



ADVERTISING WINNERS

Best Classified Section

Daily & Non-daily Division

FIRST PLACE

The Taos News, *Taos, NM*

Mary Chavez, Sean Linton & Felice Vasquez, *Taos News Classifieds*

Judge's comments: *Using color photos is a nice look for classifieds. Overall layout is good and organized.*

SECOND PLACE

Wright County Journal, *Mountain Grove, MO*

Ron Schott, *Best Classified Section (WCJ)*

Judge's comments: *Headers are easy to find, good flow and organization. Easy to read. Color header helps define the section.*

THIRD PLACE

Casa Grande Dispatch, *Casa Grande, AZ*

Staff, *Casa Grande Dispatch classifieds*

Judge's comments: *Organized flow. Headers would pop a bit more with black reverse. Lots of good ads.*



2023 NNAF Advertising & Editorial Contest
List of Winners

Best Multiple Advertiser Section

Daily & Non-daily Division, circ. 10,000 or more

FIRST PLACE

Preston Hollow People, *Dallas, TX*

Preston Hollow People, *Best Multiple Advertising Section - STEAM 2022*

Judge's comments: *Very good sections.*

SECOND PLACE

Park Cities People, *Dallas, TX*

Park Cities People, *Best Multiple Advertiser Section - Giving People 2022*

Judge's comments: *Nice layout.*



2023 NNAF Advertising & Editorial Contest
List of Winners

Best Multiple Advertiser Section

Daily & Non-daily Division, circ. 5,000-9,999

FIRST PLACE

Casa Grande Dispatch, *Casa Grande, AZ*
Staff, *Greatest of the Grande Winners Section 2022*
Judge's comments: *Great design on section and ads.*

SECOND PLACE

The Journal-News, *Hillsboro, IL*
Staff, *Montgomery County Guide*
Judge's comments: *Great design.*

THIRD PLACE

The Taos News, *Taos, NM*
Staff, *Taos Map*
Judge's comments: *great details.*



Best Multiple Advertiser Section

Daily & Non-daily Division, circ. less than 5000

FIRST PLACE

The Edgerton Reporter, *Edgerton, WI*

Diane Everson, staff, *Tobacco Days Edition*

Judge's comments: *Love, love, love this issue! Fascinating history and a vintage look make it really beautiful. Effective ads fill the section and make it a winner!*

SECOND PLACE

The Northern Light Region, *Baudette, MN*

Julie Bergman, Michelle Delvecchio, Linda Forseide, *Salute to Veterans*

Judge's comments: *This tribute to Veterans is beautiful and well laid out. Nicely done!*

THIRD PLACE (TIE)

The Edgerton Reporter, *Edgerton, WI*

Diane Everson, Sam Martino, Bob Samuelson, Jeff Brown, Dave Wedeward, *2022 Fall Sports Preview*

Judge's comments: *Great piece with a distinct hyperlocal audience. I'm sure this will be a keepsake for many families!*

Wright County Journal, *Mountain Grove, MO*

Ron Schott, *FFA Section (Saluting Our Future Farmers) WCJ*

Judge's comments: *Another really nicely put together section with a local lean. Great use of photography to tie in with the ads.*

HONORABLE MENTION

The Ark, *Tiburon, CA*

Henriette Corn, Ark Staff, *Holiday Guide*

Judge's comments: *Beautiful ads, interesting articles, and a clean layout work well to make this piece a standout. Love the double truck!*



2023 NNAF Editorial & Advertising Contest
List of Winners

Best Public Notice Section

Daily & Non-daily Division

FIRST PLACE

The Daily Washington Law Reporter, *Baltimore, MD*
Donald Nichols, *Daily Washington Law Reporter*
Judge's comments: *Interesting style and format of notices.*

SECOND PLACE

The Ark, *Tiburon, CA*
Leigh Pagan, *The Ark - Legal Notices*
Judge's comments: *Like how you made the bold to make them stand out.*

THIRD PLACE

Wright County Journal, *Mountain Grove, MO*
Ron Schott, *Best Public Notice Section WCJ*
Judge's comments: *Liked how you placed lines in between for separation of notices.*

HONORABLE MENTION

The Taos News, *Taos, NM*
Mary Chavez, Sean Linton & Felice Vasquez, *Taos News Legals*
Judge's comments: *Glad you bolded important lines.*



2023 NNAF Editorial & Advertising Contest
List of Winners

Best Sales Promotion Section or Edition

Daily & Non-daily Division

FIRST PLACE

Greenville News, *Greenville, SC*

Greenville News Staff, Marilyn Parnell-Art Director/Designer, *Destination Greenville 2022*

Judge's comments: *Very professionally done.*

SECOND PLACE

Leelanau Enterprise, *Lake Leelanau, MI*

Creative Dept., Advertising Dept., Editorial Dept., *Wedding Guide*

Judge's comments: *Loved that you had actual stories someone on staff has written.*

THIRD PLACE

The Ark, *Tiburon, CA*

Henriette Corn, Ark Staff, *Holiday Guide*

Judge's comments: *Liked how you incorporate articles and not just all advertising.*

HONORABLE MENTION

Brentwood Press, *Brentwood, CA*

Eric Kinnaird, Sherrie Hamilton and Annie Ray, *Real Estate Guide _07.08.2022*

Judge's comments: *Great idea for a special section.*



2023 NNAF Editorial & Advertising Contest
List of Winners

Best Newspaper Promotion

Daily & Non-daily Division, circ. more than 5,000

FIRST PLACE

The Taos News, Taos, NM

Staff, Discover Taos

Judge's comments: *How clever! These are great and very eye catching!*

SECOND PLACE

The Taos News, Taos, NM

Staff, Taos Map

Judge's comments: *These are a great resource for the community and visitors alike and an interesting source of revenue to be taken advantage of.*

THIRD PLACE

The Taos News, Taos, NM

Staff, Fall Festivals Magazine

Judge's comments: *Great use of the cover space. The design is very appealing and makes one want to explore what's inside.*



2023 NNAF Editorial & Advertising Contest
List of Winners

Best Newspaper Promotion

Daily & Non-daily Division, circ. less than 5,000

FIRST PLACE

Brentwood Press, *Brentwood, CA*

Annie Ray, *National Newspaper Faithful_16A TP 10-07-2022*

Judge's comments: *I like that the ad is clean and simple and informative. Great job!*

SECOND PLACE

Brentwood Press, *Brentwood, CA*

Annie Ray, *Superman Subscribe_02A TP 02-18-2022*

Judge's comments: *Simple and to the point. Great use of the space.*

THIRD PLACE

Steele County Times, *Blooming Prairie, MN*

Jenine Kubista, *Thank You Readers*

Judge's comments: *Great layout to showcase what the paper has to offer!*



2023 NNAF Editorial & Advertising Contest
List of Winners

Best Series Ad Idea, Black & White

Daily & Non-daily Division

FIRST PLACE

Casa Grande Dispatch, *Casa Grande, AZ*

Zoe Cooper, Byron McConnell, Olivia Lewis, *Professional Hearing Center*

Judge's comments: *Clever series. I really enjoyed the Easter Bunny one.*

SECOND PLACE

Casa Grande Dispatch, *Casa Grande, AZ*

Zoe Cooper, Byron McConnell, Olivia Lewis, *Cypress Point Retirement Community*

Judge's comments: *Nice, consistent series.*

THIRD PLACE

Antelope County News, *Neligh, NE*

Shelby Pitzer & Angelique Boyer, *Tip & Trim*

Judge's comments: *Ads are straight forward and to the point*



2023 NNAF Editorial & Advertising Contest
List of Winners

Best Series Ad Idea, Color

Daily & Non-daily Division

FIRST PLACE

Casa Grande Dispatch, *Casa Grande, AZ*

Wiley Acheson, Byron McConnell, Olivia Lewis, *Crossroads Auto Center*

Judge's comments: *Creative clever theme to ad series.*

SECOND PLACE

The Taos News, *Taos, NM*

Chris Wood, *Wanda Lucero, State Farm*

Judge's comments: *Athlete of the week is always good to brand your business in your community.*

THIRD PLACE

Moonshine Ink, *Truckee, CA*

Heather Solomon, Sarah, Mayumi Peacock, and Gen John, *Pass It On Thrift, Moonshine Ink*

Judge's comments: *Nice clean ad series with art that catches the eye.*



Best Advertising Idea

Daily & Non-daily Division

FIRST PLACE

Sparta Independent, *Chester, NY*

Christina Scotti, *Industry Restaurant and Bar*

Judge's comments: *Powerful, direct and well-designed, this campaign for Industry Restaurant and bar is a winner!*

SECOND PLACE

Leelanau Enterprise, *Lake Leelanau, MI*

Mike Anderson, *Cherry Pie Debates*

Judge's comments: *A novel concept for candidates in an election cycle, this ad is bold, dynamic and informational!*

THIRD PLACE

Leelanau Enterprise, *Lake Leelanau, MI*

Mike Anderson, *Our Family of Publications*

Judge's comments: *Great spread for Leelanau Enterprise's publications and printing/advertising facilities stands out, is attractive and well-done, clean and informational!*

HONORABLE MENTION

Leelanau Enterprise, *Lake Leelanau, MI*

Mike Anderson, *Nittolo's - Pizza Man*

Judge's comments: *Bold, comic-style Pizza Man ad stands out in its graphic nature with great typography!*



2023 NNAF Editorial & Advertising Contest
List of Winners

Best Single Ad Idea, Black & White

Non-daily Division, circ. more than 5,000

FIRST PLACE

Leelanau Enterprise, *Lake Leelanau, MI*

Mike Anderson, *Front Porch - Stocking Stuffers*

Judge's comments: *Love this!!*

SECOND PLACE

The Taos News, *Taos, NM*

Staff, *Randall Lumber and Hardware*

Judge's comments: *nice ad!*

THIRD PLACE

The Taos News, *Taos, NM*

Paul Gutches, *Fiesta Queen*

Judge's comments: *very cute!!*



2023 NNAF Editorial & Advertising Contest
List of Winners

Best Single Ad Idea, Black & White

Non-daily Division, circ. less than 5,000

FIRST PLACE

Buffalo Bulletin, *Buffalo, WY*

Stacy Bronson, *Honoring our troops and veterans*

Judge's comments: *Kids are always a great addition. Easy to read. Simple and nicely put together.*

SECOND PLACE

News Letter Journal, *Newcastle, WY*

Amy Menerey, *Marjorie Goodson*

Judge's comments: *Beautifully put together. Good job!*



2023 NNAF Editorial & Advertising Contest
List of Winners

Best Single Ad Idea, Color

Non-daily Division, circ. more than 5,000

FIRST PLACE

Leelanau Enterprise, *Lake Leelanau, MI*

Mike Anderson, *Nittolo's - Free Dough*

Judge's comments: *This is great. Definitely not your "run-of-the-mill" print ad!*

SECOND PLACE

The Taos News, *Taos, NM*

Staff, *Taos Herb*

Judge's comments: *Well put together, not too busy. Very nice!*

THIRD PLACE

The Taos News, *Taos, NM*

Staff, *Phoenix Mechanical*

Judge's comments: *All around solid advertisement. Color is good, artwork is eye-catching, good job!*



2023 NNAF Editorial & Advertising Contest
List of Winners

Best Single Ad Idea, Color

Non-daily Division, circ. less than 5,000

FIRST PLACE

Cody Enterprise, *Cody, WY*

Shannon Severude, Cassie Capellen, *Custom Home Experts*

Judge's comments: *The imagery makes the reader want to know more*

SECOND PLACE

Brentwood Press, *Brentwood, CA*

Annie Ray and Sherrie Hamilton, *Oakley Ace_03 TP 04-01-2022*

Judge's comments: *The use of color in this ad is great.*

THIRD PLACE

Buffalo Bulletin, *Buffalo, WY*

Stacy Bronson, *Thirsty?*

Judge's comments: *Single image says it all.*

HONORABLE MENTION

Douglas Budget, *Douglas, WY*

Alisha Carver, *Stop. Consider. GO.*

Judge's comments: *The use of color breaks up the ad & makes it easier to read.*



2023 NNAF Editorial & Advertising Contest
List of Winners

Best Small-Page Ad

Non-daily Division, circ. more than 5,000

FIRST PLACE

The Taos News, *Taos, NM*

Paul Gutches, *Aura Fitness*

Judge's comments: *good choice of color and excellent use of white space.*

SECOND PLACE

The Taos News, *Taos, NM*

Paul Gutches, *Car Tunes*

Judge's comments: *Clever name of the business. Strong art elements draw the reader into the ad.*

THIRD PLACE

Leelanau Enterprise, *Lake Leelanau, MI*

Mike Anderson, *Knot Just a Bar - Polish Christmas Dinner*

Judge's comments: *Simple, but effective design*



2023 NNAF Editorial & Advertising Contest
List of Winners

Best Small-Page Ad

Non-daily Division, circ. less than 5,000

FIRST PLACE

Stanton Register, *Stanton, NE*

Carrie Pitzer, *Nest Egg*

Judge's comments: *Look at all those eggs multiply in the image of the GOLDEN egg! Eye catching with eggs multiplying.*

SECOND PLACE

Port Aransas South Jetty, *Port Aransas, TX*

Keith Petrus, *Barron Custom Design/Dwell Lab Custom Design Studio (Throwback Thursday)*

Judge's comments: *Engaging for sure. Nice that there are sponsors that will help share Throwback Thursdays!*

THIRD PLACE

Wright County Journal, *Mountain Grove, MO*

Ron Achott, *Professional Reflexology*

Judge's comments: *Everyone needs reflexology!!!*

HONORABLE MENTION

Gazebo Gazette, *Pass Christian, MS*

Hunter Dawkins, *Taylor Made Lawn Care Ad*

Judge's comments: *Meticulous ad...hoping the service is just as much.*



2023 NNAF Editorial & Advertising Contest
List of Winners

Best Use of Ad Color

Daily & Non-daily Division

FIRST PLACE

The Highlands Current, *Cold Spring, NY*

Pierce Strudler, *Pie Baking Contest*

Judge's comments: *Love this!! Very classy look!*

SECOND PLACE

The Taos News, *Taos, NM*

Staff, *Sip & Paint*

Judge's comments: *Beautiful Ad!*

THIRD PLACE

News Letter Journal, *Newcastle, WY*

Amy Menerey, *4th of July*

Judge's comments: *Very nice!!*

News Letter Journal, *Newcastle, WY*

Amy Menerey, *Shine & Show*

Judge's comments: *Love this ad!*

HONORABLE MENTION

The Taos News, *Taos, NM*

Paul Gutches, *Casa Crystal Pottery*

Judge's comments: *Nice clean ad!*



Best Use of Local Photography in Ads

Daily & Non-daily Division

FIRST PLACE

Buffalo Bulletin, *Buffalo, WY*
Stacy Bronson, *Hang on tight*

Judge's comments: *Awesome action shot of a rider falling from a bucking bronco. Absolutely breath taking! Makes you feel the excitement of the event.*

SECOND PLACE

Casa Grande Dispatch, *Casa Grande, AZ*
Brian Kramer, *Arizona Water Company*

Judge's comments: *Nice photo of the water company over-looking the town*

THIRD PLACE

Gazebo Gazette, *Pass Christian, MS*
Jason Platz, *The Pass Daq & Froyo Shoppe Ad*

Judge's comments: *Cute photos of customers enjoying the store's treats.*

HONORABLE MENTION

Stanton Register, *Stanton, NE*
Carrie Pitzer, *Change Up Where You Bank*

Judge's comments: *Assuming that this is a local team that is changing up the pitch. Nice shot.*



2023 NNAF Editorial & Advertising Contest
List of Winners

Best Advertorial or Sponsored Editorial

Daily & Non-daily Division

FIRST PLACE

Brentwood Press, *Brentwood, CA*

Annie Ray, Sherrie Hamilton & Eric Kinnaird, *Perfect Star_29B TP 04-08-2022*

Judge's comments: *I liked that this business was an award winner for seven consecutive years. The ad was clean (no pun intended :D) and wholesome.*

SECOND PLACE

Antelope County News, *Neligh, NE*

Carrie Pitzer, *Stealth Broadband*

Judge's comments: *Colorful!!! Tech-y! And informative!*

THIRD PLACE

The Taos News, *Taos, NM*

Michael Tashji, *Success Stories*

Judge's comments: *Are these paid ads? They appear to be stories. Nicely laid out for sure. Informative.*



Best Restaurant Ad

Daily/Non-daily Division, circ., more than 5,000

FIRST PLACE

The Taos News, *Taos, NM*

Paul Gutches, *ACEQ Elevated Mountain Dining*

Judge's comments: *This ad is so beautiful first of all. This category was hard because everyone's ad looked so great. But this ad made me want to eat there. The food looks beautiful, delicious and fresh. Love the font and colors.*

SECOND PLACE

The Taos News, *Taos, NM*

Paul Gutches, *Mantes Chow Cart*

Judge's comments: *I love everything about this ad. The colors pop. I love all the fonts. I love the tilt of the pic. To me that draws more eyes. And you can see how hot and fresh the food is from the picture. Great job!*

THIRD PLACE

Leelanau Enterprise, *Lake Leelanau, MI*

Mike Anderson, *Nittolo's*

Judge's comments: *I loved the comic book look of your ad. And the play on "Pizza Man" like he's a superhero. Love the colors. Also, the other ad with the Stimulus Special was such a fun idea! Awesome job! You have such creativity!*

HONORABLE MENTION

Sparta Independent, *Chester, NY*

Christina Scotti, *Industry*

Judge's comments: *I loved the look of these ads. So modern looking. Great use of colors, fonts, and graphics. Well done!*



2023 NNAF Editorial & Advertising Contest
List of Winners

Best Restaurant Ad

Daily/Non-daily Division, circ., less than 5,000

FIRST PLACE

Buffalo Bulletin, *Buffalo, WY*

Stacy Bronson, *Best hamburgers and malts in town (Dash Inn)*

Judge's comments: *Nice, clean, well laid out ad. Now I want a burger!!*

SECOND PLACE

Antelope County News, *Neligh, NE*

Angelique Boyer, *Neligh Deli*

Judge's comments: *Very nice ads -- I especially liked the one with the hands reaching out of the cell phone screen!*

THIRD PLACE

The Edgerton Reporter, *Edgerton, WI*

Susan Siemens, Diane Everson, *Best Restaurant ads*

Judge's comments: *Nicely themed ads with a community-focused vibe.*



2023 NNAF Editorial & Advertising Contest
List of Winners

Best Real Estate Ad

Daily/Non-daily Division, circ., 5,000-9,999

FIRST PLACE

The Taos News, *Taos, NM*

Staff, *Berkshire Hathaway*

Judge's comments: *Gorgeous dessert photos!*

SECOND PLACE

The Taos News, *Taos, NM*

Staff, *Dreamcatcher Real Estate*

Judge's comments: *Especially liked the rainbow shot over the cows.*

THIRD PLACE

The Taos News, *Taos, NM*

Paul Gutches, *We Do Great Work for Fantastic Clients*

Judge's comments: *Beautiful clouds in the sky while also featuring the realtors.*

HONORABLE MENTION

The Journal-News, *Hillsboro, IL*

Mike Plunkett, *Montgomery County Realty*

Judge's comments: *Good theme, pictures of the realtors were helpful, and the list of names was extensive.*



2023 NNAF Editorial & Advertising Contest
List of Winners

Best Real Estate Ad

Daily/Non-daily Division, circ., less than 5,000

FIRST PLACE

Gazebo Gazette, *Pass Christian, MS*

Hunter Dawkins, *Amy Wood Properties*

Judge's comments: *Very nice design to showcase the properties available.*

SECOND PLACE

Port Aransas South Jetty, *Port Aransas, TX*

Jana Snow, *Mark Grosse Real Estate*

Judge's comments: *Very unique and easily grabs the reader's attention.*



2023 NNAF Editorial & Advertising Contest
List of Winners

Best Holiday Ad

Daily/Non-daily Division, circ. 5,000-9,999

FIRST PLACE

Leelanau Enterprise, *Lake Leelanau, MI*

Mike Anderson, *Enterprise Ugly Sweater Christmas Ad*

Judge's comments: *How clever! Beautiful ad, with a fun vibe. A clear winner!*

SECOND PLACE

Leelanau Enterprise, *Lake Leelanau, MI*

Jason Plowman, *Martin Co.*

Judge's comments: *Beautiful, classy ad. The gold and green make it very eye-catching!*

THIRD PLACE

Casa Grande Dispatch, *Casa Grande, AZ*

Zoe Cooper, Olivia Lewis, Byron McConnell, *K&M Roofing & Distributing Systems*

Judge's comments: *Very pretty ad. I like the tree made out of music notes!*

HONORABLE MENTION

Casa Grande Dispatch, *Casa Grande, AZ*

Zoe Cooper, Byron McConnell, Olivia Lewis, *Casa Grande Dispatch Holiday ads*

Judge's comments: *Nicely done, with good graphics and a sense of humor!*



2023 NNAF Editorial & Advertising Contest
List of Winners

Best Holiday Ad

Daily/Non-daily Division, circ. less than 5,000

FIRST PLACE

Buffalo Bulletin, *Buffalo, WY*
Stacy Bronson, *Throw a Christmas party to remember*
Judge's comments: *Imagery makes the ad inviting*

SECOND PLACE

Port Aransas South Jetty, *Port Aransas, TX*
Elizabeth Weaver, *Roosevelt's New Year's Eve*
Judge's comments: *Use of color breaks up the ad and makes it easier to read.*

THIRD PLACE

The Edgerton Reporter, *Edgerton, WI*
Susan Siemens, Diane Everson, *Holiday ads*
Judge's comments: *Ads are clean & easy to read.*

HONORABLE MENTION

Antelope County News, *Neligh, NE*
Angelique Boyer, *Happy Fathers Day*
Judge's comments: *Each ad is unique but has the same messaging.*



EDITORIAL WINNERS

Civic - Community Service Award

Daily & Non-daily Division

FIRST PLACE

The Highlands Current, *Cold Spring, NY*

Chip Rowe, Leonard Sparks, Pierce Strudler, *Always Present, Never Seen*

Judge's comments: *This history of slavery in the Hudson River Valley of New York is well researched, written and presented*

SECOND PLACE

The Taos News, *Taos, NM*

Staff, *Tradiciones*

Judge's comments: *This series honors the people, the history, the traditions that make Taos unique. Well produced.*

THIRD PLACE

Gazebo Gazette, *Pass Christian, MS*

Hunter Dawkins, *The Gazebo Gazette Safe Haven Baby Boxes*

Judge's comments: *local good neighbor story.*

HONORABLE MENTION

Oakland Independent, *Oakland, IL*

Janice Hunt, *Monument honoring local veterans of the Vietnam War era*

Judge's comments: *A local based project that campaigned to identify every local the Vietnam Vet. Thorough research and a lot of community outreach.*



Column - Best Humorous Column

Daily & Non-daily Division

FIRST PLACE

Tuscola Review, *Tuscola, IL*

David Porter, *Spinning the nightly wheel of misfortune*

Judge's comments: *"Does it burn, bruise, bleed, blister?" Short, pithy, hilarious. Well written and they don't get much better than this. I'm still laughing.*

SECOND PLACE

The Journal, *Crosby, ND*

Eric Standing, *Where have all the Garys gone*

Judge's comments: *Another piece that shows humor is best served short. Never really thought of Garys as an endangered species. Had me smiling all the way and no my name is NOT Gary! :)*

THIRD PLACE

Casa Grande Dispatch, *Casa Grande, AZ*

Bill Coates, *If you want a good cry, smell the pollen*

Judge's comments: *Another piece of great humor writing - short, sweet, creative - with another great phrase - driving while miserable. I'm crying.*

HONORABLE MENTION

Tuscola Review, *Tuscola, IL*

David Porter, *How to trim a tree and other bad advice*

Judge's comments: *Again, great writing that left me chuckling.*



Column - Best Serious Column

Daily & Non-daily Division, circ. 12,000 or more

FIRST PLACE

Jefferson County Leader, *Festus, MO*

Kim Robertson, *For good of the county, replace Bartels with Partney*

Judge's comments: *Excellent writing for a difficult situation to navigate.*

SECOND PLACE

Sioux City Journal, *Sioux City, IA*

Nick Hytrek, *Grad has persevered through father's death*

Judge's comments: *Great narrative and story.*

THIRD PLACE

Philadelphia Gay News, *Philadelphia, PA*

Mark Segal, *Mark My Words*

Judge's comments: *good points.*

HONORABLE MENTION

Park Cities People, *Dallas, TX*

Park Cities People, William Taylor, *Best Serious Column - Don't Take Best Day of the Year For Granted - Aug PCP page 14*

Judge's comments: *An interesting topic but it was a little difficult to read.*



Column - Best Serious Column

Daily & Non-daily Division, circ. 6,000-11,999

FIRST PLACE

Casa Grande Dispatch, *Casa Grande, AZ*

Joey Chenoweth, *It began one night in Pinal County*

Judge's comments: *good observations and solid main point. It showed a critical problem for our country but was more constructive than judgmental.*

SECOND PLACE

Jackson Hole News&Guide, *Jackson, WY*

Paul W. Hansen, *Newspapers make our community stronger*

Judge's comments: *Good look at importance of newspapers to communities, thoughtful but ending lacked punch.*

THIRD PLACE

Leelanau Enterprise, *Lake Leelanau, MI*

Meakalia Previch-Liu, *Life in Loss*

Judge's comments: *Personal with emotional punch, subject everyone can relate to.*

HONORABLE MENTION

Casa Grande Dispatch, *Casa Grande, AZ*

Joey Chenoweth, *RTA ruling another setback for voters*

Judge's comments: *Strong main point, but needed more background information for casual reader. Lead was too long and wordy, obscuring the critical comparison.*



Column - Best Serious Column

Daily & Non-daily Division, circ. 3,000-5,999

FIRST PLACE

The Journal-News, Hillsboro, IL

Tori O'Dell, *Small Snippets*

Judge's comments: *Very readable and relatable. Your words are inspiring to so many who are struggling with health, loss, grief. Your words are authentic - not regurgitated from someone else's thoughts.*

SECOND PLACE

Uvalde Leader-News, Uvalde, TX

Craig Garnett, *Uvalde's wounds will heal, but the scars are permanent*

Judge's comments: *Craig Garnett tackles the unenviable task of describing a shooting at a local school. The questions needed to be asked. I wanted to know more about young Lexi - her loss surely impacted the entire staff.*

THIRD PLACE

The Journal-News, Hillsboro, IL

Mary (Galer) Herschelman, *A Grace-Filled Journey*

Judge's comments: *My heart goes out to you in your loss. Remember, not everyone is familiar with your story and have not read what you wrote before. It's OK to tell it again. And you don't have to pull your punches.*

HONORABLE MENTION

The Southwestern College Sun, Chula Vista, CA

Camila A. Gonzalez, *Remembering the forgotten*

Judge's comments: *This is the first time I have read - or thought - about this subject. And I certainly needed to. Good work.*



Column - Best Serious Column

Daily & Non-daily Division, circ. less than 3,000

FIRST PLACE

Shelter Island Reporter, *Mattituck, NY*

Ambrose Clancy, *An Anniversary*

Judge's comments: *I went back several times to review the entries i scored the highest and this one always came out on top. It is well written and does an excellent job of telling a compelling story and having it make total sense. I liked it and I congratulate the writer for a job well done*

SECOND PLACE

Oakland Independent, *Oakland, IL*

Janice Hunt, *Every town needs a Hindsboro Fourth of July Parade*

Judge's comments: *A very convincing piece as the writer totally believes what she is telling the reader. The column was about all the good things that can happen when a community believes in itself and promotes the good things it has to offer. A very uplifting column to read. Well done.*

THIRD PLACE

The Journal, *Crosby, ND*

Cecile Wehrman, *Rulings are interesting juxtaposition*

Judge's comments: *A very good look at two matters that concern so many but cannot find agreement among those who make the laws. Well written and well thought out. A very passionate piece that is worth the read. Congratulations.*

HONORABLE MENTION

The Village Reporter, *Montpelier, OH*

Forrest R. Church, *Hospital Visit - Hidden Sugars In Food*

Judge's comments: *I was very interesting to follow the writer through his health scare. At the end you feel like cheering as it appears the worst is over and good days are ahead. Well written and even though it was long, it was easy to follow. Nice work*



Column - Best Sports Column

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

FIRST PLACE

Sioux City Journal, *Sioux City, IA*

Nick Hytrek, *Poor fan behavior fueling shortage*

Judge's comments: *How many more times must we hear the same thing across the country?*

Good comments from officials. It's important to keep getting the message out.

SECOND PLACE

The Examiner, *Beaumont, TX*

The Examiner, *LU football can be great again*

Judge's comments: *Good analysis piece. This would be read with interest by a football die-hard or a casual fan.*



Column - Best Sports Column

Daily & Non-daily Division, circ. 3,000-9,999

FIRST PLACE

Eldridge North Scott Press, *Eldridge, IA*

Scott Campbell, *Shamus is right putting family first*

Judge's comments: *I've had the pleasure of judging this category in the past. This year's contest just affirms what I have long believed - Scott Campbell is one of the best community sports columnists in the country.*

Great lead. Great story. It feels like you're right there in the locker room listening as coach and his friends talk.

SECOND PLACE

Eldridge North Scott Press, *Eldridge, IA*

Scott Campbell, *From kicking cancer to Cornhusker dream*

Judge's comments: *This writer has a real knack for finding stories, then drawing the reader in to the story. And what a story it is- a light, entertaining and informative read.*

THIRD PLACE

Jackson Hole News&Guide, *Jackson, WY*

Molly Absolon, *Dealing with death in the places that call us*

Judge's comments: *The writer was really able to put her thoughts into perspective in a way everyone could easily understand.*



Column - Best Sports Column

Daily & Non-daily Division, circ. less than 3,000

FIRST PLACE

Antelope County News, *Neligh, NE*

Carrie Pitzer, *Bigger Than Baseball*

Judge's comments: *Heartwarming column on a baseball player who got to step up to the plate following a serious ATV accident that almost cost him his life. Great story!*

SECOND PLACE

Gazebo Gazette, *Pass Christian, MS*

Hunter Dawkins, *My Time With The Franchise*

Judge's comments: *Want to meet a college football referee? Hunter brings us up close and personal with "The Franchise" of SEC fame. Well done.*

THIRD PLACE

The Citizen, *Bernardsville, NJ*

Bob Decker, *Bob Decker*

Judge's comments: *Bob Decker gets the inside and family story on a legendary lacrosse coach. All about family.*

HONORABLE MENTION

Cedar County News, *Hartington, NE*

Rob Dump, *Best sports column - Frost era comes to an icy end*

Judge's comments: *Good job explaining that whole Scott Frost thing to Husker fans.*



Editions - Best Headline Writing

Daily & Non-daily Division

FIRST PLACE

The N'West Iowa REVIEW, *Sheldon, IA*
Staff, *Best Headline Writing*

Judge's comments: *Straightforward headlines get the job done without much fuss. Eds get creative with Page 1 anchor story/layout. "Adoption as an Option" is clever, and more importantly, accurate.*

SECOND PLACE

The Highlands Current, *Cold Spring, NY*
Staff, *Highlands Current*

Judge's comments: *Classic design. Headlines sharp and accurate. Solid look with design and typography playing well together.*

THIRD PLACE

Uinta County Herald, *Evanston, WY*
Bryon Glathar and Don Cogger, *Best headline writing*

Judge's comments: *Solid headlines throughout. Clean inside, though a little contrasting size might help. Brief heds might run smaller, with fewer decks. Page 1 could use an anchor story.*



Editions - Best Local News Coverage

Daily & Non-daily Division, circ. 6,000 or more

FIRST PLACE

The Taos News, *Taos, NM*

Taos News staff, *Taos News best local news coverage editions*

Judge's comments: *It's a local news category and this paper is all about local, so much so that several page 1 local stories get buried - raising cattle, recreational cannabis & Los Hermanos Penitentes stories in one edition. Success stories page is great. You know your area and deliver.*

SECOND PLACE

Hyattsville Life & Times, *Hyattsville, MD*

Imke Ahlf-Wien, Jessica Arends, Mark Betancourt, Michael Charles, John Donville, Juliette Fradin, Josie Jack, Lauren Flynn Kelly, Sophie Gorman Oriani, Paul Ruffins, Hunter Savery, Fred Seitz, Kit Slack, Claire Panak Tombes, Heather Wright, *April and September editions*

Judge's comments: *This paper offers complete package of locally produced news. Hyatt Kids pages speak well of attracting the next generation of readers. Best headlines of the entries!*

THIRD PLACE

Idaho Mountain Express, *Ketchum, ID*

Express Staff, *Idaho Mountain Express Local News Coverage*

Judge's comments: *A paper filled with strong lead & easy to read stories on local issues and events. Paper is absent of AP news and fillers. Strong opinion pages show its subscribers read and react.*

HONORABLE MENTION

The Pilot, *Southern Pines, NC*

Staff, *The Pilot, Best Local News Coverage*

Judge's comments: *A mix of many good local stories with photos and art that tell the story of the area. Paper packs a punch.*



Editions - Best Local News Coverage

Daily & Non-daily Division, circ. 3,000-5,999

FIRST PLACE

The Highlands Current, *Cold Spring, NY*
Staff, *Highlands Current*

Judge's comments: *The Highlands Current draws the reader in with its clean layout, well-composed photos and appealing graphics, and then hooks them with easy-to-read, straightforward and compelling writing. Because it is so easy to dive into, we enjoy a satisfyingly complete helping of in-depth news coverage. There is plenty of fun to be had along the way, too—i.e. On the Spot and Five Questions features—in this well-balanced, well-written and enticing newspaper. Nice work.*

SECOND PLACE

The N'West Iowa REVIEW, *Sheldon, IA*
Staff, *Editions - Best Local News Coverage*

Judge's comments: *The comprehensive coverage of a vast and diverse readership is immediately apparent. To cover that much geography and still make it read like a letter from home is impressive. Nothing is overlooked, nobody is left out. What a gift to your family of readers.*

THIRD PLACE

Eldridge North Scott Press, *Eldridge, IA*
Staff, *North Scott Press*

Judge's comments: *We love seeing the candidate Q&A series—which should be a staple of any newspaper worth its salt—and the very informative map and listing of candidates on the 2022 ballot. The community section, which combines sports, police reports, family events, obituaries and classifieds, offers a good indication of how plugged-in this newspaper is to its diverse readership and its needs, as does the vibrant letters to the editor content. You've got it all!*

HONORABLE MENTION

Buffalo Bulletin, *Buffalo, WY*
Staff, *Best local news coverage: Buffalo Bulletin*

Judge's comments: *Such a strong blend of news and regular features, appealing to a range of readers of all ages and inclinations, from front to back. Local editorials, cartoons and letters to the editor—combined with news addressing the tough issues that face the community—offer ample proof of this newspaper's true heart and its commitment to reflecting the unique culture of this western region.*



Editions - Best Local News Coverage

Daily & Non-daily Division, circ. less than 3,000

FIRST PLACE

Steele County Times, *Blooming Prairie, MN*

Staff, *Best Local News*

Judge's comments: *Lots of local news. The veterans features are solid! School coverage, too. Fantastic job.*

SECOND PLACE

The Journal, *Crosby, ND*

Journal Publishing Staff, *The Journal, Crosby, ND*

Judge's comments: *Great variety of local news and its impact on citizens/readers. The ag insert is a nice touch and important to your area. Well done!*

THIRD PLACE

The Tioga Tribune, *Tioga, ND*

Cecile Wehrman, publisher, *Tioga Tribune, Tioga ND*

Judge's comments: *A wide variety of local coverage: school, business, local government, special interests. Keep up the good work.*

HONORABLE MENTION

The Ark, *Tiburon, CA*

Kevin Hessel, Ark Staff, *The Ark - April 27 & Sept. 28*

Judge's comments: *Outstanding job. Like the variety of articles, including features.*



Editions - Best Use of Photographs

Daily & Non-daily Division

FIRST PLACE

Antelope County News, *Neligh, NE*
Staff, *Antelope County News*

Judge's comments: *So many photos are great, showing emotion and strength in several different sections of the paper. From sports to news and features, this publication displays great photos in all aspects. Great job!*

SECOND PLACE

Philadelphia Gay News, *Philadelphia, PA*
PGN Staff, *Philadelphia Gay News*

Judge's comments: *It's rare that almost every photo in a publication is great. Proper exposure, composition, color balance, etc. All the photos show excellent emotion and strength and are well placed. Great job!*

THIRD PLACE

Marietta Monitor, *Marietta, OK*

Connor Choate, Willis Choate, Joani Hartin, Austin Anthony, Rebecca Carroll, Donna Martin, Bronwyn Carter, Linda Hicks, and Anabel Ulloa, *05-06-2022 Edition, and 10-28-2022 Edition*

Judge's comments: *Excellent job showing closeups, medium and wide shots with portraits, landscapes, action shots, etc. of each unique and local story. The photos are great with nice placement on the pages. Great job!*

HONORABLE MENTION

Vilas County News-Review, *Eagle River, WI*
Staff, *Best Use of Photo 1-19-22, 1-26-22*

Judge's comments: *Great photos of local and unique events. Nice job with showing different aspects of each event with closeups, medium and wide shots. Nice placement on the pages, too. Great job!*



2023 NNAF Editorial & Advertising Contest
List of Winners

Editorial - Best Editorial

Non-daily Division, circ. 10,000-14,999

FIRST PLACE

The Examiner, *Beaumont, TX*

The Examiner, *West Brook or Breaking Bad?*

Judge's comments: *Strong editorial exposing school violence and calling for school administrators to take responsibility.*

SECOND PLACE

Philadelphia Gay News, *Philadelphia, PA*

Jason Villemez, *Your equal rights might be gone soon in PA and elsewhere*

Judge's comments: *Clear defense of gay rights and need to fight for them.*

THIRD PLACE

The Examiner, *Beaumont, TX*

The Examiner, *Delusions of grandeur mix with just plain delusions*

Judge's comments: *Newspaper says "I told you so" over financial deals*

HONORABLE MENTION

The Examiner, *Beaumont, TX*

The Examiner, *Calculated or complacent*

Judge's comments: *Main point well taken, but complaint not as well exposed as intended.*



Editorial - Best Editorial

Non-daily Division, circ. 6,000-9,999

FIRST PLACE

The Taos News, *Taos, NM*

John Miller, *What a community loses when the local paper closes*

Judge's comments: *Very well written piece. It's factual, without bombarding the reader with boring information. Looking at this subject through the long lens of history is a nice touch. An important topic that needed to be addressed.*

SECOND PLACE

Leelanau Enterprise, *Lake Leelanau, MI*

Alan Campbell, *Opioid disorder grows amid COVID*

Judge's comments: *This editorial takes on a tough subject in a well written, folksy style that's easy to digest. It's almost like listening to your back yard neighbor tell a story as you both pull weeds. It's an important message, but one that could have easily been lost or ignored with a more somber tone.*

THIRD PLACE

The News-Gazette, *Lexington, VA*

Ed Smith, *Electing School Board Members - Editorial*

Judge's comments: *The writer did a solid job of laying out the facts. In doing so, however, the writer walks a tightrope between two factions, afraid to step too firmly in one direction or the other. A stronger editorial voice would have aided this entry.*

HONORABLE MENTION

The Taos News, *Taos, NM*

John Miller, *Wildfire season is here. Remember what Smokey said.*

Judge's comments: *Well written. A very solid piece. This writer knows how to get the point across in a light, entertaining way.*



Editorial - Best Editorial

Non-daily Division, circ. 4,000-5,999

FIRST PLACE

The N'West Iowa REVIEW, *Sheldon, IA*
Tom Lawrence, *Editorial - Best Editorial*

Judge's comments: *So well written. Sharp, direct, and correct on the issue of transparency in election scheduling from Iowa's Sec of State. The follow up is what gave this editorial the edge. Demonstrating the impact of local news/editorials. Bravo.*

SECOND PLACE

The Hinsdalean, *Hinsdale, IL*
Pamela Lannom, *D86 equity initiative needs public deliberation*

Judge's comments: *An interesting issue, in which a seemingly progressive initiative (diversity/equity/inclusion) runs into the common practice of school district secrecy. In this case claiming the district's RFP is exempt from FOIA. This direct, tight writing brings the issue front and center. Effective. So well done.*

THIRD PLACE

Eldridge North Scott Press, *Eldridge, IA*
Scott Campbell, *Volunteer firefighters need full-time help*

Judge's comments: *Volunteer firefighters are a dying breed in small towns across America. Scott Campbell makes it personal, and as the newspaper's editor he also presents the issue perfectly. Tightly written, and important.*

HONORABLE MENTION

Eldridge North Scott Press, *Eldridge, IA*
Bill Tubbs, *Tubbs - NCP Best Editorial*

Judge's comments: *Nice job bringing the issue of local news, and freedom of the press around the world into the homes of Eldridge, Iowa. Well done.*



Editorial - Best Editorial

Non-daily Division, circ. 2,000-3,999

FIRST PLACE

Uvalde Leader-News, *Uvalde, TX*

Craig Garnett, *Delay may be darkest hour ever*

Judge's comments: *An extremely difficult subject to tackle, but done respectfully without the anger that could easily take over such an editorial.*

SECOND PLACE

The Rock County Star Herald, *Luverne, MN*

Lori Sorenson, *A suicide note from a grieving mother*

Judge's comments: *Stunningly important message for a world of young humans bent on hero worship for those who take their own lives.*

THIRD PLACE

Fort Bend Herald & Texas Coaster, *Rosenberg, TX*

Editorials are all unsigned at The Herald, *Are the Sheriff and DA too friendly? Have you no decency, sir?*

Judge's comments: *Yes, they are, across the nation. Great job on describing this problem unfolding in so many counties.*

HONORABLE MENTION

Port Aransas South Jetty, *Port Aransas, TX*

Mary Henkel Judson, *Workforce safety: A matter of safety*

Judge's comments: *Congratulations to Mary Henkel Judson at Port Aransas South Jetty for choosing an unglamorous subject, but with deep-reaching implications for any community, and making it both understandable and obvious as to its importance. Bravo!*



Editorial - Best Editorial Page(s)

Daily & Non-daily Division, circ. 6,000 or more

FIRST PLACE

Wyoming Tribune Eagle, *Cheyenne, WY*

Brian Martin, *Wyoming Tribune Eagle Editorial Pages*

Judge's comments: *Solid pages with good, relevant variety, robust letters section. Point, counterpoint feature is excellent. Attractive and inviting page design. Very difficult, competitive category.*

SECOND PLACE

The Pilot, *Southern Pines, NC*

John Nagy, David Woronoff, *The Pilot, Best Editorial Page*

Judge's comments: *Nice balance of columns and editorials; lively letters column, clean, attractive page design. Difficult to choose winners because they all are!*

THIRD PLACE

The Taos News, *Taos, NM*

John Miller, *Taos News best editorial pages*

Judge's comments: *Slightly less variety than the other winners, but still a well-done product. Give your readers some additional voices, boost the participation in letters to the editor and you'll place higher. Good job.*



2023 NNAF Editorial & Advertising Contest
List of Winners

Editorial - Best Editorial Page(s)

Daily & Non-daily Division, circ. less than 6,000

FIRST PLACE

The N'West Iowa REVIEW, *Sheldon, IA*
Staff, *Editorial - Best Editorial Pages*

Judge's comments: *Attractive layout, good mix of editorials and columns, strong letters, two-page commitment to opinions is impressive.*

SECOND PLACE

Vilas County News-Review, *Eagle River, WI*
Staff, *Best Editorial Pages 10-19-22, 10-26-22*

Judge's comments: *Clean layout but too many jumps. Nice mix of columns, editorials, and letters. Strong commitment to opinion shows in its dedication of two pages or more or space.*

THIRD PLACE

Steele County Times, *Blooming Prairie, MN*
Staff, *Best Editorial Pages*

Judge's comments: *Clean layout, good mix of columns and editorials*

HONORABLE MENTION

Buffalo Bulletin, *Buffalo, WY*
Staff, *Best editorial page*

Judge's comments: *Good mix of columns, editorial, and letters.*



Editorial - Best Original Editorial Cartoon

Daily & Non-daily Division

FIRST PLACE

The Southwestern College Sun, *Chula Vista, CA*
Alicia Rivero, *Sexual assault a plague for college women*

Judge's comments: *By far the most powerful and unconventional of the entries. Yes, there's minimal "art" work to it, but it's well designed well executed. I couldn't get the imagery out of my head well after I had looked away.*

SECOND PLACE

Moonshine Ink, *Truckee, CA*
Mike English, *Water Clarity*

Judge's comments: *Mike English has created a great twist of editorial cartooning with his use of a set-up line for his Shine On offerings. Nicely drawn, well thought out and highly local, but with enough for an outsider like me to get it.*

THIRD PLACE

Omak-Okanogan County Chronicle, *Omak, WA*
Brad Skiff, *The Hunt for Red November*

Judge's comments: *Nicely brings home to Washington State the big national political story of 2022 -- the red wave that never materialized. Well drawn, well played, well thought-out.*

HONORABLE MENTION

Cedar County News, *Hartington, NE*
Wayne Stroot, *Best Original cartoon - parents struggle with State tny choices*

Judge's comments: *Good visual commentary on a one-year frustration that makes a solid companion to the column next to it. Very traditional newspaper editorial cartoon style, down to being black-and-white -- but the point gets across.*



FOI - Freedom of Information

Daily & Non-daily Division

FIRST PLACE

The Alamance News, *Graham, NC*

Tom Boney, Jr., *FOI - Freedom of Information*

Judge's comments: *Extremely well written and well reasoned series that deserves high recognition for dealing honestly with the importance of freedom of information to protect the public's right to know.*

SECOND PLACE

Warwick Advertiser, *Chester, NY*

Becca Tucker, *Latest front in the culture wars: school library books*

Judge's comments: *An important subject well handled that puts an important focus on a troubling societal problem today. Spotlights how good journalism can impact a significant issue in need of reversal of the trend.*

THIRD PLACE

Philadelphia Gay News, *Philadelphia, PA*

Tim Cwiek, *Nizah Morris coverage*

Judge's comments: *Well researched and written account with both narrative and editorial coverage that might have been ignored by less talented journalists. Lesser journalists could have passed on a dead case and not put in the work digging out the facts. Good job.*

HONORABLE MENTION

Trempealeau County Times, *Whitehall, WI*

Andrew Dannehy, *Local senate candidate accused of misconduct while working as police officer*

Judge's comments: *Elections in the past few years have revealed the importance of digging out the information voters need to make informed decisions. Not an easy task, but it's what the job needs to be.*



2023 NNAF Editorial & Advertising Contest
List of Winners

General Excellence

Daily Division

FIRST PLACE

Sioux City Journal, *Sioux City, IA*

Sioux City Journal Staff, *April 15, 2022, Sept. 2, 2022 and Sept. 3, 2022 editions*

Judge's comments: *Great comprehensive coverage of community health challenges, revealing statistics, and personification that makes this story grab readers' eyes and minds. The second cited focus feature is "OK", but doesn't capture and compel readership so much as the health series. For the rest of the issues, good but limited local coverage: AP and other resources carried the pages. Excellent sport section: more local effort in these examples than in the news pages. Advertising is on point and creative; good arts section with thoughtful local writing. Just a GOOD local daily! Opinion writing needs better ID. Nice formatting and good visual elements.*

SECOND PLACE

Wyoming Tribune Eagle, *Cheyenne, WY*

WTE staff, *Wyoming Tribune Eagle*

Judge's comments: *Broad state coverage using what appears to be a shared-story network with other state newspapers. Generally good coverage of community newsmaking institutions and people. Good classified section with legal notices. Doubtless local sport coverage of readers' interests. Could use more in-depth coverage of local issues, at least from examining this entry's selections. Opinion focus features local political voices. Somewhat static formatting.*



General Excellence

Non-daily Division, circ. 10,000 or more

FIRST PLACE

Park Cities People, *Dallas, TX*

Park Cities People, *General Excellence - Park Cities People*

Judge's comments: *This entry set a high bar for all that followed. Excellent coverage, writing that engaged the reader immediately, attractive graphics and effective photography. Nice job in localizing international and national issues. Attractive presentation of routine info such as legals and classifieds.*

SECOND PLACE

Idaho Mountain Express, *Ketchum, ID*

Express Staff, *Idaho Mountain Express General Excellence*

Judge's comments: *Excellent mix of stories, well reported and written; clean layout and fine use of photos and graphics Editorials were solid and lifestyle stories well integrated without sacrificing hard news. Nice use of bold on classified ads to make them stand out and display ads were very attractive. A fine job*

THIRD PLACE

Philadelphia Gay News, *Philadelphia, PA*

Staff, *Philadelphia Gay News*

Judge's comments: *This entry serves its readers responsibly with well researched and written copy, and strong presentation of issues. Leads involve the reader well and hold attention. Use of graphics is effective and headlines pull the reader into stories rapidly. Great job of localizing international stories. Throughout reading the entries, this judge kept thinking "lucky readers" of this fine publication.*

HONORABLE MENTION

The Pilot, *Southern Pines, NC*

Staff, *The Pilot, General Excellence*

Judge's comments: *Another fine publication with terrific choices of stories, consistently well written. Good mix of news, features, sports and strong presentation of display ads as well as solid handling of classifieds and legals. Very good job.*



General Excellence

Non-daily Division, circ. 6,000-9,999

FIRST PLACE

The Taos News, Taos, NM
Staff, General Excellence

Judge's comments: *A well-written, well-reported, well-designed and well-edited community paper that punches above its weight in so many ways. In the issues submitted to the contest, readers get in-depth local coverage of the housing crisis, weather patterns, great narrative stories of a shooting victim and the town's last brick and mortar video store. Sports coverage is varied and the separate Tempo arts and entertainment section is informative and equals the vibrant Taos arts scene. And top that off there is a special section -- Tradiciones including great long-form writing and eye-catching design. Bravo!*

SECOND PLACE

Jackson Hole News&Guide, Jackson, WY
Staff, Jackson Hole News&Guide general excellence issues: April 6, Sept. 7, Sept. 14

Judge's comments: *A good mix of great storytelling, design, photos and breaking news reporting in the issues reviewed. The hefty paper is a credit to its staff and a valuable asset to this mountain community.*

THIRD PLACE

Leelanau Enterprise, Lake Leelanau, MI
Editorial Dept., Creative Dept., Advertising Dept., General Excellence category submission

Judge's comments: *The Leelanau Enterprise puts a premium on local reporting and news coverage. In an era of shrinking news organization budgets, it was refreshing to see local bylines on many topics, a variety of local voices in letters, a vibrant sports section, and some engaging feature writing. It's all tied up in a nice, clean design.*



2023 NNAF Editorial & Advertising Contest
List of Winners

General Excellence

Non-daily Division, circ. 3,000-5,999

FIRST PLACE

The N'West Iowa REVIEW, *Sheldon, IA*
Staff, *General Excellence*

Judge's comments: *Nicely cut up, no long blocks of reading. Easy on the eye.*

SECOND PLACE

The Highlands Current, *Cold Spring, NY*
Staff, *Highlands Current*

Judge's comments: *Very nice LOVE the week ahead feature*

THIRD PLACE

The Alamance News, *Graham, NC*
Staff, *General Excellence*

Judge's comments: *Nice layout but missing large sports pictures.*

HONORABLE MENTION

Wallkill Valley Times, *Newburgh, NY*
Carl Aiello, *Wallkill Valley Times, 3/29, 4/06 and 9/21/22*

Judge's comments: *Nice build, liked all the white space.*



2023 NNAF Editorial & Advertising Contest List of Winners

General Excellence

Non-daily Division, circ. less than 3,000

FIRST PLACE

Antelope County News, *Neligh, NE*
Staff, *Antelope County News*

Judge's comments: *From its well-designed front page to its readable public notices, the Antelope County News packs information, commentary, and human interest articles covering an entire county into its 12-16 pages each week. Crisp, tightly framed, and clearly captioned photos catch the eye, complementing concisely written articles that include relevant data and pertinent quotes. A front-page sidebar gives at-a-glance event info from across the county as well as a bullet-point listing of public notices inside. Sports coverage is balanced across multiple sports, and thorough church and event listings across the county keep readers connected socially. Thoughtfully designed and placed ads and sufficient white space throughout complete the package. Special kudos for the creative combination of photos and school board report on the September 14 front page!*

SECOND PLACE

News Letter Journal, *Newcastle, WY*
NLJ Staff, *News Letter Journal*

Judge's comments: *The News Letter Journal informs readers of county and county-seat government, school, and community activity and also includes a round-up of news from across the state in its well-written and well-designed paper. Photos and graphics throughout add interest, provide visual information, and draw readers to the written text. Editorial commentary both raises questions and concerns and also acknowledges when those concerns are addressed. Reader feedback is encouraged not just through letters but also through quickly—and anonymously—answered polls. Worth noting is the creative masthead with its subtle reminder each week of the Who-What-Where-When-Why of good journalism.*

THIRD PLACE

Marietta Monitor, *Marietta, OK*

Connor Choate, Willis Choate, Joani Hartin, Rebecca Carroll, Donna Martin, Bronwyn Carter, Linda Hicks, and Nic McMillan, *04-15-2022 Edition, 04-22-2022 Edition, and 09-09-2022 Edition*

Judge's comments: *With tight editing and clear writing, the Marietta Monitor provides balanced coverage of the community it serves from government entities to athletes and outdoors users to elementary school students who, for example, get full write-ups with quotes from their teachers when they receive awards—building both current and future readership. An editorial column and cartoon, puzzles, and photos add interest; the diamond-shaped bullets used throughout bring cohesiveness to the overall design and make the public notices and classified pages especially easy to read.*

HONORABLE MENTION

The Journal, *Crosby, ND*

Journal Publishing Staff, *The Journal, Crosby, ND*

Judge's comments: *The Journal packs its pages full of well-written news and feature articles, retrospectives, and columns covering one county and two cities within the county. Colorful photos deliver visual information and help connect readers with people and events. The Journal also includes relevant statewide coverage provided through a news cooperative, and it subscribes to and makes space for a feature created especially for the youngest readers in the community.*



Legacy.com®

Best Obituary Tribute

Daily & Non-daily Division

FIRST PLACE

Jackson Hole News&Guide, Jackson, WY

Billy Arnold, *Londy loved things 'designed to break your heart'*

Judge's comments: *Ambitious long-form obituary that goes in-depth in explicating the impact of a colorful life. Well sourced, with each anecdote & remembrance evoking a person we feel would have been fascinating to know.*

SECOND PLACE

Yankton Daily Press & Dakotan, Yankton, SD

Dockendorf, *Annie Lanning*

Judge's comments: *This is almost a perfect archetypal example of a good local news obituary. Takes a tragic news-event death and proceeds to paint a clear, effective portrait of the subject's life's impact on her community.*

THIRD PLACE

The Ark, Tiburon, CA

Deirdre McCrohan, *Award-winning ex-Ark reporter had third for knowledge, adventure*

Judge's comments: *This is a truly admirable job of honoring a noteworthy life story while handling the fact of suicide with absolute respect, sympathy, and a complete lack of stigma.*

HONORABLE MENTION

The Pilot, Southern Pines, NC

Mary Kate Murphy, *A Quiet Champion*

Judge's comments: *Very good work connecting a beloved coach's personal life story to his professional kudos. Solid storytelling. Well-chosen quotes from colleagues and friends; family are not quoted but are present in thoughtful depictions.*



Photo - Best Breaking News Photo

Daily Division, Non-daily Division, 15,000 or more

FIRST PLACE

Sioux City Journal, *Sioux City, IA*

Tim Hynds, *Correctionville Fire, April 8, 2022*

Judge's comments: *Great job of catching flames shooting up into the sky. I can feel the heat just looking at the photo! I'm certain this photo captivated your readers and attracted people walking by the newsstands, which good photos are supposed to do. Photos like these remind your readers why newspapers continue to play an important role in their daily lives. Great job! Keep it up!*

SECOND PLACE

The Pilot, *Southern Pines, NC*

Ted Fitzgerald, *Car Versus Train*

Judge's comments: *Good job getting to the scene of this accident before the vehicle was righted and hauled away. Getting the officer taking information was an added bonus. The reflection in the water increases reader interest. Good job! Keep it up!*



Photo - Best Breaking News Photo

Non-daily Division, circ. 6,000-9,999

FIRST PLACE

The Taos News, *Taos, NM*

Nathan Burton, *'She was begging for protection'*

Judge's comments: *Very gripping and emotional photo! It is captivating and brings you right in to what is happening. It has superb lighting. The framing of the subject matter is tremendous. Excellent photojournalism!*

SECOND PLACE

Moonshine Ink, *Truckee, CA*

Mayumi Peacock, *Finding Kiely*

Judge's comments: *A very sad ending to a tragedy. The photographer does a great job of capturing the scene and showing all the emergency workers involved in the recovery. Nicely framed to show the entire area.*

THIRD PLACE

Jackson Hole News&Guide, *Jackson, WY*

Bradly J. Boner, *Spud blow-down*

Judge's comments: *It is great to have an elevated view of the damage as well as showing the entire area around it. This puts you right at the scene to understand the gravity of the storm.*



2023 NNAF Editorial & Advertising Contest
List of Winners

Photo - Best Feature Photo

Daily Division

FIRST PLACE

Watertown Daily Times, *Watertown, WI*
Ed Zagorski, *Rain dampens Silent Parade*

Judge's comments: *This #1 photo made took my breath away. The lighting at night made the effect of the color guard's walk in the rain even more powerful. Words were not needed at that point.*

SECOND PLACE

Sioux City Journal, *Sioux City, IA*
Owen Ziliak, *2022 Saturday in the Park- Black Pistol Fire*

Judge's comments: *The interaction between musician and his audience is perfectly captured in this spot-on photograph. We are there.*

THIRD PLACE

The Wyoming Truth, *Laramie, WY*
Matt Stirn, *Father & Son at the Teton Pow Wow*

Judge's comments: *The colorful costumes of the father/son are wonderful, and the photographer's unique viewpoint sets the scene so well. It speaks volumes about passing traditions down to the next generation.*

HONORABLE MENTION

Wyoming Tribune Eagle, *Cheyenne, WY*
Alyte Katilius, *"What's taking them so long?"*

Judge's comments: *The viewer can tell right away what this young girl on horseback is thinking. A simple photo says it all.*



Photo - Best Feature Photo

Non-daily Division, circ. 6,000-14,999

FIRST PLACE

The Taos News, *Taos, NM*

Nathan Burton, *Teaching the art of mounted combat*

Judge's comments: *The only word for this photo is: stunning. It tells a whole story in a single shot, while begging the reader to dig in and find out more. What a compelling piece of photojournalism.*

SECOND PLACE

Jackson Hole News&Guide, *Jackson, WY*

Kathryn Ziesig, *Teton County Fair*

Judge's comments: *This photo is so creative that it takes the viewer a moment to get oriented! What could have been another banal fair shot took "angle" and "energy" to completely new heights -- really impressive!*

THIRD PLACE

Jackson Hole News&Guide, *Jackson, WY*

Bradly J. Boner, *Football sunset*

Judge's comments: *Beautiful composition and timing. Rather than drawing emotive response from the faces of the players, this shot uses the fading light and the players' postures to convey exhaustion, teamwork and a fighting spirit.*

HONORABLE MENTION

Jackson Hole News&Guide, *Jackson, WY*

Kathryn Ziesig, *Fourth of July*

Judge's comments: *This is a feature photo you can almost hear -- from the sizzle of the sparkler to the shrieks of delight. It's a relatable moment that will draw in readers, just as a feature photo should. Great focus and composition here.*



Photo - Best Feature Photo

Non-daily Division, circ. 4,000-5,999

FIRST PLACE

Cody Enterprise, *Cody, WY*

Lauren Modler, *Under the table*

Judge's comments: *Nice job of seeing and finding a funny moment. At first glance, it looks ordinary. With the person under the table, it makes the viewer feel involved and as though the viewer "found it." Well Done!*

SECOND PLACE

Vilas County News-Review, *Eagle River, WI*

Michelle Drew, *Shotskis Record Attempt*

Judge's comments: *Well done. This not the typical scene a viewer would be expecting to see. The humor is good, the repetition, grouping and similarity are excellent.*

THIRD PLACE

The Standard Banner, *Jefferson City, TN*

Steven Lloyd, *RO"TC: A hand up and over*

Judge's comments: *This is funny, good to make the viewer laugh. The moment with the two helpers is just right, not soon and not too late. Well done.*

HONORABLE MENTION

The Highlands Current, *Cold Spring, NY*

Ross Corsair, *Contentment*

Judge's comments: *Nice seeing, a moment not often found. From a composition standpoint, having the character in the middle of the frame isn't the best. Use the Rule of Thirds. Research supports images are better composed when using this.*



2023 NNAF Editorial & Advertising Contest
List of Winners

Photo - Best Feature Photo

Non-daily Division, circ. 2,000-3,999

FIRST PLACE

Douglas Budget, *Douglas, WY*

RJ Morgan, *Hare-Raising Fun*

Judge's comments: *A colorful shot that captures the excitement and fun of the event. Perfect timing.*

SECOND PLACE

Steele County Times, *Blooming Prairie, MN*

Rick Bussler, *Dog-Gone Fun*

Judge's comments: *Who knew dog balancing is a thing?*

The right angle made for a very good capture of the team effort by the trainer and the rescue dog.

THIRD PLACE

Fort Bend Herald & Texas Coaster, *Rosenberg, TX*

Scott Reese Willey, Dave Sanders, *Fun at the county fair; prom king selfie, welcome back to school*

Judge's comments: *Prom King Selfie is a good action shot capturing action and reactions.*

HONORABLE MENTION

Wright County Journal, *Mountain Grove, MO*

Ron Schott, *Enjoying a moment with a camel*

Judge's comments: *A nice shot of the owner and her camel that could have been improved by zooming in closer to capture their eyes and expressions.*



2023 NNAF Editorial & Advertising Contest
List of Winners

Photo - Best Photo Essay

Daily & Non-daily Division, circ. 12,000 or more

FIRST PLACE

Sioux City Journal, *Sioux City, IA*

Tim Hynds, *Agony and Joy: Dordt basketball wins*

Judge's comments: *By far, the strongest entry in this category. Outstanding photojournalism. The photographer does a tremendous job of capturing raw emotion involved with whatever subject matter is at hand. Readers are fortunate to get great action shots with superb emotion. Photos are cropped appropriately to show the action at hand. Some of the best photos I've ever seen in any contest! Well done!!*

SECOND PLACE

Philadelphia Gay News, *Philadelphia, PA*

Kelly Burkhardt, *Pride 2022*

Judge's comments: *Nice work in showcasing the Pride Festival. The photos are strong and show lots of emotion and action of the various events going on. Great job in pulling together a wide variety of photos.*

THIRD PLACE

The Examiner, *Beaumont, TX*

The Examiner, *Mixtape Tour*

Judge's comments: *Good action shots of the concert, along with some close-ups of emotion. Nice color and lighting throughout all the photos.*



2023 NNAF Editorial & Advertising Contest
List of Winners

Photo - Best Photo Essay

Daily & Non-daily Division, circ. 6,000-11,999

FIRST PLACE

Jackson Hole News&Guide, *Jackson, WY*

Kathryn Ziesig, *Drag Queen - Aurora Queen of the Night*

Judge's comments: *Fabulous photos. Each one a gem and collectively, tell a compelling story. Photographer was very creative -- and technically adept -- at getting multifaceted angles that added to the drama of this photo essay. Well done!*



Photo - Best Sports Photo

Non-daily Division, circ. 2,000 - 2,999

FIRST PLACE

Wright County Journal, *Mountain Grove, MO*

Ron Schott, *Davault glides through the air*

Judge's comments: *Great action shot. Good anticipation of where the action would be. This type of shot takes great judgment on behalf of the photographer.*

SECOND PLACE

The Edgerton Reporter, *Edgerton, WI*

Jeff Brown, *Sports Photo - Brian Rusch*

Judge's comments: *This shot is dynamic and has captured stunning action. Great shot and good anticipation of the action.*

THIRD PLACE

The Edgerton Reporter, *Edgerton, WI*

Jeff Brown, *Sports Photo - Shane Crandall*

Judge's comments: *Excellent shot. Good work.*



2023 NNAF Editorial & Advertising Contest
List of Winners

Photo - Best Photo Essay

Daily & Non-daily Division, circ. 3,000-5,999

FIRST PLACE

Vilas County News-Review, *Eagle River, WI*

Michelle Drew, *Fun at the Fair*

Judge's comments: *Fun at the county fair! These photos were filled with smiling faces - which in turn made me smile! Great quality.*

SECOND PLACE

Buffalo Bulletin, *Buffalo, WY*

Ethan Weston, *One final go*

Judge's comments: *The action photo should have been featured. Otherwise, excellent photos of a girl and her horse.*

THIRD PLACE

The Hinsdalean, *Hinsdale, IL*

Jim Slonoff, *Hinsdale Central graduation*

Judge's comments: *Three or four of these photos would have sufficed. Loved the jubilant grad's expression and would have lead with that photo. Nice coverage of the ceremony.*

HONORABLE MENTION

Douglas Budget, *Douglas, WY*

Matt Adelman, Joshua Leach, *State Champions x2*

Judge's comments: *Don't be afraid to crop. Nice selection of photos.*



Photo - Best Photo Essay

Daily & Non-daily Division, circ. less than 3,000

FIRST PLACE

Marietta Monitor, *Marietta, OK*

Austin Anthony, Connor Choate, Anabel Ulloa, and Linda Hicks, *Last Peanut Farmer: Once a booming business, peanut farms fading fast*

Judge's comments: *Outstanding work on this photo essay!! I had you as my clear first place for several reasons.*

- 1. Super creative choices here, notably the bottom right image on page 12 of dark farmer outlined contrasting with vivid, color-popping sky. The lead image of the tractor and sprawling tree was superbly framed and conceived.*
- 2. The pairing of the excellent shot of aged hands peeling a peanut placed adjacent to an eye-opening infographic with change in numbers of peanut farmers was brilliant combination of great image and masterful layout. Really tells the story in two elements. Awesome.*
- 3. I loved mixing together the agricultural elements of the field work, the interior processing as well as photos of the farmer. Great job on this entire package. You told a story in words and images that made readers get the big picture. Congrats. Thank you.*

SECOND PLACE

The Chronicle, *Elgin, OK*

Steve Booker, *Crawds 'n Rods*

Judge's comments: *I really enjoyed this entry & rated it 2nd place in a competitive entry class. Why? 1. great diversity (and a lot) of images. You hit all the bases for a festival photo spread. 2. I really liked the technical skill - each photo was clearly focused, had real nice framing and captured brilliantly colors. 3. The photographer really captured clear, focused facial expressions on moving circus rides (that's not easy!) 4. and lastly, the very creative color swirl image of a spinning ride on the top of page 10 was a genius image that popped bigly. Thank you.*

THIRD PLACE

Stanton Register, *Stanton, NE*

Dylan Widger & Carrie Pitzer, *Border Wars Gone Wil*

Judge's comments: *Great illustration here of a deep rural Nebraska tradition. I felt that while not the most photos of all the entries, the photographer made great work with the few chosen. I felt the flame image was stellar and also the top of page photo of the cheering, wild crowd members... good job on these, which I clearly felt gave readers a true and insightful understanding of the passion behind these events. Kudos to you and thanks.*

HONORABLE MENTION

Steele County Times, *Blooming Prairie, MN*

Rick Bussler, *Celebrate the Red, White & Blue,*

Judge's comments: *Much appreciation for this photo essay of community celebrating the nation's birthday. I thought there was good diversity of images; plenty of them, too; and especially liked the focus and technical skill of the calf drinking water, the man with the Mohawk in sunlight and also the roller coaster with riders upside down. Very good work here. Keep it up. Thank you.*



2023 NNAF Editorial & Advertising Contest
List of Winners

Photo - Best Sports Photo

Daily Division

FIRST PLACE

Sioux City Journal, *Sioux City, IA*

Tim Hynds, *Remsen St. Mary's vs Akron Westfield Class 1A regional softball championship*

Judge's comments: *The photographer captured a very nice moment*

SECOND PLACE

Wyoming Tribune Eagle, *Cheyenne, WY*

Alyte Katilius, *Down, but not out*

Judge's comments: *An unusual sports photo. Photographer got a great story telling image*

THIRD PLACE

Sioux City Journal, *Sioux City, IA*

Tim Hynds, *Remsen St. Mary's vs New London state baseball*

Judge's comments: *A great play at the plate photo*



2023 NNAF Editorial & Advertising Contest
List of Winners

Photo - Best Sports Photo

Non-daily Division, circ. 5,000 or more

FIRST PLACE

The State Port Pilot, *Southport, NC*

Michael Paul, *South girls end in tie*

Judge's comments: *Perfect timing for a terrific shot of a header. Very nice sports action photo and everything is sharp. Well done.*

SECOND PLACE

The Taos News, *Taos, NM*

Nathan Burton, *Ice fishing*

Judge's comments: *What a unique photo! The image says it all. The passion of ice fishing. The cold. The fog rising above the ice. Great job.*

THIRD PLACE

Sparta Monroe County Herald, *Sparta, WI*

Kyle Evans, *Westby Ski Jump photo.*

Judge's comments: *So this is what it looks like to ski jump. Photographer does a great job in showing that from high above.*

HONORABLE MENTION

The State Port Pilot, *Southport, NC*

Michael Paul, *Touchdown!*

Judge's comments: *Nice celebration shot. Not always easy to capture. Well done.*



2023 NNAF Editorial & Advertising Contest
List of Winners

Photo - Best Sports Photo

Non-daily Division, circ. 3,000-4,999

FIRST PLACE

Buffalo Bulletin, *Buffalo, WY*

Ethan Weston, *Over the net*

Judge's comments: *The eyes tell the who photo in this well timed photo.*

SECOND PLACE

The Standard Banner, *Jefferson City, TN*

Dennis Barker, Jr., *Crucial Save*

Judge's comments: *Saving a shot with his head, this player shows his determination with his face.*

THIRD PLACE

Observer-Tribune East/West, *Bernardsville, NJ*

Jim Petrucci, *Flying Catch*

Judge's comments: *Perfect timing!*

HONORABLE MENTION

Douglas Budget, *Douglas, WY*

RJ Morgan, *Wright T-Ball*

Judge's comments: *Keeping his eye on the ball must have been hard for the kid in the photo. Photographer did a nice job capturing the moment.*



Photo - Best Sports Photo

Non-daily Division, circ. less than 2,000

FIRST PLACE

The Village Reporter, *Montpelier, OH*

Jacob Kessler, *Amazing Fall Scrimmage Catch*

Judge's comments: *It was special enough to have a photo of a leaping one-handed catch at the football game, but to get the exact moment the ball hits the player's hand is what vaults this to first place.*

SECOND PLACE

Cedar County News, *Hartington, NE*

Jeremy Buss, *Best Sports Photo - pole vault going over*

Judge's comments: *Here's an angle I've never seen before now: underneath the bar in a pole vault competition. Always grateful for sports photographers who get creative; it paid off here.*

THIRD PLACE

Uinta County Herald, *Evanston, WY*

Don Cogger, *Cowboy Days barrel racer*

Judge's comments: *So many great details in this rodeo photo: the backdrop, the dirt getting kicked up, the rider's expression and even the horse's expression!*

HONORABLE MENTION

Cedar County News, *Hartington, NE*

Jeremy Buss, *Best Sports Photo - State VB Champs*

Judge's comments: *Six players in the photo, and six unique and awesome expressions reacting to the action in a state championship volleyball match.*



2023 NNAF Editorial & Advertising Contest
List of Winners

Review - Best Review

Daily & Non-daily Division

FIRST PLACE

The Southwestern College Sun, *Chula Vista, CA*

Camila A. Gonzalez, *'The Addams Family' is frightfully good theater*

Judge's comments: *A great lead! This review is well done, with helpful details for anyone who missed the show or who wanted to see it.*

The point about the risks of a performance based on a well-known TV show (and movie!) is well taken and presented well.

SECOND PLACE

Sioux City Journal, *Sioux City, IA*

Bruce Miller, *Annie doesn't quite have the same punch it once did*

Judge's comments: *The lead made me laugh out loud.*

This is a nicely done, concise review that explains its main point very well.

The reviewer does a fine job in explaining the risks of staging a musical that can become dated.

Crisply written. Great work!

THIRD PLACE

Manchester Cricket, *Manchester, MA*

Erika Brown, *Paradise Blue Gloucester Production - Review*

Judge's comments: *I like the writing style very much, but a few sentences were a mouthful and needed edits.*

While the interviews and comments were helpful, I'd like to have seen more "review" and interpretation about the performance.

HONORABLE MENTION

Southwest Ledger, *Lawton, OK*

Dr. James Finck, *'The Lemon Tree: An Arab, a Jew, and the Heart of the Middle East'*

Judge's comments: *A nicely done book review. it gave a good overview of The Lemon Tree. But I'd like to see more commentary about the book. was it well written? Did it have holes?*



Section - Best Family Life Living Section Pages

Daily & Non-daily Division

FIRST PLACE

Leelanau Enterprise, *Lake Leelanau, MI*

Editorial Dept., Creative Dept., Advertising Dept., *Silver, Spring 2022 Issue*

Judge's comments: *Beautiful photos, good personality profiles and supporting editorial content make for a great package.*

SECOND PLACE

The Ark, *Tiburon, CA*

Kevin Hessel, Ark Staff, *The Ark - April 13 & 20*

Judge's comments: *Well done! A strong local lifestyle section that is very informative and easy to read.*

THIRD PLACE

Philadelphia Gay News, *Philadelphia, PA*

Jen Colletta, *Family Forward*

Judge's comments: *Above average lifestyle news focused on families and outstanding individuals in this urban community.*

HONORABLE MENTION

News Letter Journal, *Newcastle, WY*

NLJ Staff, *Lifestyles*

Judge's comments: *Original local content and profiles that give a good sense of life in the community.*



Section - Best Special News, Sports or Feature Section or Edition

Daily & Non-daily Division, circ. 10,000 or more

FIRST PLACE

Wyoming Tribune Eagle, *Cheyenne, WY*

WTE staff, *Yellowstone National Park 150th Anniversary*

Judge's comments: *Superb, comprehensive special section. Balances useful, shorter, event-oriented information with longer, excellent features on history, etc. I especially liked the personal stories/memories of YNP. Uses photography and layout/graphic design to its fullest. Great job.*

SECOND PLACE

Wyoming Tribune Eagle, *Cheyenne, WY*

WyoSports staff, *UW Basketball 2022*

Judge's comments: *A truly professional special section that is just excellent. Useful and interesting, it's something fans (casual and not so much) will keep and use as a reference. Photography and design is also outstanding.*

THIRD PLACE

Idaho Mountain Express, *Ketchum, ID*

Express Staff, *2022 Sun Valley Guide Summer*

Judge's comments: *Wonderful visitors guide for the Sun Valley/Idaho area that is both comprehensive and beautiful. Nice job.*

HONORABLE MENTION

Park Cities People, *Dallas, TX*

Park Cities People, *Best Special Section - Giving People - Sept PCP 2022*

Judge's comments: *Nice job with this supplement that casts a spotlight on philanthropy in this area of Texas.*



Section - Best Special News, Sports or Feature Section or Edition

Daily & Non-daily Division, circ. 3,000-9,999

FIRST PLACE

The Highlands Current, *Cold Spring, NY*

Chip Rowe, Leonard Sparks, Pierce Strudler, *Always Present, Never Seen*

Judge's comments: *Great side bars and artifacts. It made the writing come alive.*

SECOND PLACE

The Taos News, *Taos, NM*

Staff, *Tradiciones*

Judge's comments: *Beautiful photography mixed with interesting articles.*

THIRD PLACE

Leelanau Enterprise, *Lake Leelanau, MI*

Editorial Dept., Creative Dept., Advertising Dept., *Silver*

Judge's comments: *Good, helpful articles. Many ads are appropriate for the section.*

HONORABLE MENTION

The Taos News, *Taos, NM*

Staff, *Taos Woman*

Judge's comments: *This was a good balance between tasteful ads and informative articles and spotlights.*



Section - Best Special News, Sports or Feature Section or Edition

Daily & Non-daily Division, circ. less than 3,000

FIRST PLACE

The Village Reporter, *Montpelier, OH*

Jacob Kessler, Lindsay Phillips, *Honoring Those Serving Locally*

Judge's comments: *Picked the winner because of the number of local stories with great pictures.*

SECOND PLACE

The Ozona Stockman, *Ozona, TX*

Susan Calloway, *Hunting Guide*

Judge's comments: *Great use of artwork and good variety of stories*

THIRD PLACE

The Ark, *Tiburon, CA*

Emily Lavin, Ark Staff, *The Spirit of Generosity*

Judge's comments: *Many good local stories and local photos*

HONORABLE MENTION

Cedar County News, *Hartington, NE*

Staff, *Best Special Section - Ag Update for Ag Month*

Judge's comments: *Nice stories, but other entries had more.*



Section - Best Sports Section/Page

Daily & Non-daily Division circ. less than 3000

FIRST PLACE

Steele County Times, *Blooming Prairie, MN*
Johnnie Phillips and Roy Koenig, *Best Sports Section*

Judge's comments: *Dynamic coverage and eye-catching, clean layouts bring this entry to the top. Terrific Sept. 28 front, with great football photo, unique Homecoming story and cutout, personal column on Twin Cities Marathon. Really liked the graphic element of the linescores in football, along with stat details. Strong sections, great for the readers.*

SECOND PLACE

The Citizen, *Bernardsville, NJ*
Phil Nardone, *The Citizen sports pages*

Judge's comments: *Clearly, great photography and bold headlines carry this section. Really nice treatment of the lacrosse coach winning his 700th game, pairing the gamer with a column. From a design standpoint, best of this class!*

THIRD PLACE

Cedar County News, *Hartington, NE*
Staff, *Best Sports section - April 27, Sept 7*

Judge's comments: *Jeremy Buss hit a home run with his pole vaulting photos. Great job. Nice section, all of it: Stories, detailed stats, standings, and an outdoors column.*

HONORABLE MENTION

Wright County Journal, *Mountain Grove, MO*
Ron Schott, *Best Sports Section/Page Wright County Journal*

Judge's comments: *Wright County Journal is packed with local photos and information. And Homecoming photos! Good work.*



Section - Best Sports Section/Page

Daily & Non-daily Division circ. 3000-9000

FIRST PLACE

The N'West Iowa REVIEW, *Sheldon, IA*

Scott Byers, Charlie Hildebrand, staff, *Section - Best Sports Section/Page*

Judge's comments: *This sports section is massive to say the least, and it makes excellent use of that space. All sports are present and accounted for, the section is well organized, and photos, pull quotes, stats, schedules, and other features add visual interest throughout*

SECOND PLACE

Jackson Hole News&Guide, *Jackson, WY*

Mark Baker, *News&Guide Sports section*

Judge's comments: *A quality sports section all around. The writing is solid and the coverage is a thorough mix of high school sports, non-traditional sports and outdoors news. Layout features good, bold headlines to draw the eye and good photos.*

THIRD PLACE

The Taos News, *Taos, NM*

Taos News staff, *Taos News sports pages*

Judge's comments: *Interesting mix of sports coverage with nice photos, good writing, and an easy-to-navigate layout.*

HONORABLE MENTION

Vilas County News-Review, *Eagle River, WI*

Doug Etten, *Best Sports Section 4-20-22, 9-7-22*

Judge's comments: *Local high school sports are thoroughly covered with features and columns mixed in for added interest.*



Section - Best Sports Section/Page

Daily & Non-daily Division circ. more than 10000

FIRST PLACE

Sioux City Journal, *Sioux City, IA*

Zach James, Shane Lantz, *April 15 and Sept. 3, 2022 sports sections*

Judge's comments: *Two beautiful examples of exemplary sport sections, yes, complete with commentary, speculation and rhetoric, as all such sections must do. Really? Very nice action photos, lots of AP stories for the national view, but very well written local sports stories*

SECOND PLACE

Wyoming Tribune Eagle, *Cheyenne, WY*

WyoSports staff, *Wyoming Tribune Eagle Sports Section*

Judge's comments: *The local stories anchor these sections, and the featured "local" photos are outstanding. Event stories retreat to speculation, even those with "Facts" headings produce the writer's assumptions and conclusions. But that's typical of so many sport sections. Still, these sections are fine examples of sporting essays prepared for readers.*

THIRD PLACE

The Pilot, *Southern Pines, NC*

Jonathan Bym, *The Pilot, Best Sports Section*

Judge's comments: *These sections are packed with local stories, with depth beyond the scores. Layout/typography is a bit of a challenge for readers. Some photo spreads (horses) repeat the same view. All the bases (sporting activities) are covered here, the schools, the old golfers, the equestrians . . . great variety and good writing.*



Story-Series - Best Agricultural Story

Daily & Non-daily Division, circ. 6,000 or more

FIRST PLACE (TIE)

Sioux City Journal, *Sioux City, IA*

Mason Dockter, *Pain and gain for farmers*

Judge's comments: *A grand narrative on the worldwide effects of marketplace economics. But especially it brought the global effects into play at the local level. Nicely sourced, and written so common folk could follow the narrative thread without translation. Just a darn good agriculture-based story that could appeal to readers.*

The Taos News, *Taos, NM*

Sol Traverso, *The hard business of raising cattle in Taos*

Judge's comments: *Excellent telling of a very complex story: raising cattle for market amid competition for processing and the almost agonizing commitment to long workdays, weeks and months. Good sourcing; good narration. Made it read like the story belongs to the reader.*

THIRD PLACE

The Taos News, *Taos, NM*

Geoffrey Plant, *'It burnt all my wealth'*

Judge's comments: *Story focuses on how a wildfire disaster turned into a bonanza of firewood resourcing for homes almost overshadows the dramatic social and financial impact the wildfire caused to the humans in the communities affected. Good sourcing; good writing. Tells a dramatic story in narrative fashion from start to finish.*

HONORABLE MENTION

Idaho Mountain Express, *Ketchum, ID*

Emily Jones, *Amid 'severe' drought, irrigators gear up for nail-biting season*

Judge's comments: *The basis for this story is water. The telling effects of its absence should be the focus, especially as it affects agricultural interests. The writing and resourcing were excellent, but the organization dropped the focus. Still a a very good overall presentation of an environmental issue with huge repercussions for agricultural interests.*



Story-Series - Best Agricultural Story

Daily & Non-daily Division, circ. less than 6,000

FIRST PLACE

Yankton Daily Press & Dakotan, *Yankton, SD*
Dockendorf, *'Keeping His Smile Alive'*

Judge's comments: *A heart wrenching story about a South Dakota family that lost their young soon in a tractor accident and have turned their grief into a positive force. Excellent coverage.*

SECOND PLACE

Cedar County News, *Hartington, NE*
Mark Mahoney, *Best Ag Story - John Steffen sells off prize winning dairy herd*

Judge's comments: *A touching story of several transitions in the lives of cattle farmers as one goes from Dairy to Beef herds while another moves to retirement and looks to boost herds owned by younger people.*

THIRD PLACE

The Edgerton Reporter, *Edgerton, WI*
Tristan McGough, *Wisconsin Tobacco Industry*

Judge's comments: *This well researched article on the history and demise of tobacco growing in Wisconsin should be the basis for a book.*

HONORABLE MENTION

Marietta Monitor, *Marietta, OK*
Austin Anthony, Connor Choate, Joani Hartin, *Last Peanut Farmer: Once a booming business, peanut farms fading fast*

Judge's comments: *This Profile of the peanut industry in Love County, GA is made more interesting by focusing on the life the last peanut farmer in the county.*



Story-Series - Best Breaking News Story

Daily Division

FIRST PLACE

Yankton Daily Press & Dakotan, *Yankton, SD*
Dockendorf, *Laurel Murders*

Judge's comments: *Super comprehensive coverage over several months of this dramatic deadly event in a small community. From the first article detailing the immediate events just after they happened, to the legal and investigative trail following suspect's arrest and several court related hearings, plus a comprehensive sidebar to a related issue involving neighbor threats and safety concerns, this reporter covered it all with good sourcing/reporting and good writing.*

SECOND PLACE

Yankton Daily Press & Dakotan, *Yankton, SD*
Dockendorf, *Man Sentenced in THC Incident*

Judge's comments: *This story begs the victims' perspective. It focuses solely on the court-related dialogue and issues. Nicely written and reported from the court hearing perspective.*

THIRD PLACE

Yankton Daily Press & Dakotan, *Yankton, SD*
Dockendorf, *Restoring Broken Trust*

Judge's comments: *Good feature in the aftermath of a fraudulent act by a church parish's financial administrator. Focus is on the act and its effect on church finances and parishioners. Nice writing with reporting featuring the church's responses.*

HONORABLE MENTION

Sioux City Journal, *Sioux City, IA*
Dolly Butz, Nick Hytrek, Jared McNett, *Four dead in Laurel, Neb.*

Judge's comments: *Very limited coverage of a dramatic fire/death scene. Implication abound, but very little firm detail included in this account: victims ID, specific addresses, houses ownership/occupancy.*



Story-Series - Best Breaking News Story

Non-daily Division, circ. 6,000 or more

FIRST PLACE

The Taos News, *Taos, NM*

Geoffrey Plant, *'She was begging for protection'*

Judge's comments: *This story did a good job of finding the story around the story by talking to numerous people and diving into the history of the family visited by violence. Nicely done.*

SECOND PLACE

Leelanau Enterprise, *Lake Leelanau, MI*

Meakalia Previch-Liu, *Chickens Rescued*

Judge's comments: *This is a fabulous, although light-hearted, breaking news story. It's great to have quotes from so many involved and to hear how they ultimately found the wayward chicken. Photos were a perfect touch.*

THIRD PLACE

Warwick Advertiser, *Chester, NY*

Molly Colgan, *Shooting at Warwick High School Football Game*

Judge's comments: *To have a mass shooting connected at all to a school event is heart-breaking. But then to add having to cancel activities between schools just adds more pain.*



Story-Series - Best Breaking News Story

Non-daily Division, circ. 3,000-5,999

FIRST PLACE

Cody Enterprise, *Cody, WY*

Morgan Phillips, *Youth recovering from hit and run*

Judge's comments: *The account packs an emotional wallop thanks to the great quotes from the victim's mother. Great way to tell a heart-rending story -- on deadline!*

SECOND PLACE

The Alamance News, *Graham, NC*

Kristy Bailey & Tom Boney, Jr., *Two Double Juvenile Murders (both with juvenile suspects)*

Judge's comments: *Murder in a small town is always big, but when a pair of murders offer -- all involving youth -- this was a great handling of it.*

THIRD PLACE

The Standard Banner, *Jefferson City, TN*

Mark Brown, Steve Marion, *Triple pedestrian fatality*

Judge's comments: *The writing and reporting are unquestionably strong. This slips behind the 1st- and 2nd-place entries because a sentencing, with the ability to prepare background, just isn't as "breaking" as a hit-and-run or pair of murders.*



Story-Series - Best Breaking News Story

Non-daily Division, circ. less than 3,000

FIRST PLACE

Steele County Times, *Blooming Prairie, MN*

Kay Fate, *A church in turmoil*

Judge's comments: *Well done with multiple stories touching on a complicated situation. The timeline also gives the reader an overview of the events.*

SECOND PLACE

Antelope County News, *Neligh, NE*

Carrie Pitzer, *Neighbors Helping Neighbors*

Judge's comments: *Good coverage of a major event that could have been much worse if not for many people jumping to action. Story gave sufficient details and sources to depict the seriousness of the situation. Good use of photos.*

THIRD PLACE

Steele County Times, *Blooming Prairie, MN*

Rick Bussler, *Worker dies after buried in soybeans*

Judge's comments: *Comprehensive coverage of a tragic story. The multiple stories brought the emotions of the situation to the readers. OSHA involvement and Grain Bin Tragedies graphic ad bigger picture context to a local story.*

HONORABLE MENTION

Wilton-Durant Advocate News, *Wilton, IA*

Kimberly Sloan, *Community rallies for Matt Fisher*

Judge's comments: *Good coverage of a tragic accident. Adding the safety sidebar and comment from city was good.*



Story-Series - Best Business Feature Story

Daily Division

FIRST PLACE

Yankton Daily Press & Dakotan, *Yankton, SD*
Dockendorf, *Argo Hotel Crofton*

Judge's comments: *The Argo was surely the most well read piece in the newspaper that week. We all want to read a good haunted house (hotel) story from time to time. This one didn't disappoint.*

SECOND PLACE

Yankton Daily Press & Dakotan, *Yankton, SD*
Dockendorf, *Wagner Grocer Offers Views On Rural Hunger*

Judge's comments: *Good follow-up on what could have been a run of the mill story about a conference speaker. Nice job introducing Mr. Buche and explaining his viewpoint.*

THIRD PLACE

Sioux City Journal, *Sioux City, IA*
Nick Hytrek, *Easing housing crunch*

Judge's comments: *Lots of information to digest in this story about housing shortages on a reservation. Reporter did a great job on explaining the issue and the efforts to assist the residents.*



Story-Series - Best Business Feature Story

Non-daily Division, circ. 6,000 or more

FIRST PLACE

The Taos News, *Taos, NM*

John Miller, *Taos' last video rental shop set to close*

Judge's comments: *Simply excellent! Strong writing; good use of "movie" transitions, like fast forward. Balanced interviews with owner, employees, customers. There's a rhythm to this piece, maybe it's nostalgia. I felt like I was there. Kudos!*

SECOND PLACE

Leelanau Enterprise, *Lake Leelanau, MI*

Alan Campbell, *Bluebird building to be razed*

Judge's comments: *Excellent lead. Draws me in. Learned a new phrase today - "fudgies." This brings the Bluebird to life.*

THIRD PLACE

Sparta Independent, *Chester, NY*

Becca Tucker, *A new generation of indie bookstores -- and readers -- emerges post-pandemic*

Judge's comments: *Solid article. We don't have an Indie bookstore within 160 miles of us, so after reading this, I'm inspired... Good journalism.*

HONORABLE MENTION

Township Journal, *Chester, NY*

Becca Tucker, *The side hustle is back*

Judge's comments: *Good writing. Interesting piece. To me, a "side hustle" is when you're running another business in addition to a full-time job. Maybe I am misreading this, but working 2 jobs (a poll question) doesn't seem like the same thing. Either way, the opening anecdote really sets the stage for the article. Imagine making \$700 for bartending for a few hours! Eye-opening statistics. Good job!*



Story-Series - Best Business Feature Story

Non-daily Division, circ. less than 6,000

FIRST PLACE

The Ark, Tiburon, CA

Emily Lavin, *Strawberry girl's small business serves up homemade dog treats*

Judge's comments: Reporter Emily Lavin introduces us to a young teenager who is already an experienced business person. The best thing a "business feature" story can do is not promote that business so much as inspiring someone else, or sharing hard-earned lessons. This story is successful in those aspects. Excellent work!

SECOND PLACE

Southwest Ledger, Lawton, OK

M. Scott Carter, *Broadway 10: The new hotspot for Okla. politics*

Judge's comments: Food and booze are "Tools of the trade" with lobbyists courting politicians, in this insightful and entertaining business feature story by M. Scott Carter. It is part restaurant review and not a deep-dive into running a restaurant but I read every word.

THIRD PLACE

The Northern Light Region, Baudette, MN

Robert Hopwood, *Igloo, Angry Walleye become popular stops on frozen Lake of the Woods*

Judge's comments: Great peek into life on the Lake of the Woods ice. Story has good mix of business feature flair along with basic business info. Knowing where to get hot food - indoors - on the ice certainly interests your readers. Excellent reporting by Robert Hopwood.

HONORABLE MENTION

Southwest Ledger, Lawton, OK

Tim Farley, *Livestock company keeps state's rodeos going*

Judge's comments: Rodeo is a way of life, that's for certain, not just a business. Reporter Tim Farley captures that spirit in this livestock company story for the Southwest Ledger. Great job!



Story-Series - Best Business Story

Daily & Non-daily Division

FIRST PLACE

Sioux City Journal, *Sioux City, IA*

Mason Dockter, *The scoop- Wells sells to confectioner*

Judge's comments: *Great package of stories about an iconic community ice cream business being "scooped" up by an international brand. Great photos, great mix of straight news and storytelling, associated online content available through a QR Code and an informative sidebar of reactions from local politicians and business leaders. Nice job in "owning" a local story with local and international impact.*

SECOND PLACE

Yankton Daily Press & Dakotan, *Yankton, SD*

Dockendorf, *Hunting for Business*

Judge's comments: *A fun read about the growing business of hunting in the region tied to the opening of pheasant season. Not your typical Main Street biz or economic development story.*



Story-Series - Best Education/Literacy Story

Daily Division

FIRST PLACE

The Wyoming Truth, *Laramie, WY*

Jacob Gardenswartz, Jennifer Kocher, Elizabeth Sampson and Shen Wu Tan., *Wyoming Schools at a Crossroads: Series focusing on challenges facing schools statewide*

Judge's comments: *The five stories in this entry represent a sample of a larger series on Wyoming schools and the types of problems facing them. It is, by far, the most comprehensive entry in the contest.*

SECOND PLACE

Yankton Daily Press & Dakotan, *Yankton, SD*

Dockendorf, *Avon Student Goldilocks*

Judge's comments: *This is an interesting story about a student experiment for a high school science fair that tested the veracity of the hot porridge, cold porridge, and just right porridge in the Goldilocks story and included discussion on how the results could be extrapolated for real-world situations.*

THIRD PLACE

Yankton Daily Press & Dakotan, *Yankton, SD*

Dockendorf, *Yankton Area Teacher Shortage*

Judge's comments: *This is a good, comprehensive story about the local area teacher shortage and problems in filling positions. I liked how it expanded beyond just one school and talked about the why as well as the what.*

HONORABLE MENTION

Wyoming Tribune Eagle, *Cheyenne, WY*

Jasmine Hall, *Officials ready to fight sexualization in schools*

Judge's comments: *This is a fairly good story about a meeting called by the state superintendent of public instruction to gather support for limiting sexualization in education. The first three-quarters of the story focused on what was probably the main thrust of the meeting:*



Story-Series - Best Education/Literacy Story

Non-daily Division, circ. 6,000 or more

FIRST PLACE

Warwick Advertiser, *Chester, NY*

Becca Tucker, *Latest Front in the Culture Wars: School Library Books*

Judge's comments: *This first-place article investigates the recent activities surrounding the banning of books in public schools. It provides sound reporting on a national issue from a local perspective.*

SECOND PLACE

The Maine Monitor, *Hallowell, ME*

Rose Lundy, *Addressing mental health challenges among Maine youth*

Judge's comments: *Great examples of services for students with mental health challenges. The local perspective is highlighted while giving a state-wide highlight of how the issue is affecting the state.*

THIRD PLACE

Sparta Independent, *Chester, NY*

Molly Colgan, *Substitutes for substitutes*

Judge's comments: *A great combination of statistics to back up information about the substitute problem for local schools. This is a solid piece that goes in depth at several local schools to present a national problem.*

HONORABLE MENTION

Leelanau Enterprise, *Lake Leelanau, MI*

Meakalia Previch-Liu, *Parenting Communities*

Judge's comments: *This entry covers important information from the administrative/funding perspective of instituting community schools. While it's missing the "user" perspective, it does highlight issues that citizens should be aware of in public education in the area in a solid way.*



2023 NNAF Editorial & Advertising Contest
List of Winners

Story-Series - Best Education/Literacy Story

Non-daily Division, circ. less than 6,000

FIRST PLACE

The Highlands Current, *Cold Spring, NY*

Jeff Simms, *Are the Kids Alright?*

Judge's comments: *fine*

SECOND PLACE

Stanton Register, *Stanton, NE*

Carrie Pitzer, *Extra Scoops*

Judge's comments: *LOVE! Kept me interested the entire read.*

THIRD PLACE

The Alamance News, *Graham, NC*

Kristy Bailey, *Best Education/Literacy Story - LGBTQ Book Controversy*

Judge's comments: *I HATE this is even a story. Free press may be dead soon but...well written and timely.*

HONORABLE MENTION

The Ark, *Tiburon, CA*

Katherine Martine, *Schools focus on student mental health in wake of Texas shooting*

Judge's comments: *Pretty good but not down to a level to help kids, works if parents use and follow up with kids. Timely, well written.*



Story-Series - Best Environmental Story

Daily & Non-daily Division, circ. 6,000 or more

FIRST PLACE

Pike County Courier, *Chester, NY*

Jessica Cohen, *Just How Dirty is Your Dirt?*

Judge's comments: *A real down-to-earth (forgive the pun) story about dirt contamination. What makes this story stand out is that all readers could be impacted without this knowledge.*

SECOND PLACE

Leelanau Enterprise, *Lake Leelanau, MI*

Alan Campbell, *Local waters open to gill netting*

Judge's comments: *This is an informative news story about negotiations regulating commercial fishing rights involving native Americans and other groups. It is well done.*

THIRD PLACE

Hyattsville Life & Times, *Hyattsville, MD*

Hunter Savery, Jonathan Donville, *How mussels are cleaning the Anacostia*

Judge's comments: *A pretty good explanatory feature on the use of mussels to help restore polluted waterways.*

HONORABLE MENTION

Moonshine Ink, *Truckee, CA*

Megan Michelson, *Why Is it Taking so Long for AT&T to Remove the Abandoned Cables From Under Lake Tahoe?*

Judge's comments: *This is an interesting story about lead-lined cables sitting at the bottom of Lake Tahoe. It explores why the responsible agency has not yet removed the cables as required. It appears to be a delay in getting permits, but the story never asks the permitting agencies why permits are taking time to get.*



2023 NNAF Editorial & Advertising Contest
List of Winners

Story-Series - Best Environmental Story

Daily & Non-daily Division, circ. less than 6,000

FIRST PLACE

The Ark, *Tiburon, CA*

Gretchen Lang, *Backyard butterfly gardens help boost return of monarchs*

Judge's comments: *This story seemed to be very well researched.*

SECOND PLACE

The Ark, *Tiburon, CA*

Katherine Martine, *New maps show broader tsunami hazards across Tiburon Peninsula*

Judge's comments: *A very significant topic, handled very well.*

THIRD PLACE

The Southwestern College Sun, *Chula Vista, CA*

Camila A. Gonzalez, *Rosarito: Paradise under attack*

Judge's comments: *A very nice photo tells the whole story.*

HONORABLE MENTION

The Tioga Tribune, *Tioga, ND*

Jacob Orledge, *Pipeline leaks 34,000 barrels*

Judge's comments: *very well written. Laid out how the problem was discovered well.*



2023 NNAF Editorial & Advertising Contest
List of Winners

Story-Series - Best Profile Feature Story

Daily Division

FIRST PLACE

Yankton Daily Press & Dakotan, *Yankton, SD*

Dockendorf, *Lost & Found Muckey*

Judge's comments: *Thorough effort in sharing information on Mr. Muckey. The writer made the reader feel connected and engaged.*

SECOND PLACE

Sioux City Journal, *Sioux City, IA*

Dolly Butz, *Escaping Afghanistan*

Judge's comments: *Thorough story on a pertinent issue that the author personalized and shared. Well done.*

THIRD PLACE

Wyoming Tribune Eagle, *Cheyenne, WY*

Hannah Black, *Riding for Raylan*

Judge's comments: *Heartwarming story of dedication and passion for family through a medium such as cycling.*



Story-Series - Best Profile Feature Story

Non-daily Division, circ. 15,000 or more

FIRST PLACE

Preston Hollow People, *Dallas, TX*

Preston Hollow People, Maria Lawson, *Best Profile Feature Story - NorthPark's New Santa - Dec PHP page 14*

Judge's comments: *Rock star Santa with a ukelele. Well who wouldn't love this guy? Some features need a light touch - and this one was perfect.*

SECOND PLACE

Preston Hollow People, *Dallas, TX*

Preston Hollow People, Rachel Snyder, *Best Profile Feature Story - Keeping Up With The Perots? - Aug PHP page 6*

Judge's comments: *Perhaps more editors could throw out challenges to the wealthy in their communities. Look at this result! Well written, not overdone.*

THIRD PLACE

Preston Hollow People, *Dallas, TX*

Preston Hollow People, Rachel Snyder, *Best Profile Feature Story - Deep Diving - July PHP page 4*

Judge's comments: *Good job on a story that would have seemed preposterous just a few years ago.*



Story-Series - Best Profile Feature Story

Non-daily Division, circ. 10,000-14,999

FIRST PLACE

The Examiner, *Beaumont, TX*

The Examiner, *Local son soars*

Judge's comments: *A very well written, in-depth piece about someone who should be considered a hero among men. The writer takes you through an outstanding life of service to humanity and has you understand the person is one worth knowing. Really enjoyed this piece.*

SECOND PLACE

Idaho Mountain Express, *Ketchum, ID*

Mark Dee, *Northbound*

Judge's comments: *Well written and presented in a way that draws in the reader and has them wanting more. Great job of presenting those involved to the reader. It was a very worthwhile read.*

THIRD PLACE

Township Journal, *Chester, NY*

Becca Tucker, *The Side Hustle is Back*

Judge's comments: *A real good look at a lifestyle many find necessary to embrace. Well written and presented so that the reader can get to know the persons being written about. Great job*

HONORABLE MENTION

The Examiner, *Beaumont, TX*

The Examiner, *Looking back on a life of service*

Judge's comments: *A good look at a very successful person. Once you read this you know the subject very well. A quality piece, well written and interesting throughout.*



Story-Series - Best Profile Feature Story

Non-daily Division, circ. 6,000-9,999

FIRST PLACE

The Taos News, *Taos, NM*

Geoffrey Plant, *Bill's last cartoons*

Judge's comments: *LOVE, LOVE, LOVE this story. Excellent reporting! Entertaining and educational: Just like Bill's editorial cartoons. I'm betting every single readers read the entire story and many smirked, laughed or snickered at the memories of Bill's lampoons. These sorts of stories remind your readers why newspapers an important role in their lives. Keep it up!*

SECOND PLACE

Advertiser-News South, *Chester, NY*

Becca Tucker, *The era of accelerated road rage*

Judge's comments: *Really solid reporting. Great narrative lede to get readers interested in the story. This is a perfect example of putting a "face" on the story. You did an excellent job of weaving the grim statistics throughout the story, and the sidebar stories complemented the main story. Well done!*

THIRD PLACE

The News-Gazette, *Lexington, VA*

Joann Ware, *Movie Night For Montana*

Judge's comments: *Sweet. I'm certain your readers enjoyed this heart-warming story. On top of starring in Movie Night, this little princess was no doubt equally thrilled to see herself in the newspaper. Great job!*

HONORABLE MENTION

Leelanau Enterprise, *Lake Leelanau, MI*

Amy Hubbell, *Two Dads*

Judge's comments: *This story had so much potential. You had the courage to publish it, which many newspapers don't have. But you short-changed yourselves and the readers by, well, publishing a short story on a topic that screamed out for more. I had a lot of unanswered questions. Still, I'm betting your readers enjoyed finding out about this family.*



Story-Series - Best Profile Feature Story

Non-daily Division, circ. 4,000-5,999

FIRST PLACE

Buffalo Bulletin, *Buffalo, WY*

Seth Taylor, *Plowing with pride at Pole Creek*

Judge's comments: *Well written. I live in the deep South, so the subject is foreign to me. But it made me smile.*

SECOND PLACE

The Highlands Current, *Cold Spring, NY*

Michael Turton, *Something You Don't Know About Me: Jay Brennan*

Judge's comments: *A fun story about a real character. You're right. It is (almost) hard to believe. But he has the planes and the legs to prove it. An entertaining read.*

THIRD PLACE

Buffalo Bulletin, *Buffalo, WY*

Jen Sieve-Hicks, *Hostetler ordained as Roman Catholic priest*

Judge's comments: *An interesting story that explained to typical people why somebody would become a priest, and how in this era, how a guy is led to the priesthood. It was enlightening, and a good, clean read.*



Story-Series - Best Profile Feature Story

Non-daily Division, circ. 2,000-3,999

FIRST PLACE

Manchester Cricket, *Manchester, MA*

Kris McGinn, *Jess Yurwitz and Jeff Pacione: The Language of Friendship*

Judge's comments: *A lovely portrait of two artists who communicate through medium.*

SECOND PLACE

The Ark, *Tiburon, CA*

Hannah Weikel, *Belvedere woman helps share stories from inside San Quentin*

Judge's comments: *Well written and thought provoking.*

THIRD PLACE

The Madison Eagle, *Bernardsville, NJ*

Alex Parker-Magyar, *A find for the ages*

Judge's comments: *This was an interesting story about an amazing item found in a random box. I enjoyed learning about its origin and the speculation about how it landed in NJ.*



Story-Series - Best Profile Feature Story

Non-daily Division, circ. less than 2,000

FIRST PLACE

Southwest Ledger, Lawton, OK

M. Scott Carter, *Five decades later, Bob Craig remains a legend in the Oklahoma Senate*

Judge's comments: *Doorkeepers and other long-time legislative staff always have good stories to tell.*

SECOND PLACE

Petersburg Pilot, Petersburg, AK

Jess Field, *Ukrainians working in Petersburg share their experiences*

Judge's comments: *Brings an international story close to home.*

THIRD PLACE

News Letter Journal, Newcastle, WY

Hannah Gross, *Flying full circle*

Judge's comments: *Good piece highlighting military service and the desire to return to one's hometown.*

HONORABLE MENTION

News Letter Journal, Newcastle, WY

KateLynn Slaamot, *A family that touched the sky*

Judge's comments: *Shows how flying brought together generations of one family.*



2023 NNAF Editorial & Advertising Contest
List of Winners

Story-Series - Best Feature Series

Daily & Non-daily Division, circ. 6,000 or more

FIRST PLACE

The News-Gazette, *Lexington, VA*

Hope Huger, *Ukrainian Families*

Judge's comments: *Great way to localize this international story.*

SECOND PLACE

Idaho Mountain Express, *Ketchum, ID*

Emily Jones, *The rise and fall of Hailey's Chinatown*

Judge's comments: *Wonderful and insightful writing.*

THIRD PLACE

The Maine Monitor, *Hallowell, ME*

Barbara A. Walsh, *The Journey to Be Me*

Judge's comments: *Very passionate and thorough*



Story-Series - Best Feature Series

Daily & Non-daily Division, circ. less than 6,000

FIRST PLACE

The Highlands Current, *Cold Spring, NY*

Chip Rowe, Leonard Sparks, Pierce Strudler, *Always Present, Never Seen*

Judge's comments: *This is an amazing series taking a local look at the history of slavery. Well written and designed and compelling. It should be turned into a pamphlet and sent to every paper in the South where so many believe that Northerners ignore their own complicity in the slave trade. It's all right here.*

SECOND PLACE

The N'West Iowa REVIEW, *Sheldon, IA*

Aleisa Schat, *Story-Series - Best Feature Series*

Judge's comments: *This is the kind of journalism that can help bring together both sides of this polarized country. Bringing humanity to the language issue hopefully resulting in more tolerance.*

THIRD PLACE

Custer County Chronicle, *Custer, SD*

Jason Ferguson, *Assisting with the escape*

Judge's comments: *Fascinating details on a well publicized story. Lovingly written and compelling.*

HONORABLE MENTION

Colbert County Reporter, *Tuscumbia, AL*

J.R. Tidwell, *Only in The Shoals*

Judge's comments: *A great way to remind people of the treasures right under their noses.*



Story-Series - Best Health Story

Daily & Non-daily Division, circ. 6,000 or more

FIRST PLACE

Farm and Dairy, *Salem, OH*

Rachel Wagoner, *'Love always, Rob'*

Judge's comments: *Living in a rural area, I understand this issue, but this writer shared an important story better than any other I've seen. Touching story that brought this man to life through words. Lengthy, but so well done that it didn't seem so. Excellent.*

SECOND PLACE

Moonshine Ink, *Truckee, CA*

Le'a Gleason, *The Spirit in the Water*

Judge's comments: *The 1st few sentences made me dive in for more, but not into that cold water. Interesting and well written story full of detail to make people understand the benefits. A stress relief perhaps many in journalism could use. Well done.*

THIRD PLACE

Moonshine Ink, *Truckee, CA*

Brian Broom-Peltz, *Legalizing the Therapeutic Trip*

Judge's comments: *Unusual for me to give same publication two placers but when it's deserved, it's deserved. Enjoyed your giving readers another look at a health topic that isn't run of the mill. Plenty of detail and EZ to understand.*

HONORABLE MENTION

Photo News, *Chester, NY*

Molly Colgan, *A month without booze? Locals give it a shot*

Judge's comments: *An interesting take on the topic of alcohol. Obviously, the writer and participants had a good time with it. Still, there was a message in there without preaching about abstaining from alcohol. Enjoyed it.*



Story-Series - Best Health Story

Daily & Non-daily Division, circ. less than 6,000

FIRST PLACE

Steele County Times, *Blooming Prairie, MN*

Rick Bussler, *A survival story of child abuse*

Judge's comments: *A well written, emotionally charged, unusual story about a kind of reconciliation that rarely happens. Telling this family's story, especially the father, shows depth in abuse related stories that you never see.*

SECOND PLACE

The Ark, *Tiburon, CA*

Katherine Martine, *Local agencies are building mental-health assistance for firefighters*

Judge's comments: *A very necessary look at the strains that first responders face and innovative ideas to help. Well-written, great examples.*

THIRD PLACE

Antelope County News, *Neligh, NE*

Carrie Pitzer, *Take Me Before My Baby*

Judge's comments: *Powerful. Emotional. Gripping. A story of a mother's struggle. I love how it starts in the middle of the action, then goes back to the beginning of events.*

HONORABLE MENTION

Cody Enterprise, *Cody, WY*

Stephen Dow, *Battling substance abuse*

Judge's comments: *Solid story about a vital topic. Very solid in writing and style, great details as well. It does a great story explaining the obstacles to substance abuse recovery.*



Story-Series - Best Investigative or In-Depth Story or Series

Daily Division

FIRST PLACE

The Wyoming Truth, *Laramie, WY*

Alec Klein, *Overreach in Wyoming's Criminal Justice System*

Judge's comments: *The intent of these stories seems to focus on the overreach of the "criminal justice" process. Well done, if that is the case, and best of the entries here, but narrowly sourced. Lynch case: Well written, limited sourcing, speculation and assumptions without sources. Missing balance, but not emotion. This category requires balanced reporting, not merely a recitation of one side's dilemma. Emotional? Yes. Teens invading a private hot springs pool takes on the same dilemma. A minor event with no criminal intent becomes a major issue affecting the lives of the involved youth. In this story the emotional affects are threaded throughout. The absence of "comment" from official sources is limited, but at one point the story relies on second-hand sourcing: a father of the involved teens talks with a former county prosecutor and the story uses the conversation as sourced detail.*

SECOND PLACE

Wyoming Tribune Eagle, *Cheyenne, WY*

Jasmine Hall, *Wyoming GOP at a crossroads*

Judge's comments: *Wyoming is a political uniparty state, this entry suggests, and the writer focuses on GOP sources to examine the key message: the future of the Republican Party in Wyoming. No Democrats connected here. Liz Cheney got space, too. The public is conspicuously absent, too, in this feature. Yet the writing is excellent; enjoyed reading.*

THIRD PLACE

Wyoming Tribune Eagle, *Cheyenne, WY*

Jasmine Hall, *Will Wyoming turn a deeper shade of red?*

Judge's comments: *Jasmine Hall is an excellent writer! For this entry, focusing on the overwhelming GOP party presence to determine if it becomes more overwhelming leaves out the political opposition: Democrats. Until the final three paragraphs. And this judge was sort of anticipating a remark or two on Liz Cheney. No deal here.*



Story-Series - Best Investigative or In-Depth Story or Series

Non-daily Division, circ. 10,000 or more

FIRST PLACE

The Maine Monitor, *Hallowell, ME*

Samantha Hogan, *Eavesdropping in Maine Jails*

Judge's comments: *Top notch reporting. What sets this entry apart from other entries in this category is the use and reporting from multiple "non-public" sources. Investigative journalism is, at its core, reporting information that the normal public cannot easily obtain itself. Good work and good luck to those prisoners.*

SECOND PLACE

The Examiner, *Beaumont, TX*

The Examiner, *State rep alleges attempted blackmail by Beaumont con woman*

Judge's comments: *Great use of sources to tell this story.*

Not many love politicians and couldn't care less about seeing justice when one is wronged in a white-collar crime scandal. Good for seeing past bias and telling it like it is.

THIRD PLACE

The Examiner, *Beaumont, TX*

The Examiner, *Detailed data denotes violent incidents at Beaumont schools*

Judge's comments: *Good reporting. I would have ranked this story higher in the competition if I had seen more comments from sources within the school. School issues or corrupt school officials are notoriously hard to report due to the power superintendent's hold over their personnel. I know from experience. I know parents with children attending this district will be better off from this reporting.*



2023 NNAF Editorial & Advertising Contest
List of Winners

Story-Series - Best Investigative or In-Depth Story or Series

Non-daily Division, circ. 3,000-9,999

FIRST PLACE

The Highlands Current, *Cold Spring, NY*

Chip Rowe, Leonard Sparks, Pierce Strudler, *Always Present, Never Seen*

Judge's comments: *The research, the writing, the history, the storytelling, even the sidebars and the graphics come together for an amazing, informative series. Well done.*

SECOND PLACE

The Taos News, *Taos, NM*

Geoffrey Plant, *Chevron water rights 'don't exist'*

Judge's comments: *The paper tackles a complex web of law, government and government regulations, the environment and hoe decisions of a multinational corporation can impact family farm. The storytelling is easy to follow, allowing readers to plainly see the importance of the issue and why they have stake in the outcome. Refreshingly free of government jargon and legalese where it can be avoided, and they are explained clearly when it cannot.*

THIRD PLACE

The Southwestern College Sun, *Chula Vista, CA*

Esteban Preciado, *Homeless Among Us*

Judge's comments: *Solid, shoe leather reporting on an issue that is only getting worse everywhere, and with interview subjects who can be hard to get. Powerful photos.*

HONORABLE MENTION (TIE)

The Alamance News, *Graham, NC*

Kristy Bailey & Tom Boney, Jr., *Best Investigative or In-Depth Story or Series - SE High School Naming Controversy*

Judge's comments: *Our primary responsibility is to hold government accountable. People may quibble about the importance of the subject matter — but public officials are accountable to the public or they are not. There is no in-between.*

The Highlands Current, *Cold Spring, NY*

Brian PJ Cronin, *Trails (Too) Well Traveled*

Sparta Independent, *Chester, NY*

Becca Tucker, *Shoplifting in the era of heavy surveillance*



Story-Series - Best Investigative or In-Depth Story or Series

Non-daily Division, circ. less than 3,000

FIRST PLACE

Manchester Cricket, *Manchester, MA*

Erika Brown, *Looking at Local Water in Manchester, Massachusetts*

Judge's comments: *It's not easy to make data-driven stories about water regulations interesting, but this series managed to do it. The writing was excellent, and the explanations straightforward. The stories also conveyed a real sense of the importance of the issue.*

SECOND PLACE

The Ark, *Tiburon, CA*

Kevin Hessel, *Yema owners sue Belvedere in profiling claim*

Judge's comments: *This was a fine story that placed local events into the context of the national discussion on race and policing. The writing was excellent, and the author shaped a great deal of information into a tight narrative.*

THIRD PLACE

The Tioga Tribune, *Tioga, ND*

Jacob Orledge, *Former teacher faces state scrutiny*

Judge's comments: *After being contacted by the parent of a student, the newspaper launched an investigation into the employment history of a teacher who had just been allowed to resign. The investigation uncovered a pattern in which teacher Lanny Gabbert was allowed, for years, to resign from one school district without being reported and to start teaching in another, which meant he could continue his abusive and inappropriate behavior toward students for years. Excellent investigation into an important story.*

HONORABLE MENTION

The Ark, *Tiburon, CA*

Katherine Martine, *Belvedere tops Bay Area list of segregated white wealth*

Judge's comments: *Great work. A compelling narrative built on a straightforward, accessible explanation of data.*



Story-Series - Best Localized National Story

Daily

FIRST PLACE

Yankton Daily Press & Dakotan, *Yankton, SD*
Dockendorf, *Indigenous Women MMIW*

Judge's comments: *The United States can do better - must do better. How can a group of women and children be so invisible that an Amber Alert is not utilized to notify the public of a disappearance? Lots of research here. I hope the writer continues following the issue.*

SECOND PLACE

Yankton Daily Press & Dakotan, *Yankton, SD*
Dockendorf, *USD Dean On Roe V Wade*

Judge's comments: *Well written.*



Story-Series - Best Performing Arts Story

Daily & Non-daily Division

FIRST PLACE

Yankton Daily Press & Dakotan, *Yankton, SD*
Dockendorf, *Nebraska One-Act Wonders*

Judge's comments: *An interesting story well told. The writer put in the legwork talking with others involved in the project. Made me want to listen to the album.*

SECOND PLACE

Sioux City Journal, *Sioux City, IA*
Bruce Miller, *Oscar's favorite bridesmaid*

Judge's comments: *Great job giving the songwriter's long history and many accomplishments throughout the story. Some terrific quotes give it flavor. The writer had me cheering for the poor girl to win.*

THIRD PLACE

Eldridge North Scott Press, *Eldridge, IA*
Erin M. Gentz, *Puppets a good fit for theatrical education*

Judge's comments: *The puppet guy clearly was an interesting interview. and made for an off-the-track way to do the publicity preview piece. Well done.*

HONORABLE MENTION

The Southwestern College Sun, *Chula Vista, CA*
Camila A. Gonzalez, *'The Addams Family' is frightfully good theater; Jazz Cafe serves up Disney magic*

Judge's comments: *The writer's playful use language skillfully conveys the characters in the Addams family review.*



Story-Series - Best Sports Feature Story or Series

Daily & Non-daily Division circ. less than 3000

FIRST PLACE

Steele County Times, *Blooming Prairie, MN*

Rick Bussler, *Immersed in Trapping*

Judge's comments: *Great example of a subject allowed to tell his story. Good detail to give the reader an inside look at his passion for trapping. Had to be a fun interview.*

SECOND PLACE

Lahontan Valley News & Fallon Eagle Standard, *Fallon, NV*

Thomas Ranson, *A vision for the Hall of Fame*

Judge's comments: *Excellent story on an individual who obviously touched a lot of lives. Writer's willingness to contact some of those touched is what made this one stand out.*

THIRD PLACE

Henderson Independent, *Henderson, MN*

Rachel Miller, *A shot above the rest*

Judge's comments: *Great story about a young lady's pursuit of her goals. A reader feels better for knowing her story, not just about her sports career but her life in general.*

HONORABLE MENTION

News Letter Journal, *Newcastle, WY*

KateLynn Slaamot, *Whatever floats your boat*

Judge's comments: *Writer did a good job detailing each step of a boar build and the challenge faced. Interesting and well written.*



Story-Series - Best Sports Feature Story or Series

Daily & Non-daily Division circ. 3000-9000

FIRST PLACE

Myrtle Beach Herald, *Myrtle Beach, SC*
Charles D. Perry, *Deontray Onley feature*

Judge's comments: *This feature on a history-making athlete draws the reader in with an impactful introduction to the hurdles the young man was forced to overcome in order to achieve his goals. Solid writing throughout tells his story well, one that should both make a community proud and serve as inspiration to youth undergoing similar circumstances. Well done.*

SECOND PLACE

The Southwestern College Sun, *Chula Vista, CA*
Camila A. Gonzalez; Esteban Preciado, *Freewheeling skateboard culture is zag-zag Zen; Track sage predicts bright future*

Judge's comments: *FREEWHEELING SKATEBOARD CULTURE IS ZIG-ZAG ZEN: A cleverly written and engaging peek behind the scenes of a non-traditional sport. The author draws the reader in early with solid imagery, and the rest of the ride progresses smoothly through the philosophical innerworkings of athletes who must often still be willing to bend the rules a bit to enjoy their sport.*

THIRD PLACE

The Highlands Current, *Cold Spring, NY*
Joey Asher, *The Future of Football*

Judge's comments: *A thorough and overall well-written piece about a topic of concern to everyone involved with the sport of football. The article flows smoothly through several different perspectives, blending both facts and research with the human element of the issue.*

HONORABLE MENTION

Buffalo Bulletin, *Buffalo, WY*
Alex Hargrave, *A girl's place is on the court*

Judge's comments: *A solid piece on the history of Title IX. Different perspectives from local figures bring a national issue home.*



Story-Series - Best Sports Feature Story or Series

Daily & Non-daily Division circ. more than 10000

FIRST PLACE

Sioux City Journal, *Sioux City, IA*
Bruce Miller, *"Winning team"*

Judge's comments: *Wonderful story that stood above the rest with some very strong competition.*

My only "complaint," if you can call it that, is that I wondered several times as I was reading ... who is paying the interpreter? By the end, it's known that she's a school employee, but I'm still curious... Did the district hire her specifically for Young? I feel like one more paragraph with those details would have made it even better.

SECOND PLACE

Wyoming Tribune Eagle, *Cheyenne, WY*
Jeremiah Johnke, *On the rise: Colgan undefeated in MMA*

Judge's comments: *Great story. I especially appreciated the background or "beginning" as I believe it was subtitled.*

THIRD PLACE

Park Cities People, *Dallas, TX*
Park Cities People, Todd Jorgenson, *Best Sports Feature Story - Open For Business - Sept PCP page 14*

Judge's comments: *Very good story on the great NIL "experiment." I especially like the lead.*

HONORABLE MENTION

San Fernando Valley Sun, *San Fernando, CA*
Mike Terry, <https://sanfernandosun.com/2022/01/19/a-san-fernando-valley-family-football-legacy-unlike-any-other/>

Judge's comments: *Fun story about a talented family.*



2023 NNAF Editorial & Advertising Contest
List of Winners

Story-Series - Best Sports Story

Daily Division, Non-daily Division, 15,000 or more

FIRST PLACE

The Maine Monitor, *Hallowell, ME*

George Harvey, *Under represented: Numbers lag for women coaches across Maine varsity sports*

Judge's comments: *This is an extremely well-researched and written story illustrating a problem on the local and national level with anecdotes both local and national and illustrated with photos and graphics. Great lede, well researched, well-written--excellent job!*

SECOND PLACE

Wyoming Tribune Eagle, *Cheyenne, WY*

Jeremiah Johnke, *'Better late than never:' Girls wrestling sanctioned by WHSAA*

Judge's comments: *Extremely well researched story on past, present and future of girls wrestling. Well researched, well written,=nice job!*

THIRD PLACE

Yankton Daily Press & Dakotan, *Yankton, SD*

Dockendorf, *Crossing The Goal Line: Native American Football Teams Make Major Strides In 2022*

Judge's comments: *Interesting look at the positive growth of football at native american schools*



Public Notice Resource Center

Promoting effective public notice and educating the public about its right to know.



in memory of Michael Kramer, president, Law Bulletin Media, Chicago, IL

Michael Kramer Best Public Notice Journalism Award

Daily & Non-daily Division

FIRST PLACE

Times-Tribune, *Scranton, PA*

Jim Lockwood, *Architecture panel OKs downtown plan; Wawa heading north; location planned for South Scranton*

Judge's comments: *Jim Lockwood's entry this year featured 12 separate stories that used a public notice as a source in the reporting. Eight of the stories were important enough to land on the front page. Seven may have gone unreported if Lockwood hadn't read the notice they were based on. All of the stories credited the notice as a source and the cites were usually included early in the story — often in the second or third paragraph. Lockwood sets the standard for best practices in public notice reporting. This is the second time he's been named the winner of this category.*

SECOND PLACE

Greenville Daily News, *Greenville, MI*

Elisabeth Waldon, *Douglas Township Public Notice*

THIRD PLACE

The Journal, *Crosby, ND*

Brad Nygaard, *Transparency lacking in city nuisance property process*



Website - Best Newspaper Website

Daily & Non-daily Division

FIRST PLACE

The Taos News, *Taos, NM*

Heather Owen, *The Taos News*

Judge's comments: *Plenty of headlines up high. Site design is quite subtle, but leaning that way rather than overwhelming reader/viewers with too much busy is the right approach. Enjoyed the video profile on the newspaper cartoonist.*

SECOND PLACE

Philadelphia Gay News, *Philadelphia, PA*

PGN Staff, *Philadelphia Gay News*

Judge's comments: *Minimalist web design reflects print version. Plenty of headlines above the scroll. Diverse news coverage serving well it's more targeted readership, though its solid reporting surely attracts a broader range of readers.*

THIRD PLACE

Casa Grande Dispatch, *Casa Grande, AZ*

Staff, *PinalCentral.com*

Judge's comments: *Functional, clean layout. Might be handy to fit more headlines above the scroll. There's a lot on the home page, but you have to find it. Many communities served, with unique content for most. Save the ostriches!*

HONORABLE MENTION

Idaho Mountain Express, *Ketchum, ID*

Express Staff, *www.mtexpress.com*

Judge's comments: *Solid local news product with an appropriate emphasis on outdoor/resource reporting for this market. Gray screen box design might be needlessly limiting. Headline font might be improved with some larger, bolder contrast.*



Social Media Journalism

Daily & Non-daily Division

FIRST PLACE

Jackson Hole News&Guide, *Jackson, WY*

Cindy Harger, *Caught on Camera*

Judge's comments: *Innovative feature to promote community engagement and generate both site traffic and creativity within the community. Great selections of fun, varied, and compelling visuals paired with a little reporting to tell the whole story. Nice work!*

SECOND PLACE

Casa Grande Dispatch, *Casa Grande, AZ*

PinalCentral Staff, *PinalCentral Social Media Journalism 2022*

Judge's comments: *This is a comprehensive social media approach with an engaging voice and a commitment to varied formats, including multimedia reporting and crowd-sourcing -- what a rich range of samples!*

THIRD PLACE

The Pilot, *Southern Pines, NC*

Abbigail Overfelt, Emilee Phillips, *The Sway*

Judge's comments: *A vibrant and broad social media presence that helps recognize and reflect the community this publication serves.*

HONORABLE MENTION

News Letter Journal, *Newcastle, WY*

Bob Bonnar, Alexis Barker, Walter Sprague, *News Letter Journal*

Judge's comments: *A wide variety of opportunities are offered for readers to engage with the publication's content.*



2023 NNAF Editorial & Advertising Contest
List of Winners

Video Journalism

Daily & Non-daily Division

FIRST PLACE

The Taos News, *Taos, NM*

Nathan Burton and Geoffrey Plant, *Inside New Mexico's Largest Wildfire*

Judge's comments: *Great story with great video and editing. Very impressive.*

SECOND PLACE

The Highlands Current, *Cold Spring, NY*

Ross Corsair, *Chakra's Garden*

Judge's comments: *Beautiful story beautifully shot. Wish there was a wide shot that gave me an idea of the scale of the garden.*

THIRD PLACE

Wyoming Tribune Eagle, *Cheyenne, WY*

Alyte Katilius, *Riding for Raylan,*

Judge's comments: *A story that is both sad and heartwarming. I learned something. Well shot and edited.*

HONORABLE MENTION

Antelope County News, *Neligh, NE*

Dylan Widger, *Drone Strike*

Judge's comments: *Interesting story well shot and edited. Impressive work.*



2023 NNAF Editorial & Advertising Contest
List of Winners

NIE - Educational Support & Civic Literacy

Daily & Non-daily Division

FIRST PLACE

The Eldon Advertiser, *Eldon, MO*

Tammy Witherspoon, *Veterans Project*

Judge's comments: *Great job! You can really tell that the students and the community got involved! Awesome tribute!*

SECOND PLACE

The Eldon Advertiser, *Eldon, MO*

Tammy Witherspoon, *Democracy Day*

Judge's comments: *What an awesome idea! Democracy Day is great!*



2023 NNAF Editorial & Advertising Contest
List of Winners

NIE - Partnerships

Daily & Non-daily Division

FIRST PLACE

Tampa Bay Times, *Tampa, FL*

Jodi Pushkin, Stacy Rector, *Mental Health Awareness: Empowering Young People to Manage Their Mental Health*

Judge's comments: *An important topic, well done and perfect for NIE distribution. Great job.*

SECOND PLACE

Tampa Bay Times, *Tampa, FL*

Jodi Pushkin, Stacy Rector, *Pinellas County All Hazards Preparedness Guide 2022*

Judge's comments: *An interesting and well-conceived topic (hurricane safety) for a NIE special section. It's perfect as a physical "keeper"/reference piece. Well done.*

THIRD PLACE

Tampa Bay Times, *Tampa, FL*

Jodi Pushkin, Stacy Rector, *Street Smart Prevention 2022*

Judge's comments: *Nice job with this drug awareness NIE special section.*



Story-Series - Best Non-Profile Feature Story

Daily Division

FIRST PLACE

Yankton Daily Press & Dakotan, *Yankton, SD*
Dockendorf, *Monastery Dog*

Judge's comments: *Heartwarming story of love. Who doesn't love a good dog story--and this one brought a smile.*

SECOND PLACE

The Wyoming Truth, *Laramie, WY*
Alec Klein, *The Michael Lynch Case: What Really Happened?*

Judge's comments: *A heartbreaking story of loss that begs for answers.*

THIRD PLACE

Yankton Daily Press & Dakotan, *Yankton, SD*
Dockendorf, *A Sad Anniversary Tammy Haas*

Judge's comments: *Emotional piece that makes the reader want an answer along with that community and family.*



Story-Series - Best Non-Profile Feature Story

Non-daily Division, circ. 10,000 or more

FIRST PLACE

Township Journal, *Chester, NY*

Becca Tucker, *The Side Hustle is Back*

Judge's comments: *Lots of different voices, lots of different viewpoints. Love the narrative lede. Really very good storytelling. Enjoyable, educational and relatable for many, no doubt.*

SECOND PLACE

Farm and Dairy, *Salem, OH*

Rachel Wagoner, *Jim's Last Ride Home*

Judge's comments: *I've always enjoyed quirky stories like this. Good job!*



Story-Series - Best Non-Profile Feature Story

Non-daily Division, circ. 6,000-9,999

FIRST PLACE

Jackson Hole News&Guide, *Jackson, WY*

Billy Arnold, *We're still here*

Judge's comments: *An important story, well told, with multiple sources. I was entertained, and I learned something.*

SECOND PLACE

Moonshine Ink, *Truckee, CA*

David Fenimore, *The Secret Mountain Laboratory*

Judge's comments: *Entertaining piece about a time I remember, though not in this market. Multiple sources and a wry approach.*

THIRD PLACE

Moonshine Ink, *Truckee, CA*

Alex Hoeft, *Growing Old in Tahoe*

Judge's comments: *Important story with multiple sources. It spent too long on the exemplar before it got to the broader point.*

HONORABLE MENTION

Advertiser-News South, *Chester, NY*

Becca Tucker, *The Era of Accelerated Road Rage*

Judge's comments: *Interesting story, but spent too long on the lone exemplar. Well researched.*



Story-Series - Best Non-Profile Feature Story

Non-daily Division, circ. 4,000-5,999

FIRST PLACE

Buffalo Bulletin, *Buffalo, WY*

Alex Hargrave, *Rituals of survival*

Judge's comments: *Good lede, great detail throughout. The use of language was excellent, with words chosen carefully and sentences that flowed very well.*

SECOND PLACE

The Hinsdalean, *Hinsdale, IL*

Pamela Lannom, *Finding birth family starts new chapter*

Judge's comments: *This was a very personal story about the emotional journey involved in finding and then meeting for the first time, as an adult, with the writer's own birth family. It was moving and looked thoughtfully at the emotional complexities.*

THIRD PLACE

The Southwestern College Sun, *Chula Vista, CA*

Esteban Preciado, *Gorillas In Our Midst*

Judge's comments: *This was an interesting and memorable first-person account of a once-in-a-lifetime trip. Well told, with good narrative flow.*

HONORABLE MENTION

Myrtle Beach Herald, *Myrtle Beach, SC*

Charles D. Perry, *'That poor bear needs some clothes'*

Judge's comments: *A close-up look at an unusual subject, with good quotes throughout.*



Story-Series - Best Non-Profile Feature Story

Non-daily Division, circ. 2,000-3,999

FIRST PLACE

Fort Bend Herald & Texas Coaster, *Rosenberg, TX*
Scott Reese Willey, *Disc Golf*;

Judge's comments: *Outstanding set of stories that demonstrate unique activities the locals are participating in that people may not be aware of. A job well done finding these stories, providing great detail, and obtaining complementary quotes.*

SECOND PLACE

Shelter Island Reporter, *Mattituck, NY*
Ambrose Clancy, *Working to Bring food, friendship and comfort*

Judge's comments: *Great way to bring attention to the "behind the scenes" of a program that many may be loosely aware of its existence, but perhaps not its importance.*

THIRD PLACE

Shelter Island Reporter, *Mattituck, NY*
Ambrose Clancy, *Dignity & Respect at Calverton National*,
Judge's comments: *Poetically written story -- kudos!*

HONORABLE MENTION

The Alamance News, *Graham, NC*
Tomas Murawski, *Best Feature Story - Non-Profile - MM, Mebane terrier wins at Westminster*
Judge's comments: *Great quotes to complement the piece!*



Story-Series - Best Non-Profile Feature Story

Non-daily Division, circ. less than 2,000

FIRST PLACE

Uinta County Herald, *Evanston, WY*

Bryon Glathar, *Local retired ranger Schuler, 64, dies while mountain biking*

Judge's comments: *This is a very well-done profile of a man's long career in public service, both paid and volunteer.*

SECOND PLACE

Henderson Independent, *Henderson, MN*

Rachel Miller, *Ready, set, action!*

Judge's comments: *The writer has done a good job of linking locals, by name, to the movie.*

THIRD PLACE

Henderson Independent, *Henderson, MN*

Rachel Miller, *South of the border battle*

Judge's comments: *This is an interesting story about the price of a small error. I would like to have seen the total cost.*

HONORABLE MENTION

The Red Hook Star-Review, *Brooklyn, NY*

Erin DeGregorio, *New Votive Ship Sails Aloft*

Judge's comments: *A fascinating piece of history with which very few people are familiar.*



2023 NNAF Editorial & Advertising Contest
List of Winners

Best Use of Social Media for Breaking News

Daily & Non-daily Division

FIRST PLACE

Antelope County News, *Neligh, NE*

Kelli Garcia, *Page Fire*

Judge's comments: *Excellent continuous coverage with great, clear copy. Great job!*

SECOND PLACE

Cedar County News, *Hartington, NE*

Kellyn Dump, Trisha Benton, Rob Dump, *Social Media - Breaking news - Laurel media*

Judge's comments: *Straight and to the point reporting.*

THIRD PLACE

Casa Grande Dispatch, *Casa Grande, AZ*

PinalCentral Staff, *2 teenagers fatally shot outside Casa Grande apartment complex*

Judge's comments: *good coverage of incident.*

HONORABLE MENTION

The Village Reporter, *Montpelier, OH*

Forrest R. Church, *School Bus Accident*



2023 NNAF Editorial & Advertising Contest
List of Winners

Best Reader-Generated Campaign

Non-daily Division

FIRST PLACE

Oakland Independent, *Oakland, IL*

Janice Hunt, *News Travels*

Judge's comments: *I love this feature! Readers love seeing themselves, and newspapers love loyal readers. This feature is a win-win. Carrying around a copy of the newspaper on vacation shows a level of reader loyalty that this campaign engenders. Nicely done.*

SECOND PLACE

The Northern Light Region, *Baudette, MN*

Mary Guenin, *4th of July*

Judge's comments: *That is a spectacular photo. Nicely done Mary Guenin and the staff who picked it to publish.*



2023 NNAF Editorial & Advertising Contest
List of Winners

Best Online Album or Slide Show

Non-daily Division

FIRST PLACE

The Taos News, *Taos, NM*

Nathan Burton, *The impact of the Calf Canyon-Hermits Peak Fire*

Judge's comments: *Very strong photos*

SECOND PLACE

The Taos News, *Taos, NM*

Nathan Burton, *Thousands walk to Chimayó for annual religious pilgrimage*

Judge's comments: *A very well put together photo story.*

THIRD PLACE

The State Port Pilot, *Southport, NC*

Michael Paul, *Cougars fall short*

Judge's comments: *Nice job using photos and video to tell a story.*

HONORABLE MENTION

The Observer, *Dundee, NY*

Brandon Lawson, *SPORTS RECAP: Week of 9-28-22*

Judge's comments: *Nice action shots*



Rookie Reporter of the Year

Non-daily Division



Andrew Guckes, *Idaho Mountain Express*, Ketchum, ID

FIRST PLACE

Judge's comments: *This reporter has a nose for a good story and an ear for the anecdotes and detail to tell it. Really strong writer who is, I'm sure, an asset to the newspaper.*



Johnnie Phillips, *Steele County Times*, Blooming Prairie, MN

SECOND PLACE

Judge's comments: *Very impressive. Strong, crisp writing; very readable. The seasonal sports tab is well done; a terrific package. This is clearly one hardworking reporter/editor.*

THIRD PLACE

Kate Ready, *Jackson Hole News&Guide*, Jackson, WY

Judge's comments: *Nothin' like throwing the rookie into the deep end. Kate Ready takes on some heavy duty topics and delivers with solid reporting and good writing.*



2023 NNAF Editorial & Advertising Contest
List of Winners

Best Informational Graphic

Daily Division, Non-daily Division, over 10,000

FIRST PLACE

Wyoming Tribune Eagle, *Cheyenne, WY*

Jeremiah Johnke, *2022 All-Laramie County football team*

Judge's comments: *A well designed infographic that showcases the all-star players and their schools on a swatch of the school colors. Very readable and attractive.*

SECOND PLACE

Township Journal, *Chester, NY*

Christina Scotti, *The Side Hustle is Back - Clock Graphic*

Judge's comments: *The use of pull-Quotes is a clever infographic format touch. They give a range of ideas to draw the reader into the full story.*



Best Front Page Design

Daily Division & Non-Daily circ. 15,000 or more

FIRST PLACE

Sioux City Journal, *Sioux City, IA*

Staff, *Sioux City Journal*

Judge's comments: *Easy for the eyes to take in - good number of pictures balanced with information.*

SECOND PLACE

The Pilot, *Southern Pines, NC*

Staff, *The Pilot, Best Front Page Design*

Judge's comments: *The artwork and the design make the front page meaningful with the proper distribution of news and artwork.*

THIRD PLACE

Preston Hollow People, *Dallas, TX*

Preston Hollow People, Melanie Thornton, William Taylor, Chris McGathey, *Best Front Page Design - March Preston Hollow People*

Judge's comments: *Great graphic and table of contents, but some content should be present on the front page.*



2023 NNAF Editorial & Advertising Contest
List of Winners

Photo - Best Pandemic Photo or Series

Non-daily Division, circ. less than 5,000

FIRST PLACE

The Edgerton Reporter, *Edgerton, WI*

Toni Turquist, Nicole Hamm, *Holiday Photo series*

Judge's comments: *Nice, fun community holiday photos.*



Story/Series - Best Coverage of Military Affairs

Daily & Non-daily Division

FIRST PLACE

The Examiner, *Beaumont, TX*

The Examiner, *Inside look at future veterans in training*

Judge's comments: *Nice writing style with a mix of humor, grit and tenderness.*

SECOND PLACE

The Examiner, *Beaumont, TX*

The Examiner, *Vietnam veterans receive warm welcome*

Judge's comments: *The reporter did a good job of letting the vets tell their stories. It moved the story along smoothly.*

THIRD PLACE

Yankton Daily Press & Dakotan, *Yankton, SD*

Dockendorf, *New Mission*

Judge's comments: *Nicely done. Reads well and the reporter adeptly brought the story around full circle.*

HONORABLE MENTION

The Taos News, *Taos, NM*

Geoffrey Plant, *Boots on the ground*

Judge's comments: *Good job of painting the picture from all angles: National Guard substitutes, teachers and students.*



Story-Series - Communication in Crisis

Daily & Non-daily Division, circ. 6,000 or more

FIRST PLACE

Philadelphia Gay News, *Philadelphia, PA*

Michele Zipkin, Jason Villemez, Victoria A. Brownworth, *Monkeypox and the LGBTQ community*

Judge's comments: *Sometimes a community is more about interest than geography. The Philadelphia Gay News ran with the story of the monkeypox virus. We got much more than a chronicle of the spread of the virus. We got community action and reaction and a look to the future.*

SECOND PLACE

Idaho Mountain Express, *Ketchum, ID*

Express Staff, *Ross Fork Fire*

Judge's comments: *A spreading wildfire is truly a crisis -- and this one burned out of control for weeks. The sampling of Mark Dee's coverage was strong -- to-the-point, well organized, extremely helpful.*

THIRD PLACE

Township Journal, *Chester, NY*

Molly Colgan, *Local COVID-19 testing sites, NJ's worst COVID outbreak strikes, COVID long haulers*

Judge's comments: *Solid work and well localized, especially since the nature of this crisis just doesn't feel as critical as some others ... call it covid fatigue.*

HONORABLE MENTION

Casa Grande Dispatch, *Casa Grande, AZ*

Mark Cowling, *Amid water shortage, leaders seek solutions*

Judge's comments: *A nice dive into the ongoing water crisis along the Colorado River*



Story-Series - Communication in Crisis

Daily & Non-daily Division, circ. less than 6,000

FIRST PLACE

The Journal, Crosby, ND

Journal Staff, April blizzard and power outage

Judge's comments: *Huge project for this newspaper's staff in dealing with the effects and aftermath of a wild and crazy storm that left neighbors without power (heat and light), stranded motorists, closed community retail establishments, and simply put, affected the lives of almost everyone. Great detail about responders' service and aid efforts; human interest features on the folk affected; delivery of instant detail via website (though access to the electronic tools were also affected by the storm). Just a great, comprehensive series relating in timely manner the effects this storm had on the communities served.*

SECOND PLACE

Steele County Times, Blooming Prairie, MN

Kay Fate, A church in turmoil

Judge's comments: *Great detail with narrative timeline on an issue affecting local families and a community's religious institution. Careful reporting with detail and involved individuals identified provide an excellent account for readers. Absence of comments/response from those involved in the described incident(s) weakened the storyline, but an effort was made to connect with story principals who declined or ignored the reporter's requests.*



2023 NNAF Editorial & Advertising Contest
List of Winners

Editorial - Best Editorial

Daily Division

FIRST PLACE

Wyoming Tribune Eagle, *Cheyenne, WY*

Brian Martin, *No surprise: Legislators fail the budget session test*

Judge's comments: *Well thought out points presented in a logical fashion with backup information. Well done.*

SECOND PLACE

Wyoming Tribune Eagle, *Cheyenne, WY*

Brian Martin, *We need "Wyoming's doctor" to fight for our health care needs*

Judge's comments: *Thorough and well thought out call for opinion and action for the people.*

THIRD PLACE

Sioux City Journal, *Sioux City, IA*

Dave Dreeszen, *Opt for openness on deputies pay dispute*

Judge's comments: *Well thought out and logical response to the issue.*

HONORABLE MENTION

The Wyoming Truth, *Laramie, WY*

Alec Klein, *Op-Ed: A Troubling Case*

Judge's comments: *Very interesting piece--lends itself more to investigative journalism piece than op-ed. Would be very interested if there is ever any further move to get the records.*



2023 NNAF Editorial & Advertising Contest
List of Winners

Editorial - Best Editorial

Non-daily Division, circ. less than 2,000

FIRST PLACE

Marietta Monitor, *Marietta, OK*

Connor Choate, *Opinion: A Changing of Times*

Judge's comments: *I was engaged the entire time I read the article and got fired up. Well done.*

SECOND PLACE

Petersburg Pilot, *Petersburg, AK*

Orin Pierson, *Community Engagement*

Judge's comments: *Well written piece that was focused on the community as a whole.*

THIRD PLACE

Henderson Independent, *Henderson, MN*

Rachel Miller, *LS-H referendum puts students first*

Judge's comments: *Did an excellent job of painting a picture of the conditions the students were learning in and the staff were working in.*

HONORABLE MENTION

Mid Hudson Times, *Newburgh, NY*

Carl Aiello, *A Dangerous Silence*

Judge's comments: *Wow, what a powerful article. Well written.*



Best Informational Graphic

Non-daily Division, circ. 6,000-9,999

FIRST PLACE

Jackson Hole News&Guide, *Jackson, WY*

Andy Edwards, *What did a vote cost in 2022?*

Judge's comments: *This really fascinating graphic is overflowing with nuanced, well-delineated information -- readers are given easy access to as much or as little detail as they care to digest in comprehending the graphic and the overall story. Well-done!*

SECOND PLACE

Leelanau Enterprise, *Lake Leelanau, MI*

Mike Anderson and Amy Hubbell, *Old Art Building Turns 100 Timeline*

Judge's comments: *Clever use of color and intriguing historical tidbits make this infographic both educational and a pleasure to read.*

THIRD PLACE

Advertiser-News South, *Chester, NY*

Christina Scotti, *Accelerated Road Rage Infographic*

Judge's comments: *The infographic is clear, readable, and purpose-driven, and it helps draw readers into the story with a focused, straightforward comparative analysis.*



2023 NNAF Editorial & Advertising Contest
List of Winners

Best Informational Graphic

Non-daily Division, circ. 4,000-5,999

FIRST PLACE

The Standard Banner, *Jefferson City, TN*

Dale Gentry, *SB | Lakes lure tourists*

Judge's comments: *Very well executed*

SECOND PLACE

The Southwestern College Sun, *Chula Vista, CA*

Alicia Rivero, *Sexual assault a plague for college women*

Judge's comments: *A tough subject matter, this illustration makes a strong graphic out of strong words.*

THIRD PLACE

Buffalo Bulletin, *Buffalo, WY*

Stacy Bronson, *Bighorn National Forest: By the numbers*

Judge's comments: *Nicely done*

HONORABLE MENTION

Buffalo Bulletin, *Buffalo, WY*

Stacy Bronson, *Where do your property taxes go?*

Judge's comments: *Nice job illustrating a difficult to topic to show visually*



Best Informational Graphic

Non-daily Division, circ. 2,000-3,999

FIRST PLACE

The Ark, *Tiburon, CA*

Kevin Hessel, *Tsunami hazards*

Judge's comments: *The map features support the story's thesis: a tsunami hazard zone is expanding. Done with clarity and details.*

SECOND PLACE

Antelope County News, *Neligh, NE*

Angelique Boyer, *Lights, Camera, Action*

Judge's comments: *A grand idea, but the year designations are obscure, and the attending color visual elements detract from the chart, though vividly display the subject! Print quality challenges clarity, too.*

THIRD PLACE

The Ark, *Tiburon, CA*

Kevin Hessel, *Election results*

Judge's comments: *A "typical" post-election chart. But percentages should not replace or ignore the numbers!*



Best Informational Graphic

Non-daily Division, circ. less than 2,000

FIRST PLACE

Southwest Ledger, Lawton, OK

Carl Lewis, *Global landfill crisis*

Judge's comments: *Has everything that a major newspaper graphic offers. Information, compelling image, even a few pictures to help fix the eye on it.*

SECOND PLACE

Marietta Monitor, Marietta, OK

Anabel Ulloa, *Peanut farming through the years*

Judge's comments: *Simple, direct, tells a compelling story in statistics, leads the reader to ask questions*

THIRD PLACE

Stanton Register, Stanton, NE

Carrie Pitzer, *Need For Speed*

Judge's comments: *Very visually compelling, almost too visually compelling. The flames are a bit much and make it slightly too busy*

HONORABLE MENTION

Southwest Ledger, Lawton, OK

Bryan Richter, Mike W. Ray, *Fraud reports Oklahomans led with the FTC in 2021*

Judge's comments: *The graphic offers a great deal of information, but the style left me confused about how the facts related.*



Best Front Page Design

Non-daily Division, circ. 10,000-14,999

FIRST PLACE

The Examiner, *Beaumont, TX*

The Examiner, *Examiner Front Page Design*

Judge's comments: *This magazine-like cover design gives readers interesting perspective with its photography and art of the main story, which begins inside. The overall design could use a bit more information - for people unaware.*



2023 NNAF Editorial & Advertising Contest
List of Winners

Best Front Page Design

Non-daily Division, circ. 6,000-9,999

FIRST PLACE

Moonshine Ink, *Truckee, CA*

Mike English, *November 2022: Two Decades of the Ink*

Judge's comments: *This album "cover" set the perfect tone. The creator did a great job - pulled it off.*

SECOND PLACE

Moonshine Ink, *Truckee, CA*

Sarah Miller, *September 2022 edition, Workforce Woes*

Judge's comments: *A simple idea done extremely well.*

THIRD PLACE

Leelanau Enterprise, *Lake Leelanau, MI*

Mike Anderson, *Then & Now*

Judge's comments: *Nicely executed cover blending the old and the new.*

HONORABLE MENTION

The Taos News, *Taos, NM*

Taos News Staff, *TNMA20220915A001*

Judge's comments: *This is a great example of using strong photos well can really make a front page work for the readers.*



Best Front Page Design

Non-daily Division, circ. 4,000-5,999

FIRST PLACE

The Southwestern College Sun, *Chula Vista, CA*
Nicolette Monique Luna, *Front Page Design*

Judge's comments: *All of these front-page designs have strong layouts, stories, and photos that help create a smooth dynamic.*

SECOND PLACE

The N'West Iowa REVIEW, *Sheldon, IA*
Thea Sterrett, *Best Front Page Design*

Judge's comments: *What an eye-catching front page! The graphic/story in the center is a great addition to the page and is a strong creation. The cutout on top and the advertisement at the bottom help level the page graphics out with the text. Great job!*

THIRD PLACE

The Highlands Current, *Cold Spring, NY*
Pierce Strudler, *Highlands Current*

Judge's comments: *Good, standout photo, nice articles, great preview with the goat. Well done!*



2023 NNAF Editorial & Advertising Contest
List of Winners

Best Front Page Design

Non-daily Division, circ. 2,000-3,999

FIRST PLACE

The Ark, *Tiburon, CA*

Kevin Hessel, *Sept. 14*

Judge's comments: *Clean design offers readers a clear view of the week's news.*

SECOND PLACE

The Chronicle, *Elgin, OK*

Carl Lewis, *2.10.2022*

Judge's comments: *Strong overall design gives readers an easy to understand page*

THIRD PLACE

Antelope County News, *Neligh, NE*

Carrie Pitzer, *Our Team*

Judge's comments: *Nice use of photo and graphics to tell the story.*

HONORABLE MENTION

Laurel Independent, *Hyattsville, MD*

Ashley Perks, Valerie Morris, *The Laurel Independent, September 2022*

Judge's comments: *Nice clean design*



Best Front Page Design

Non-daily Division, circ. less than 2,000

FIRST PLACE

Southwest Ledger, Lawton, OK

Carl Lewis, Samantha Spears, *Hollywood on the Prarie*

Judge's comments: *I really loved this entry. You can tell a lot of work went into putting this special edition together, and it was beautifully packaged. I love the idea of using the theater graphic for the back image, each story was very clear and separated from the others, making it very readable, and also very engaging. This was the clear winner.*

SECOND PLACE

Marietta Monitor, *Marietta, OK*

Connor Choate, Willis Choate, Joani Hartin, Austin Anthony, Rebecca Carroll, Donna Martin, Bronwyn Carter, Linda Hicks, and Anabel Ulloa, *10-28-2022 Edition*

Judge's comments: *Great use of photos and graphics to draw the reader in. I love it when graphics are used to visualize change, and seeing how the peanut farming industry has changed so much is pretty powerful.*

THIRD PLACE

Stanton Register, *Stanton, NE*

Carrie Pitzer, *Rewriting Her-Story*

Judge's comments: *Great headline and typography selection, great photos, and great use of the text wrap around the subject. This entry was very visually appealing.*

HONORABLE MENTION

News Letter Journal, *Newcastle, WZ*

Amy Menerey, *News Letter Journal*

Judge's comments: *There were a lot of great entries in this category and I would be remiss if I did not include this one. It is well designed, manages to get a lot on the page without appearing too busy, and is easy to read.*



Best Use of a Double-Truck

Non-Daily Division, circ. 6,000 or more

FIRST PLACE

Leelanau Enterprise, *Lake Leelanau, MI*

Mike Anderson and Amy Hubbell, *Old Art Building Turns 100 Timeline*

Judge's comments: *Playful, colorful and intriguing. The design made me want to read every word. A great alternative to the typical straight line timeline.*

SECOND PLACE

Park Cities People, *Dallas, TX*

Park Cities People, Mia Carrera, Melanie Thornton, *Best Use of a Double-Truck, Sept PCP page B8-B9*

Judge's comments: *A double truck clearly was necessary to accommodate this group. The numbers, bolded questions, etc. breaks a daunting amount of text into small readable bites. Well done*



2023 NNAF Editorial & Advertising Contest
List of Winners

Best Use of a Double-Truck

Non-Daily Division, circ. 4,000-5,999

FIRST PLACE

The Southwestern College Sun, *Chula Vista, CA*

Esteban Preciado, *Gorillas in Our Midst*

Judge's comments: *A fascinating story presented in magazine/textbook style layout allows room for dramatic photos and a well written commentary.*

SECOND PLACE

The Hinsdalean, *Hinsdale, IL*

Jim Slonoff, *Puppy yoga*

Judge's comments: *Who doesn't love cute dog photos?*

The good photos and their well placed flow on the double truck introduce the fun and benefits of "Bring your Dog to Yoga Day" Nicely Done!



Best Use of a Double-Truck

Non-Daily Division, circ. 2,000-3,999

FIRST PLACE

Steele County Times, *Blooming Prairie, MN*
Staff, *Best Use of Double Truck*

Judge's comments: *Nice big headline and main photo. Good layout with symmetry. Good use of pull quotes and in-story subheads. The headline doesn't go all the way to the far edge of the story. Overall clean layout.*

SECOND PLACE

Antelope County News, *Neligh, NE*
Carrie Pitzer & Jenny Higgins, *Never In A Million Years*

Judge's comments: *Busy layout. Good use of headline formatting and placement. Normally four different headline fonts and format are much, but it works in this case. Good photo placement with the subjects facing inside the page.*



2023 NNAF Editorial & Advertising Contest
List of Winners

Best Use of a Double-Truck

Non-Daily Division, circ. less than 2000

FIRST PLACE

Southwest Ledger, Lawton, OK

Rip Stell/Carl Lewis, *A day at the Capitol*

Judge's comments: *Strong photos, decent layout. The color transition for "A Day at the Capitol" is a nice touch.*

SECOND PLACE

The Observer, Dundee, NY

Brandon Lawson, *Congratulations Penn Yan Academy Class of 2022*

Judge's comments: *Good layout, but all the photos seem the same—people standing at podiums talking. More diversity in photos would have put this higher.*



2023 NNAF Editorial & Advertising Contest
List of Winners

Photo - Best Breaking News Photo

Non-daily Division, circ. 4,000-5,999

FIRST PLACE

Vilas County News-Review, *Eagle River, WI*

Michelle Drew, *Rollover- Best Spot News Photo*

Judge's comments: *Good photo! Captures the accident and those involved.*

SECOND PLACE

The Standard Banner, *Jefferson City, TN*

Steve Marion, *Courtroom agony*

Judge's comments: *Gripping photo. Very moving.*



Photo - Best Breaking News Photo

Non-daily Division, circ. 2,000-3,999

FIRST PLACE

Uvalde Leader-News, *Uvalde, TX*

Pete Luna, *Uvalde Leader-News May 24 coverage*

Judge's comments: *Excellent work. This what spot news is all about: gotta be there. Great news coverage of a tragic event.*

SECOND PLACE

Antelope County News, *Neligh, NE*

Dylan Widger, *Fire Escape*

Judge's comments: *Well done and terrifying. The image is tight and brings the viewer into the scene, feeling the urgency of the moment.*

THIRD PLACE

Douglas Budget, *Douglas, WY*

Matt Adelman, *A Protest Mandate*

Judge's comments: *Nice work. This image is relevant to what our society has gone through because of COVID.*

HONORABLE MENTION

The Alamance News, *Graham, NC*

Tom Boney, Jr., *Best Breaking News Photo - Outburst at city council meeting*

Judge's comments: *Nice work strong reaction. It would be stronger if the viewer could see what the reaction is why there is this reaction, could have included some of the attendees.*



Photo - Best Breaking News Photo

Non-daily Division, circ. less than 2,000

FIRST PLACE

Stanton Register, *Stanton, NE*

Carrie Pitzer, *Words Cannot Describe Strength*

Judge's comments: *Tough story to learn about but the way the paper and the photographer handled it told the story well. The photo work hit me hard and it is something that I remember. Sorry you had to cover this but you did a fine job*

SECOND PLACE

Cedar County News, *Hartington, NE*

Kellyn Dump, *Breaking news photo - Murder funeral*

Judge's comments: *The photographer did a good job finding the right photo to help tell the story, a very tragic one. Besides telling the story it appears to me it would help those mourning find some peace. A tough story to tell and illustrate*

THIRD PLACE

News Letter Journal, *Newcastle, WY*

Walter Sprague, *Fire*

Judge's comments: *A good picture of a tough event. Don't know how they let the photographer get that close but by doing so a photo of something taking place immediately was recorded and certainly helps tell the story.*

HONORABLE MENTION

Southwest Ledger, *Lawton, OK*

Steve Booker, *Bordwine facility used to store hand sanitizer erupts in Wednesday blaze*

Judge's comments: *The photographer caught this action photo at the right time and at the height of the action. Not an uncommon fire photo but a pretty good one.*



Photo - Best Feature Photo

Non-daily Division, circ. less than 2,000

FIRST PLACE

News Letter Journal, *Newcastle, WY*

Alexis Barker, *Power of persuasion*

Judge's comments: *This image stood out among all of the other entries. For one, it was a solid feature photo (not a news photo, not a photo essay, not a portrait). Nice tight image with great emotion and well composed. Also just a funny slice of life that illustrates the region's culture.*

SECOND PLACE

The Ozona Stockman, *Ozona, TX*

JP DeLaGarza, *Pep Rally Splash*

Judge's comments: *Nice peak moment image for a daily feature. Great expressions and solid composition.*

THIRD PLACE

The Journal, *Crosby, ND*

Brad Nygaard, *Range Branding at Divide County Fair*

Judge's comments: *If you are going to the fair and bring this image back you aren't doing too badly!*

HONORABLE MENTION

The Journal, *Crosby, ND*

Brad Nygaard, *Freya sings National Anthem*

Judge's comments: *Solid topical feature photo (the Ukrainian war news peg). Decent layering but watch background elements growing out of the girl's head. Don't be afraid to get closer to your subject either.*



2023 NNAF Editorial & Advertising Contest
List of Winners

Story-Series - Best Business Story

Non-daily Division, circ. 6,000 or more

FIRST PLACE

Sparta Independent, *Chester, NY*

Becca Tucker, *Shoplifting in the age of heavy surveillance*

Judge's comments: *Well-organized consideration of several factors.*

SECOND PLACE

The Maine Monitor, *Hallowell, ME*

Kate Cough, *Dark Store Theory*

Judge's comments: *Clear explanation of a complex issue.*

THIRD PLACE

The Taos News, *Taos, NM*

Geoffrey Plant, *Kit Carson Electric to cut consumer costs*

Judge's comments: *Interesting coverage of a topic that's on a lot of readers' minds.*

HONORABLE MENTION

Moonshine Ink, *Truckee, CA*

Ted Coakley III, *Days Gone By*

Judge's comments: *Poignant without glossing over the reason it's closing. Good job.*



Story-Series - Best Business Story

Non-daily Division, circ. 4,000-5,999

FIRST PLACE

Buffalo Bulletin, *Buffalo, WY*

Seth Taylor, *Paying at the pump*

Judge's comments: *A good, well written story on the community's gasoline market and its economic effects. Good sourcing, though attempts to reach some key sources were ignored or declined comment/explanations. The general analysis by this reporter was source-based and should have provided readers with a decent explanation and accounting of the issue: high gas prices.*

SECOND PLACE

Buffalo Bulletin, *Buffalo, WY*

Alex Hargrave, *Housing crunch*

Judge's comments: *Generally a good review of housing limits in this rural community where few homes are on the market and demand is high. What is most affected are the service businesses where potential employees opt to look elsewhere because the community's housing shortages and values remain unacceptable challenges. Good reporting/writing; the variety of sources help with the reporting depth. Absent are direct sourcing of those potential residents who bring professional skills to the county and communities therein.*

THIRD PLACE

Vilas County News-Review, *Eagle River, WI*

Michelle Drew, *Continued lack of staff causes some local businesses to shutter*

Judge's comments: *Very good multiple-source story on the community's economy, the effects of the C-virus on local businesses, the absence of seasonal workers to fill service jobs and the closing of local restaurants and businesses reliant on those workers. Missing in the story mix are comments and reflections from the workforce. Just a good summary account, however, with that variety of sources should provide readers with a good glimpse of the then economic challenges in their community.*

HONORABLE MENTION

The Standard Banner, *Jefferson City, TN*

Dale Gentry, *Bounce-back year*

Judge's comments: *Single-source story, lots of financial statistics related to tourism effects on the county, but no comments/reflections from tourism resources. Writer provides assumptive conclusions without specific sources. Yet the story provides a depth of financial statistics to "show" the effect of tourism on the local economy.*



Story-Series - Best Business Story

Non-daily Division, circ. 2,000-3,999

FIRST PLACE

The Ark, *Tiburon, CA*

Deirdre McCrohan, *Tiburon teen among leaders of an effort to unionize local Starbucks*

Judge's comments: *What a great local story and reported/written so well. Not only is this important news, the writer did an excellent job of keeping it personal by using great quotes from the teens involved.*

SECOND PLACE

Laurel Independent, *Hyattsville, MD*

Joe Murchison, *Back to business after the pandemic*

Judge's comments: *Thorough reporting and very good, keep-your-attention writing.*

THIRD PLACE

Lahontan Valley News & Fallon Eagle Standard, *Fallon, NV*

Steve Ranson, *Fernley's 'Victory Project' receives \$25 billion grant*

Judge's comments: *Big news and great story*

HONORABLE MENTION

The Alamance News, *Graham, NC*

Kristy Bailey, *Best Business Story - Alamance Crossing defaults, could face foreclosure*

Judge's comments: *Good story in a category with very strong competition.*



Story-Series - Best Business Story

Non-daily Division, circ. less than 2,000

FIRST PLACE

Southwest Ledger, Lawton, OK

Mike W. Ray, *Hospital CEO fired over sexual issues*

Judge's comments: *Now that's what I call a lede. This was the standout entry in this division. This had to be an uncomfortable story to cover. The reporter did a great job covering all the angles.*

SECOND PLACE

News Letter Journal, Newcastle, WY

Hannah Gross, *Thinking inside the box*

Judge's comments: *Nice story about a high school entrepreneur - but let him talk. His mother was allowed to take over the story. It leaves the impression that momma is taking over the business as well. (perhaps that was the point)*

THIRD PLACE

The Tioga Tribune, Tioga, ND

Jacob Orledge, *Dollar General under OSHA investigations*

Judge's comments: *Dollar General needs to clean up its act. Lots of details here, but unfortunately this story could have been written about the majority of these stores.*



Story-Series - Best Localized National Story

Non-daily Division, circ. 10,000 or more

FIRST PLACE

Park Cities People, *Dallas, TX*

Park Cities People, Rachel Snyder, *Best Localized National Story - Apr PCP page 10*

Judge's comments: *Interesting way to localize this story.*

SECOND PLACE

San Fernando Valley Sun, *San Fernando, CA*

Gabriel Arizon, *Two Long Time Friends Veterans from City of San Fernando Return for Annual Parade*

Judge's comments: *Good story.*

THIRD PLACE

The Examiner, *Beaumont, TX*

The Examiner, *Never Forget,*

Judge's comments: *Good story*



Story-Series - Best Localized National Story

Non-daily Division, circ. 6,000-9,999

FIRST PLACE

Warwick Advertiser, *Chester, NY*

Becca Tucker, *'Growing community of patriots'...*

Judge's comments: *Truly some very gutsy reporting. Oath Keepers, Proud Boys, 3-percenters and members of other similar groups often show animosity toward the press. It took some backbone to go into the lion's den and interview them and take photos. That sort of courage deserves a first-place award, certainly. By the way, if your paper "brutalized Jones last year" why did he speak so openly with you on this story? He must not have felt so brutalized. More likely, he thought you treated him fairly and he knew he could count on the same treatment in this story. Great job! Keep up the good work! Stories like this remind your readers why newspapers continue to play an important role in their lives.*

SECOND PLACE

The Taos News, *Taos, NM*

John Miller, *Taos teen tells story of escape*

Judge's comments: *Really captivating reporting. Goof job of showing your readers how harrowing life was for the Ukrainians and the difficult time they had reaching the United States. Great photos and layout, by the way. Of all the Ukraine stories entered in competition, this was by far the most interesting.*

THIRD PLACE

Leelanau Enterprise, *Lake Leelanau, MI*

Brian Freiburger, *Jay Hook*

Judge's comments: *Really good reporting. I'm certain your readers really enjoyed this story. Make certain you send a gift card to whomever tipped you off to this story!*

HONORABLE MENTION

The News-Gazette, *Lexington, VA*

Hope Huger, *Everything Changed*

Judge's comments: *Good reporting. Very interesting reading. I'm certain your readers really enjoyed it.*



Story-Series - Best Localized National Story

Non-daily Division, circ. 4,000-5,999

FIRST PLACE

The Journal-News, *Hillsboro, IL*

Mary (Galer) Herschelman, *Wilhelm Helps Families Evacuate From Ukraine*

Judge's comments: *This story captures the issue and potentially inspires readers to get involved locally for national or international events. Good work. It was a joy to read.*

SECOND PLACE

The Southwestern College Sun, *Chula Vista, CA*

Camila A. Gonzalez, *Haitians flood Tijuana, seek asylum in U.S. and Canada*

Judge's comments: *Thank you for capturing the emotion and intensity. The human interest element keeps the reader's attention. When a journalist can capture a reader's attention through exceptional writing, it opens the door for the masses to be more informed. This, in turn, promotes a better world.*

THIRD PLACE

Eldridge North Scott Press, *Eldridge, IA*

Mark Ridolfi, *Rail merger will triple riverfront train traffic*

Judge's comments: *Good story. Very informative.*



Story-Series - Best Localized National Story

Non-daily Division, circ. 2,000-3,999

FIRST PLACE

Uvalde Leader-News, *Uvalde, TX*

Melissa Federspill, *Uvalde Leader-News - Best localized national story*

Judge's comments: *The Uvalde News-Leader Staff faced tragedy and kept the community informed. This newspaper has gone above and beyond for their community while dealing with their own grief. Great job!*

SECOND PLACE

The Alamance News, *Graham, NC*

Kristy Bailey, *Best Localized National Story - Influx of 435 refugee students expected within next year*

Judge's comments: *Great detailed article. Very well-written and use of photos and details talking about a national story hitting a local community.*

THIRD PLACE

Antelope County News, *Neligh, NE*

Carrie Pitzer, *Biggest Play of the Game*

Judge's comments: *Great article! Fun and well-written. The reporter did a great job with the interview and the details.*

HONORABLE MENTION

The Edgerton Reporter, *Edgerton, WI*

Sam Martino, *Lucky to be alive Steve Stricker*

Judge's comments: *Great job of localizing a national news story and keeping track of it.*



Story-Series - Best Localized National Story

Non-daily Division, circ. less than 2,000

FIRST PLACE

The Journal, *Crosby, ND*

Cecile Wehrman, *Pustovit family of Ukraine*

Judge's comments: *Gripping account on one woman's harrowing saga to get to her daughter in America from the Ukraine with her baby. The column is well-written and helps American readers connect with what Ukrainian refugees are experiencing. Well done.*

SECOND PLACE

The Red Hook Star-Review, *Brooklyn, NY*

George Fiala, *Covering the Ukraine War*

Judge's comments: *What a great idea to help readers see all the Ukrainian people, places and things right there in their neighborhoods. The photos and packaging are well-done.*

THIRD PLACE

Stanton Register, *Stanton, NE*

Carrie Pitzer, *Federal Grants For Nursing Home*

Judge's comments: *An interesting look at a town government's take on pandemic funds and how to spend them and where faults lines existed among community leaders.*



Best Reporting on Local Government

Daily Division

FIRST PLACE

Wyoming Tribune Eagle, *Cheyenne, WY*

Hannah Black, *Anti-bias law may be rarely used. For some, that's OK.*

Judge's comments: *Meticulously researched and very well written.*

Covers all bases including legal, constitutional and legislative intents, hurdles and potential conflicts.

A complex story told in a clear and authoritative manner.

SECOND PLACE

Sioux City Journal, *Sioux City, IA*

Caitlin Yamada, *Reporting on construction of the Woodbury County Law Enforcement Center and its numerous*

Judge's comments: *Perhaps our most important duty is to keep an eye on government, and this series delivers.*

Good, old-fashioned watchdog journalism.

Great job of sticking with it, particularly when things like government spending, the procurement process and construction can sometimes lose reader if the story isn't told well. These stories are told well.

THIRD PLACE

Watertown Daily Times, *Watertown, WI*

Ed Zagorski, *County supervisor disagrees with letter of admonishment*

Judge's comments: *i'm interested in seeing how this comes out in the end.*

HONORABLE MENTION

Yankton Daily Press & Dakotan, *Yankton, SD*

Dockendorf, *Freeman Dogs*

Judge's comments: *Very good writing and reporting on a subject that easily could be deceptively complex.*



2023 NNAF Editorial & Advertising Contest
List of Winners

Best Reporting on Local Government

Non-daily Division circ. 15,000 or more

FIRST PLACE

Preston Hollow People, *Dallas, TX*

Preston Hollow People, Maria Lawson, *Best Reporting on Local Government - Hillcrest Track - Oct PHP page 15*

Judge's comments: *Useful coverage of a local government decision that affected many residents. This story gave good play to an important issue.*



Best Reporting on Local Government

Non-daily Division circ. 6,000-14,999

FIRST PLACE

Jackson Hole News&Guide, *Jackson, WY*

Billy Arnold, Sophia Boyd-Fliegel, Miranda de Moraes, *General Election gets heated*

Judge's comments: *Three weeks before Election Day, the News & Guide plows into the many aspects of the heated politics of 2022. Good packaging, good reporting, good writing -- all on a deadline.*

SECOND PLACE

Sparta Independent, *Chester, NY*

Becca Tucker, Ginny Privitar, Mike Zummo, *Locals mount resistance to mega warehouse, Town accused of changing ordinance, No decisions*

Judge's comments: *We're called the Fourth Estate for a reason. The Sparta Independent performed a valuable watchdog of government, explaining both the new policy and the public alarm over a proposed mega-warehouse. Way to stick with it.*

THIRD PLACE

Leelanau Enterprise, *Lake Leelanau, MI*

Eric Carlson, *Election Probe*

Judge's comments: *Ya gotta love the political skeptics -- average folks who become "experts" on the process of elections. The Enterprise handled their sudden appearance with clarity and objectivity. Nice job.*

HONORABLE MENTION

Hyattsville Life & Times, *Hyattsville, MD*

Josie Jack, Kit Slack, Sophie Gorman Oriani, *Middle school muddle, bus route bungle; Hyattsville Elementary in proposed school builds list*

Judge's comments: *Nice job of tying together the concerns over school building projects*



Best Reporting on Local Government

Non-daily Division circ. 4,000-5,999

FIRST PLACE

The Standard Banner, *Jefferson City, TN*
Steve Marion, *JES funding proposal fails*

Judge's comments: *Thorough coverage of a budget committee repeatedly rejecting a proposal for the area's most needy school. Nice job!*

SECOND PLACE

The Journal-News, *Hillsboro, IL*
Kyle Herschelman, *Glover Stays, Suspended For 30 Days*

Judge's comments: *Exhaustive coverage of contentious dispute between fire chief and a department member who posted an unflattering picture of the chief during business hours*

THIRD PLACE

The Highlands Current, *Cold Spring, NY*
Jeff Simms, *Beacon's Paper Streets*

Judge's comments: *Clever and enterprising story about zoned streets never built and what to do about them*



Best Reporting on Local Government

Non-daily Division circ. 2,000-3,999

FIRST PLACE

The Ark, Tiburon, CA

Kevin Hessel, Deirdre McCrohan, Katherine Martine, Emily Lavin, *The housing crisis*

Judge's comments: *Gavel to gavel coverage of an important issue. Solid reporting. Excellent graphics. And fully covered the voices of the residents. Nice, solid local government reporting.*

SECOND PLACE

The Ark, Tiburon, CA

Deirdre McCrohan, Emily Lavin, *Saving the Martha property*

Judge's comments: *Thorough coverage, complementing meeting coverage with important information to fill in the blanks and give readers a full picture of what's going on.*

THIRD PLACE

The Ark, Tiburon, CA

Kevin Hessel, Deirdre McCrohan, Katherine Martine, Shayne Jones, *Police form and social equity*

Judge's comments: *Comprehensive coverage of an important community issue. Solid writing to complement thorough coverage. Good job by the reporters and their assigning editors.*

HONORABLE MENTION

The Ark, Tiburon, CA

Katherine Martine, Emily Lavin, Shayne Jones, *Belvedere charter-and-tax plan*

Judge's comments: *Well-covered local issue. Writing and reporting covered the issue well.*



Best Reporting on Local Government

Non-daily Division circ. less than 2,000

FIRST PLACE

Southwest Ledger, Lawton, OK

Mike W. Ray, *Loan lawsuit decision reversed because of insufficient records*

Judge's comments: *This story didn't make page 1 but it gave citizens a ton of information about credit card collections that they needed. Story is one of a strong pattern of coverage of public corruption and civil disputes by this paper. Readers are well served by the Southwest Ledger*

SECOND PLACE

Cedar County News, Hartington, NE

Trisha Benton, Mark Mahoney, *Best Reporting on local govt. - County Bd - wind turbines*

Judge's comments: *A series of stories about citing wind turbines gave voice to all sides and presented a fair and even account of the balancing act required to site these large structures. Readers got a good overview of facts to make up their own minds. Job well done!*

THIRD PLACE

News Letter Journal, Newcastle, WY

Alexis Barker, *Dispatch*

Judge's comments: *A dispute about emergency dispatch services was covered well by the newspaper. Readers got a thorough look at a difficult issue as the resolution of a disagreement between public bodies played out. Good resilience by the newspaper to stay with the story*

HONORABLE MENTION

Southwest Ledger, Lawton, OK

Eric Swanson, *'Not the place for it'*

Judge's comments: *A vigorous community discussion about placement of a sports arena was well-covered by the Ledger. The reporter let many voices be heard and presented the facts. A news story in the best of objective styles. but put it in an editorial, not on the news pages. Good work.*



Story-Series - Best Sports Story

Non-daily Division, circ. 6,000-9,999

FIRST PLACE

Jackson Hole News&Guide, *Jackson, WY*

Mark Baker, *A homecoming heart-stopper*

Judge's comments: *Mark baker gives readers both the story of the Homecoming game and the story of the Broncs' season in a conversational style that simply makes reading a joy.*

SECOND PLACE

The Taos News, *Taos, NM*

Jeans Pineda, *'The most dangerous eight seconds in sports'*

Judge's comments: *Lots of colorful quotes from the bull riders dominate this captivating feature. The story would have been even better if Jeans Pineda had told the story of one of those riders atop a bull instead of the generic "a bull rider" ...*

THIRD PLACE

Leelanau Enterprise, *Lake Leelanau, MI*

Brian Freiburger, *Breslin Bound*

Judge's comments: *We got the game action and all the emotion that goes with it. A nice job all around on a story that's told often.*



2023 NNAF Editorial & Advertising Contest
List of Winners

Story-Series - Best Sports Story

Non-daily Division, circ. 4,000-5,999

FIRST PLACE

Eldridge North Scott Press, *Eldridge, IA*

Scott Campbell, *District feast*

Judge's comments: *Nice cooking imagery to start and liberal use of quotes -- perhaps too much. Still, all in all, a well-crafted, information-packed story account.*

SECOND PLACE

The Journal-News, *Hillsboro, IL*

Kyle Herschelman, *Three Or Not A Three The Question At Hillsboro*

Judge's comments: *While the first-place article was maybe quote heavy, this one begged for quotes from coaches, players (or even fans). Good capture of the ebb and flow of a hotly contested game.*



Story-Series - Best Sports Story

Non-daily Division, circ. 2,000-3,999

FIRST PLACE

Antelope County News, *Neligh, NE*

Carrie Pitzer, *Friday Night Thriller*

Judge's comments: *Great story and very well written. I found myself smiling as I read what was obviously a fun game to cover. Great job passing that feeling along to readers.*

SECOND PLACE

The Edgerton Reporter, *Edgerton, WI*

Sam Martino, *Steve Stricker places 2nd*

Judge's comments: *Nice story about a fun rivalry, which always adds to a sports story.*

THIRD PLACE

Lahontan Valley News & Fallon Eagle Standard, *Fallon, NV*

Thomas Ranson, *Townsend: A trailblazer IN GREENWAVE ATHLETICS*

Judge's comments: *Fun read, though it would have fit better in the Sports Feature category.*

HONORABLE MENTION

The Edgerton Reporter, *Edgerton, WI*

Sam Martino, *Kohler built championship golf courses*

Judge's comments: *Nice story about a successful local. Like other submissions in this category, it would have fit better in the Sports Feature group.*



2023 NNAF Editorial & Advertising Contest
List of Winners

Story-Series - Best Sports Story

Non-daily Division, circ. less than 2,000

FIRST PLACE

News Letter Journal, *Newcastle, WY*

Sonja Karp, *Total domination*

Judge's comments: *Got me excited in the first words. Well written.*

SECOND PLACE

Stanton Register, *Stanton, NE*

Carrie Pitzer, *Her-Story*

Judge's comments: *Great story, well told, easy read.*

THIRD PLACE

The Village Reporter, *Montpelier, OH*

Rich Harding, *Quarterback Tug*

Judge's comments: *Incredible! Photo told me everything*

HONORABLE MENTION

Henderson Independent, *Henderson, MN*

Rachel Miller, *Gerres and Tigers make history at state*

Judge's comments: *Excellent story, kept in interested!*



News and Opinion on Public Corruption

Daily & Non-daily Division

FIRST PLACE

Southwest Ledger, Lawton, OK

Mike W. Ray, *This award is for all Ledger entries submitted in this category.*

Judge's comments: *Outstanding watchdog commitment from the Southwest Ledger and reporter Mike W. Ray to report on every audit from the Oklahoma State Auditors Office with a connection to local officials or government. The payoff in news stories and accountability to taxpayers was huge including indictments and felony charges against local officials and the list goes on. This reporting project is at the bedrock of why every community needs a newspaper. It's unlikely that the State Auditor reports would have seen the light of day or, more importantly, put officials on notice that if they steal public money, profit off the public dime, or violate basic rights their names are going to appear on the front page of the Ledger. The Ledger and Ray should be training other community journalists across the country about this project.*