such an unflinching way it is immediately arresting, captivating. The moments in time are powerful—just after a slaughter and an instant before—and they are well-composed, excellent photography. Juxtaposed with the wife, slicing meat while casually phoning a

customer? Excellent work.”

3rd Place—The Wilmette Beacon, Orland Park, IL—Skytights. Credit(s): Joe Coughlin.

“Very creative, colorful work. Fireworks are tough to get—let alone with people in the same frame. Love the popcorn in mid-air, the smiles, the moments frozen. A joy to admire.”

Honorable Mention(s)—The Standard Banner, Jefferson City, TN—Old Time Saturday. Credit(s): Steve Marion and Ronnie Housley.

BEST PHOTO ESSAY

Daily & Non-daily Division, circulation 3,000-5,999

1st Place—Daily Times Herald, Carroll, IA—Kenzie’s Crash. Senior Year. Credit(s): Jared Strong.

“Good photos that show the inner beauty and strength on one young girl’s battle to get back her life. Photographer spent an inordinate amount of time and energy worthy of first place.”

2nd Place—The N’West IA REVIEW, Sheldon, IA—“Bushels of Fun at the Clay County Fair.” Credit(s): Rylan Howe.

“A picture page plus ... that captured the essence of the good old county fair. Time at the fair well spent.”

3rd Place—Westmore News, Port Chester, NY—Kindergartners mix and mingle. Credit(s): Claire K. Racine.

“Great colorful photos that captured the moment.”

Honorable Mention(s)—The Blackshear Times, Blackshear, GA—Spirit of Liberty. Credit(s): Wayne Hardy and Jason Deal; Hutchinson Leader, Hutchinson, MN—One big night out. Credit(s): Doug Hanneman; The Hinsdalean, Hinsdale, IL—Madison kids honor classmates’ mom. Credit(s): Jim Slonoff; Gasconade County Republican, Owensville, MO—WWII POW funeral. Credit(s): Dave Manner; The Edgerton Reporter, Edgerton, WI—Olson’s Mud Run offers up first-gear mud fun. Credit(s): Rachel Witrock; The Edgerton Reporter, Edgerton, WI—Rock County Fair coverage. Credit(s): Jeff Brown.

BEST PHOTO ESSAY

Daily & Non-daily Division, circulation less than 3,000

1st Place—Glenrock Independent, Douglas, WY—American girl. Credit(s): Jesse Bishop, Kasey M. Orr.

“This piece entitled ‘American Girl’ has a lede photo that just grabs readers and moves them to the inside pages that are just as powerfully presented in a story form that is the true photo essay. People still make great subjects and reflect a community in the way this piece comes across with close-ups and distance photos capturing all the celebration. It stands out among the entries as a winner.”

2nd Place—The Commercial Record, Saugatuck, MI—Beauty free. Credit(s): Scott Sullivan.

“What a clever idea for a photo essay. I had to read the description to know what the beauty was that I was looking at and smiled to know I had been pulled in with great art. This is thinking outside the box, for sure; lucky readers.”

3rd Place—News Letter Journal, Newcastle, WY—Scenic Byway. Credit(s): Amy Meneray.

“This photo essay makes a reader want to see all 78 miles and just couldn’t be a better sell on the Scenic Byway. The layout worked beautifully, and this is a great example of good art, writing and graphic designer help in putting across a beautiful piece.”

Honorable Mention(s)—The Observer, Dundee, NY—A weekend of racing action at Watkins Glen International. Credit(s): Brandon Lawson; Missouri Lawyers Weekly, St. Louis, MO—Twists, turns at Palsinelli. Credit(s): Karen Elshout; Missouri Lawyers Weekly, St. Louis, MO—SLU Law turns the page. Credit(s): Karen Elshout; Colby Free Press, Colby, KS—Fire strikes trailer park. Credit(s): Tony Pacelli and Sam Dieter; Eden Valley-Watkins Voice, Eden Valley, MN—The Last Game. Credit(s): Michael Jacobson.

BEST REVIEW

Daily & Non-daily Division

1st Place—Wyoming Tribune Eagle, Cheyenne, WY—Book turns myth on its head. Credit(s): D. Reed Eckhardt.

“A good honest review. The writer tells the good and the bad about a book that deals with a tough subject.”

2nd Place—Antelope Valley Press, Palmdale, CA—The year in television: Season of the rich. Credit(s): Aaron Campbell.

“Great way to review what is being called ‘A second golden age’ of television. Easy read, eye-catching to the reader.”

3rd Place—The Tribeca Trib, NY, NY—Marie Antoinette Theater Review. Credit(s): Juliet Hindell.

“Good review on a what looks like a fun show. Made me want to go see it.”

Honorable Mention(s)—Wyoming Tribune Eagle, Cheyenne, WY—The book of Mormon: This musical is a lot of fun. Credit(s): Josh Rhoten.

BEST SERIOUS COLUMN

Daily & Non-daily Division, circulation 12,000 or more

1st Place—Farm and Dairy, Salem, OH—I aim to be my mother’s daughter. Credit(s): Susan Crowell.

“Lovely thoughtful from the opening sentence to the powerful closing one. A great touch on a topic that is profoundly personal but which shares a universal theme. We can all identify. A wonderful tribute to family in general, and to your mother in particular.”



FIRST PLACE, best breaking news photo, non-daily division, circulation 10,000 or more

By David Normand | The Livingston Parish News, Denham Springs, LA

SHERIFF'S VALENTINE SURPRISE—Livingston Parish Sheriff Lt. Ricky Hunt (left) checks out the coat pockets of 27-year-old Robert Hartman. Deputy Seth Delaune looks over items taken out of his pockets. Acadian Ambulance medics cleaned wounds above Hartman’s right ankle made by a Livingston Parish K-9 dog when he was captured in a thick wooded area off Pendarvis Lane near Red Oak Drive. Following treatment at a local hospital, Hartman was taken to the Livingston Parish Detention Center.

2nd Place—The Times Leader, Wilkes-Barre, PA—How did this become a bridge too far gone? Credit(s): Mark Guydish.

“In well-drawn words that waste no time making his point, the writer calls attention to a crumbling bridge that could have been saved by timely action. He asks good questions that deserve answers. The accompanying photo lends greater weight to the urgency that now exists because those who could, and should, have acted were asleep at the wheel. “It is triple testimony”—a perfect summary of the evolution from landmark to looming disaster.”

3rd Place—Miami Today, Miami, FL—Stephen Ross, welcome to the Independence Day festivities. Credit(s): Michael Lewis.

“Shines the stadium lights on this opportunistic and vengeful baseball team owner, while serving up an Independence Day object lesson: Don’t let the billionaires buy our freedom and make taxpayers pay for their projects. Hope your readers left the game and flocked to the polls.”

Honorable Mention(s)—Sioux City Journal, Sioux City, IA—Soldier’s family presses on after death. Credit(s): Tim Gallagher.

BEST SERIOUS COLUMN

Daily & Non-daily Division, circulation 6,000-11,999

1st Place—Northside Sun, Jackson, MS—Kemper power plant. Credit(s): Wyatt Emmerich.

“A lot of work went into this series of columns condemning the Public Service Commission and the Southern Company for sticking a segment of MS’s residents with the \$4.5 billion tab for building a new experimental lignite plant that may well price a lot of customers right out of the market. We do not know if Mr. Emmerich’s efforts to expose these shenanigans were successful in stirring the public to take action, but they darn sure should have been. Though the columns became somewhat repetitive in the information presented, sometimes you just have to pound the same nail over and over to make the point stick. Emmerich nailed these bad boys to the wall. A great public service in the true sense of those words.”

2nd Place—Door County Advocate, Sturgeon Bay, WI—How Keta Steeb changed my life. Credit(s): Heidi Hodges.

“A lovely tribute with a light, humorous touch, beneath which lie

the quiet depths of a long friendship.”

3rd Place—Rochester Business Journal, Rochester, NY—Dufner’s double bogey. Credit(s): Paul Ericson.

“Covered a PGA Championship and brought it all home in a column that shared the experience with readers, made us feel a little bit of what it was like to be there and handed us a few applicable life lessons on the takeaway. Not a bad day’s work.”

Honorable Mention(s)—The Rostyn News, Mineola, NY—You’d Better Smile When You Call Us That. Credit(s): John Owens; Hood County News, Granbury, TX—Imperial carp and flying monkeys. Credit(s): Kathy Cruz.

BEST SERIOUS COLUMN

Daily & Non-daily Division, circulation 3,000-5,999

1st Place—The North Scott Press, Eldridge, IA—People like Charlie made King’s dream’ real. Credit(s): Bill Tubbs.

“This is a great column about a great man, a couple of them, and a great subject. Really a worthy reminiscence.”



FIRST PLACE, best breaking news photo, non-daily division, circulation 5,000 - 9,999
By Jeff Wick | The Fayette County Record, La Grange, TX

HIGH WIRE ACT—Members of the La Grange volunteer fire department assist David Harrison out of his truck as it dangles on Highway 77 in downtown La Grange. The truck is suspended by a single guy-wire attached to an electrical pole. Harrison over-corrected after making a turn and hit the wire, and the truck's momentum just kept it going up.



THIRD PLACE, best breaking news photo, non-daily division, circulation less than 5,000
By Jan Schultz | The Imperial Republican, Imperial, NE

HIGH-SPEED CHASE ENDS—Deputy Dave Ridlen, left, and Police Officer Kyle Hansen gather information from brothers Boone and Kody Huff, who were handcuffed after their vehicle slid off the highway Sunday following a high-speed chase in southeast Imperial.



FOR MORE INFORMATION

Visit www.nnaweb.org/contests-awards
or contact call
at 573-777-4980

FIRST PLACE, best breaking news photo, non-daily division, circulation less than 5,000

By Jenny Berg | Litchfield Independent Review, Litchfield, MN

BUDDY'S RESCUE—Litchfield firefighter Brian Lawver holds Buddy, a rat terrier rescued from a burning house on the north side of Litchfield around 1:15 p.m. Tuesday. Also pictured, from left to right, are Fire Chief Scott Fenner, Gary Husmann and Jamie Erekke.



FIRST PLACE, best feature photo, non-daily division, circulation 3,000 - 9,999

By David J. Olender | Douglas Budget, Douglas, WY

OH, WOW, LISTEN TO THAT—Gracie Velasquez (left) reacts to Lexie Olson's animated and excited response to the audience's applause at the Shatto School of Dance Recital at Douglas High School's auditorium Dec. 8. The recital attracted a large crowd of fans, family and friends.



FIRST PLACE, best feature photo, non-daily division, circulation less than 3,000.
By Resa Haukedahl | Tioga Tribune, Tioga, ND

LIQUID SUNSHINE—Though storm clouds seemed to blow up frequently last week, Kai Zettel of Wildrose didn't have to wait for clouds. Her brother, hose at the ready, supplied these drops.

2nd Place—The Villager, Greenwood Village, CO—What to do when your child disappears? Credit(s): Stacie Chadwick.

"Scary column about almost losing a beloved child"

3rd Place—The Hinsdalean, Hinsdale, IL—My name is Pam, I have a therapist. Credit(s): Pamela Lannom.

"Really straightforward exposition of why therapy can be a great idea, and took some courage to write it. Nice going!"

Honorable Mention(s)—Buffalo Bulletin, Buffalo, WY—Climbing out of the darkness. Credit(s): Jen Sieve-Hicks; Azle News, Azle, TX—A new Mom's Day. Credit(s): Mark K. Campbell; The LaRue County Herald News, Hodgenville, KY—Five years later, my friends help me remember. Credit(s): Linda Ireland; The Eatonton Messenger, Eatonton, GA—Serious column—"Bad," good news always part of paper. Credit(s): Ron Bridgeman; McAlester News-Capital, McAlester, OK—Why I do this. Credit(s): MJ Brickley; The Decorah Journal, Decorah, IA—Running took Johanna where she needed to go. Credit(s): Rick Fromm.

BEST SERIOUS COLUMN

Daily & Non-daily Division, circulation less than 3,000

1st Place—Moonshine Ink, Truckee, CA—Wandering Natives: Return of the Light. Credit(s): Eric Perlman.

"Great handling, facts and story of a complex culture and consequences of civic-cultural collapse."

2nd Place—Dillon Tribune, Dillon, MT—Meeting closure violates principles of open government. Credit(s): Dick Crockford.

"Good topic. Good conclusions."

3rd Place—Cedar County News, Hartington, NE—Some Things In Our Lives Are Just Out of Our Control. Credit(s): Rob Dump.

"Write a good column about a beloved pet, and you've got a winner."

Honorable Mention(s)—Winters Express, Winters, CA—Too soon to mourn the death of print journalism—weeklies still have a pulse. Credit(s): Debra DeAngelo; Lake Country Sun, Grafard, TX—Working tirelessly. Credit(s): Mark Englebretson; Hendersonville Lightning, Hendersonville, NC—Other towns would welcome such problems. Credit(s): Bill Moss; Colby Free Press, Colby, KS—Stop

debating health insurance—fix it. Credit(s): Heather Alwin.

BEST SPECIAL NEWS, SPORTS OR FEATURE SECTION OR EDITION

Daily & Non-daily Division, circulation 10,000 or more

1st Place—The Ellsworth American, Ellsworth, ME—Ellsworth 250. Credit(s): Staff.

"This was one of the best entries in a very strong category. But the overall presentation of text, ads and graphics won out. I especially liked the timeline run throughout the section, providing a valuable historical perspective for readers and the archives. Nice job by everyone."

2nd Place—Wyoming Tribune Eagle, Cheyenne, WY—2013 UW Football Preview: Winds of Change. Credit(s): Staff.

"In a very tough and competitive division, to finish in the top three is commendable. My personal checklist was checked strong for copy, photos, question-and-answer feature, coverage of the league, etc. A complete, thorough job. Sports nuts loved this, I'm sure. One of the best football preview sections I've ever seen. Congrats to all those who worked their butts off on this."

3rd Place—Wyoming Tribune Eagle, Cheyenne, WY—Frontier Days souvenir edition. Credit(s): Staff.

"In a very competitive division, this terrific souvenir program rose to the top three. It is solid in every category—copy, ads, photos, graphics, etc. I doubt if ANYTHING worthwhile to say about Frontier Days was left out. When completing my first read-through, I wrote—"Good everything." Two other entries eventually bumped you to third, but the top three were neck-and-neck. Congrats to everyone who worked on this section."

Honorable Mention(s)—The Universe, Provo, UT—Two. Credit(s): Staff; Antelope Valley Press, Palmdale, CA—Welcome. Credit(s): Staff.

BEST SPECIAL NEWS, SPORTS OR FEATURE SECTION OR EDITION

Daily & Non-daily Division, circulation 3,000-9,999

1st Place—Southwestern College Sun, Chula Vista, CA—La

Frontera's Disposable People. Credit(s): Southwestern College Sun Staff.

"The first-place award goes to some student journalists who have MADE A DIFFERENCE. You have used your talents and skills to help others, to right wrongs, to save lives, to effect change. This is journalism at its best, and should be rewarded and awarded. Congratulations to all concerned—students and teachers alike. Now go and change the world!"

2nd Place—Wise County Messenger, Decatur, TX—Welcome to Wise 2013. Credit(s): Wise County Messenger staff.

"Out of a number of entries in this division, your entry rose to near the top. A super job in all aspects—copy, photos, graphics, ads and use of color. A top-notch effort by all members of the team, and it shows. Congratulations for setting such a high standard."

3rd Place—The Holyoke Enterprise, Holyoke, CO—Holyoke's 125th anniversary edition. Credit(s): Brenda Brandt, Darci Tomky, Kyle Arnoldy, Becca Brandt, Ashley Sullivan, Jes-c Brandt, Cheryl Bryan, Joe Hall.

"Out of a number of entries in a competitive category, you earned one of the top three with your historical section. Good mix of copy, ads and graphics. Wish you had used color, too. I especially liked that you worked history into the individual ads. Great idea. A deep bow to your entire team."

Honorable Mention(s)—News-Register, McMinnville, OR—Discover Yamhill Valley. Credit(s): Staff; The Transylvania Times, Brevard, NC—Autumn 2013. Credit(s): Leigh Trapp, Derek McKissock, Skip Hirsh, Randy Rowe; Polk County Itemizer-Observer, Dallas, OR—Explore Polk County 2013. Credit(s): Staff.

BEST SPECIAL NEWS, SPORTS OR FEATURE SECTION OR EDITION

Daily & Non-daily Division, circulation less than 3,000

1st Place—Missouri Lawyers Weekly, St. Louis, MO—Women's Justice Awards. Credit(s): Staff.

"Overall good balance of copy, photos, graphics and ads. Nice commemorative section saluting women attorneys. Good inspiration and recognition: well packaged."

2nd Place—The Ark, Tiburon, CA—Home Sept. 25, 2013. Credit(s): Staff.

"Well-done overall package of copy, photos, graphics and ads. Nice use of color, too. Likely was used by many people looking to remodel. Congrats to whole staff."

3rd Place—The Times—Blooming Prairie, Blooming Prairie, MN—Best Special Section. Credit(s): Staff.

"One of the top three in this division of Special Sections. Nice balance of copy, photos and ads, saluting guardians of the community. All the mug shots brought lots of readers. Good inspiration to the community. Congrats on all the hard work."

Honorable Mention(s)—The Ozona Stockman, Ozona, TX—Hunting Guide. Credit(s): Susan Calloway.

BEST SPORTS COLUMN

Daily & Non-daily Division, circulation 6,000 or more

1st Place—Rochester Business Journal, Rochester, NY—Wilson convinced peers to do right thing. Credit(s): Scott Pitoniak.

"Superior. Column moves well and combines the sad, historic time of President Kennedy's death with how the football world did and did not handle the tragedy that weekend. Good use of quotes and historic info."

2nd Place—The Union, Grass Valley, CA—Walter Ford: Leadership is not based on anatomy. Credit(s): Walter Ford/John Hart (photographer).

"Well stated in a conversational tone, and you set out the problem, then came up with solutions. Easy read. Enjoyed it."

3rd Place—Antelope Valley Press, Palmdale, CA—Houston, AV's George has arrived. Credit(s): Brian Golden.

"Story-telling at its best. Good description, use of quotes. Ending is superb."

Honorable Mention(s)—Wyoming Tribune Eagle, Cheyenne, WY—McCart puts Burns in Motion. Credit(s): Alex Riley; Palatka Daily News, Palatka, FL—I Think I Got Shot. Credit(s): Mark Blumenthal.

BEST SPORTS COLUMN

Daily & Non-daily Division, circulation less than 6,000

1st Place—The North Scott Press, Eldridge, IA—Winners in the

happening. Crisp writing with enough detail to make this more than just a story about a game.”

BEST SPORTS STORY

Daily & Non-daily Division, circulation less than 9,000

1st Place—Polk County Itemizer-Observer, Dallas, OR—Nicole Watkins, “School of hard knocks.” Credit(s): Nicole Watkins.

“What a compelling story! Excellent writing, well researched, solid data and wide variety of sources, both document and interviews.

Quotes used well to keep flow of story going. This really brings home the national issue of concussions in sports, especially youth sports, and shows that the impact is in your community, not just on the college or pro playing fields. Tremendous human interest and reader appeal to this story. The graphics and sidebar information add greatly to the presentation and comprehension of the large amount of information contained in the story. Outstanding.”

2nd Place—The Bernardville News, Bernardville, NJ—Better than perfect: Ridge High football team undefeated. Credit(s): Kelly Fenton.

“Comprehensive story with a supporting sidebar story. Winning a state championship carries with it natural reader appeal and human interest. This story achieves more than being an exciting account of winning the title game; the writer does a commendable job of providing information on how and why the team was undefeated and winner of the state title. Well written with insight from both players and coaches. Adding to the presentation is the sidebar providing an interesting look at a part of the team that often does not receive as much attention or credit as it probably should—the offensive line. Good work. Sometimes, stories just end, but this one has a memorable quote as the story wrap-up: “We kept our heads small, but our dreams big.”

3rd Place—Leelanau Enterprise, Lake Leelanau, MI—A night to remember... Lakers rally. Credit(s): Mike Spencer.

“The writer nabs the readers’ attention immediately and then leads them through the final seven seconds of drama that led to an overtime victory. Nice use of mingling quotes in with second-by-second account of the closing action. Remainder of story holds together well, and the thrill-of-victory theme clearly has strong reader appeal and human interest. Last-second victory is one of the attractive elements of sports, and this story does a good job of capturing that moment.”

Honorable Mention(s)—Leelanau Enterprise, Lake Leelanau, MI—Suttons Bay girls softball. Credit(s): Mike Spencer; The Hinsdalean, Hinsdale, IL—Seventh-grader makes an altruistic assist. Credit(s): Ken Knutson.

BEST USE OF COLOR

Daily & Non-daily Division

1st Place—Wyoming Tribune Eagle, Cheyenne, WY—Wyoming Tribune Eagle June 8 & Aug. 21. Credit(s): Staff.

“This entry demonstrates how to use color effectively, even when there is a lot of it. Color is represented in photos, headlines and text boxes. The overall effect draws the reader into the publication.”

2nd Place—The N’West IA REVIEW, Sheldon, IA—Best Use of Color. Credit(s): Staff.

“Crisp and clear color provides an immediate draw for the reader. Good use of balance for a professional effect.”

3rd Place—The Livingston Parish News, Denham Springs, LA—March 21, September 26. Credit(s): Staff.

“Dynamic color provides multiple entry points for the reader. Overall effect is crisp and clean with color providing just the right touch.”

Honorable Mention(s)—Arizona Capitol Times, Phoenix, AZ—Arizona Capitol Times—Best use of color.

BEST USE OF PHOTOGRAPHS

Daily & Non-daily Division

1st Place—The Allegan County News, Allegan, MI—Use of photographs.

“Makes the other contestants pale in comparison. Very talented staff.”

2nd Place—The North Scott Press, Eldridge, IA—Best use of photos. Credit(s): Staff.

“Good fire photos.”

3rd Place—Claremont Courier, Claremont, CA—Claremont Courier newspaper. Credit(s): Kathryn Dunn, Steven Felschundneff. “Love the portraiture shots! Color shots are good when used and black and white shots add charm. Obvious grasp of a camera and layout!”

Honorable Mention(s)—Vilas County News-Review, Eagle River, WI—Best use of photos/two full papers. Credit(s): staff.

BEST WEEKEND EDITION

Daily & Non-daily Division

1st Place—Sioux City Journal, Sioux City, IA—Best weekend edition. Credit(s): Journal staff.

“Easily a top choice. Other people need to take lessons from you!”

2nd Place—Antelope Valley Press, Palmdale, CA—AV Parks, AV

community Concerts. Credit(s): Staff.

“Too tight; need a little more air between stories and pics. More dominant pics would make this a top placer.”

3rd Place—Wyoming Tribune Eagle, Cheyenne, WY—Wyoming Tribune Eagle—March 10 & October 6. Credit(s): Staff.

“Do not like blue and red headlines, but places third in good color photographs and very unique layout.”

Honorable Mention(s)—Wise County Messenger, Decatur, TX—March 23 and Oct. 19. Credit(s): Wise County Messenger staff.

COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

Daily & Non-daily Division

1st Place—The St. Louis American, Saint Louis, MO—St. Louis American Foundation.

“This is a really tough category because civic-minded newspapers are involved in worthy community causes from coast to coast.

Newspapers by definition provide community service with diligent coverage of events in their communities. Certainly every entrant in this category went well above the norm for its community, so I had to look for something apart from a newspaper just doing a really great job. With that in mind, I could not ignore the \$300,000 in scholarships provided by the St. Louis American. Not content to just build newspapers, the American is obviously dedicated to investing in the future of its community and journalism for generations to come.”

2nd Place—The Ellsworth American, Ellsworth, ME—Ellsworth 250. Credit(s): Staff.

“The 68-page section celebrating Ellsworth’s 250th anniversary is a historical document that members of the community will treasure for generations. The newspaper went above and beyond to celebrate not just the anniversary, but 250 years leading up to it. Well done.”

3rd Place—Vilas County News-Review, Eagle River, WI—Warm The Children-Community service. Credit(s): Staff.

“I can think of no better community service than to clothe children, a cause this newspaper staff undertakes with minimal fanfare for their publication, raising \$65,000 helping to warm 550 youth.”

Honorable Mention(s)—The Galena Gazette, Galena, IL—Honor Flight. Credit(s): Hillary Dickerson and Paul Gothard.

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION

Daily & Non-daily Division

1st Place—Wyoming Tribune Eagle, Cheyenne, WY—Series of stories/editorials on UW public openness. Credit(s): Staff.

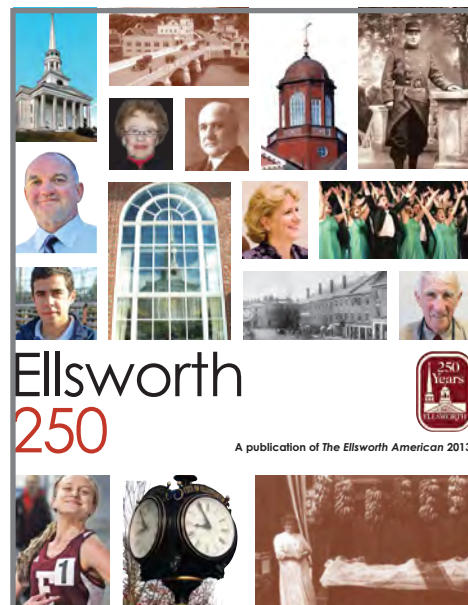
“This was a difficult category to judge, as all of the entries showed a commitment to the public’s right to know about the public’s business. Each newspaper should be acknowledged for its efforts to shine a light on the public process and to stand up for the public’s right to information. The Eagle did an exceptional job in reporting this egregious violation of the open meeting laws and should be held up as an example to publications of any size to stand up for the public’s right to public information despite the unfavorable response from fellow newspapers and efforts to thwart the public’s rights by the state legislature. This is a fight that is far from over.”

2nd Place—Arizona Capitol Times, Phoenix, AZ—Arizona Capitol Times—FOI. Credit(s): Evan Wyloge and Hank Stephenson.

“The staff of the Capitol Times should be commended for the depth of the reporting put into this series and the use of public records to gather information about lobbying activities in the state of AZ.”

Honorable Mention(s)—The Clarendon Enterprise, Clarendon, TX—Clarendon Enterprise FOI contest entry. Credit(s): Roger Estlack.

SEE GENEX PAGE B17



FIRST PLACE, best multiple advertiser section, daily & non-daily division, circulation 10,000 or more Ellsworth American, Ellsworth, ME

County has gone gun crazy

The McLeod County Board went too far Tuesday when it approved an ill-conceived resolution to protect Second Amendment rights

**BY BRENT SCHACHERER & DOUG HANNEMAN
Hutchinson Leader
Hutchinson, MN**

First place, best editorial daily & non-daily division, circulation 3,000 - 5,999

Judging by the way the McLeod County Board voted on Tuesday, you’d think a swarm of black helicopters was on its way here from Washington, D.C, to seize guns from every God-fearing, law-abiding citizen.

Over the advice of County Attorney Mike Junge, the board voted 3-2 to uphold the Second Amendment

to the U.S. Constitution—and render any federal law or rule related to it invalid.

We can’t help but think that the resolution’s approval was merely symbolic. It amounted to nothing more than ceremonial blather:

The problem, of course, is that the resolution overstepped the board’s statutory duties.

And as for enforcing federal laws relating to the Second Amendment, that responsibility falls upon every law enforcement agency in McLeod County, including the sheriff’s office.

Nothing in the board’s resolution appears to affect state gun control laws, so there appears to be a layer of protection to keep felons from owning any type of firearm they want. And state firearm registration will continue.

Yet the spirit of the resolution is worrisome. Our peace officers are sworn to uphold all laws of the land, not just those that the County Board deems relevant. Now that our county has taken a renegade approach to gun control, federal laws mean nothing, at least in theory.

Imagine if the County Board approached the First Amendment as literally as it seemingly has approached the Second Amendment.

Under a strict, literal interpretation

of the First Amendment, all freedom of speech would be protected. We’d all be able to shout “Fire!” in a crowded theater, make verbal threats to anyone, even disclose national security secrets to foreign governments.

Because the First Amendment protects freedom of the press, child pornography would be legal.

Because the First Amendment protects the way we worship, religions that practice polygamy and all kinds of weird animal sacrifices would be tolerated.

Our right to assemble would also be protected at all costs, allowing



protesters to gather anywhere at any time, even if it threatened public safety.

Sounds like anarchy, right?

That’s why federal and state laws are needed—to provide the proper framework for our constitutional rights.

The majority of the McLeod County Board lost its collective noodle last week. We commend Commissioner Paul Wright and Kermit Terlinden for recognizing the difference between right and wrong, and reality and fiction.

Being that the County Board seems so zealous to defend the Second Amendment, might it be just as willing to protect our constitution’s 27 other amendments?

Don’t bet on it.

The folks who brought us this charade of democracy are mainly concerned about protecting citizens’ right to bear arms. Many county residents will recognize that as a noble goal. But by acting fanatically, the County Board over-reached—to the point of embarrassment.



SECOND PLACE, best sports photo, non-daily division, circulation 10,000 or more
By Bill Battle | The Washington Missourian, Washington, MO

WINNING MOMENT—Hermann players, from left, Jamie Gleeson, Emilie Diebal, Kali Stiers, Tesla Ruediger, Sydnee Pate and Kirsten Leimkeuhler celebrate scoring the winning point against St. Pius X (Festus) in the Class 2 championship match Saturday in at the Show-Me Center in Cape Girardeau. It was Hermann's record-setting 12th championship.

GENERAL EXCELLENCE

Daily Division

2nd Place—Sioux City Journal, Sioux City, IA. Credit(s): Staff.
"Very close call. Outstanding design, effective editorial page. Good local coverage with good mix of national. Good photography."
3rd Place—Wyoming Tribune Eagle, Cheyenne, WY. Credit(s): Staff.
"This one breaks a lot of 'rules,' which I found to be offensive at first blush. But it grew on me rather quickly. It's time for us all to be breaking some 'rules' to appeal to a wider audience. Good local sports coverage and local editorial appeal. Some of the best work with ads."

Honorable Mention(s)—The Times Leader, Wilkes-Barre, PA, Credit(s): Staff
"No shame here. A quality product in a field where all were good."

GENERAL EXCELLENCE

Non-daily Division, circulation 10,000 or more

1st Place—The Taos News, Taos, NM. Credit(s): Ad Production.
"The Taos News is by far the best paper in its circulation class in the nation. Solid reporting, great photography and compelling design make it a standout. We need more papers like this."

2nd Place—The Ellsworth American, Ellsworth, ME. Credit: Staff.
"This paper screams local. Great job covering all facets of your community. We can't help but think that readers must spend hours with this paper every week. It's packed with news."

3rd Place—Cape Gazette, Lewes, DE. Credit(s): Staff.
"This is a strong community newspaper, with solid reporting, good photography design and a vibrant editorial page. Readers certainly aren't afraid to speak their minds in your town!"

Honorable Mention(s)—Wilson County News, Floresville, TX. Credit(s): Taryn Smith-Morales.

"Wonderful paper. Puts a premium on publishing as many faces and names as possible, as a solid community newspaper should."

GENERAL EXCELLENCE

Non-daily Division, circulation 6,000 - 9,999

1st Place—Jackson Hole News&Guide, Jackson, WY. Credit(s): Staff.
"Exceptionally well written local stories, and a lot of them. Clean layout. Magnificent looking ads. House ads well conceived. Overall a masterful job."

2nd Place—The Southampton Press - Eastern Edition, Southampton, NY. Credit(s): Staff.
"Beautiful photography and masterful treatment. Strong design. Clean layout. Well written. Lots of local stories well told."

3rd Place—News-Register, McMinnville, OR. Credit(s): Staff.
"Good writing. Nice arrest and citation treatment."

Honorable Mention(s)—Sierra Vista Herald, Sierra Vista, AZ. "Well written."

GENERAL EXCELLENCE

Non-daily Division, circulation 3,000 - 5,999

1st Place—The N'West Iowa REVIEW, Sheldon, IA. Credit(s): Staff.
"What an awesome total package publication—loaded with great photos, solid news stories, interesting features, amazing sports coverage and advertising galore! The overall layout and design of this publication is rock solid. What set this paper apart is the amount of color utilized throughout the pages and how it is used. Outstanding work in all aspects of the newspaper. Readers should be proud to have this as their weekly newspaper!"

2nd Place—Hutchinson Leader, Hutchinson, MN. Credit(s): Staff.
"This is another great publication. The layout and design is exceptionally strong, especially on the front pages. Nice use of white space and there is a good flow throughout the entire paper. The photography is exceptional with various angles utilized (love the shot taken from the floor). Strong local news coverage with a nice balance of news, sports and features."

3rd Place—Buffalo Bulletin, Buffalo, WY. Credit(s): Staff.

"Excellent photography makes this paper stand out from most others. I love the muddy pig photos. What a sloppy mess! Great use of white space throughout the publication. Creativity is utilized in layout and design, i.e., use of headline in photo. The advertising is also excellent. The bank ad with the frazzled man is a keeper! Great work by all makes this a top-notch paper."

Honorable Mention(s)—Wise County Messenger, Decatur, TX.
"There are many components to this newspaper that makes it stand out above many others. The photography is exceptional. I especially love the creepy photos. Nice catchy headlines throughout. Another aspect that made this paper stand out was the 'Shooting from the Heart' story."

GENERAL EXCELLENCE

Non-daily Division, circulation less than 3,000

1st Place—Litchfield Independent Review, Litchfield, MN. Credit(s): Staff.

"Nice layouts that allow plenty of breathing room on the pages, even with the grey boxes behind certain (something I normally stay away from, but executed great here). Beautiful typography, particularly in page headers and all the headlines. Great Op/Ed pages that lead the eye around. Good use of photos, though I would like to see more utilization of dominants and secondaries. Great Classifieds that lead the eye around the page. 'Back Then' page is very nice and well."

2nd Place—Sangre de Cristo Chronicle, Angel Fire, NM. Credit(s): Staff.

"Great use of photos, particularly all the mug shots of community members. Easy on the eyes layout, though points off for all headline being the same point size, there seemed to be no singular story on which to focus. Community calendars were beautiful, particularly the added touch of colors per community. Great typography. Don't

be afraid photo-wise to let a dominant shine and a secondary to complement. Good job!"

3rd Place—The Ark, Tiburon, CA. Credit(s): Staff.

"Lots of breathing room on front page, but maybe just a tad too cluttered; all the headlines seemed the same size, so I never got a sense of what was really important. Good typography, though the column widths seemed a bit wide, leading to distressed eyes running left to right. Your crowning jewel, though? The Arts section. If I had to vote on that alone, you would be the clear winner. These are beautiful."

Honorable Mention(s)—The Imperial Republican, Imperial, NE.
"Good use of photos on nearly every page, great graphic bugs, nice Op/Ed page with lots of breathing room."

The Ozona Stockman, Ozona, TX.
"Beautiful Op/Ed page, lots of breathing room throughout. Nice classifieds."

GENERAL EXCELLENCE

College Division, Daily & Non-daily Division

1st Place—Southwestern College Sun, Chula Vista, CA.

"I judged BYU first and awarded strong grades throughout. Then I read the Sun's entries and had to adjust my scoring sheet. The Sun deserves the highest grades. The Sun is strong throughout. It's a joy to read and to look at, offering a lot to readers. Good use of photos, great features, strong news coverage, expansive opinion and campus pages—I really like the job this staff does."

2nd Place—The Universe, Provo, UT.

"The BYU Universe staff is doing an excellent job. There's good campus reporting and excellent sports coverage, and it's a really pleasure to look at. The weakest section is the editorial page, so focus some effort making improvements there."

Better Newspaper Advertising Contest

BEST ADVERTISING IDEA

Daily & Non-daily Division, circulation 10,000 or more

1st Place—Vineyard Gazette, Edgartown, MA—Best Advertising Idea—Truck.

"Very eye catching. Simple, yet creative."

Note: No Second or Third places awarded in this division.

BEST ADVERTISING IDEA

Daily & Non-daily Division, circulation less than 10,000

1st Place—The Blackshear Times, Blackshear, GA—South GA Endoscopy Center Inc.

"A great message captured beautifully in a black and white ad. An important subject was delivered in heartwarming fashion. Great images frame wonderfully, but simple text. I imagine a lot of people getting off their butts and getting screened. Bravo."

2nd Place—Mount Desert Islander, Bar Harbor, ME—Shop Local. Credit(s): Staff.

"This is a strong ad providing support for the local business community. Including the number of employees and the year established is a nice touch."

3rd Place—The N'West Iowa REVIEW, Sheldon, IA—Saturday, March 16, 2013—End the Season Sale.

"Good self-promotion, but the ad was too busy with competing type fonts and sizes."

Honorable Mention(s)—The Ozona Stockman, Ozona, TX—An Evening on the Town. Credit(s): Susan Calloway.

BEST CLASSIFIED SECTION

Daily & Non-daily Division

1st Place—The N'West Iowa REVIEW, Sheldon, IA—The N'West Iowa REVIEW—Classified section.

"Great flow in these classifieds: your eye really moves around the page. Each display ad stands out on it's own, and somehow leads your eye to look at even the line ads. Great job! Definitely going to steal the ideas here"

2nd Place—Antelope Valley Press, Palmdale,

CA—Hot Classifieds.

"Close second, nice car listings (how in the WORLD do you guys get so many?), though a bit distracting with the reverse type. "Service Call" is a great addition to the Classifieds, especially the full color. Great overall flow. Fantastic job!"

3rd Place—Sierra Vista Herald, Sierra Vista, AZ—Best classified section May 3-5, 2013. Credit(s): Nancy Bernard and Maggie Saunders.

"Another close call in this one. Nice Real Estate ads, great graphic elements in the headers."

Honorable Mention(s)—Brentwood Press, Brentwood, CA—Classified section.

BEST MULTIPLE ADVERTISER SECTION

Daily & Non-daily Division, circulation 10,000 or more

1st Place—The Ellsworth American, Ellsworth, ME—Ellsworth 250. Credit(s): Staff.

"Outstanding! The use of historical materials, mixed with informative articles and eye-catching ads made this section a winner."

2nd Place—The St. Louis American, Saint Louis, MO—85th Anniversary.

"Beautiful tribute!"

3rd Place—Palatka Daily News, Palatka, FL—Putnam—2013 Visitor and Newcomer Guide.

Credit(s): Staff.

"Beautiful piece. Love the photography and creative design!"

Honorable Mention(s)—The Transylvania Times, Brevard, NC—Valentines Promotion Collaborative Ad.

Credit(s): Leigh Trapp; The Taos News, Taos, NM—Our Land, Our Water, Our Livelihoods. Credit(s): Julie Osmani;

The Taos News, Taos, NM—Taos Map, Enchanted Circle Map. Credit(s): Julie Osmani;

The Edgerton Reporter, Edgerton, WI—Edgerton Sterling North Book and Film Festival Program—Sept., 2013.

Credit(s): Diane Everson; The Edgerton Reporter, Edgerton, WI—Annual Lakes Edition. Credit(s): Diane Everson.

BEST MULTIPLE ADVERTISER SECTION

Non-daily Division, circulation 5,000-9,999

1st Place—The N'West Iowa REVIEW, Sheldon, IA—Orab State Champs!

"Having a state champs sporting team is good luck, but making a winning section of the chance is no sure win! THIS section was a slam dunk with great local content, great ad support, beautiful page-craft. Really well conceived and executed—this section WINS!"

2nd Place—The Galena Gazette, Galena, IL—Galena Gazette Fire Department section. Credit(s): Gazette Advertising department.

"Plenty of positives on all fronts with ad support, community building, lots of local flavor, names and faces, etc! Every community newspaper should be doing one of these, whether the fire department is volunteer or not."

3rd Place—Sullivan County Democrat, Callicoon, NY—Jeff Bank 100th. Credit(s): Staff.

"Very tastefully and artfully executed: informative and beautiful. Ads and content match the occasion and set the tone."

Honorable Mention(s)—Hood County News, Granbury, TX—Great Christmas Giveaway.

BEST MULTIPLE ADVERTISER SECTION

Non-daily Division, circulation less than 5,000

1st Place—The Valley Reporter, Waitsfield, VT—Annual Beer, Wine, Cheese and Specialty Foods.

Credit(s): Jeff Knight.

"Absolutely outstanding! The use of color: the interesting, informative editorial copy: and the smart, eye-catching ads add up to make this a phenomenal piece. Bravo!"

2nd Place—The Holyoke Enterprise, Holyoke, CO—City's 125th anniversary edition. Credit(s): Darci Tomky, Brenda Brandt.

"Fabulous section! Love the use of b/w to create an "old time" feeling, as well as the creative ads in the piece. Well done!"

3rd Place—The Edgerton Reporter, Edgerton, WI—Tobacco Heritage Days. Credit(s): Edgerton Reporter staff.

"Fabulous piece. Full of historical photos, information and advertisements!"

Honorable Mention(s)—Mount Desert Islander, Bar Harbor, ME—Out & About. Credit(s): Staff; The Valley Reporter, Waitsfield, VT—Annual Home and Garden Edition. Credit(s): Jeff Knight.

BEST NEWSPAPER PROMOTION

Daily & Non-daily Division, circulation 10,000 or more

1st Place—The Taos News, Taos, NM—The Taos News. Credit(s): Jennifer Taphorn.

"These ads are very eye pleasing and interesting. They caught my eye right away with the graphics and make me want to pick up a copy. The graphic designer is very creative and an asset to your organization."

2nd Place—The Taos News, Taos, NM—Unsung Hero 2012. Credit(s): Jennifer Taphorn.

"What a great idea and tribute to honor 'unsung heroes.' The ads for the promotion were clean, easy to read, and used nice photographs. I imagine readers couldn't wait to see who was next. One thing I would have liked to see is a teaser line under the person's name saying a little something about them. Regardless, I still want to pick up a copy and read about them!"

3rd Place—The Ellsworth American, Ellsworth, ME—Meet Our Subscribers. Credit(s): Staff.

"What a great idea to use your subscribers in ads to promote your newspaper. I might 'borrow' this idea! I love the way you tell a little about the subscriber in the ad and use a quote from them. Also, very nice photos. I bet this is a very popular promotion for your newspaper."

Honorable Mention(s)—Antelope Valley Press, Palmdale, CA—Newspaper readership promotion.

BEST NEWSPAPER PROMOTION

Daily & Non-daily Division, circulation less than 10,000

1st Place—Wise County Messenger, Decatur, TX—Keeping You Informed. Credit(s): Todd Griffith.

"Cool and creative. Looks awesome. Very good."

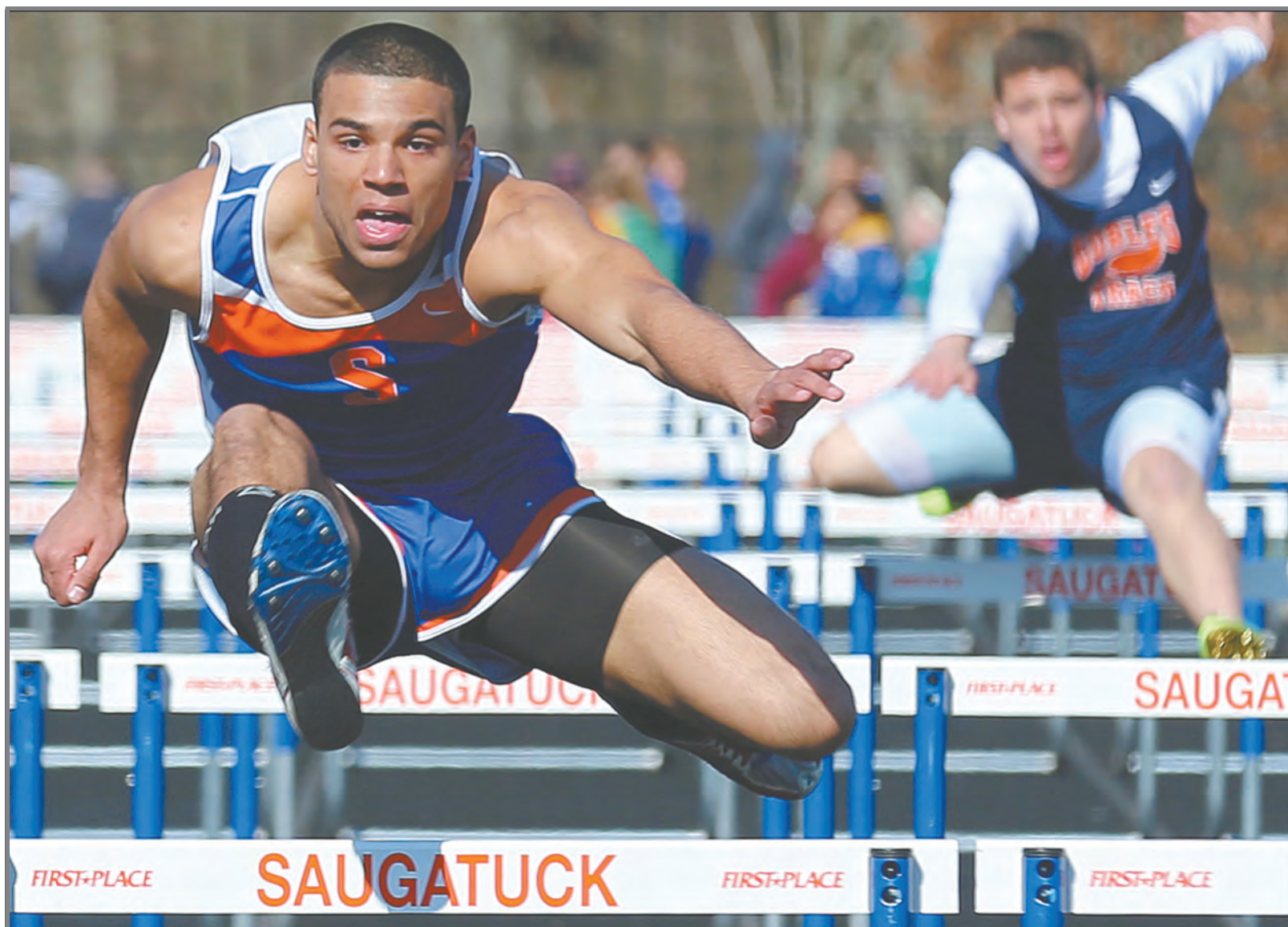
2nd Place—Bellevue Herald-Leader, Bellevue, IA—"Ask Scoop." Credit(s): Kim Galloway.

"Creative and fun. Excellent use of employees!"

3rd Place—Wise County Messenger, Decatur, TX—Missing. Credit(s): Todd Griffith.

"Great series. Nice to have similar theme with different looks."

Honorable Mention(s)—The Hinsdalean, Hinsdale, IL—Various house ads and columns. Credit(s): Pam Lannom, Jim Stonoff.



FIRST PLACE, best sports photo, non-daily division, circulation less than 3,000
By Scott Sullivan
The Commercial Record
Saugatuck, MI

HURDLES—Saugatuck's Tannon Perry clears a hurdle during the Indian's dual meet with Martin and Gobles on Wednesday, April 24.

People like Charlie made King's 'dream' real

BY BILL TUBBS
The North Scott Press
Eldridge, IA

First place, best serious column
daily & non-daily division, circulation 3,000 - 5,999

I have a dream that one day this nation will rise up and live out the true meaning of its creed. We hold these truths to be self-evident that all men are created equal.

I have a dream that one day that out in the red hills of Georgia, the sons of former slaves and the sons of former slave owners will be able to sit together at the table of brotherhood.

I have a dream today that one day even the state of Mississippi, a state sweltering with the heat of oppression, will be transformed into an oasis of freedom and justice.

I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character.

I have a dream today.

—Martin Luther King Jr.
March on Washington, Aug. 28, 1963

Less than three weeks after Martin Luther King Jr.'s soaring "I have a dream" speech was delivered to a national audience in Washington, D.C.—50 years ago today—hoodlums detonated a bomb at the 16th Street Baptist Church in Birmingham, Ala., killing four innocent school-age African-American girls.

That act of racially motivated terrorism exposed the nation to the evil of forced segregation and speeded the civil rights movement that led to laws ensuring equal access to public accommodations, employment, housing and voting, among others.

Another important event happened on the day of the Birmingham church bombing—Sunday, Sept. 15, 1963—and I learned about it from a friend I traveled with while doing polio immunizations with Rotary in India last year.

His name is Charlie Doster, and he is an 86-year-old lawyer in Anniston, Ala., a small industrial city between Birmingham and Atlanta.

Charlie was in the midst of his own civil rights fight.

During our time together in India, I found him to be a remarkable man of great intelligence, humanity and Southern charm, and we established an immediate friendship. When I learned

that he was a lawyer in the Deep South during the restless 1960s, I kidded him, "So, are you the Atticus Finch of your town?" (Atticus Finch was the Gregory Peck character, the courageous lawyer who defended the falsely accused black man in the movie version of Harper Lee's novel, "To Kill A Mockingbird.") Charlie's humility oozed as he shook his head and said, "Naw!" Later, however, during a long car ride, he opened up and started telling his story of how he had tried to integrate the public library in Anniston on that very afternoon—Sept. 15, 1963—and I listened with amazement and awe.

Charlie was chair of the library trustees at that time in this deeply segregated city, and he and the board decided that every citizen ought to be able to use the library. The fact that blacks could not use the library that their taxes paid for is hard to believe, but that's how it was with everything.

Blacks were judged inferior in every way and were denied equal access to schools, churches, parks, busses, hospitals and all the public facilities that we take for granted.

So it was a bold move by Charlie and the trustees to think that the black Baptist minister and the black Methodist minister could quietly enter the library and check out a book on that Sunday afternoon.

Their plan failed miserably when the two men were ambushed and beaten, one of them almost to death! "They were beaten with clubs, sticks and chains and shot twice.

Once it got out of hand, it was a nightmare! And they were turned away when they were taken to the hospital!" Charlie said.

Looking back, he said the library trustees miscalculated.

"We shouldn't have done it on a Sunday," he said. "That's when the hoodlums (KKK) had nothing else to do."

Even the safety of Charlie, who was part of the white leadership, was at risk. "They told me, 'Don't crank your car without checking (for bombs).'"

The trustees held secret meetings that night and received phone calls from President John F. Kennedy and U.S. Attorney

General Robert Kennedy. They decided to repeat the attempt on Monday. The minister who was NOT near death was joined by a Jewish woman in defiance of the prejudice against HER people.



Charlie Doster
A leader for integration in Alabama.

They were led by a police escort with guns, and the plan succeeded. "The troublemakers were there, but they didn't want to get shot," Charlie said.

The black preacher and the Jewish woman checked out their books, and inch by inch to this day, Anniston has become integrated.

"The biggest change in my lifetime has been the change in racial attitudes," said Charlie, observing that positive interaction between the races is now a way of life in Anniston.

He added, almost as a footnote, that, "By the way—a book has been written about it!"

Holy smokes! I'm thinking, here I am in India, half a world away, having a personal conversation with a man whose good humor, integrity and courage truly DID make a difference in the civil rights movement! Rotary truly does bring us in contact with some extraordinary people!

The book, "Beyond the Burning Bus: The Civil Rights Revolution in a Southern Town," was written by the Rev. J. Phillips Noble.

He was the Presbyterian pastor in Anniston and chaired the city's biracial Human Rights Commission—a group that was blasted by the racist Alabama Gov. George Wallace, who threatened to withhold state funds for city projects—but which paved the way for the changes that would come.

The title of the book, "Beyond the Burning Bus," referenced a bus carrying Freedom Riders that was firebombed by the Ku Klux Klan just outside of Anniston in 1961. So Anniston truly WAS a hotbed of racism—and Charlie was on the cutting edge of change.

This past weekend, in a phone conversation, I asked Charlie how King's "dream" speech was received in Anniston. "They (whites) were horrified. They figured that just couldn't be," he said. "But they

approve of it today."

Fifty years later, we are sorting things out in Iowa, too.

I'd like to think that we never had racial prejudice, but that's not true. Even though we can boast that we outlawed slavery in 1839, lifted the ban on interracial marriages in 1851, recognized blacks as equals under the law in 1857 and ensured equal access to education in 1868, my late father, Ed Tubbs, heard stories of KKK crossburnings near his hometown of Elwood—just 30 miles from here—when he was a boy in the 1920s.

When Linda and I moved to Eldridge in 1971, the population was 1,535, and there were hardly any minorities.

Forty years later, in the 2010 census, the population was 5,651 and 181 were non-white. That's a change from the past, but less integrated than in the metro areas and more integrated than in the smaller towns and rural areas.

I hope I am not being delusional about this, but it seems that race is less an issue today than in 1971.

Certainly it appears not to be an issue for the children. In our walks around Eldridge, Linda and I see boys and girls of various races and nationalities doing things together and enjoying one another's friendship, and we think nothing of it—which is as it should be.

So Charlie's observation is probably correct—the change in attitudes toward race has been huge. The racial jokes we laughed at as children no longer seem funny, and people that we see in our daily living are of all races, nationalities and colors: my across-the-street neighbors, the athletes on our sports teams, the doctor who administered anesthesia for a surgery I had last week, the people who prepare this newspaper for the printing press, and the list could go on.

This is progress, but we have not fully arrived. Sunday morning church hour remains the most segregated time of the week. And while 2 percent of Iowa's population is black, 24 percent of inmates in Iowa prisons are black.

Why?

We'll keep striving for answers to these and other questions, but this week, let's celebrate the 50th anniversary of Dr. King's historic speech—and the courage of people like my friend, Charlie Doster, who put it into action.

That fateful day—Sept. 15, 1963—is seared in Charlie's memory 50 days years later. "I think about it every day," he said.

As for greatness, he demurs. "Some people are born great, some achieve greatness, and others have greatness thrust upon them.

"But somehow, integration has come to us, and it will be forever."

And they all said, "Amen!"

'CHARLIE WAS CHAIR OF the library trustees at that time in this deeply segregated city, and he and the board decided that every citizen ought to be able to use the library. The fact that blacks could not use the library that their taxes paid for is hard to believe, but that's how it was with everything.'

BEST PUBLIC NOTICE SECTION

Daily & Non-daily Division

1st Place—Mount Desert Islander, Bar Harbor, ME—Public notice. Credit(s): Staff.

“Use of boxes and reverse/benday heads help make the page look organized.”

2nd Place—Daily Washington Law Reporter, Baltimore, MD—Public notices.

“Nicely presented and organized. Easy to read.”

3rd Place—Sierra Vista Herald, Sierra Vista, AZ—Public notices. Credit(s): Composing/Classified Department.

“Color banner and left-hand listing make it easier to find notices.”

Honorable Mention(s)—Wise County Messenger, Decatur, TX—Where sex offenders reside. Credit(s): Todd Griffith.

BEST SALES PROMOTION SECTION OR EDITION

Daily Division

1st Place—The Daily Herald, Roanoke Rapids, NC—Prospectus Magazine. Credit(s): Multiple staff members.

“Dynamic and nicely put together. Articles have their own look and feel for each. Great magazine. Not a newspaper feel in a magazine format.”

2nd Place—Sierra Vista Herald, Sierra Vista, AZ—Back to School 2013-2014.

“Nicely done and well organized. The listings, etc., are easy to read and understand. Great people photos in the articles. Overall, really good design. The black & white sections could have used a dash of color but worked well on the whole.”

3rd Place—Sierra Vista Herald, Sierra Vista, AZ—Women In Business. Credit(s): Maggie Saunders & Sierra Vista Herald Editorial staff.

“Fresh and fun design. A variety of content. Loved ‘Hit List: Songs about Women in Business.’ A nice section.”

Honorable Mention(s)—Sierra Vista Herald, Sierra Vista, AZ—Sonoita 2013 Business Directory. Credit(s):

Maggie Saunders & Jennifer Parr.

BEST SALES PROMOTION SECTION OR EDITION

Non-daily Division, circulation 10,000 or more

1st Place—The Taos News, Taos, NM—Taos Gallery Guide 2013. Credit(s): Jennifer Taphorn.

“What a beautiful gallery guide! The artwork on the cover drew me in right away. The ads are well designed and use some great color. The layout of the guide is exceptional with the stories incorporated in an artistic manner. I imagine the advertisers were very pleased with this guide. Well done!”

2nd Place—The Taos News, Taos, NM—Taos Visitor & Newcomer Guide, Summer/Fall 2013. Credit(s): Jennifer Taphorn.

“Another great entry from this newspaper. This was a classy guide, beginning on the cover with a great photo, to all the ads, which were tastefully done, and then throwing in some interesting information throughout. A quality piece, well designed.”

3rd Place—The Taos News, Taos, NM—Taos Visitor & Newcomer Guide, Winter/Spring 2014. Credit(s): Sally Brooks.

“Hard to choose between second and third—both entries are very nice. On this one, I absolutely love the photo on the cover. The ads are clean and well designed, along with the interesting way information and stories are laid out in the guide. Another nice job!”

Honorable Mention(s)—The Ellsworth American, Ellsworth, ME—August In Ellsworth. Credit(s): Staff; Palatka Daily News, Palatka, FL—2013 Gift Guide. Credit(s): Staff.

BEST SALES PROMOTION SECTION OR EDITION

Non-daily Division, circulation less than 10,000

1st Place—The Pagosa Springs SUN, Pagosa Springs, CO—Pagosa Springs Official Visitor Guide—Summer. Credit(s): Pagosa Springs SUN staff.

“Vibrant and exciting! Great look and a cover that wants to be picked up. Well organized and great use of

old and new photos. Classy piece with a great magazine look.”

2nd Place—The Pagosa Springs SUN, Pagosa Springs, CO—Pagosa Springs Official Visitor Guide—Winter. Credit(s): The Pagosa Springs SUN staff.

“Another beautiful piece from the folks in Pagosa Springs. This is not just a winter rehash of their summer guide. This stands on its own. Well done in look, feel and organization.”

3rd Place—The Pagosa Springs SUN, Pagosa Springs, CO—Pagosa Springs Real Estate and Relocation Guide. Credit(s): The Pagosa Springs SUN staff.

“A great publication while leading with advertising is full of useful and relevant content. Great color-coded categories and table of contents. I almost want to move there myself!”

Honorable Mention(s)—The Edgerton Reporter, Edgerton, WI—Tobacco Heritage Days.

BEST SERIES AD IDEA, BLACK & WHITE

Daily & Non-daily Division

1st Place—The Blackshear Times, Blackshear, GA—South GA Endoscopy Center Inc.

“Great ad series. The presentation was very powerful. It made me want to schedule a colonoscopy, which speaks to the strength of the message.”

2nd Place—The N’West Iowa REVIEW, Sheldon, IA—The N’West Iowa REVIEW—Village Northwest Unlimited.

“Wow, what a great campaign! Great team effort to create a winning ad campaign.”

3rd Place—Jackson Hole News&Guide, Jackson, WY—Teton Eye Clinic. Credit(s): Staff.

“Great way to maximize the advertiser’s message in a small amount of space. I particularly liked the ‘Fuzzy Vision’ ad.”

Honorable Mention(s)—Antelope Valley Press, Palmdale, CA—LPAC Series.

BEST SERIES AD IDEA, COLOR

Daily & Non-daily Division, circulation 10,000 or more

1st Place—The Taos News, Taos, NM—SunShades & Optics. Credit(s): Julie Osmanski.

“Loved this campaign. It was consistent and creative, yet simple. I can see people in the community looking at the ad to see ‘Who’s behind those sunshades.’ ”

2nd Place—The Taos News, Taos, NM—Taos Pueblo. Credit(s): Jennifer Taphorn.

“Very eye catching. I liked how you carried the design theme throughout the campaign.”

3rd Place—Antelope Valley Press, Palmdale, CA—Snow Orthodontics.

“I liked this series. The ads were very good in a strong category.”

Honorable Mention(s)—The Taos News, Taos, NM—Taos Lifestyle. Credit(s): Jennifer Taphorn.

BEST SERIES AD IDEA, COLOR

Daily & Non-daily Division, circulation less than 10,000

1st Place—The Ark, Tiburon, CA—Casto Vacations. Credit(s): Ark Advertising & Graphics Team.

“Beautiful design and clean layout. Great mix of typeface. Catchy tagline: ‘Places to Go, People to See.’ ”

2nd Place—Jackson Hole News&Guide, Jackson, WY—The Liquor Store & Wine Loft Color Series. Credit(s): Creative Staff.

“Clever ads, witty headlines. Strong graphics and even better balance of color.”

3rd Place—Buffalo Bulletin, Buffalo, WY—Bank of Buffalo/Time to trade in?/Car loan series with Rich.

“Cute, clever, likable campaign. Makes the loan officer look like a fun and approachable person. Great graphics.”

Honorable Mention(s)—Wise County Messenger, Decatur, TX—JRobs Sports and Fitness.

BEST SINGLE AD IDEA, BLACK & WHITE

Daily & Non-daily Division, circulation 10,000 or more

1st Place—The Taos News, Taos, NM—Friday Motors. Credit(s): Julie Osmanski.

“This certainly qualifies as a different auto dealer ad! This ad reflects on the dealer’s long history and heritage and is a nice branding message and change of pace, featuring historic photos and a warm and fuzzy message that doesn’t even mention cars.”

2nd Place—Antelope Valley Press, Palmdale, CA—Shaffer Violin.

“This was one of the better ads in a weak category. Nice visuals and strong message. Great that this sales rep got a music teacher to do a display ad. This was more about the reader than most in this category. Most

ads just failed to be about ME, the buyer. Too many were about the advertisers, typically leading with their logo—a complete no-no.”

NOTE: No Third Place awarded in this division.

BEST SINGLE AD IDEA, BLACK & WHITE

Daily & Non-daily Division, circulation less than 10,000

1st Place—The Blackshear Times, Blackshear, GA—Management South Agency Inc.

“Brilliant content with great design. White space rules, and the use of white space makes this ad the King.”

2nd Place—The N’West Iowa REVIEW, Sheldon, IA—The N’West Iowa REVIEW—Saturday, February 23, 2013—Poultry.

“Well constructed ad with a strong graphic element. However, the graphic elements somewhat overpower the message.”

3rd Place—Buffalo Bulletin, Buffalo, WY—First annual Zombie Fun Run.

“Fun, creative ad with great graphics. Attention-grabbing. This couch potato wanted to leap off his couch and sign up to run.”

Honorable Mention(s)—Wise County Messenger, Decatur, TX—New Phones to Impress All the Chicks. Credit(s): Graphic Arts.

BEST SINGLE AD IDEA, COLOR

Daily & Non-daily Division, circulation 16,000 or more

1st Place—Community Impact Newspaper—Northwest Austin Edition, Pflugerville, TX—The Loop Restaurant & Bar. Credit(s): Ethan Hill.

“Eye-catching graphic and great grab with the half off appetizer—layout is clean, font choices work well—a clear winner!”

2nd Place—Brentwood Press, Brentwood, CA—The Little Gym Date Night.

“An original idea well executed. Headline and graphic work well together—nice ad.”

3rd Place—Community Impact Newspaper—The Woodlands Edition, Houston, TX—Kirby’s Prime Steaks & Seafood. Credit(s): Jackie Brunk.

“The simplicity of this ad works well—love the background image behind Kirby’s.”

BEST SINGLE AD IDEA, COLOR

Daily & Non-daily Division, circulation 10,000-15,999

1st Place—Antelope Valley Press, Palmdale, CA—Julianni’s.

“Nice attention to detail on this—from the vintage photo at the top to the map background—all elements add to the design to create a beautiful piece. Well done.”

2nd Place—Antelope Valley Press, Palmdale, CA—LPAC.

“There are so many elements in this ad, but it’s organized in a way that doesn’t make you feel overwhelmed—it showcases the variety of entertainment and draws the reader in. Nice design and attention to details: the reflection effect used at the bottom of the ad was a great touch.”

3rd Place—Antelope Valley Press, Palmdale, CA—Pour D Vino.

“Warm and inviting—this ad works well by drawing the reader in and showcasing the information in an organized, easy-to-read format. Everything works!”

Honorable Mention(s)—The Ellsworth American, Ellsworth, ME—Winter Harbor Coop. Credit(s): Staff; The Livingston Parish News, Denham Springs, LA—V. Watts. Credit(s): Paul Hatton; The Taos News, Taos, NM—Randall Lumber & Hardware. Credit(s): Julie Osmanski; The Taos News, Taos, NM—Rocky Mountain Youth Corps. Credit(s): Jennifer Taphorn; Antelope Valley Press, Palmdale, CA—AV Cardiology; Antelope Valley Press, Palmdale, CA—Bearded Brewer; Antelope Valley Press, Palmdale, CA—Century Draperies; Antelope Valley Press, Palmdale, CA—Farmers Market; Antelope Valley Press, Palmdale, CA—Maxdons; Antelope Valley Press, Palmdale, CA—Sweet Frog; Antelope Valley Press, Palmdale, CA—Whole Wheatery.

BEST SINGLE AD IDEA, COLOR

Daily & Non-daily Division, circulation less than 10,000

1st Place—Buffalo Bulletin, Buffalo, WY—Butterfly color ad.

“This was a clear winner. When will advertisers and ad departments learn that white space works? This was a classy, sophisticated ad.”

2nd Place—Mount Desert Islander, Bar Harbor, ME—Swan. Credit(s): Staff.

“Realtors are always trying to cram more houses on a page. This real estate agent chose to back off and create a centerpiece. It’s always better to create a focal point of your ad, especially a large one. This can be

The National Newspaper Association wishes to thank the following individuals for their time and talent in judging the 2014 Better Newspaper Editorial Contest, Better Newspaper Advertising Contest & Newspaper And Education Contest

- Anne Anderson
- Dennis L. Anderson
- Joni Berg
- Dave Berry
- Brenda Brandt
- Laurie Ezzell Brown
- Kelli Bultena
- Rick Bussler
- Mark Campbell
- Rusty Carter
- Jennifer Chciuk
- J.P. Crumrine
- Ashleigh David
- Sharon DiMauro
- D. Reed Eckhardt
- Tania French
- Heather Freret-Anderson
- David Green
- Todd Griffith
- James Hamilton
- Doug Hanneman
- Rich Hanner
- Katherine Hill
- Harry Hix Jr.
- Dodie Hook
- William Jacobs
- Tad Johnson

- Cecile (Wehrman) Krimm
- Ginger Lamb
- Katherine Lee
- Ryan Lewis
- Brian Martin
- Ellen Mortensen
- Bob Mudge
- Bill Ostendorf
- Melissa Perner
- Frank Quine
- Steven Ranson
- Keith Rathbun
- Marc Richard
- Chris Roberts
- C. Dennis Schick
- Ray Seale
- Larry See
- Jeri Seely
- Michael Spencer
- James Stasiowski
- Jay Strasner
- Jeanne Straus
- Barbara Walter
- Maggie Walter
- Cesca Waterfield
- Amy Wilson
- Angela Wilson



SECOND PLACE,

best feature photo, daily division
By John Hart | The Union, Grass Valley, CA

FEAST YOUR EYES ON FALL—Anneles Linklater, 4, from New Zealand, plays in colored leaves falling on Nevada Street in Nevada City.

accomplished with the size and location of the headline, a unique and large visual or even white space.”

3rd Place—Wise County Messenger, Decatur, TX—Happy Thanksgiving. Credit(s): Graphic Arts.
“This entry stood out because it was clean and simple and conveyed its message quickly. In an effort to be creative, most of the ads entered in this category were cluttered and busy, and that typically got in the way of the message. Fancy borders, lots of artwork and colors and fonts are not what good ad design is about. It’s about getting attention, yes, but it’s also about quickly and clearly getting a message across in a way that people will remember or act upon.”

BEST SMALL-PAGE AD

Daily & Non-daily Division, circulation 10,000 or more
1st Place—The Livingston Parish News, Denham Springs, LA—Tiger Buffet II. Credit(s): Paul Hatton.
“Clean layout; nice balance of color; crisp, easy-to-read copy.”
2nd Place—The St. Louis American, Saint Louis, MO—Girls Scouts Back to Troop. Credit(s): Angelita Jackson.
“Clean layout; effective balance of image, white space and copy.”
3rd Place—The Ellsworth American, Ellsworth, ME—Grasshopper Shop. Credit(s): Staff.
“Eye-catching verbal/visual pun.”
Honorable Mention(s)—Antelope Valley Press, Palmdale, CA—Hodgkins.

BEST SMALL-PAGE AD

Daily & Non-daily Division, circulation less than 10,000
1st Place—Jackson Hole News&Guide, Jackson, WY—12 arranged roses. Credit(s): Lydia Redzich.
“Clean, open, eye-catching. Trust it got lots of response.”
2nd Place—Jackson Hole News&Guide, Jackson, WY—Derby Day Party. Credit(s): Lydia Redzich.
“Lovely.”
3rd Place—Hood County News, Granbury, TX—Cari’s Restaurant.
“Nice!”

Honorable Mention(s)—Mount Desert Islander, Bar Harbor, ME—Sail Shack. Credit(s): Staff.

BEST USE OF AD COLOR

Daily & Non-daily Division, circulation 16,000 or more
1st Place—Brentwood Press, Brentwood, CA—Got A Party Brentwood Pumpkinfest.
“I love everything that is going on in this ad: somehow it is fitting. The past pictures and future events along with the Halloween colors blend well together.”
2nd Place—Community Impact Newspaper—Cy-Fair Edition, Houston, TX—Northwest Dodge. Credit(s): Amy Vanlandingham.
“This ad is very masculine and eye catching, as a truck ad should be.”
3rd Place—Brentwood Press, Brentwood, CA—Sunshine House.
“This ad is absolutely adorable! I love the colors in the ad and the kids’ faces.”

BEST USE OF AD COLOR

Daily & Non-daily Division, circulation 8,000-15,999
1st Place—Community Impact Newspaper—San Marcos | Buda | Kyle Edition, San Marcos, TX—Budafest. Credit(s): Brandy Cichon.
“Fresh and fun—this ad brought a unique look with the muted color choice, fonts and graphics—all bringing together a clear winning design! Nicely done.”
2nd Place—The Transylvania Times, Brevard, NC—Pumpkin Carving Contest Ad. Credit(s): Leigh Trapp.
“Great use of color—art choice very powerful—well designed ad.”
3rd Place—Jackson Hole News&Guide, Jackson, WY—Lucchese, The Jackson Bootlegger. Credit(s): Lydia Redzich.
“Beautiful way to showcase the product—excellent use of color.”
Honorable Mention(s)—Community Impact Newspaper—Frisco Edition, Grapevine, TX—Rock 101 Patio Grill. Credit(s): Jean Henric.
Honorable Mention(s)—Antelope Valley Press,

Palmdale, CA—Custom Dog Training; Antelope Valley Press, Palmdale, CA—Smiths Hardware.

BEST USE OF AD COLOR

Daily & Non-daily Division, circulation less than 8,000
1st Place—Douglas Budget, Douglas, WY—Thunder Basin Orthopedics (double truck). Credit(s): Lisa Adelman.
“Very original idea and very eye catching. I kept reading because I felt like I was supposed to, and I didn’t want to miss out on where the path was leading.”
2nd Place—The Ark, Tiburon, CA—Price Family Dealerships. Credit(s): Ark Advertising & Graphics Team.
“Clean, well put together color ad.”
3rd Place—Moonshine Ink, Truckee, CA—Unique Boutique. Credit(s): Lauren Shearer, Mayumi Elegado.
“What makes this ad so good is the color choices. The colors make the ad pop. Very well done.”

BEST USE OF LOCAL PHOTOGRAPHY IN ADS

Daily & Non-daily Division
1st Place—Vilas County News-Review, Eagle River, WI—Derby 50 Years. Credit(s): Betsy Bleicher-ad designer, Kurt Krueger-photographer.
“Well-done photographs with hard-to-capture motion, under difficult snowy conditions. The viewer got a real feel for the enthusiasm and support of the crowd.”
2nd Place—The Waushara Argus, Wautoma, WI—Reilly Motors-push pull. Credit(s): Mary Kunasch.
“This was a humorous, imaginative handling of an advertisement that couldn’t help but catch the reader’s eye. The color was clear, crisp and added elements of the season in a fun way.”
3rd Place—The N’West Iowa REVIEW, Sheldon, IA—The N’West Iowa REVIEW—Saturday, March 2, 2013—One Team, One Dream.
“The excitement and joy is evident in every photograph. I’m sure this ad was on every parent/relative/student’s refrigerator.”
Honorable Mention(s)—The Ark, Tiburon, CA—The Caprice—50th Anniversary Special. Credit(s): Ark Advertising & Graphics Team

Congratulations

to all the winners of NNA’s Better Newspaper Contest, Better Newspaper Advertising Contest and Newspaper and Education Contest from the board and staff of the

National Newspaper Association



Saturday, September 13, 2014 | Celebrating our 150th year, 1864-2014

Sioux City Journal

SAVE 40% on ad packages this week from Bob Katz's Plaza. \$6. Starting Sept. 15. See www.siouxcityjournal.com

STRONG STATEMENTS
Metro teams put on a show on the gridiron to highlight week three of prep football. **SPORTS**

ONLINE TODAY
View the history of President Barack Obama's prime-time presidential speeches used to address the nation.

RIVER LEARNING: Siouxland children get hands-on education on the banks of the Missouri. **LOCALS**

Can Obama wage war without the consent of Congress?

White House confident in legal basis for expanded fight against Islamic State

STEPHEN BRAUN
Washington Post

President Obama's more aggressive military campaign against the Islamic State is likely to be complicated after Sept. 11.

President Obama's more aggressive military campaign against the Islamic State is likely to be complicated after Sept. 11.

President Obama's more aggressive military campaign against the Islamic State is likely to be complicated after Sept. 11.

20TH ANNIVERSARY

Fancy dance Dymal performs Friday night at Ho-Chunk High School in Winnebago, Neb. Ho-Chunk Inc. is celebrating the 20th anniversary of the economic development arm of the Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska. Ho-Chunk Inc. is celebrating the 20th anniversary of the economic development arm of the Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska.

Dems: Clintons' visit won't overshadow Harkin tribute

Former first couple to attend retiring senator's final Steak Fry

JAMES G. LYONS
Iowa Press-Republican

CEAR RAPIDS, Iowa — Sen. Roy Blunt's announcement that he will be retiring from the U.S. Senate in January has set off a flurry of activity in the state capital. One of the most notable events is the annual Steak Fry, which will be held in honor of Sen. Blunt's final term. The event will be held at the Grand Hotel in Cedar Rapids on Friday, Sept. 12. Sen. Blunt's wife, Ann, and their children will be in attendance. The Steak Fry is a tradition that has been held in Cedar Rapids for over 100 years. It is a celebration of the state's agricultural heritage and the role of the U.S. Senate. Sen. Blunt's tenure in the Senate was marked by his work on issues such as education, health care, and the environment. His retirement marks the end of a long and distinguished career in public service.

Winnebago, Neb. Ho-Chunk Inc. celebrated its 20-year corporate anniversary

Winnebago, Neb. Ho-Chunk Inc. celebrated its 20-year corporate anniversary on Friday. The event included a luncheon, presentation and tour of Ho-Chunk Village. The Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska founded the economic development corporation in 1994 to enable members to reach economic self-sufficiency. Its operations now span 16 states and eight foreign countries.

Fear not: Cold snap does not mean end to summer temps

Siouxland experiences weather 20 degrees below average

GREG FORBES
Siouxland Journal

Siouxland experiences weather 20 degrees below average. The cold snap is a result of a Canadian air stream that pushed its way into Siouxland, bringing temperatures about 20 degrees below average. However, the National Weather Service predicts that temperatures will rise again in the coming days. The cold snap is a result of a Canadian air stream that pushed its way into Siouxland, bringing temperatures about 20 degrees below average. However, the National Weather Service predicts that temperatures will rise again in the coming days.

INDEX: Business 10, Classifieds 15, Sports 18, Local 20, National 22, International 24, World 26, Features 28, Opinions 30, Editorials 32, Letters 34, Classifieds 36, Index 38

Pinnacle of success

Ken Price becomes first Taos artist with a solo exhibit at the Met

THE TAOS NEWS

TAOS, NEW MEXICO • \$1.00 • JUNE 27-JULY 3, 2013 • TAOSNEWS.COM

Acequias share water to combat drought

By J.B. Logan
The Taos News

ACEQUIAS share water to combat drought. The acequias are a traditional irrigation system that has been used in the Taos Valley for centuries. They are a vital part of the local culture and economy. The acequias are a traditional irrigation system that has been used in the Taos Valley for centuries. They are a vital part of the local culture and economy.

Wal-Mart nixes fireworks sales

By J.B. Logan
The Taos News

Wal-Mart nixes fireworks sales. Wal-Mart has announced that it will not be selling fireworks in its stores in Taos, N.M. This decision is a result of safety concerns and the high cost of the products. Wal-Mart has announced that it will not be selling fireworks in its stores in Taos, N.M. This decision is a result of safety concerns and the high cost of the products.

Carson Forest to consider further fire restrictions

By Matthew van Buren
The Taos News

Carson Forest to consider further fire restrictions. The Carson National Forest is considering further fire restrictions due to the dry conditions and the risk of wildfires. The Carson National Forest is considering further fire restrictions due to the dry conditions and the risk of wildfires.

Teenager charged in gas station robbery

By Andrew Oxford
The Taos News

Teenager charged in gas station robbery. A 15-year-old boy was charged with the robbery of a gas station in Taos, N.M. The boy was charged with the robbery of a gas station in Taos, N.M.

Apply online at NMEF.ORG
NEW MEXICO EDUCATORS
The Power of WE.
2014 National Education Policy Center

DANCERS LAY OUT A THOUGHTFUL FEAST SEE STEPPING OUT

Jackson Hole News & Guide

Jackson, Wyoming Wednesday, June 12, 2013 One dollar

Park's bombs litter slopes

Yellowstone can't say how many unexploded shells lie above Sylvan Pass, or how to find them.

By Mike Kushner
© 2013 Jackson Hole News & Guide

Yellowstone can't say how many of the shells, capable of penetrating deeply through the ground, are still in the slopes of Sylvan Pass and the surrounding area. The shells are a result of military operations during World War II. The shells are a result of military operations during World War II.

Community mourns

Investigators search for answers as friends and families struggle with deaths of two teens.

By Emma Brysson

Investigators search for answers as friends and families struggle with deaths of two teens. The deaths of two teenagers in Jackson Hole, Wyo., have shocked the community. The deaths of two teenagers in Jackson Hole, Wyo., have shocked the community.

Teton tangle, Jackson jam: Drivers lose patience

Police chief directing traffic is target of lunge as motorists forget manners.

By Ben Graham

Teton tangle, Jackson jam: Drivers lose patience. The traffic congestion in Jackson Hole, Wyo., has become a major problem for residents and visitors alike. The traffic congestion in Jackson Hole, Wyo., has become a major problem for residents and visitors alike.

INSIDE

34 Teton Library Center turns 20
Special changes
How to help the homeless?

114 Challenging wolf wisdom
Begin to retreat property
Remember an "oldman"

204 Gene too soon
Fireworks banned - again
Cherries in art death

SECOND PLACE, general excellence, daily division

Sioux City Journal, Sioux City, IA

FIRST PLACE, general excellence, non-daily division, circulation 10,000 or more

The Taos News, Taos, NM

FIRST PLACE, general excellence, non-daily division, circulation 6,000 - 9,999

Jackson Hole News & Guide, Jackson, WY

BETTER NEWSPAPER ADVERTISING CONTEST WINNERS

Visit www.nnaweb.org or contact Sara Walsh at 573-777-4980, or sarawalsh@nna.org

MORTGAGES CLOSE TO HOME

LOCAL SERVICE. GREAT RATES.

March is Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month

Johnny Allen

Q: WHAT'S BLACK AND WHITE AND READ ALL OVER?

A: THE VINEYARD GAZETTE, the island's original newspaper, now in our 168th year of continuous publication. Printed on-Island every Thursday in our historic home at 34 South Summer Street, come by to see our press run. Or visit our website at mvgazette.com for Island news, information and commentary updated every day.

VINEYARD GAZETTE MEDIA GROUP
Bringing you the Best of the Vineyard

Subscribe by calling (508)627-4311 or visit us online at mvgazette.com

'I'm thankful for a second chance to be with grandkids.'

Colorectal cancer is almost totally preventable.

Johnny Allen knew there was absolutely nothing seriously wrong with him. But he was wrong. "I had until until I was 50 to be checked, I'd probably have been cut up with cancer just like my cousin, Johnny today. If you wait until you have a problem to get checked - it's probably gonna be too late!"

The only reason I went to the doctor at all was because of stomach problems. He suggested a colonoscopy to check - but I was afraid I didn't want to know the truth... Besides, I was only in my 40's. Finally, the doctor and my wife convinced me to be checked."

The news was not good. Johnny had a number of large precancerous polyps. Really big. A beloved first cousin had just died from colon cancer.

"Cancer is a silent killer. I'd have bet there was nothing wrong with me. Don't wait. Get checked now."

SOUTH GEORGIA ENDOSCOPY CENTER, INC.
DIGESTIVE DISEASE CONSULTANTS, P.C.
S.A. Choudhri, M.D., FACC • Craig M. Kubik, D.O.
1501 Allice Street • Waycross • 909-9377

FIRST PLACE, best advertising idea, daily & non-division, circulation 10,000 or more

Vineyard Gazette, Edgartown, MA

FIRST PLACE, best advertising idea, non-daily division, circulation less than 10,000

The Blackshear Times, Blackshear, GA

All I want for Christmas...
THE N'WEST IOWA REVIEW
 Christmas trends over the years
 VOL. 41 NO. 26 SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2013 SHELDON, IOWA

Sensory Storytime
 Library tries new approach to reach youth

BY ALISON SIESSER
SOME CHILDREN—some children who have developmental disabilities—have trouble hearing. There are many reasons for this, but one is that their ears are not working properly. For these children, the library has a new way to reach them: sensory storytime.

At the Sheldon Public Library, a group of about 15 children and their parents are gathered around a table. The children are wearing headphones and listening to a story. The parents are holding their children and talking to them. The children are looking at the book and pointing to the pictures. The parents are smiling and talking to their children.

Human services and substance education Director Susan Hines says the program is designed to help children with hearing disabilities. She says the program is also designed to help children with other disabilities. She says the program is also designed to help children with behavioral issues.

Next Storytime: 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at the Sheldon Public Library. For more information, call Susan Hines at 319-279-1234.

Area coalition focuses on dangers of tobacco

Annual U.S. event encourages smokers to commit to quit

BY ALISON SIESSER
NEWARK, N.J.—The day after Thanksgiving is a time when many people are thinking about the holidays. For many people, this means thinking about the dangers of tobacco.

The American Cancer Society is sponsoring a national campaign to encourage smokers to quit. The campaign is called "30 Days to Quit." It is a 30-day challenge that encourages smokers to quit for 30 days. If they quit for 30 days, they can win a prize.

The campaign is also designed to help smokers quit for good. It provides information about the dangers of tobacco and the benefits of quitting. It also provides information about the resources available to help smokers quit.

WEEKEND WEATHER
 SATURDAY: Partly cloudy, 40-50
 SUNDAY: Partly cloudy, 40-50
 MONDAY: Partly cloudy, 40-50

INSIDE
 C-11 Religion
 C-12 Sports
 C-13 People
 C-14 Business
 C-15 Entertainment

If it's Broke... FIX IT!
 Iowa State Bank
 www.iowastatebank.net

From generation to generation... Italian family recipes were passed down

Julianni's ITALIAN RISTORANTE
 PIZZA • PASTA • DELI • BAKERY
 Opening Soon!

And now, the restaurant will be handed down to the next generation

Lancaster Market Place
 4496 Valley Central Way, Lancaster
 661.729.1300

Same Menu Items, Along with Several New Dishes!
 Same Great Food, Same Great Service,
 Bigger Location with room for parties & dancing!

ANTLOPE VALLEY PRESS DINING & ENTERTAINMENT 2013 5

FIRST PLACE, best single ad idea - color, daily & non-daily division, circulation 10,000 - 15,999
 Antelope Valley Press, Palmdale, CA

A spooky bash
 Kids costumed for Halloween downtown
 A14

Early exit
 Southfield, Spence finish 0-2 at Class A State Tennis Tournament
 A6

Staging a 'High School Musical'
 Live show runs Thursday through Sunday
 B1

LITCHFIELD Independent Review
 OCTOBER 31, 2013 SINCE 1876 \$1

Paralyzed from accident, woman begins recovery

Online auction to benefit injured at Vision Processing

BY JONN BROWN
DAN AND ANNE LITCHFIELD RESIDENT DAN AND ANNE LITCHFIELD took a trip to the state capital in Des Moines, Iowa, last week to help raise money for a woman who was paralyzed from the waist down in a car accident.

The woman, Nancy, was paralyzed from the waist down in a car accident in 2008. She has been in a wheelchair ever since. She is now recovering from the accident and is beginning to walk again.

The Litchfields are sponsoring an online auction to benefit Nancy. The auction is being held on the Vision Processing website. The auction is open until November 15th.

Servin' up a twist on traditional

Parkview Grille features eclectic menu and full-service bar

BY ANDREW BROWN
EVER THOSE who were up late last night watching the NFL football game between the Dallas Cowboys and the New York Giants? Well, you're in luck. The Parkview Grille is serving up a twist on traditional food.

The restaurant is located at 112 S. Range Ave. in Denham Springs, La. It features an eclectic menu of food and a full-service bar. The restaurant is also known for its live music.

The restaurant is owned by Dan and Anne Litchfield. They opened the restaurant in 2013. They are excited to be serving the community.

With its freezers full, Food Shelf to upgrade

Agency's goal is to install new refrigeration system before holidays

BY ANDREW BROWN
FOOD SHELF is planning to upgrade its refrigeration system before the holidays. The agency is currently in the process of selecting a new system.

The current system is outdated and needs to be replaced. The new system will be more efficient and will last longer. It will also be easier to maintain.

The agency is currently in the process of selecting a new system. They are looking for a system that is reliable and easy to use. They are also looking for a system that is cost-effective.

INSIDE
 BACKTOWN: BULLETIN BOARDS CLASSIFIEDS/11 COMMUNITY/1 CROSSWORD/6 FATHR/4 KIDS CORNER/6 LOCAL/1 OPINION/4 OBTAINABLE/5 PEOPLE/4 PUBLIC NOTICES/5 SPORTS/4

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A NATIONAL PACEMAKER AWARD NEWSPAPER
THE SUN SOUTHWESTERN COLLEGE
 Volume 57, Issue 4 Winter Edition 2013-14

Alioto, Dominguez, Salcido, Wilson plead guilty

Ricasa pleads guilty, resigns board position

BY LISA CHANDLER
FOUR FORMER SOUTHWESTERN COLLEGE officials pleaded guilty to felonies and misdemeanors in the South Bay Corruption Case. Former administrators Nicholas Alioto and John Wilson along with former trustees Nicholas Salcido and Jorge Dominguez pleaded guilty to felonies and misdemeanors.

The officials are facing charges of conspiracy to defraud, conspiracy to obstruct justice, and conspiracy to violate federal election laws. They are also facing charges of bribery and extortion.

The officials are pleading guilty to felonies and misdemeanors. They are also pleading guilty to misdemeanors. They are also pleading guilty to felonies.

SWC student creates online book selling alternative

BY COLLEEN GRYLLS
IN 1976 Rocky Balboa granted the alma mater the title of "The Sun." But now, a student is creating an online book selling alternative.

The student, Dan Horstman, is creating an online book selling alternative. He is selling books on his website. He is also selling books on his website.

The student is creating an online book selling alternative. He is selling books on his website. He is also selling books on his website.

Iconic baseball coach announces retirement

BY COLLEEN GRYLLS
IN 1976 Rocky Balboa granted the alma mater the title of "The Sun." But now, a coach is announcing retirement.

The coach, Dan Horstman, is announcing retirement. He has coached for many years. He is now retiring.

The coach is announcing retirement. He has coached for many years. He is now retiring.

Faculty sick over healthcare negotiations

BY RICHARD O'NEILL
NEGOTIATIONS over healthcare and retirement benefits for faculty at Southwestern College have led to a sick-out.

The faculty is sick because of the negotiations. They are sick because of the negotiations. They are sick because of the negotiations.

The faculty is sick because of the negotiations. They are sick because of the negotiations. They are sick because of the negotiations.

A FEW YEARS AGO IN A COLLEGE NOT FAR AWAY...

SWC WARS
 SPECIAL SECTION IN THIS ISSUE

FIRST PLACE, general excellence, non-daily division, circulation less than 3,000
 Litchfield Independent Review, Litchfield, MN

The DERBY celebrated 50 Years
 of premier race presentation with help from volunteers, fans, racers and the community.

Thanks to all!
 We could not have done it without you.
 * The AMSOIL World Championship Derby Track *

FIRST PLACE, best use of local photography in ads, daily & non-daily division, Vilas County News-Review, Eagle River, WI

TIGER PALACE II
CHINA BUFFET & SUSHI
 Chinese Restaurant

All You Can Eat
SENIOR CITIZEN
 HAPPY HOUR 2PM - 3:30PM
\$5.99 includes drink
BUFFET HOURS
 Lunch Buffet Monday - Saturday, 11am - 4pm
 Dinner Buffet Monday - Saturday 4pm - 9:30pm
 Sunday & Holiday All Day Buffet 11am - 9:30pm
 Private party room available

112 S. Range Ave. Denham Springs, LA
 Tel. 225-791-8808

FIRST PLACE, best small-page ad daily & non-daily division, circulation 10,000 or more
 Livingston Parish News, Denham Springs, LA

FOOD AND FUN FOR EVERYONE
THE LOOP
 Restaurant & Bar

HALF OFF APPETIZER!
 HAPPY HOUR APPETIZERS ONLY. OFFER VALID DAILY BETWEEN 4-7PM & 9-11PM. CANNOT COMBINE WITH ANY OTHER OFFER. MUST PRESENT COUPON. EXPIRES 06-27-2013

WWW.THELOOPRESTAURANT.COM • 512-828-5667
 2500 W. PALMER L. SUITE 100 • (ACROSS FROM FRY'S ELECTRONICS) • AUSTIN, TX 78727

FIRST PLACE, best single ad idea, color, daily & non-daily division, circulation 16,000 or more
 Community Impact Newspaper—Northwest Austin Edition, Pflugerville, TX

Newspaper And Education Contest

DIVISION A—TRADITIONAL NIE STORIES AND CURRICULUM—EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT

Daily newspapers 10,000 circulation or more
Honorable Mention(s)—Tampa Bay Times, Saint Petersburg, FL
 Charting the Land of Flowers. Credit(s): Sue Bedry.

DIVISION A—TRADITIONAL NIE STORIES AND CURRICULUM—EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT

Non-daily newspapers 5,000 circulation or more
1st Place—The St. Louis American, Saint Louis, MO
 The St. Louis American's NIE Program Educational Support. Credit(s): Cathy Sewell.

"The St. Louis American's impressive program focuses on increasing student interest in science, technology, engineering and math, with its STEM classroom tools incorporated into the curriculum plans of 18 struggling schools."

2nd Place—Hood County News, Granbury, TX
 Texas History on the Road. Credit(s): Martha Pyron.
 "The Hood County News of Texas crowns 'Road'

Scholars in nicely presented stories written by students who visit little-known local historical sites that contribute to the state's history."

3rd Place—Wilson County News, Floresville, TX
 Education All Around! Credit(s): Tiffany Polasek.
 "Clever use of a well-promoted mascot named 'Wilson' by the Wilson County News of Texas to bring student and teacher attention to its NIE program."

Honorable Mention(s)—Fairbury Journal-News, Fairbury, NE
 Newspaper in Education Credit(s): Carole Sprunk

DIVISION A—TRADITIONAL NIE STORIES AND CURRICULUM—PARTNERSHIPS

Daily newspapers 10,000 circulation or more
1st Place—The Seattle Times, Seattle, WA
 The Seattle Times Newspapers In Education Maritime 101. Credit(s): Katie Johnson.

"Impressive 'Seafood 101' publication, devoted to seafood and healthy fisheries and the journey from sea to market to table, highlights an NIE program that also tries to increase student awareness of overall environmental issues."

2nd Place—Tampa Bay Times, Saint Petersburg, FL
 Tampa Bay Times Wicked Garden. Credit(s): Sue Bedry.

"Tampa Bay Times tackles issue of prescription pain and drug abuse by students between middle school and high school age with teacher workshops and a 16-page Wicked Garden supplement via print, digital and social media."

DIVISION A—TRADITIONAL NIE STORIES AND CURRICULUM—PARTNERSHIPS

Daily newspapers less than 10,000 circulation
 The Ledger Independent, Maysville, KY
 From Idols to Adoption. Credit(s): Jennifer Marshall.

DIVISION A—TRADITIONAL NIE STORIES AND CURRICULUM—PARTNERSHIPS

Non-daily newspapers 5,000 circulation or more
1st Place—The Echo Press, Alexandria, MN
 Inside Look Through the Eyes of 6th Graders. Credit(s): Jody Hanson.
 "Student pride and excitement about what makes their school great is evident in the special "Extra" section submitted by The Echo Press. Each year a school is selected for its 5th and 6th graders to provide stories, photos and ads—with lots of hands-on assistance by the Echo Press ad and editorial staff—and produce the section. The result is an impressive newspaper-school partnership, and local businesses end up providing support for the ads."

2nd Place—The St. Louis American, Saint Louis, MO
 The St. Louis American NIE Partnerships. Credit(s): Cathy Sewell.

"A solid effort of partnering with the St. Louis Zoo, St. Louis Science Center and the Missouri Botanical Garden to foster student interest in science-related careers."

2nd Place—The St. Louis American, Saint Louis, MO
 The St. Louis American NIE Partnerships. Credit(s): Cathy Sewell.

DIVISION B—NEWSPAPERS SUPPORTING EDUCATION & CIVIC LITERACY—CIVIC LITERACY

Non-daily newspapers 5,000 circulation or more
1st Place—Vineyard Gazette, Edgartown, MA

Charter School—Special Report on Child Slavery. Credit(s): Jane Seagrave.
 "Quality and depth of student reporting underscored the solid research they did to acquire knowledge about child slavery. Professional editing by Bill Eville of the Vineyard Gazette might have accounted for the number of well-written stories, but impressive work nonetheless by 7th and 8th graders."

NEWSPAPERS SUPPORTING EDUCATION & CIVIC LITERACY—CIVIC LITERACY

Non-daily newspapers less than 5,000 circulation
1st Place—The Eldon Advertiser, Eldon, MO
 Mustang Memo, LeapFrog Gazette and Democracy Day. Credit(s): Tammy Witherspoon.

"Applause for the Eldon Advertiser's 'Democracy Day' that drew nearly 70 speakers and had the support of the governor. Elementary students try their hands at reporting and writing via the Leapfrog Gazette and the Mustang Memo."

NEWSPAPERS SUPPORTING EDUCATION & CIVIC LITERACY—COMMUNITY SUPPORT FOR EDUCATION

Daily newspapers less than 10,000 circulation
1st Place—McAlester News-Capital, McAlester, OK
 Black and Gold. Credit(s): Amy Johns.

"From a pure journalism standpoint (reporting, writing, photos), the Black and Gold student publication for the McAlester School System was somewhat of a hodge-podge in design and content quality, but the goal of community support leading to one \$1,500 scholarship was exceeded and resulted in two \$2,500 student scholarships."

NEWSPAPERS SUPPORTING EDUCATION & CIVIC LITERACY—COMMUNITY SUPPORT FOR EDUCATION

Non-daily newspapers less than 5,000 circulation
1st Place—Arizona Capitol-Times, Phoenix, AZ
 Arizona Capitol-Times Capitol Roadshow. Credit(s): Ginger Lamb.

"An impressive effort to educate the public and, most importantly, local students about the legislative process and how bills become law. Heavy involvement by lawmakers, including the Senate President and Speaker of the House, gave added evidence of the program's impact."

2nd Place—Half Moon Bay Review, Half Moon Bay, CA
 Publishing the Paw Print. Credit(s): Clay Lambert.
 "The Review of Half Moon Bay, CA, brings high school journalism to life at a school without a paper. The Paw Print, printed by The Review, complete with full-color photos, provides an opportunity for students to learn valuable reporting and writing skills."

Honorable Mention(s)—Brownfield News, Brownfield, TX
 Points of Pride. Credit(s): Lynn Brisendine.

NEWSPAPERS SUPPORTING EDUCATION & CIVIC LITERACY—OTHER

Daily newspapers 10,000 circulation or more
1st Place—Tampa Bay Times, Saint Petersburg, FL
 A Parent's Guide to the Affordable Care Act. Credit(s): Sue Bedry.

"Tampa Bay Times continues its reputation for high impact/saturation-circulation efforts to bring valuable and most importantly—accurate information about the Affordable Care Act to low-income families with a 16-page English/Spanish supplement distributed to all K-12 schools in its six-county market."

A Parent's Guide to the **AFFORDABLE CARE ACT**

Times NIE
 Missouri Botanical Garden
 Missouri Science Center
 Missouri Zoo
 Missouri Botanical Garden

ST. LOUIS AMERICAN • JUNE 5-11, 2014
413

Two area teachers win Golden Apple awards

Each excelled at teaching with *The St. Louis American's* NIE program

Marie Bouchard, 5th grade teacher at Barrington Elementary School

Tracy Cotton, 5th grade teacher from Townsend Elementary School

Photos by Willy Piza

What data can do for us

A remarkable report called "For the Sake of All" was issued last week at a community conference. Sponsored by the St. Louis American and Saint Louis University, it was the result of a year-long effort by a team of collaborators, advisors and community members to help shape the year-end and half-year report on the health and well-being of African Americans in the St. Louis region. This is a well-earned report on the health and well-being of African Americans in the St. Louis region. This is a well-earned report on the health and well-being of African Americans in the St. Louis region. This is a well-earned report on the health and well-being of African Americans in the St. Louis region.

along with community partners Missouri Botanical Garden, Saint Louis Science Center and the Saint Louis Zoo.

The program, led currently by Cathy Sewell, an award-winning 21-year veteran of newspapers, worked at the Pine District and Barrington Towers.

Beginning in the 2014-15 academic year, the St. Louis American will expand its program to provide 7,000 newspapers each week, at no charge, to elementary school children in select classrooms in seven areas school districts as well as several charter schools, making it one of the largest NIE programs in the country.

light bulb go off in each student's head as they would grasp and understand the science concepts that were being taught. The St. Louis American helped turn on that light," he said.

The St. Louis American's Newspaper in Education program has reached its 20th anniversary in the 2013-14 school year by providing newspapers to over 7,000 students in 150 schools in 10 Missouri school districts as well as several charter schools, making it one of the largest NIE programs in the country.

Investigate and explore over 700 interactive exhibits and take in a film on one of the world's largest domed screens in our OMINIMAX Theater. Come, play and exercise your brain! General admission is always free.

slsc.org/nies

St. Louis American CONGRATS to the GRADUATES

Inaugural Special Section June 19, 2014

Send your graduate's COLOR photo, this coupon/pdf and \$25

Graduate's Name: _____
 School: _____
 Circle level graduated: Grade _____ Junior _____ High _____ College or Trade School _____
 If applicable, what school will the graduate be attending NEXT: _____
 Parent's Names: (Optional) _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
 Your Mother: _____
 Phone: _____

How to register and pay (\$25):
 Email photos to ksdaniel@stlouisamerican.com (photos must be clear. Head & shoulders). Call 636-41-379-2413 if you have any questions.

DEADLINE JUNE 9TH

NEWSPAPER AND EDUCATION—Examples of winning Newspaper In Education programs and ideas that won awards in the National Newspaper Association's Newspaper And Education contest.

Above: From the St. Louis American.



NEWSPAPER AND EDUCATION WINNERS—Examples of winning Newspaper In Education programs and ideas that won awards in the National Newspaper Association's Newspaper And Education contest.

Above: From The Black & Gold. **Right:** From the Tampa Bay Times, Tampa, FL.



SECOND PLACE, tie, best feature photo, non-daily division, circulation 3,000 - 5,999

By Steve Ranson | Lahontan Valley News, Fallon, NV

CUTENESS AT THE COUNTRY FAIR—Jackson Snow, left, and Payslee Rae Starr wait backstage during the Cutsie Cowboy and Cowgirl contest at the Churchill Country Fair.