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Marinette Menominee

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2020 THREE SECTIONS \$3.00



Official gives virus update

Marinette County Health Officer discussed county numbers

By ABBY KNIPFEL
Captionist staff writer
abbeyknipfel@marinette.com

Local COVID-19 Coverage

MARINETTE — Marinette's Health and Human Services gave an update on COVID-19 at their monthly meeting.

At the Wednesday meeting, they addressed COVID-19, the ongoing situation and restrictions.

"The main focus of the meeting was the continued monitoring of COVID-19 cases in Marinette County," Health Officer Molly Douglas said.

Douglas also announced that the Wisconsin Department of Public Health has added a new metric to measure COVID-19 based on the age ranges of those infected. "Current data shows that there is an 18-24 age range that has more confirmed cases, and that is true in Marinette County," Douglas said.

"I want to see monthly reports to compare where we were last month at this time to now. Last month we were at 342 cases and now we are up to 643, so we've almost doubled in the past month."

Molly Douglas
Marinette County health officer

COVID-19 affects traditions

Commemoration of 9/11 sees change in the year of the pandemic

By JENNIFER PYLEZ
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — In a year when the coronavirus pandemic has reshaped almost every aspect of American life, the commemoration of the Sept. 11 attacks that killed nearly 3,000 people, among them about 270 firefighters, will be marked by a different ceremony at the Sept. 11 Memorial Plaza and a return to the World Trade Center's offices.

The 19th anniversary of the terror attacks will be marked by a different ceremony at the Sept. 11 Memorial Plaza and a return to the World Trade Center's offices.

"The 19th anniversary of the terror attacks will be marked by a different ceremony at the Sept. 11 Memorial Plaza and a return to the World Trade Center's offices."



Protective gear

Elementary school students meet with each other while being protected from rain by umbrellas as they get on the bus after school Wednesday at Marinette High School.

By WES BEYER
Captionist staff writer
wbeyer@marinette.com

MARINETTE — Parents and community members had the opportunity to virtually attend public information sessions Wednesday and Thursday regarding the Marinette School District's right-sizing referendum. One session took place at noon, geared toward people who had been a part of the public advisory committee — those who were involved in the project since it began. Another took place later in the evening, geared more towards parents, and one more took place Thursday evening for the community at large.

In the noon meeting on Wednesday, Superintendent Corey Lander said if the referendum passes to pass, the district would not immediately switch over to a five-building school configuration. "It's the answer that I would hope, it would be the 2022-23 school year, so we've got a couple of years for planning and designing before we start the project," he said.

Additionally, he said the new configuration would see newly childhood education through first grade move to Marquette Elementary School and second through fourth to be led to the middle school.

See 'TRUMP,' A3

Trump heads to rally amid controversy

President is accused of downplaying coronavirus

By JILL COLVIN
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Amid a political crisis of the coronavirus pandemic, President Donald Trump headed for the airport of a rally in Michigan on Thursday, trying to ease party tensions that he has been determined to play down the danger of the coronavirus, but water agencies are warning of a possible "shallow water" that the virus is spreading.

That the virus is spreading is a concern because the White House has said it will be looking for the virus to spread.

See 'TRUMP,' A3

Sessions for rightsizing held

By WES BEYER
Captionist staff writer
wbeyer@marinette.com

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See 'TRUMP,' A3

GOOD MORNING Steven Nardi There you go, subscribers! Bring us your feedback to the EagleHerald.com	DEATHS Baker, Sherman T. Beight, Grant K.	INSIDE Washington: Unemployment numbers remain high in the US, DS Sports: Marinette swim team defeated NED Joe Wittenberg; Bismarwood on Thursday, BS	TODAY'S INDEX Advice B7 Opinion A4 Comics B6 Records A5 Classified B5 Sudoku B7 Crossword B7 Scoreboard B2 Deaths/Obit A5 Sports B1-3 Local Topics A2 TV Listings B6 Lottery A2 Weather A2
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BACK IN ACTION
Area school teams open volleyball season wearing masks.

SPORTS, Page B1

\$1.25

REAL JOURNALISM MATTERS

THE MONROE TIMES

Saturday, September 19, 2020
Vol. CXXII Issue 72

Children, father die in house fire

Cause of Orangeville fire remains undetermined

By Kat Clear
kclear@themonroetimes.com

ORANGEVILLE — Two boys, ages 4 and 11, and their father died after their Orangeville home went up in flames early Wednesday Sept. 17.

The Stephenson County Sheriff's Office had not yet released the names of the victims as of midday Sept. 17.

Firefighters were dispatched to the home at 305 S. Main St. shortly before 3 a.m. and arrived to find a "heavily involved" fire in the living area. Fire Chief Pat Waddell said the front half of the house was severely burned, and of course that created a lot of smoke, Waddell said.

A subsequent search located the three victims inside, the only people home at the time. The Illinois State Fire Marshal's Office is conducting an investigation into the cause, which is standard procedure for any fatal fire.

"We are trying to raise money so she can have her own family and all of her possessions," she said.



The Sept. 16 fatal fire scorched the front half of the house at 305 S. Main St. in Orangeville. Firefighters from more than half a dozen area departments were on scene about seven hours. The Office of the Illinois State Fire Marshal is conducting an investigation, a standard procedure for fatal fires. See more photos on Page A6.

Kintzle named Teacher of the Year

BMS special education teacher incorporates functional living lessons to help students succeed

By Emily Massingill
emassingill@themonroetimes.com

BROOKFIELD — Brooke Kintzle always knew teaching was something she wanted to do — but when she began working on students with special needs, that was when her career truly felt like home.

"I think I've always had an interest in this field," Kintzle said. "When I volunteered more in the field — I found out it was my passion."

The passion for students came in the form of an award recently, when State Superintendent Carolyn Stanek named Kintzle as the 2020 Wisconsin Teacher of the Year. Kintzle was named the 2020 Wisconsin Teacher of the Year, with Kintzle among them.

Although she always knew she loved working with children, in college Kintzle learned she had a greater connection for students with disabilities. She said she finds the challenge rewarding to individualize education to meet the needs of her students.

"It can be challenging," she said. "I just try to work hard for my students."

See TEACH, Page A6

COVID-19 outbreak has 'rippling impact'

Informal party source of 31 cases

By Kat Clear
kclear@themonroetimes.com

BROOKFIELD — Brookfield High School is keeping students home at least another week after a COVID-19 outbreak that is having a "rippling impact" in the greater community.

The school sent virtual Sept. 21 and originally planned to bring back students in two weeks but is now extending online learning through Sept. 25.

School board members will decide at a Sept. 23 meeting whether to return to in-person learning. Sept. 24, Superintendent Larry Luck said.

The switch to online learning was prompted by an outbreak traced to an informal party some students attended in Wisconsin. It was named "Teacher of the Year" for being an exemplary educator.

See COVID-19, Page A6

WHAT'S NEXT Volleyball: Frenchy with Burlington, Black Hawk, Argus, Monticello, Albany and Peconic in action.	WHAT'S IN Calendar 86 Local A3 Classifieds 84 Record A4 Community A3 Sports B1 Crossword 84 Sudoku B4 Legals A4 Victims A2 Life 86 Weather A6	DEATHS - PAGE A5 Lawrence A. Severson • 85, Monroe, 9/13 Rita M. Line • 95, Monroe, 9/14 Victor Lee Severson • 89, formerly of Monroe, 9/15 Gay L. Pries • 86, Monroe, 9/18 Lester J. "Butch" Johnson Jr. • 76, Monroe, 9/13 Alice J. Mills • 96, formerly of Monroe, 9/15 Richard F. "Dick" Nessbaum • 82, Monroe, 9/16
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Daily: EagleHerald
Publisher: Todd Colling

Daily: The Monroe Times
Publisher: John Ingebritsen

On the Cover

Photo credits clockwise from top left:

Feature Photo (Division A) - First Place: A young child waves his arms, almost as if he is conducting the fireworks, on Independence Day during a Rock County fireworks display at Traxler Park in Janesville. (Photo by Anthony Wahl | The Gazette, Janesville)

Feature Photo (Division A) - Third Place: Scarlet Sandvick of Neenah has fun hanging out in a hammock at Smith Park in Menasha. Scarlet was with a group of friends and their mothers enjoying the warm weather on Monday, April 5, 2021. (Photo by Dan Powers | USA TODAY NETWORK-WISCONSIN)

Feature Photo (Division D) - First Place: The Lake Geneva ice castles have become known as a great place for proposals. In this photo, Brian Hoppe and Brenna Kmiec, who live in the Green Bay, Appleton area, embrace after Hoppe proposed on Jan. 22, 2021. Yes, she said, "Yes." (Photo by Stephanie Jones | Lake Geneva Regional News)

Sports Feature Photo (Division A) - Honorable Mention: Wauwatosa East High School's Marsean Billips (2) celebrates a victory against Kimberly High School during their Division 1 boys basketball final game Saturday, March 6, 2021, at the Menominee Nation Arena in Oshkosh, Wis. (Photo by Dan Powers | USA TODAY NETWORK-WISCONSIN)

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Best of Division

Division A
The Gazette, Janesville
 Division B
EagleHerald, Marinette

Division C
Peninsula Pulse, Baileys Harbor
 Division D
The Monroe Times
 Division E
Grant County Herald Independent, Lancaster

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News Tracker

General Excellence

Daily Division

First Place: *Wisconsin State Journal*. Judge's Comments: Wow, what a newspaper! Your readers really get their money's worth. Lots of local stories alongside regional, state, national and international news. Beautiful front covers. Your editors/graphic designers really work well together. Good job!

Second Place: *The Post-Crescent*. Judge's Comments: Love the feature story splashed across the front page. Beautiful. Lots of local content, and that's important in an era where half the nation doesn't believe in the mainstream media anymore. The

extensive local news coverage in the Post-Crescent reminds readers why newspapers remain an important part of their daily lives. Ads looked great. Enjoyed the feature on the "Recipe Queen." The investigative story, "Lock Up Disparity" shows your readers that the Post-Crescent is willing to spend the money, time and space on an important issue.

Third Place: *Green Bay Press-Gazette*. Judge's Comments: Nice looking front page on Sept. 27, 2020, and the story on Thanksgiving shopping was timely and informative! (I think I'll steal the idea for my own newspaper). I think you might want to consider including more art on the inside pages. Lots of gray pages.

Honorable Mention: *Leader-Telegram*. Judge's Comments: Great job getting so much local news in the paper each issue. Your reporters are busting their buns and I'm betting the readers are appreciative. Great writing (good job, editors) and great photos. I'm betting the

"Eagle Eye" story and artwork was read from beginning to end by every single reader. Great job on the local sports coverage. Your sports editors/reporters are exceptional. Keep it up!

Division C

First Place: *The Press Times*. Judge's Comments: A great all-around newspaper. Well-written, comprehensive. Looks great, lots of photos and graphics. I would definitely be a subscriber if I lived in Green Bay.

Second Place: *The Lakeland Times*. Judge's Comments: A great job of covering an area of many communities. This paper does what a community newspaper should do.

Third Place: *Peninsula Pulse*. Judge's

Comments: Striking layout and great stories.

Honorable Mention: *News Graphic*.

Competition Comments: I really wanted to award something to the Beloit Daily News for all the hard work that went into their publication. It's really an outstanding newspaper.

Division D

First Place: *Lake Geneva Regional News*. Judge's Comments: This newspaper covers a number of communities well, each getting its due. Writing is clean, and design is eye-catching.

Second Place: *The Monroe Times*. Judge's Comments: Another excellent entry in this category. Sports coverage was very good in this paper. I'd be a regular reader if I lived in this community.

Third Place: *The Platteville Journal*. Judge's Comments: Good sports section and good treatment of public notices makes this paper stand out.



THE GREAT DIVIDE | 30 YEARS SINCE ACT 10

Labor savings came at a cost
Union-leasing strategy freed budget on backs of public employees

FAULT LINES FELT DECADE LATER
The Great Divide, the fault line that split the state in two, is still felt. The fault line that split the state in two, is still felt. The fault line that split the state in two, is still felt.

Memories of the landscape
Platteville scientists study tree rings for climate, anthropology

WHAT'S INSIDE
Overwhelmed by technology? Our Andy has you covered. **50** MAKE TIME FOR YOURSELF. **50** JOIN THE GO PRES TIMES.

Press Times
GoPresTimes.com
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Connectivity issues
Benefits questioned for South Bridge Connector project

Capital Credit Union Park lease transferred to new Boyach owner

Community's generosity helps spread joy this holiday season

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Lake Geneva REGIONAL NEWS
1,000th point
Verkes update

Low temperatures, but large turnout
Crowds flocked to Lake Geneva, SXK in parking revenue collected

Laser light show proposed
Mia presented after lake events postponed online

Review of public works director requested
Concerns expressed about how agency removal is handled

Community's generosity helps spread joy this holiday season

Ripon Press
New game store
Green Lake bowls
Former Tiger will

COVID-19 ONE YEAR LATER
Looking back at the year that fundamentally changed our lives

ELIZABETH MURPHY PARK
RIPON'S MURPHY PARK

FAULT LINES FELT DECADE LATER

General Excellence, First Place (Daily Division)
Wisconsin State Journal, Madison

General Excellence, First Place (Division C)
The Press Times, Green Bay

General Excellence, First Place (Division D)
Lake Geneva Regional News

General Excellence, First Place (Division E)
Ripon Commonwealth Press

Honorable Mention: The Chetek Alert. Judge's Comments: A solid community newspaper.

Division E

First Place: Ripon Commonwealth Press. Judge's Comments: This is a great looking newspaper, well-written with loads of local content. It really covers its community. Good use of graphics in the paper, and nice website. This community is lucky to have this as their hometown paper. Second Place: The Cambridge News and Deerfield Independent. Judge's Comments: Clean, well-designed and good use of typography. Writing is good and the website, though shared with a number of other papers in this group is good, though the huge drop down ads are kind of annoying.

Third Place: The Northwoods River News. Judge's Comments: Good local newspaper covering its community well.

Best Front Page Daily Division

First Place: The Gazette - Tim Seeman, Shari Rampenthal. Judge's Comments: Like the story count, refers to inside, story ideas. Nice refer packages. Second Place: Leader-Telegram - Staff. Judge's Comments: Like the story count and refers, gives the pages a good busy feeling. Third Place: Beloit Daily News - Clint Wolf, Brad Allen. Judge's

Comments: Pretty clean. Good interactive tools, though graphics too big. Honorable Mention: Kenosha News - Pete Wicklund, John Sloca, Lee Design Center. Judge's Comments: Nice clean design, like the COVID updates. Competition Comments: Overall the papers had clean design and pretty consistent writing. Some of the lead/centerpiece stories were excellent. Decent headlines throughout, with some that stood out as clever.

Division C

First Place: Peninsula Pulse - Ryan Miller, Sharon Anderson, Brett Kosmider. Judge's Comments: Bold

design that breaks the regular front page mold. Like the use of a tabloid-ish above the fold with refers to inside and more traditional below the fold. Second Place: The Lakeland Times - Staff. Judge's Comments: Clean design, good story variety. Like the owl photo. Not sure about the blue, but like that they took a chance. Third Place: The Press Times - Cody Popp, Ben Rodgers. Judge's Comments: Like the energetic feel to the paper. Good headlines. Competition Comments: Several strong contenders, like the way that some papers are going away from stodgy front-page design.

Division D

First Place: Lake Geneva Regional News - Stephanie Jones, Dennis Hines, Karen Tse, Connor Carynski. Judge's Comments: Pleasing design, nice photos. Stories

Ready for a fight President Donald Trump expects a contentious confirmation process for Amy Coney Barrett, his latest Supreme Court nominee. Page 6B

Janesville high schools modify schedules Starting Oct. 7, students will attend Covid and Parker high schools in person on an alternating A/B schedule. Page 1A

Packers snag a road win Elias Lazard had 14 catches for 184 yards and a touchdown as Green Bay moved to 3-0 with a 37-30 win over New Orleans. Page 1B

The Gazette

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County cuts fine for pot Penalty for having an ounce or less slashed to just \$1



Pull up a chair Groups of friends take to gathering outside to maintain social connections



Janesville man pedaling to help human society

OUTGOINGS AND DEATH NOTICES

Best of Walworth County Vote for Your Favorites Sept. 13-30! Go to BestofWalworthCounty.com

Peninsula Pulse Free Little Lake Restoration Project Stalled

COVID-19 Diverted by Municipality... Local Vaccine Rollout Underway

Local Vaccine Rollout Underway State awarded enough vaccine supply for all

Homeless shelter sees surge Damaged angel set to return Fountain for Rivera vandalized in June, one criminally charged

Inoculations Injecting Glimmers of Hope

doorcountypulse.com/shop CHECK IT. PARK POSTERS, LIGHTHOUSE POSTERS & CARDS, HATS, BOOKS & MORE.

Lake Geneva Regional News New attraction Dingers & Dingers museum now open

Fatal drowning in Geneva Lake Died after jumping in trying to help a child in the water

Homeless shelter sees surge Damaged angel set to return Fountain for Rivera vandalized in June, one criminally charged

Contractor explains dome inflation process

Real estate listings and contact information

The Northwoods River News Valentine sentenced to prison in ICAC case

NTSB cites pilot fatigue as probable cause of 2018 helicopter crash

CHIMING IN CELEBRATION Contractor explains dome inflation process

Weather forecast and index information

Best Front Page, First Place (Daily Division) The Gazette, Janesville

Best Front Page, First Place (Division C) Peninsula Pulse, Baileys Harbor

Best Front Page, First Place (Division D) Lake Geneva Regional News, Rhinelander

Best Front Page, First Place (Division E) The Northwoods River News, Rhinelander

Only food though.

Third Place: *Beloit Daily News* - Brad Allen. Judge's Comments: Good stories, but over the top design was very distracting.

Weekly Division

First Place: *Peninsula Pulse* - Staff. Judge's Comments: Inviting and current design with good use of color. Good stories with the events (Fireworks and food pairings!). Very reader friendly.

Second Place: *Sun Prairie Star* - Jennifer Fetterly. Judge's Comments: Attractive and clean design with good story content and variety.

Third Place: *Vilas County News-Review* - Gary Ridderbusch, Michelle Drew, Eric Johnson.

Judge's Comments: Good story variety for a lifestyles section.
Honorable Mention: *Lake Geneva Regional News* - Steve Targo.
Competition Comments: Some very nice entries in this category. While some of the design was very nice, some was kind of clumsy and over designed.

Best Special Section (Editorial)

Daily Division

First Place: *Daily Jefferson County Union*, 'Discover magazine' - Craig Spsychalla. Judge's Comments: Lots

of hard work went into this project and it shows. I was really impressed with the design. Creative use of white space helped photographs, headlines and graphics pop. Great job! Stories were easy to read and interesting, photos were captivating and even the ads were well-designed. I salivated while reading one ad about a steakhouse. It's clear the sales, graphics, photography and editorial departments worked closely to produce the best possible project. This magazine layout should be taught in journalism schools nationwide.

Second Place: *Kenosha News*, 'Summer fun guide' - Elizabeth Snyder, Loreen Mohr, Steve Targo. Judge's Comments: A great read. Stories were interesting and informative. Photos were captivating. Have you considered printing this one-time special section on bright white to make the photos and ads pop? The recycled newsprint you printed on dulled the

photos. Still, the layout and design department should be commended. Headlines and photos were well-used throughout the project and the sales staff really did a great job of getting high-quality ads in the paper. It's obvious this was a team effort. Great job!

Third Place: *Daily Globe*, 'A History Project: Journey Back in Time' - Staff. Judge's Comments: Nice product overall. Some of the stories were, well, uninteresting, but I guess that's to be expected on this sort of project. I did enjoy the story about the local connection to *The Great Gatsby* as well as the greatest lawman story. Nevertheless, it's evident a lot of hard work went into this project and the entire team deserves a big pat on the back (and perhaps a free lunch).

Honorable Mention: *EagleHerald*, 'EagleHerald 150 Years edition' - Staff. Judge's Comments: I wanted to give this project a higher ranking



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 SUNDAY 7/4 Sugarbush Boys 1-4pm
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Blues Traveler
 Even a pandemic can't slow down blues legend Paul Filipowicz
BIRDS OF A FEATHER: A 'Gem' for birdwatching is in Jefferson County
READY FOR LIFTOFF
 A new summer and new year about to take flight
 Welcome to the show: Wisconsin's new music scene taking off
 A GUIDE TO JEFFERSON COUNTY AND SURROUNDING AREAS

Best Special Section (Editorial), First Place (Daily Division)
Daily Jefferson County Union,
Fort Atkinson

FOOTBALL 2021
 The Name Of The Game Is **Change**
 Refreshed Rosters, Coaching Changes, Return to Regular Schedules
 Are You Ready For New Challenges In 2021 Season?
 NEW CAST OF SPARKS SET TO TAKE PROGRAM FORWARD
 DIFFERENT COACH, SAME BANGOR CARDINALS AIM TO MAINTAIN STRONGFIELD ON SCENIC BLUFFS
 EAGLES RETURN AS TIGER CONTENDER IN SOC RACE
 TOMAR HAS FAMILIAR LOOK IN REVAMPED OFFENSE
 MILES STEPS INTO UNFAMILIAR ROLE FOR FALCONS

Best Special Section (Editorial), First Place (Division C)
Monroe County Herald

Best Feature/Lifestyle Page, First Place (Daily Division)
The Gazette, Janesville

Best Feature/Lifestyle Page, First Place (Weekly Division)
Peninsula Pulse, Baileys Harbor

but it was awfully dull. Sorry. I'm certain your loyal readers found it interesting. They probably knew all the people featured in the special section. Any newspaper attempting such a project (we will next year. Yikes!) will struggle to keep reader interest in a time when half the country distrusts the news industry. Still, a lot of hard work went into this project and the news, photography and graphics departments deserve praise.

Division C

First Place: *Monroe County Herald*, '2021 Fall Football Preview' - Nate Beier, Zach Rastall. Judge's Comments: A stunner of a sports/football section that would delight any fan of local football. Great sports writing and photography is coupled with amazing layout/design. Superb.

Second Place: *Peninsula Pulse*, 'The Sustainability Issue: The Power of Trees' - Debra Fitzgerald, Craig Sterrett, Kevin Naze, Patty Williamson. Judge's Comments: Beautiful and informative section on sustainability, focusing on trees. A great job taking an important, urgent topic and making a special editorial section supported by advertising. No small feat. Great job.

Third Place: *Vilas County News-Review*, '2020-'21 Salute to Emergency Personnel' - Staff. Judge's Comments: This was an amazing supplement, celebrating local public safety/fire emergency personnel in a community. Comprehensive. Great job.

Honorable Mention: *The Press Times*, '2021 High School Football Preview' - Staff. Judge's Comments: Really comprehensive supplement on local high school football. Very strong writing. Great job.

Division D

First Place: *Sun Prairie Star*, 'We Shall Not Forget' - Staff. Judge's Comments: This is just a stunner of a supplement. It's actually a comprehensive keepsake that documents a region's important contribution to America's wars. Could even be a book. What an important piece of local history. Bravo.

Second Place: *Amery Free Press*, '2021 State Champions' - April Ziemer, Jason Schulte. Judge's Comments: This supplement celebrating a high school wrestling team's state championship is just so good. It blends great sports writing/editorial with a season in review, player profiles, etc. But it also feels so personal with first-person writing, nice personality pieces (brothers!) and a lovely look back at the team's history with a photo of when this team just started out as youngsters. Photography is good, so is the design. Great job.

Third Place: *The Valders Journal*, 'June Dairy Month' - Brian Thomsen, Todd Bergmann. Judge's Comments: This supplement offered



Best Special Section (Editorial), First Place (Division D)

Sun Prairie Star

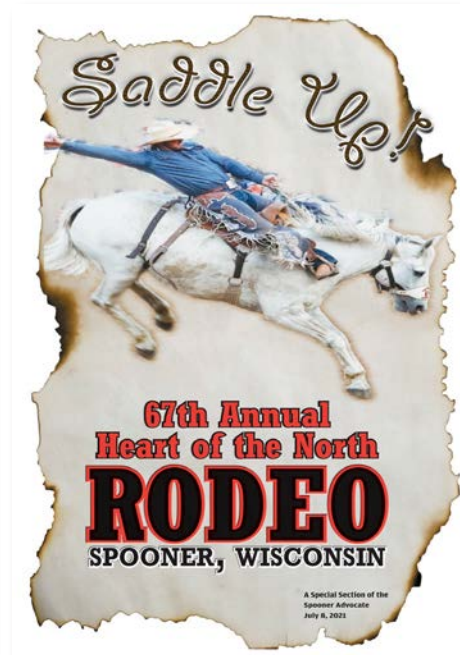
a great look into an important community industry, farming and specifically dairy farming. Beautifully designed for a smaller community readership with informative spectrum of articles (even robotics!). Charming cover too. Great job.

Honorable Mention: *Courier Press*, 'Going Places. 'Here at Home' - Correne Martin, Ted Pennekamp, Audrey Posten, Kim Corpian.

Division E

First Place: *Spoooner Advocate*, 'Saddle up!' - Bill Thornley. Judge's Comments: This supplement on an important local rodeo competition was complete, filled with all manner of solid editorial content spanning every aspect (news, feature, personality, history), beautifully designed with photography. Great job.

Second Place: *The Tribune-Phonograph*, 'Rural Living' - Staff. Judge's Comments: This special section seems to be a regular supplement to this newspaper.



Best Special Section (Editorial), First Place (Division E)

Spoooner Advocate

It offered a spectrum of editorial content (artists, classic car collector/dealer, maple syrup man) all by different writers. Nice and solid work.

Third Place: *The Edgerton Reporter*, 'Fall Sports Preview' - Diane Everson, Sam Martino, David Wedeward, Jeff Brown. Judge's Comments: This was a great local sports preview supplement, offering Edgerton readers anything they'd need to follow local high school sports for the Fall season. It was all written by the same reporter/editor, so he must have been exhausted. But it showed depth. Loved the middle spread of the season's schedule of games, too. Bet that ended up on a lot of fridge doors. Great job.

Honorable Mention: *The Northwoods River News*, 'The Hodag Dome' - Jeremy Mayo, Heather Schaefer, Jamie Taylor.

Best Headlines

Daily Division

First Place: *Daily News*, 'Nighttime isn't the right time for noisy chime'; 'Bored with board games'; 'Hungry for the fair's return' - Dan Muckelbauer. Judge's Comments: The Daily News' Dan Muckelbauer has a fun play on words with simple, yet effective headlines, that grab the attention of the reader.

Second Place: *The Gazette*, 'Love, street chainsaw: A story of death and creation in a backyard'; 'Chilly Reception'; 'Committed to Memory' - Greg Little, Frank Schultz. Judge's Comments: The Gazette's Greg Little and Frank Schultz get the reader's attention with simple, yet catchy, headlines.

Third Place: *The Gazette*, 'Lay of the Land'; 'Havoc on the Hill'; 'Oooh! Aaah! Brrr!' - Tim Seeman. Judge's Comments: The Gazette's Tim Seeman utilizes short but effective

headlines that are creative.

Division C

First Place: *Vilas County News-Review*, ‘Hot diggity dog! Therapy canine joins Eagle River Police Department’; ‘Life’s a gas for petroleum museum operator’; ‘One man. Two trumpets. Many stories.’ - Eric Johnson.

Second Place: *Ladysmith News*, ‘Arrested couple not happy campers’; ‘Firari arrested after chase up to 100 mph’; ‘Tony woman twice bitten, once shy’ - Luke Klink.

Third Place: *Superior Telegram*, ‘Superior Rehab outbreak claims 9 lives’; ‘Superior residents get free alley’; ‘Super-sized greetings: South Range’s Sign Gypsies Twin Ports sets up 24-hour yard displays’ - Staff.

Division D

First Place: *The Monroe Times*,

Green County Sheriff, Monroe Police welcome new K-9s

By Shannon Rabotski
srabotski@themonroetimes.com

MONROE—County law enforcement got a little furrer over the summer when both the Green County Sheriff’s Office and the Monroe Police Department added new K-9s to the rotation.

The sheriff’s office welcomed German Shepherd Ali in June. The previous K-9, Ike, retired in February. Monroe policed welcomed Belgian Malamute Bane in July.

K-9 officers are a good way to bring in community support and interest, MPD K-9 Officer Jeremy Larson said, but they bring much more than just that to the department.

“Having a K-9 is such a versatile tool,” Green County Sheriff’s Office K-9 Officer Zach Degner said. “It’s a fantastic tool for law enforcement.”

Many people know K-9s as “drug dogs,” but Ali and Bane are trained in far more than drug detection.

The two dogs on duty are trained in obedience, suspect apprehension, handler protection, tracking, article search and narcotics detection. They have been used in burglaries and missing persons.

department has been funded by community donations and fundraisers which are what allowed the program to purchase the new four-legged officer.

“This community is very supportive of the K-9 program,” Larson said. “That’s why the K-9 program exists.”

Between purchasing the canine and sending both the dog and the handler to training, the cost to the department to bring in a K-9 can reach \$14,000.

The Monroe Police Department has the community to thank for its ability to purchase Bane and send both he and Larson to training.

The K-9 program at the police



Deputy Zach Degner became the Green County Sheriff Office’s newest K-9 handler in June with German Shepherd Ali. The last K-9, Ike, retired in February.

Ruff on crime

‘Ruff on Crime’; ‘No sympathy for the Devils’; ‘Homecoming Kings’ - Adam Krebs.

Second Place: *The Valders Journal*, ‘Gobble Cheaper Turkey’;

‘Legislators Play Cat and Mouse’; ‘Tundra May be Frozen’ - Mary Thomsen.

Third Place: *The Review*, ‘Spring (sports) has sprung’; ‘Another baby, another berth?’; ‘On your mark, get set, mask up, go’ - Dave Boehler.

Honorable Mention: *The Monroe Times*, ‘Going LIVE in order to live’; ‘Flower to the people’; ‘Vision quest sees success’ - Shannon Rabotski.

Division E

First Place: *Courier Sentinel*, ‘Knights axe Lumberjacks’; ‘Cadott greenhouse grows student opportunities’; ‘Ordinance flies the coop before it gets to attorney’ - Staff.

Second Place: *Ripon Commonwealth Press*, ‘Making a Fortifi-ed difference’; ‘It’s Hump Day’; ‘Yeomans work’ - Jonathan Bailey.

Third Place: *The Northwoods River News*, ‘Cranes and Trains’; ‘Virtually Unstoppable’; ‘Dome, done’ - Jeremy Mayo, Heather Schaefer, Jamie Taylor.

Honorable Mention: *Crawford County Independent & The Kickapoo Scout*, ‘Storms, well water and hydrants’ - Charley Preusser, Gillian Pomplun.

Editorial Award

Daily Division

First Place: *The Cap Times*, ‘The only answer to Trump’s incitement of a fascist riot is impeachment’; ‘The Wisconsin Legislature has its own ‘sedition caucus’; ‘Ron Johnson is just as guilty as Donald Trump’ - John Nichols, Dave Zweifel, Jessie Opoien.

Second Place: *Beloit Daily News*, ‘Diligence required to assure complex’; ‘Still Remembered and still honored’; ‘How does quitting help achievement?’ - Bill Barth.

Third Place: *Wisconsin State Journal*, ‘Trump’s shameless minions must go’; ‘Don’t pit fast buses versus a State Street promenade – Madison can have both’; ‘Use or lose those masks during March Madness’ - Scott Milfred.

Honorable Mention: *La Crosse Tribune*, ‘SOLS leading the way to bring solar to schools’; ‘U-Haul coming and going, and how long will Kmart stay vacant’; ‘Now is not the time to remove resource officers from schools’ - Bob Heisse.

Division C

First Place: *Ladysmith News*, ‘City fails in releasing open records’;

‘City must stop hiding business payouts’; ‘More work still needed to keep meth off streets’ - Luke Klink. Judge’s Comments: The arguments made for holding the city accountable for how taxpayers’ money is spent are strong and well-delivered. Great work.

Second Place: *Vilas County News-Review*, ‘Shootout boats too large for 135-acre Maple Lake’; ‘Time for school board to get trap range moving’; ‘Sen. Felzkowski failed to back open government’ - Kurt Krueger, Gary Ridderbusch, Michelle Drew, Doug Etten. Judge’s Comments: This entry had a good mix of issues and offered solutions that should have resonated with readers.

Third Place: *The Press Times*, ‘What we can learn from this many school board primary candidates’; ‘You can’t have it both ways with SB 55’; ‘It’s time to properly fund Wisconsin schools’ - Ben Rodgers. Judge’s Comments: Well-developed opinions on a variety of issues.

Honorable Mention: *Peninsula Pulse*, ‘Filling the Leadership Void’; ‘9 Things to Know About Dollar General’; ‘What Room Tax Can Do For All Of Us’ - David Eliot, Myles Dannhausen, Jr. Judge’s Comments: Extensive information that readers can use.

Division D

First Place: *Sun Prairie Star*, ‘Two years later, Evers’ pot revenue dreams still up in smoke’; ‘Unsolicited advice for SPHS Class of 2021’; ‘Serious gas leak actions required before another deadly incident occurs’ - Christopher Mertes. Judge’s Comments: The editorial category had several entries that rose to the top. The Sun Prairie Star topped the field with solid and crisp writing on a variety of topics. The editorials

Best Headlines, First Place (Division D)
The Monroe Times

See RUFF, Page 5

were all well-organized and easy to follow. They made their points without being overly long. I also like a bit of humor interspersed where appropriate, referring to the marijuana entry. I cannot find anything I'd change in these. Outstanding work!

Second Place: *The Star News*, 'City needs to create opportunities rather than more rules'; 'City should invest in pedestrian safety'; 'Celebrate safely this holiday season' - Brian Wilson. Judge's Comments: The Star News entries reflect clearly and well-done opinion pieces on a variety of important local topics. All three likely resonated strongly with readers. I especially liked the message about celebrating the holidays safely. Great work!

Third Place: *The Valdres Journal*, 'Tenacious Search'; 'Foster Kids'; 'Time to See Student Smiles' - Mary Thomsen. Judge's Comments: These entries were very hyper-local, and show a strong connection with the readership community. I really liked how the first responders were thanked in the search for the missing man, and how that was detailed beyond a news story. Those kind of thanks don't get stated enough. Good work!

Honorable Mention: *Barron News-Shield*, 'Another attempt at a bad idea'; 'More local mental health facilities needed'; 'A pause for reflection on veterans' suicides' - Bob Zientara. Judge's Comments: Of these entries, the one about suicide and the dearth of local mental health resources was the strongest. It really resonates for those of us from more rural areas. The legal notice editorial was also nicely done. Good work.

Competition Comments: This was a category with a few very strong entries, and others that came quite close. There was not much difference between the top three

papers. Writers weighed in on a wide variety of local topics. As a judge, I like to see more variety in entries from each paper and most of these met that wish. I also like to see unique writing styles and the majority of the entries met that wish as well. Editorials don't have to be plodding and dull. I also appreciate being able to read an editorial and not feel as if I need to hunt for the related news stories. The editorials as a whole did a great job of describing what was going on without me having to hunt up more information. Thanks for your submissions!

Division E

First Place: *The Edgerton Reporter*, 'Vandalism can diminish a community'; 'New Sumner Town Board supervisors not looking out for the taxpayers'; 'Free Choice vs. Responsible Choice' - Diane Everson. Judge's Comments: No doubt, these are editorials that will be read. They are definitely local, touch on community issues, and express opinions. Facts are presented to support the editorials, and the one on football is certainly one that will receive criticism. This writer has no problem with that; good editorials should produce various reactions. Also the writer has short editorials. She makes her points without lost words. I like the edits, and I would be one who reads them.

Second Place: *Courier Sentinel*, 'City right to revisit chicken ordinance'; 'Keep safety in mind'; 'Don't expand unemployment benefits' - Brian Wilson. Judge's Comments: Keeping chickens in town may not be your first idea of a local editorial but this editorial turned it into a good one. It criticized the ordinance and suggested a new one be proposed with a more common sense plan.

Facts were presented with the idea of regulating chickens like dogs and other pets. While storage of ammunition can be a problem everywhere, serious problems locally were examined and cautious measures presented. One editorial criticized giving unemployment payments to people who quit their jobs and then applied for payments. Many national problems often have local issues. Facts and well written editorials.

Third Place: *The Edgerton Reporter*, 'Timing makes big difference'; 'We ask you, - please give locally'; 'Voters deserve to vote for next

District 2 Alderperson in spring election - Round Two' - Diane Everson. Judge's Comments: The writer is excellent at making a point in the editorials and does not waste words. The editorials are strictly local and touch on various issues. She makes a strong point in the edit on when people should approach the city: it would be better to time the approach rather than being late. The suggestion on when to have an election is well made. The editorial presents several actions. Her writings are well written and serve attention.

Honorable Mention: *The Cambridge News and Deerfield Independent*, 'Cambridge must consider economics of what it wants'; 'Cambridge citizen group's message clouded by secrecy'; 'Station committee's lack of transparency is egregious - and illegal' - Karyn Saemann. Judge's Comments: The newspaper has filed a lawsuit alleging that a closed meeting was held about expanding the fire station and that the meeting was egregious and illegal. Facts about the meeting and noting that the citizens own the station and would be the folks paying for it. Stout editorial and certainly a local issue. But the closed meeting is not the only issue of public secrecy. Another editorial points out the secrecy that hides the names of a committee involved with the fire station expansion. The other editorial offers changes that would affect an artist area. Some consider the edits too long.

Competition Comments: Most editorials in the contest are well written, they contain facts to argue their case, and some have interesting endings. To evaluate and offer comments took multiple readings of each editorial. They were interesting and cover a wide variety of topics. Clearly, the issues were

Editorial

Vandalism can diminish a community

By Diane Everson, publisher

In this issue there are stories of destruction of public property. The Little Library in front of the Depot is maintained by Linda Schumacher and her husband, Bruce. Arriving to add books, she found the Library and its books destroyed. The door was ripped off, the glass smashed and the books ruined in the snow.

The other story is about a new organization, The Rock County Children's Museum. As a way to raise funds and awareness, the group created a scavenger hunt around the county, called "Rock the Solar System." The "Sun" exhibit was found demolished on someone's lawn several blocks away. It is considered unsalvageable and the group is working to replace it.


We discussed vandalism with Edgerton Police Chief Robert Kowalski and were reminded of other destruction of public property, especially vandalism to the bathrooms at Racetrack Park. It is so significant that the bathrooms are now kept locked unless the park is in use. His response was, "People lack respect for public property."

We know there are worse crimes in the world than vandalism. There are crimes that hurt more people. There are crimes that cost more money. There are crimes that cause more pain. But there aren't many that have quite the same negative effect on a community that the willful destruction of public property can have.

Vandalism often prompts people to shake their head and say, "somebody needs to do something about that!"

Well, we think that somebody is you. It is all of us. We need to be alert and help our police department. If you see vandalism being committed, or hear of an incident, call the police and report it. You can also leave an anonymous tip. The more vandals caught, the better for our community. Strict enforcement may lower the incidents. We need to help the police, which in turn helps all of us.

Let's be the eyes and ears of our town and work together to stop vandalism. If you have any information about the bozo or bozos that wrecked the Little Library -- turn them in.



The Edgerton Reporter editorial reflects the opinion of publisher, Diane Everson and the legacy perspective and worldview of Harland and Helen Everson.

Editorial Award, First Place (Division E)

The Edgerton Reporter

local, though some had references to a issue was that found elsewhere. I found that the shorter and mid-length editorials seem to make their points better. I was surprised at the topics covered, such as vandalism, chickens, 7-on-7 football. I found them fun to read.

Community Engagement Award

Daily Division

First Place: USA TODAY NETWORK-Wisconsin, 'School COVID crowdsourcing' - Staff. Judge's Comments: This is a clear example of the good newspapers are capable of fighting for on behalf of their communities. The easy-to-navigate database, accompanied by an explanatory, detailed story on the situation, certainly gave parents and community members tools they were missing to make the best decisions for their health and safety. I have no doubt this project was successful in building community trust.

Second Place: *The Post-Crescent*, 'Celebrating Volunteers' - Staff. Judge's Comments: A great overview of volunteer efforts across the community after an incredibly trying year. The writing and format of the series is tight, in an easily digestible format.

Third Place: *Herald Times Reporter*, 'Manitowoc County's 2020 People of the Year helped us through COVID-19, unrest' - Brandon Reid, Alisa Schafer, Patti Zarling, Tom Dombeck. Judge's Comments: This project could have benefited from having tighter guidelines for "people of the year." While all accomplishments listed are great and worthy of recognition, the last few don't feel fleshed out,

and it's difficult without context to know how noteworthy some accomplishments are when they're being held to the same level of first responders and medical providers during the pandemic. Overall, it's clear the authors know their subjects and their accomplishments, and I wish more of that was shared with the reader.

Weekly Division

First Place: *Vilas County News-Review*, 'Warm the Children' - Staff. Judge's Comments: While not a new program, it is great community engagement. I would have liked to see the online examples of the effort and promotion. Great impact with more than 500 kids getting clothing. This is not covering community engagement. This is creating community engagement.

Second Place: *The Chetek Alert*, 'The News Bell Podcast' - Carl Cooley, Ryan Urban, Jim Moran.

Third Place: *Crawford County Independent & The Kickapoo Scout*, 'Citizens, nonprofits and county board activated around broadband' - Charley Preusser, Gillian Pomplun.

Honorable Mention: *The Monroe Times*, 'Monroe Public Library Campaign: Christmas Stocking Program' - Matt Johnson, Adam Krebs.

Competition Comments: Every effort at community engagement deserves recognition. We applaud all the newspapers' entries.

Open Records/FOI Award

Daily Division

First Place: *Oshkosh Northwestern*, 'Oshkosh schools superintendent resigns amid criticism; school board

picks successor in secret' - Alex Groth, Nathaniel Shuda.

Second Place: *The Gazette*, 'County needs to open up appointment process'; 'Selection process concerns county board member'; 'Meeting door cracked, not opened' - Neil Johnson, Joel Patenaude.

Third Place: *The Journal Times*, 'Statements made, no public discussion' - Scott Willams.

Honorable Mention: *The Freeman*, 'Dueling lawsuits cost city'; 'Waukesha has spent over \$229,000 on litigation' - Nikki Brahm, Cara Spoto.

Weekly Division

First Place: *The Cambridge News and Deerfield Independent*, 'Two villages, 3 towns approach simultaneous referendums on station expansion' - Karyn Saemann. Judge's Comments: Submissions show thorough and continuous coverage of topics that impacted the community greatly. The newspaper and reporters did due diligence to follow through and make complaints when meetings were illegally closed, which is important in making sure citizens get the whole picture before a decision is made. A lot of money was at stake here and journalist passion could be seen in this coverage.

Second Place: *Sun Prairie Star*, 'Govt transparency under assault with SB 55'; 'Let the Sunshine in'; 'It's time to open City of Sun Prairie buildings to the public'; 'SPASD requires fees to search for 'slavery question' documents' - Jennifer Fetterly, Christopher Mertes. Judge's Comments: All submissions are important and well written topics that directly affect citizens. "SPASD requires fees to search for 'slavery question' documents" especially stood out to me. The reporter found a story in

being denied public information and took it to the next level by interviewing experts to tell the wider story, which is oftentimes left out. It's something I did not see in many of the other entries.

Third Place: *The Tribune-Phonograph*, 'Over 650 mask complaints filed online' - Kevin O'Brien. Judge's Comments: Very interesting twist on COVID coverage. The paper I work for never even thought to ask our health department how bombarded it was with complaints on mask wearing and it's one take on COVID-19 coverage I haven't seen elsewhere.



Karyn Saemann
Firefighter gear hangs about six feet from firetrucks at the Cambridge fire and EMS station, that is proposed to be expanded. Voters in five area municipalities will go to the polls on April 6, for the \$6.5 million project.

2 villages, 3 towns approach simultaneous referendums on station expansion

The plans have the station expanding onto the site of an adjacent Pizza Pit restaurant and small house on West Main Street in Cambridge

By Karyn Saemann
ksaem@west.com

Cambridge-area voters have two weeks left to wrap their heads around the complexities and implications of 5 simultaneous area referendums to expand their fire and EMS station.

Two villages - Rockdale and Cambridge - and three towns - Oakland, Christians and Lake Mills - have questions on the April 6 ballot, to fund their portions of the proposed \$6.5 million cost of tripling the existing station's footprint.

The plans have the station expanding onto the site of an adjacent Pizza Pit restaurant and small house on West Main Street in Cambridge.

Five separate referendums are necessary because the Cambridge Community Fire and EMS Commission, on which all five towns and villages have a seat via an intergovernmental agreement that dates back to the 1950s, doesn't have taxing authority. The municipalities outland its annual budget, apportioned based on their equalized values. The cost of the station expansion would be similarly divided up.

Christians has made its referendum results binding, while the others are advisory.

Second Cambridge question

Voters in the village of Cambridge will also see a second question on the ballot, to exceed the state levy cap by \$65,000 a year in perpetuity.

Village officials say exceeding the levy cap would fund rising annual fire and EMS operating costs and other rising village costs like street repairs and public works equipment purchases.

Tours, online info.



Karyn Saemann
Cambridge Fire Chief Terry Johnson said the lack of space has become unsafe.

With loosening COVID-19 gathering rules in Dane County, the fire department has recently been able to offer in-person tours at the station.

Those are continuing from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. on Tuesday nights through the end of March. No advanced registration is required.

Fire department officials also recently held a virtual public listening session with Keller, Inc. of Kaukauna, the design-build firm for the project.

Meanwhile, a lot of information, including renderings of the proposed expanded exterior, videos and FAQs, are on the fire and EMS departments' websites

See STATION, Page A7

Open Records/FOI Awards, First Place (Weekly Division)
The Cambridge News & Deerfield Independent

All-Around Newspaper Photography

Weekly Division

First Place: *Superior Telegram* - Jed Carlson, Maria Lockwood. Judge's Comments: News, features, sports. This newspaper handles the photo work well on all three. We especially liked the miniature artist photos.

Second Place: *Vilas County News-Review* - Staff. Judge's Comments: Good use of photos. They tell the story well and show the faces of the people involved without looking staged. While most groups shots



Woman jumps from window, ending standoff
By Aileen Whitman
A standoff Thursday afternoon between a woman and police ended with the woman jumping from a window of a 1000 block of Grove Street at 4:30 p.m. on Thursday, March 4.

GOP rejects plan to allow local sales tax increases
By Laurel White
Gov. Tony Evers' proposal to allow local governments to increase sales tax rates with voter approval was rejected by the state GOP.

WINNING MUSHER
Signs, cheers greet Junior Iditarod champion in Superior
By Maria Lockwood
Feroz, kindly and brave, triumphed in the 2021 Junior Iditarod on Thursday, March 4, in Superior, Wis. The 14-year-old musher and his sled team, including his dog, Feroz, were greeted by a cheering crowd of spectators as they crossed the finish line in Superior.

Council creates commission to combat sex trafficking
By Madeline Helms
The Superior City Council on Thursday, March 4, created the Superior Sexual Exploitation Commission. The special commission will include one city councilor appointed annually by the council.

can be boring, the photographer uses his/her surroundings to make them more interesting.

Third Place: *The Valders Journal* - Brian Thomsen. Judge's Comments: Creativity really shows in the photo work here. This newspaper would be well advised to take advantage of these solid photos by running them larger and spending more time on photo packages.

General News Story

Division A

First Place: *Green Bay Press-Gazette*, 'Gov. Tony Evers signs 'Ethan's Law,' honoring Manitowoc boy slain after being placed with man who'd admitted child abuse' - Doug Schneider.

Second Place: *Wisconsin State Journal*, 'Wisconsin quadruplets take on 1st year of college - from their childhood home' - Kelly Meyerhofer.

Third Place: *Leader-Telegram*, 'Stop AAPI Hate' - Ryan Patterson.

Honorable Mention: *La Crosse Tribune*, 'Gundersen nurse leads protest of staff vaccine mandate, 85% of employees inoculated' - Emily Pyrek.

Competition Comments: The entries that provided broader context through related statistics elevated their storytelling. So, too, did those that showed an ability to take an ordinary topic and turn it into an extraordinary read through reporting and writing style. This category was deep in good work. The winners earned their rewards.

Division B

First Place: *Wausau Daily Herald*, 'Wausau declared February Black History Month. Black residents say it's time for changes, not just declarations' - Allison Garfield.

Second Place: *Daily Jefferson County Union*, '12 minutes' - Craig Spsychalla.

Third Place: *Wausau Daily Herald*, 'Wisconsin rescue group says bird shootings doubled during COVID-19 pandemic' - Renee Hickman.

Honorable Mention: *EagleHerald*, 'TOP PFAS settlement concerns arise' - John Liesveld.

Competition Comments: Lots of strong entries in this category, which made the decisions to pick winners very difficult. All of the submitted entries were worthy of recognition.

Division C

First Place: *West Now*, 'One year ago, a Wauwatosa police officer fatally shot a teenager. Protests, policing changes and a family's pain would follow.' - Evan Casey. Judge's Comments: I appreciated the wide-angle look this article gave me of an incident that rocked a community and caused rippling effects through the area's law enforcement agencies. The structure of the story is really solid; it's easy to read and flows nicely. Visually, the package also is presented well. I felt all sides were covered and the story was thoroughly reported.

Second Place: *Wausau Pilot and Review*, 'How teamwork, ingenuity and legal strategy solved the Brokaw problem' - Peter Cameron, Shereen Siewert. Judge's Comments: The lede of this article grabs you immediately. Then the writing pulls you through the entire story, and it's a very nice one. This peek into municipal government

happenings was refreshingly surprising to read. The reporting was thorough reporting and the storytelling was skillful.

Third Place: *Superior Telegram*, 'Morning lines, steady flow as Douglas County voters go to the polls' - Maria Lockwood. Judge's Comments: This reporter has a really nice writing style. They effectively painted a picture of what happened at the polls on Election Day. I thought the access to the polling place was really cool and it

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

'This town has a lot of work to do'



Aaliyah Coppadge, 23, grew up in the Wausau area and later returned after living in the Washington, D.C., area. PHOTOS BY SAMANTHA MADARUSA TODAY NETWORK-WISCONSIN

What Wausau could really do to celebrate Black history, according to those who've lived it

Allison Garfield Wausau Daily Herald/USA TODAY NETWORK - WISCONSIN

Aaliyah Coppadge never knew when she was growing up that other schools across the country gave students the day off on Martin Luther King Jr. Day. She was the only Black student in her graduating class at Idea Charter School in Weston and grew accustomed to white neighbors, doctors and business owners. In 2019 when Coppadge moved to the suburbs of Washington, D.C., people asked her where she grew up, where was this place that the important Black national observance was never celebrated? "Wausau, Wisconsin," she would reply.

That's when Coppadge realized how different life was in a big city, especially in terms of diversity and inclusion. She says Washington, D.C., is where she saw Black people succeed for the first time: she experienced more Black culture, supported Black artists and visited a Black female doctor.

"Black culture is taken way more seriously in other parts of the country than in my hometown," she said.

So when Coppadge returned to Wausau in 2020 and not a lot had changed from her childhood years in the city, she knew she had to speak up. "Now that I'm an adult, I have to use my voice," she said. And she has a question for Wausau and its residents: "Why aren't more people acknowledging Black History Month?"

For many in the Wausau area, however, race and the experiences of people of color are afterthoughts at best — and when those topics arise they generate resistance. The Marathon County Board is still debating whether to recognize February as Black History Month, even though federal, state and local governments across America have been celebrating the month for 45 years. Wausau Mayor Katie Rosenber declared February 2021 as Black History



Kayley McColey, 20, poses for a portrait Feb. 17 at Oak Island Park in Wausau.

See HISTORY, Page 6A

General News Story, First Place (Division B)
Wausau Daily Herald

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All-Around Newspaper Photography, First Place (Weekly Division)
Superior Telegram

was engaging to read about peoples' reasons for voting, and about those making the process work. Overall, this was a great story idea and much more interesting and reader-friendly than the typical Election Day story. **Honorable Mention:** *Peninsula Pulse*, 'All STR Eyes on Sevastopol' - Debra Fitzgerald. Judge's Comments: Very interesting look at what I'm sure is an ongoing issue for this area. I especially liked the glance boxes and other visual elements to aid readers in learning more about what is being debated. This issue was thoroughly reported from all sides as well.

Competition Comments: There were so many excellent, informative articles submitted for this category. It was great to see FOIA use, coverage of previously unreported issues that intrepid writers uncovered, and lots of snapshots of interesting communities. Skillful storytelling really helped a handful

of articles rise to the top of this competition.

Division D

First Place: *The Herald-Independent and The McFarland Thistle*, "It's never too late: Sen. Agard says cannabis legalization is knocking on Wisconsin's door" - Lucy Ripp. Judge's Comments: This piece is incredibly well-written. The author provides an attention-grabbing introduction, and keeps the reader engaged throughout. The writing is casual when appropriate, but never loses professionalism. It is organized perfectly, is not too long, and thoroughly informs the reader. Excellent reporting.

Second Place: *The Waunakee Tribune*, 'After 47 years, Waunakee High School mural could be removed' - Tim Wohlers. Judge's Comments: This is an excellent example of "small town journalism." The author proficiently tells a story

that is pertinent to the community, while paying appropriate tribute to an icon within that community. The writer demonstrates a mastery of the craft, while allowing their own enjoyment of the work rise to the surface. Very well done.

Third Place: *The Platteville Journal*, 'CenturyLink shutting off Prism cable' - Steve Prestegard. Judge's Comments: This piece thoroughly captures the struggles of rural, small town living. Although the author relies just a bit too much on direct quotes to tell the story, it is thoroughly informative and very well-written. Solid reporting.

Honorable Mention: *The Monroe Times*, 'Local arts, culture orgs get COVID-19 relief grants' - Kat Cisar. Judge's Comments: This

is a solid piece that deals with subject matter which is too-often overlooked. Criticisms would be that the intro is just a bit clunky, and the piece is too long overall. However, this writer demonstrates real talent in and passion for their work, and has a bright future ahead of them.

Division E

First Place: *Oconto County Reporter*, 'Turnout in county's smallest municipality exceeds 100%' - Kent Tempus. Judge's Comments: This story rocks. The writing is clear and crisp. The seeming perplexity is explained well. A story with high reader interest got satisfying treatment.

HEAVY ABSENTEE VOTING DIDN'T ELIMINATE LINES AT OCONTO COUNTY POLLS



Voters lined up outside Little Suamico Town Hall early Tuesday to cast their vote. KENT TEMPUS/USA TODAY NETWORK-WISCONSIN

Kent Tempus Oconto County Reporter
USA TODAY NETWORK - WISCONSIN

LITTLE SUAMICO – Even though more than 4 out of 10 votes cast in Oconto County were absentee or early ballots, residents of several municipalities still encountered long lines Election Day resulting from high voter interest and a slower process at the polls because of pandemic safety precautions.

At 8 a.m. in the town of Little Suamico, the line stretched more than a football field from the front doors of town hall to past the Town Hall sign along County S at Sobieski.

Voters said the line was even longer when the polls opened at 7 a.m.

Social distancing varied along the line, which shortened from roughly 180 people to 150 by 8:45 a.m.



The line of voters, as seen from just outside the front door of the Town of Little Suamico front door. A box for people to drop off absentee ballots sits in the foreground. KENT TEMPUS/USA TODAY NETWORK-WISCONSIN

See VOTING, Page 4A



One year ago, a Wauwatosa police officer fatally shot a teenager. Protests, policing changes and a family's pain would follow.

Alvin Cole was killed by Wauwatosa police on Feb. 2, 2020, outside Mayfair mall. Over the last 365 days, unrest in the city often ensued as calls for justice echoed loudly.

Evan Casey, Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

Published 1:22 PM CST Feb. 2, 2021 | Updated 12:25 PM CST Feb. 3, 2021

General News Story, First Place (Division C)
West Now, Milwaukee

General News Story, First Place (Division E)
Oconto County Reporter

Second Place: *Oconto County Reporter*, 'Pulaski day care provider gets nine years in prison for child neglect' - Kent Tempus. Judge's Comments: This eyebrow-raising court case was handled deftly. This writer knows his craft.

Third Place: *Ripon Commonwealth Press*, 'Welcome Home Chief' - Joe Schulz. Judge's Comments: Good use of quotes in telling a timely human-interest tale.

Honorable Mention: *Fennimore Times*, 'Heritage Day delivers welcome fun' - Matt Johnson. Judge's Comments: Solid, comprehensive festival coverage. Good use of quotes. Decent writing. **Competition Comments:** Local news reporting is alive and well in Wisconsin's small weekly papers. Every entrant deserves a round of applause.

Feature Story (Non-profile)

Division A

First Place: *The Post-Crescent*, 'Wisconsin's first execution was also its last. Here's how Wisconsin became the first state to abolish the death penalty in 1853' - Chris Mueller. Judge's Comments: Excellent lede, superb flow, good reporting of historical facts. **Second Place:** *The Post-Crescent*, 'Twenty-five years ago, the third Schuelke sister married the third Klemp brother. They're all still together to this day.' - Samantha West. Judge's Comments: Lede grabs, the story-telling draws readers to the two families. Good reporting on dates and events. **Third Place:** USA TODAY NETWORK-Wisconsin, 'Everything you need to know about

Wisconsin's water towers: The good, the 'evil,' and the people who swim in your drinking water' - AnnMarie Hilton. Judge's Comments: Through superb story-telling and fun anecdotes, this piece made water towers - water towers! - one of the most interesting things in your town.

Honorable Mention: *The Gazette*, 'Polar palaces; Speed demons' - Greg Little. Judge's Comments: Beautifully written piece.

Division B

First Place: *Wausau Daily Herald*, 'In 1921, Wausau's first female cop patrolled dances. Women in uniform say 100 years later they're treated as equals, mostly.' - Melissa Siegler. Judge's Comments: Excellent topic. Excellent writing. Excellent interviews. It's great to remind our readers that, despite the national narrative, police departments around the country are working to do better. This story

Wisconsin's first execution was also its last. Here's how Wisconsin became the first state to abolish the death penalty in 1853

Chris Mueller
Appleton Post-Crescent
Published 7:00 a.m. CT July 12, 2021 | Updated 1:24 p.m. CT July 12, 2021



A photo taken in 1936 in Kenosha shows an oak tree that no longer exists, but was supposedly near to the site of John McCaffrey's hanging in 1851. The location was between 14th Avenue and the Chicago and Northwestern Railroad at about 67th Street, just east of the Sullivan Becker machine shop. The part of a brick building shown is the machine shop. Courtesy Of The Kenosha History Center

A voice cried out in the night, desperate: "Oh, John, spare me!" and "Oh, John, save me!"

Neighbors alarmed by the commotion rushed to help as John McCaffrey walked back toward his home from the yard, his clothes wet and covered in mud.

Feature Story (Non-profile), First Place (Division A)
The Post-Crescent, Appleton

illustrates that perfectly. What a wonderful approach to tie in the 100-year milestone of Wausau's first female police officer. Excellent work. **Second Place:** *Stevens Point Journal*, 'This Stevens Point-area man's immune system conquered cancer. Then it attacked him.' - Keith Uhlig. Judge's Comments: Great piece of feature writing. The story draws readers in, and the pacing is perfect. An excellent read and solid work in presenting a little-known topic.

Third Place: *Daily Jefferson County*

ON CALL: VETS UNDER STRESS

This is the third in a four-part series, "On Call: Vets Under Stress", that explores the pressures and overwhelming challenges facing those who choose a career in providing care for our animals.



Weighted down by crushing student debt, compassion fatigue and grueling work schedules, veterinarians are committing suicide at alarming rates, often using the drugs to end the suffering of their animal patients. DAVE KETTERING, AP

Veterinarians in distress

1 in 6 have contemplated suicide

Colleen Kottke
Wisconsin State Farmer

Weighted down by crushing student debt, the compounding effects of compassion fatigue and grueling work schedules, veterinarians are committing suicide at alarming rates, often using the same drugs used to end the suffering of their animal patients.

According to American Medical Veterinary Association (AMVA) statistics, 1 in 6 veterinarians have contemplated suicide. A report released last year by the AMVA in partnership with Merck Animal Health, veterinarians are 2.7 times more likely than the general public to die by suicide.

These grim statistics became personal to the Wisconsin veterinarian community when 36-year-old colleague Josh Smith, DVM, took his life on March 2, 2021. Smith had worked as a critical care specialist in Madison at VCA VESVSC for five years before moving on to an academic position as an Assistant Professor at UW Madison in October 2020, teaching and training veterinarians in critical care.

Organizers of a GoFundMe account established in memory of Smith and to aid his surviving fiancée and her children, intimated that financial difficulties weighed heavily on Josh's mind.

"The uptick in veterinarian suicides has been on the forefront especially with the loss of Josh," said Osseo-Augusta Veterinary Clinic veterinarian Meg Mueller. "It's on everyone's minds to be cognizant on how we take care of ourselves and each other. The question is, how do we handle that best?"

The pressure of becoming a veterinarian starts long before they earn their first paycheck. Competition to get into veterinary school is nearly as intense as those vying to be accepted into medical school.

"Most of us entering the field of veterinary medicine are Type A personalities, very driven perfectionists," said Becky Krull who has practiced veterinary medicine in the Green Bay area for 16 years.

Buried in debt

With most new veterinarians saddled with six figure debt right out of veterinary school - the AMVA estimates that 1 in 5 graduates leave school with more than \$200,000 to pay off. Compared to starting salaries of large animal practice veterinarians falling between \$60,000-70,000, the debt to income ratio can be a hard hill to climb.

SEE DISTRESS, Page 2A

Feature Story (Non-profile), First Place (Division C)
Wisconsin State Farmer, Waupaca

Union, 'One Last Story To Tell' - Craig Spychalla. Judge's Comments: Really solid feature writing and an interesting topic made this an easy choice as a finalist. Very good work.

Division C

First Place: *Wisconsin State Farmer*, 'Veterinarians in distress: 1 in 6 have contemplated suicide' - Colleen Kottke. Judge's Comments: Great headline and lede on a tough, emotional topic. Well organized information and thought the interview was well presented.

Second Place: *Peninsula Pulse*, 'A Dark Night, a Lost Son of Sister Bay' - Patty Williamson. Judge's Comments: Amazing headline and lede. I wanted to know the whole story. Information was well organized and presented.

Third Place: *Wisconsin State Farmer*, 'Viroqua father-and-son duo win national cattle award' - Grace Connatser. Judge's Comments: The style and presentation on this feature had me from the start. I had an emotional connection with this family by the end.

Honorable Mention: *Monroe County Herald*, 'OWI Court' - Pat Mulvaney. Judge's Comments: Thoughtful and thought provoking. I felt myself invested in the success of the program and wanted to learn more.

Division D

First Place: *The Record-Review*, 'Teenage girls rescue toddler in Stratford' - Casey Krautkramer. Judge's Comments: Very heartwarming story of two young ladies that took the time to do the right thing - great story. **Second Place:** *The Record-Review*, 'Surviving heart failure' - Casey Krautkramer. Judge's Comments: Nice story and touching.

Third Place: *Sawyer County Record*, Wyoming dinosaur trail leads back to Wisconsin' - Frank Zufall. Judge's Comments: Well-written and interesting – kept me engaged throughout.

Honorable Mention: *Amery Free Press*, 'Week starts off with a unique bang for Minnesota hunter' - April Ziemer. Judge's Comments: Wow! You don't see that happen often. Great job.

Division E

First Place: *Lodi Enterprise and Poynette Press*, 'Poynette mother finally reunited with family after 3-month battle with COVID-19' - Adam Lindemer. Judge's Comments: What a great story to tell and it was told well.

Second Place: *Lake Mills Leader*, 'Four-person crew responsible for getting the city's lights back on' - Amber Gerber. Judge's Comments: Timely insight behind the scenes; nicely put together.

Third Place: *Lodi Enterprise and Poynette Press*, 'Local horse enthusiast looks to take on 2021 Mongol Derby' - Peter Lindblad. Judge's Comments: Almost a

personality profile, but more focus on the unusual event. Good use of quotes.

Honorable Mention: *The Cambridge News and Deerfield Independent*, 'Historic Rockdale 'Beer Cave' re-rises' - Karyn Saemann. Judge's Comments: Neat tale with a good narrative lead, judicious use of quotes and more than one source.

Competition Comments: The best pieces in this category saw the unusual or the unusual approach. Several entries were either enterprise reporting or general news, but not features. That doesn't mean that they weren't nicely done, just in the wrong category.

Feature Story (Profile)

Division A

First Place: *Green Bay Press-Gazette*, 'Going to the dentist has never been so adorable. Meet Charlie, the therapy dog who puts patients at ease at Howard clinic' - Kendra Meinert. Judge's

Comments: This is a great, feel-good feature. Every dentist should have a dog in their office. Great writing, interesting topic.

Second Place: *Leader-Telegram*, 'Charles Woods feature' - Ryan Patterson. Judge's Comments: This is a great story that illustrates to everyone who reads it, that getting back on a positive life track is possible. Good job on this story!
Third Place: *Leader-Telegram*, 'It's been a struggle' - Eric Lindquist. Judge's Comments: The writer captured, perfectly, what many have endured since the pandemic began in 2020. It doesn't get any more real than this. Good job!

Honorable Mention: *Green Bay Press-Gazette*, 'It started with a Wizard of Oz plate. Three decades later, Garry Parrett's Land of Oz Museum in Wausaukee has about 15,000 items' - Sarah Klopping. Judge's Comments: This was a fun one to read. It's always fascinating to learn about how people start collecting things.

Division B

First Place: *EagleHerald*, 'The lifesavers you never see' - John Liesveld. Judge's Comments: A telling look into people that often don't get the credit they deserve.

Our first responders could not do their jobs without competent dispatchers alerting them to the situation at hand. These dispatchers have to keep their heads while everyone around them is losing theirs.

Second Place: *The Sheboygan Press*, 'We had no idea what was coming': Since COVID-19 hit Sheboygan County, it's been this team's job to lead the fight.' - Diana Dombrowski. Judge's Comments: The sad part of this story is that we still have no idea what's ahead in the pandemic. This story highlights the stress of trying to keep people informed and safe in a time when so much hatred and misinformation abounds.

Third Place: *The Reporter*, 'Fond du Lac STEM senior lands patent for fish hook design that doesn't let worms get away' - Sharon Roznik. Judge's Comments: Reporter does a great job of chronicling a kid's passion with his persistence.

Honorable Mention: *Daily Jefferson County Union*, 'Newsman Clish leaves WFAW Radio' - Pam Chickering Wilson. Judge's Comments: A solid piece to highlight a man's devotion to his community. But it is also telling in how community journalism is shrinking.

Poynette mother finally reunited with family after 3-month battle with COVID-19

Kelsey Townsend gave birth to 4th child via C-section while in coma

By Adam Lindemer
alindemer@trngnews.com

After a difficult three months, the Townsends finally had their family of six all back in one place as Kelsey, the mother of four, returned home after a long battle with COVID-19.

What life had been like for the Poynette family since Nov. 4 all happened so fast for Derek, Kelsey's husband, who welcomed his wife back home on Jan. 27.

A few days after Kelsey, 32,

returned home from a 12-week hospital stay, which included being in a coma for 70 days – and giving birth to the couple's fourth child via C-section in the process – everything hit Derek after a seemingly small task. But after the last three months he endured, it was anything but that. He was finally able to silence his cellphone for the night, as the couple tucked their children into bed.

"It was amazing," Derek said of turning off his phone. "That's when it hit me. I hadn't been able to do that for a long time. I was getting multiple calls a day (from doctors and nurses), sometimes late at night or early in the morning. Typically, when you get calls at that time, they're not a good call. When you hear the phone ring, your heart



Photo by Taryn Ziegler/Arlyn Marie Photography
The Townsend family poses for a photo at their Poynette home. Kelsey, now the mother of four, spent 12 weeks in the hospital – including 10 weeks on life support – before finally coming home on Jan. 27.

sinks." But that one night, when he put his cellphone on silent, was

the best night Derek had in a while. "That shows how far we

came," he said.

There was a lot of uncertainty for the Poynette family during the previous 12 weeks leading up to that point.

Kelsey, along with Derek and 8-year-old daughter Payton, contracted COVID-19 in late October – even as the family followed all the guidelines from health officials – and made a trip to the hospital. Derek and Payton recovered relatively quickly.

"I recovered quickly, within a few days," Derek said. "Kelsey got worse, but (Payton) recovered quick."

The couple's two youngest children at that point never got sick. Derek then took Kelsey back to the hospital on Nov. 4 as

See REUNITED, Page A2



THEY RESCUED A THREE YEAR OLD-Maren Hamill, at left, and Olivia Seitz, at right, both of Stratford, scooped up a three-year-old walking on the shoulder of a busy STH 97 in December. With the help of police, the toddler was reunited with a nearby family.

Teenage girls rescue toddler in Stratford

Two teenage girls saved a three-year-old boy from possibly getting injured or killed by oncoming traffic while he was walking on STH 97 in the village of Stratford on Dec. 13.

Maren Hamill and her friend, Olivia Seitz, both of Stratford, were driving north on STH 97 near Dollar General around 11:50 a.m., when they saw a very young boy walking on the shoulder of the busy highway. The teenagers saw the young boy was not wearing a coat, shoes or hat on this cold winter day, according to the Stratford Police Department report. They told police the boy was carrying a bag of hot Cheetos.

The teenage girls pulled over their vehicle onto Fieldcrest Drive and ran across STH 97

See RESCUE/ page 15

KINDNESS IN ACTION

Division C

First Place: *South Now*, 'With dancing, humor and eagle feathers, this St. Francis man is keeping his Native heritage alive through a one-man storytelling show' - Samantha Hendrickson. Judge's Comments: This profile featured a nice news angle, and offered readers a deeper look into a person who encounters many members of the public. I

enjoyed learning his story and about how he interacts with others, as well as what other people find special about him.

Second Place: *Peninsula Pulse*, 'A Musician in Quarantine' - Debra Fitzgerald. Judge's Comments: This is a good, complete profile with a news angle. It offered a great window into the subject and what her life was like, and how it was upended by the pandemic.

Third Place: *Northwest Now*, 'From his emotional low to his highest peak, this Menomonee Falls native veteran climbed the world's Seven Summits' - Cathy Kozlowicz. Judge's Comments: This is a really cool story of one man's accomplishments. The catchy news hook - his climbing feats - draws readers in, while the article does a nice job of also touching on some of the struggles he has faced in life, which I am sure other readers could relate to. It was a nice blend of feature profile and news story.

Honorable Mention: *Vilas County News-Review*, 'Life's a gas for petroleum museum operator' - Eric Johnson. Judge's Comments: Nicely written column-style format.

Division D

First Place: *The Herald-Independent and The McFarland Thistle*, 'Chaney Austin shares vision for future of policing' - Lucy Ripp. Judge's Comments: This story meets the man and the moment. The writing

is so tight yet rich. It's getting at the heart of Chief Austin and how he got to this moment, but it also puts his ascension to this job into the context of the world right now.

Second Place: *The Chetek Alert*, 'Sand Creek's new shipshape playground christened' - Carl Cooley. Judge's Comments: Did I expect to be blown away by a story about a ribbon-cutting ceremony for a new playground? Honestly, no. This story fully fleshed out exactly the sort of spirit and effort that enriches a community and is a whole-hearted tribute to the people who embody that spirit and put in that effort.

Third Place: *The Portage County Gazette*, 'Jills' gift' - Kris Leonhardt. Judge's Comments: This story has a lot of delicate threads that are woven into a moving account that connects two lives that are forever changed and cherished.

Honorable Mention: *Sun Prairie Star*, 'Music meets mystery: The stories of a rock 'n' roll detective' - Jennifer Fetterly. Judge's

The lifesavers you never see

Menominee, Marinette 911-dispatchers give insight to the work they do

By JOHN LIESVELD
EagleHerald staff writer
jliesveld@eagleherald.com

Editor's note: Part one of a two-part series about dispatchers in Marinette and Menominee County.

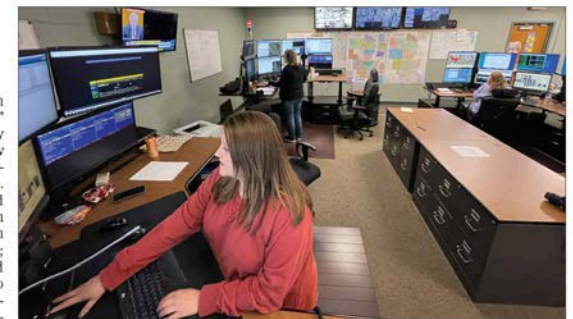
MARINETTE—Those moments come out of nowhere, plowing through the familiarity and security of a routine day, shattering the tedium of your morning bowl of Fruit Loops or turning a quiet evening stroll downtown into a tumble down the rabbit hole of surreal urgency. They leave you reaching for your phone to dial those three familiar numbers.

9-1-1
A cascading response of action follows, coordinated through a singular voice at the other end of the line: the 911 Dispatcher.

"Nothing is routine

here. Everything can change in a phone call," said Menominee County 911 Director, Andrew Primeaux. "Having the discipline to do what they do. Having the sympathy and empathy in dealing with people who are having an emergency and in need; being able to understand (the situation) enough to provide the input, direction and medical instruction that an individual may need—and to do (all that) on a daily basis—it's just outstanding what they do."

Just across the state border, the Communications Director for the Marinette County Dispatch/911 Center Kirsten Burmeister resonated with the same deference and accolades toward the crew of dispatchers with whom she works. She expounded on some of the



EagleHerald/John Liesveld

"Having good co-workers, that is awesome, because there are times when there is so much going on in here and you don't even need to talk to each other because you just know what everybody else is doing. You are with these people 12 hours a day. They are like your family." — Brenda Powell, Marinette County 911 dispatcher, inside the county dispatch center. Pictured, from left: Shelly McFadden, Ashley Edelbeck and Powell

character assets that define public service.

"(A lot of) people want a normal life. This is not a normal life," Burmeister said. "You are working nights, weekends and holidays. We are looking for

those people dedicated to helping others and public safety ... it is a calling ... I always feel that if you're in this job for five or six years you get it in your blood and

See 911, A3

Bringing out the

SMILES

Meet Charlie, the therapy dog who puts patients at ease at Howard dental clinic

Kendra Melmert
Green Bay Press-Gazette | USA TODAY NETWORK - WISCONSIN

HOWARD — The quickest way to see someone's smile at Sierra Dental is to bring up Charlie. • Since joining the staff last year, the 3-year-old cockapoo is easily the most popular guy in whatever room he happens to be in, whether greeting people in the reception area or putting patients at ease while they're in the chair or making the rounds at the daily morning meeting. • Dr. Martin Williams, or Dr. Marty as his young patients call him, doesn't take it personally. After all, it was his idea to bring him on board. • "Oh yeah, he's the rock star," said Williams, who owns both Charlie and Sierra Dental.

See CHARLIE, Page 2D

Charlie catches a little downtime outside one of the rooms at Sierra Dental in Howard. He gets Monday and Thursday afternoons off. SARAH KLOEPFING/USA TODAY NETWORK-WISCONSIN



Feature Story (Profile), First Place (Division A)
Green Bay Press-Gazette

Feature Story (Profile), First Place (Division B)
EagleHerald, Marinette

Comments: This is a cool story about a cool person doing cool work. This was so fun and easy to read while giving the whole scope of the subject's past and present work.

Competition Comments: What an enriching batch of stories! Every single story in this competition was a story that I would have been proud to submit on my own if I'd written them. Every reporter in this category clearly has a good eye for a good story and knows how to get the most from their conversations with the people in their stories.

Division E

First Place: *Crawford County Independent & The Kickapoo Scout*, 'Van Galder shares the plight of many along the Mississippi' - Gillian Pomplun. Judge's Comments: This story was a blend of human interest and environmental reporting, with a relevant undercurrent of the challenges faced by real people.

Second Place: *The Freedom Pursuit*, 'Nurse seeing much death, loneliness' - Angie Griepentrog. Judge's Comments: The reporter gave readers a look at the burdens of the current crisis, mixed with a personal feel that explains why someone would stick with the medical profession under such pressures.

Third Place: *The Brillion News*, 'Red Raven Orchestra: One of the Best'; 'Red Ravens' excellence was no accident' - Ed Byrne. Judge's Comments: Interesting topic, with ample history and a personal touch that makes the whole story come together.

Honorable Mention: *The Pierce County Journal*, 'You can do anything if you just have a little faith' - Sarah Nigbor. Judge's Comments: Inspiring for readers, but the reporter didn't stray into fluffy affirmations.

Localized National Story

Division A

First Place: *La Crosse Tribune*, 'Ice packs, ice cream and vacation cut short: Behind the scenes of Biden's visit' - Olivia Herken. Judge's Comments: The depth in the reporting both during and after Biden's visit was exceptional.

Second Place: *Leader-Telegram*,

'Scary as hell' - Eric Lindquist. **Third Place:** *Wisconsin State Journal*, 'UW-Madison international students face big barriers during pandemic' - Kelly Meyerhofer.

Division B

First Place: *The Reporter*, 'As Donald Trump's impeachment trial begins, are Republicans headed for a split? The party's roots in Ripon could point the way forward' - Sharon Roznik. Judge's Comments: A wonderful perspective and

As impeachment trial begins, is the GOP headed for a split?



The Little White Schoolhouse, also known as the Birthplace of the Republican Party, at 305 Blackburn St. in Ripon. Citizens met there in 1854 to discuss the beginnings of the Republican Party. DOUG RAFLIK/USA TODAY NETWORK-WISCONSIN

The party's roots in Ripon could point to way forward

Sharon Roznik Fond du Lac Reporter
USA TODAY NETWORK - WISCONSIN

RIPON - The newly formed Republican Party spread like a prairie fire through rural Wisconsin in the 1800s.

Fueling the movement was the unique character of people who settled in and around Ripon, a community whose first citizens were idealists who lived in a commune.

Most of these settlers came from western New York, considered at the time to be a hotbed of "political turbulence," according to William Woolley, a

retired Ripon College history professor who studied the party's origins in Wisconsin.

"In 1854, Ripon was a place that was unusual in the fact people liked to go to meetings where issues of national and even cosmic significance were discussed, and felt it was important to do so," Woolley said. "And where citizens did not feel it at all presumptuous to think that they could change the world by themselves."

That spirit led to the birth of a new

See GOP, Page 5A

"In 1854, Ripon was a place that was unusual in the fact people liked to go to meetings where issues of national and even cosmic significance were discussed, and felt it was important to do so. And where citizens did not feel it at all presumptuous to think that they could change the world by themselves."

William Woolley
A retired Ripon College history professor

Localized National Story, First Place (Division B)

The Reporter, Fond du Lac

commentary on our current political climate and how we can learn from the past. The parallels drawn between the circumstances that brought about the formation of the party and climate it finds itself in today were very well composed.

Second Place: *Marshfield News-Herald*, 'A look inside Marshfield Clinic, where exhausted staff are 'bracing for impact' as COVID surges, again' - Allison Garfield. Judge's Comments: So often we hear about the health care professional struggling to keep up with the pressure of the pandemic, this give a heart wrenching look into a prime example. The reporting and writing were stellar and it was a joy to read a local example of a national topic that can feel so distant.

Third Place: *Herald Times Reporter*, 'With UFO report making headlines, Wisconsin has its own history with the paranormal' - Alisa Schafer. Judge's Comments: When I saw the subject matter of this, I knew it'd be an awesome read and I was not disappointed. A breath of fresh air amid the stories of COVID, elections and protests. This piece not only stuck out because of its topic, but also because of the great reporting and composition.

Honorable Mention: *Daily Jefferson County Union*, 'Voting The Party Line?' - Craig Spychalla. Judge's Comments: An interesting look at the voting history of a local county compared to the national scale. Giving the county populace some context of who their vote matters is a great way to relate nation news to a local level.

Division C

First Place: *West Now*, "Disappointing and offensive: Area clerks say rumors about voter fraud are unfounded" - Evan Casey.

Judge's Comments: An engaging read that paints a thorough picture of the local level of national elections. Detailed and well written, yet easy to follow, Casey does an excellent job of capturing the feel behind the scenes of the voting process. Stellar composition.

Second Place: *Superior Telegram*, 'Poplar Eagle Scouts soar into new territory' - Maria Lockwood. Judge's Comments: A fun and educational read, Lockwood provides a fun look into the Eagle Scout process through clear and concise writing and an effective layout of pertinent information.

Third Place: *Ladysmith News*, 'Congressman reacts to riot

at U.S. Capitol' - Luke Klink. Judge's Comments: Klink lays out an extensive amount of quotes and information in a way that is very easy to follow with a superb quality of writing. Excellent overall composition.

Honorable Mention: *The Press Times*, 'Black Lives Matter in Green Bay' - Kevin Boneske. Judge's Comments: Boneske's clear and effective coverage of this issue throughout several pieces is informative and enlightening while staying easy to follow. Excellent work.

Division D

First Place: *The Monroe Times*, 'Vaccine Warrior' - Kat Cisar. Judge's Comments: Great local angle on an incredibly big national story. Way to dig on this one. Keep up with this source, she's sure to provide good content down the road.

Second Place: *Trempealeau County Times*, 'Classrooms discuss events in D.C.' - Zac Bellman. Judge's Comments: It's always a good idea to bring a national story down to the local level with classroom comments. The reporter did a nice job of getting good feedback on this one.

Third Place: *The Valdres Journal*, 'Grothman Rides Out Capitol Riot in Office Lockdown' - Todd Bergmann. Judge's Comments: A first-hand account of a national story is always a great idea. This story really adds good context to the event.

Division E

First Place: *The Tribune-Phonograph*, 'Colby man describes what he saw in D.C.' - Kevin O'Brien. Judge's Comments: It was an interesting firsthand account of what happened on Jan. 6.

Second Place: *Ripon Commonwealth Press*, 'GL grad helps fight fires on West Coast' - Joe Schulz. Judge's Comments: This helped put a human face on the wildfires situation.

Third Place: *Crawford County Independent & The Kickapoo Scout*, 'Seneca School District abandons Indian logo' - Charley Preusser. Judge's Comments: A good localized version of the controversy facing many school districts today. **Competition Comments:** Overall, the entries were good, but I would try to make the leads more concise. The leads of some entries were too long to catch the reader's attention.

Sports News Story

Division A

First Place: *Leader-Telegram*, 'Rice Lake's Bednarek wins silver medal in 200-meter dash at Tokyo Olympics' - Spencer Flaten. Judge's Comments: The lead pulled you into the story immediately, and you learned quickly that the moment was really special.

Second Place: *The Gazette*, 'Heartbreak on the road' - David Vantress. Judge's Comments: It was an interesting look at how one

person turned disappointment into a new career move.

Third Place: *The Post-Crescent*, 'Minnesota's decision to drop men's track and field leaves Pingel, Krause in limbo' - Ricardo Arguello. Judge's Comments: A good look at athletes dealing with an setback outside their control.

Honorable Mention: *Wisconsin State Journal*, 'Dramatic finish delivers state title for Middleton girls golf team' - Jon Masson. Judge's Comments: I'm normally not into golf, but the story could be appreciated by somebody usually not in tune with the sport.

Competition Comments: This was a difficult category to judge. All around, the writing was good, and the stories could be appreciated by a person who is not a sports enthusiast.

Division B

First Place: *EagleHerald*, 'M&M Game continues during COVID unrest' - Dan Kitkowski.

Second Place: *The Chippewa Herald*, 'Championship topple' - Brandon Berg.

Third Place: *Daily Globe*, 'On to Green Bay' - Jason Juno.

Honorable Mention: *The Chippewa Herald*, 'Schemenauer's game-winner in overtime lifts Sabers past Wildcats for first title' - Brandon Berg.

Division C

First Place: *Superior Telegram*, 'Spartans no match for defending state-champion Ledgers in penalty-filled game' - Jon Nowacki.

Second Place: *Superior Telegram*, 'Kaufman, Tigers win seesaw game against Rice Lake in first matchup between teams in 35 years' - Jon Nowacki.

Third Place: *West Now*, 'Wauwatosa

WAUWATOSA NEWS

'Disappointing and offensive:' Area clerks say rumors about voter fraud are unfounded



Evan Casey

Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

Published 3:04 p.m. CT Nov. 20, 2020 | Updated 7:05 p.m. CT Nov. 24, 2020

View Comments



City of Brookfield Clerk Kelly Michaels has been overseeing elections for decades, but not like this one. *Michael Sears / Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*

Elm Grove Village Clerk Michelle Luedtke knew the Nov. 3 election would be like no other.

She was up at the crack of dawn on Election Day — but she usually can't sleep the night before a election anyway.

And she had already trained her poll workers well before the day of the election.

"During training, I emphasized the scrutiny this election would face, and we executed the election process with great care in this community," Luedtke said.

Localized National Story, First Place (Division C)

West Now, Milwaukee

East is golden. The Red Raiders delivered on the biggest stage to win the Division 1 state title'. - Curt Hogg.

Honorable Mention: *Monroe County Herald*, 'State Bound: Lady Cardinals return to state, turn attention to unfinished business' - Zach Rastall.

Division D

First Place: *The Monroe Times*, 'Flanagan steps away' - Adam Krebs. Judge's Comments: Well put together look at a very distinguished and highly successful career. Great background really adds to this piece.

Second Place: *The Record-Review*, 'Diethelm derails Cardinals' - Ross Pattermann. Judge's Comments: WOW. This reporter really knows how to tell a descriptive story without going overboard. Great work.

Third Place: *Lake Geneva Regional News*, 'Badger coaches and athletes rejoice after school board's decision' - Andrew Tucker. Judge's Comments: A great, and much needed sports news story. Good use of quotes. Good sources.

Honorable Mention: *The Platteville Journal*, 'Durni stars on Senior Night' - Jason Nihles. Judge's Comments: This is a story that had to be told, and it was told well by this reporter. It was almost like being there in person.

Competition Comments: All four of the top placers were incredibly solid, and any one of them could have taken top honors.

Division E

First Place: *Ripon Commonwealth Press*, 'Making the most out of a bad situation' - Jonathan Bailey.

Second Place: *The Northwoods River News*, 'Instant Classic' -

Jeremy Mayo.

Third Place: *The Northwoods River News*, 'Planned to perfection' - Jeremy Mayo.

Honorable Mention: *The Tribune-Phonograph*, 'Storybook ending to strange year' - Ross Pattermann.

Sports Feature Story

Division A

First Place: *The Cap Times*, 'Sunisa Lee's Olympic win brings 'tears of joy' to Madison's Hmong community' - Natalie Yahr. Judge's Comments: Great read, allows readers to feel the emotion of the victory

Second Place: *The Journal Times*, 'Overcoming the odds' - Peter Jackel.

Third Place: *The Cap Times*, 'A new kind of Little League: Madison's youth esports teams emphasize teamwork and fun' - Nicholas Garton.

Honorable Mention: *Leader-Telegram*, 'Fall Creek's Wright overcomes car accident to still have impact' - Jack Goods.

Division B

First Place: *Herald Times Reporter*, 'I know it's going to hurt': Two Rivers' Gallagher battles asthma with help of running mate' - Tom Dombeck. Judge's Comments: Great information and gives readers insight on how runner deals with asthma. This was a very hard category to judge because of all the great entries.

Second Place: *Daily Jefferson County Union*, 'Kraemers continue to be thankful' - Jack Miller.

Third Place: *The Chippewa Herald*, 'Running for a reason' - Brandon Berg.

Division C

First Place: *Northwest Now*, 'The Patrick Baldwin Jr. era has officially come to a close at Sussex Hamilton. Here's how it should be remembered.' - Curt Hogg.

Second Place: *Superior Telegram*, 'Mike Granlund, a welcoming presence with Northwestern sports for more than three decades' - Jon

Nowacki.

Third Place: *North Shore Now*, 'Just as their dad did, Brady and Jack Counsell are starring on the diamond for Whitefish Bay' - Curt Hogg.

Honorable Mention: *Monroe County Herald*, 'Fulfilling A Father's Bucket List: Bangor's Andrea Olson carries dad's memory with her to another state berth' - Zach Rastall.

SILVER SPRINT

BEDNAREK WINS SILVER MEDAL IN OLYMPICS DEBUT



Rice Lake alumnus Kenny Bednarek, right, celebrates after winning the silver medal with bronze medalist Noah Lyles, also of the United States, in the men's 200-meter final at the 2020 Summer Olympics on Wednesday in Tokyo. Associated Press

BY SPENCER FLATEN
LEADER-TELEGRAM STAFF

With the American flag draped around his shoulders, Kenny Bednarek gazed off into a mostly empty Olympic Stadium and soaked the moment in.

From the tracks of Rice Lake to this grand stadium in Tokyo, the former Warrior had seen just about everything in the world of track and field.

Everything except a medal at a global meet. And with the performance of a lifetime, he crossed that one off the list too.

Bednarek ran a personal-best 19.68 seconds, capturing the silver medal in the men's 200-meter dash on Wednesday at the Tokyo Olympics.

He had to settle for second, but as he carried his country's flag around the track with the world's eyes upon him, he didn't seem to mind much.

"It didn't go as planned, my plan was to try and lead the whole race

because it's my tournament and I'm one of the best in the world, but unfortunately that is not what happened," Bednarek told reporters. "But I am grateful to come out with a silver medal, I can build off of this in the future."

He ran the best race of his career, and it took a lifetime best to beat him.

Canada's Andre De Grasse earned the gold medal, setting a new personal record with a 19.62-second run.

"I want everybody to know: I shocked the world," De Grasse said. "I know everyone was saying that the Americans were going to win, but I came out here and (knew) this was my moment."

Bednarek led with 50 meters to go, but De Grasse made up enough ground to catch him and bring home the gold. He surged past Bednarek's shoulder in the final stretch and pulled ahead to take first. Bednarek had enough in the tank to hold off teammate Noah Lyles, who also made a late push to get to the front of the pack.

"I knew the Americans were going to push me, and they were going to take me to a personal best," De Grasse said. "It's been five years since I had a personal best, so it was just good to get that finally out of the way."

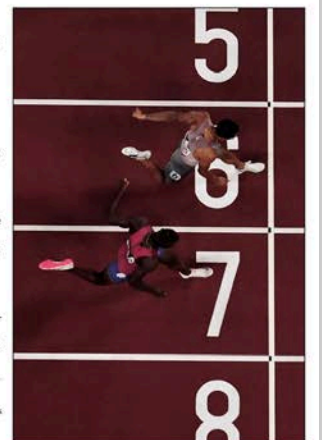
"That was a good race. My coach told me I've got to go hard on the bend. I've got to stay with Kenny on the turn, he has a magnificent turn."

Lyles took home the bronze, finishing in 19.74 seconds.

It was a silver medal in Bednarek's first trip to the Olympics — no easy feat.

SEE BEDNAREK PAGE 4B

Andre De Grasse, of Canada, beats Kenny Bednarek, of the United States, to win the gold medal during the finals of the men's 200-meter at the Summer Olympics Wednesday in Tokyo. Associated Press



Sports News Story, First Place (Division A)
Leader-Telegram, Eau Claire

Division D

First Place: *Oconomowoc Enterprise*, 'Hometown blessings travel'; 'Luther braves deep' - Mark Hutchinson. Judge's Comments: This was an excellent feature on Dick Luther. You got to know the coach, the man, and what makes him special.

Second Place: *Barron News-Shield*, 'Barron grad Hallberg coaches

for hottest team in majors' - Bob Zientara.

Third Place: *Lake Geneva Regional News*, 'Tennis star could make history' - Andrew Tucker.

Honorable Mention: *The Monroe Times*, 'Wendi Wipperfurth: Where are they now?' - Adam Krebs.

Competition Comments: This was an amazing strong class. Sports fans across the state are lucky to have so many great writers. It was very hard to pick a winner.

Division E

First Place: *Grant County Herald Independent*, 'Looking Back at Coach Hoch's Legendary Career' - A.J. Gates. Judge's Comments: Exceptional coverage on an impressive career. Good writing with attention to detail combined with visual highlights as well.

Second Place: *The Courier*, 'Road to the ring' - Amber Gerber. Judge's Comments: Excellent piece on a

different look at sports not usually covered. Enjoyed getting to know the subject through the writing.

Third Place: *Lake Mills Leader*, Lake Mills, 'Pewaukee to clash in state semifinals' - Nate Gilbert. Judge's Comments: Excellent writing. Thorough breakdown of season and a focus on the team.

Honorable Mention: *The Tribune-Phonograph*, 'A short season worth the wait' - Ross Pattermann. Judge's Comments: Great coverage of an issue facing every athlete during the pandemic.

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CAREER COACHING RECORD

LOOKING BACK at Coach Hoch's Legendary Career

Coach Hoch by the numbers

After 39 years as the head football coach at Lancaster High School, John Hoch has called it quits. The 2010 WFCIA Hall of Fame inductee retired with a career record of 327-117, which is the sixth most wins in state history.

Seasons at LHS (1982-2020): 39
 Career Coaching Record: 327-117
 Career Conference Record: 177-58
 Career Playoff Record: 72-23
 State Championships: 7
 State Runner-Up Titles: 4
 Playoff Appearances: 30
 Conference Titles: 19

Awards & Accolades

NAMED...

SWC Coach of the Year... 8 TIMES
 SMC Coach of the Year... 4 TIMES
 WFCIA District XIV Coach of the Year... 5 TIMES

2000...

- Named the WFCIA Assistant Coach for the South All-Star team

2001...

- Named the WFCIA State Coach of the Year
- Named the Green Bay Packers Prep Coach of the Year
- Named Associated Press Coach of the Year

2002...

- Named the National Federation of State High School Association Section IV Coach of the Year by the National Football Coaches Association
- Named the National Coach of the Year by the National Federation State High School Association
- Named the WFCIA head coach of the South All-Star team

2003...

- Inducted into the UW-Silver Falls Athletic Hall of Fame

2005...

- Named the Green Bay Packers High School team coach

2007...

- Named the Scholastic Coach and Athletic Director "Coach of the Three Quarter Century" for the state of Wisconsin

2010...

- Inducted into the WFCIA Hall of Fame

2012...

- Awarded the Positive Influence of Coaching award by the WFCIA

2014...

- Inducted into the NISACA National High School Athletic Coaches Association Hall of Fame

2015...

- Named the National High School Football Coach of the Year by the National High School Athletic Coaches Association

INSIDE STORIES

PAGE 2 **The Beginning**

PAGE 2 **Playoff success and state titles**

PAGE 3 **Hoch's Recipe for Success**

PAGE 4 **Retirement**

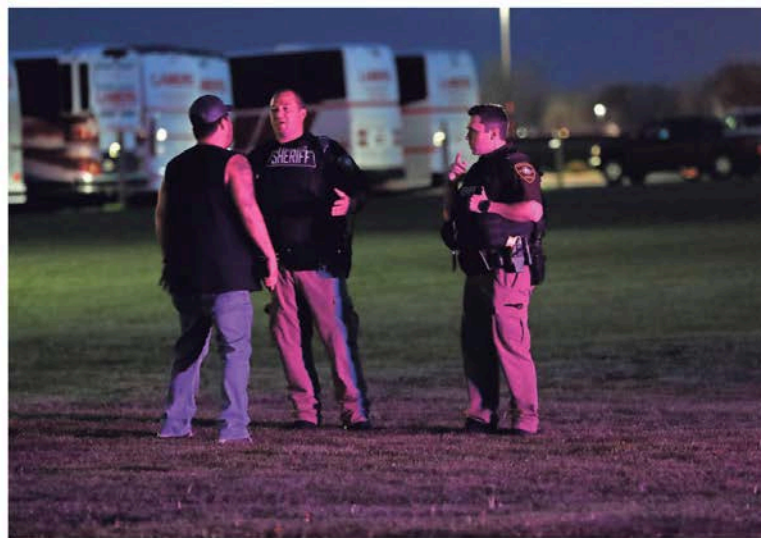
"I hope I will be remembered as being fair. I know there are kids or parents that didn't agree with some of my decisions here, there or whenever. But we always tried to make it fair, not equal, but fair for everyone, and gave everyone a fair chance to play."

Coach John Hoch

State's Top High School Football Coaching Records Based on Wins

Rank	Coach	Wins
1	Bob Zientara	481-110
2	John Hoch	327-117
3	Tommy Hodges	440-85
4	Tommy Hodges	365-120
5	Tommy Hodges	360-165
6	Tommy Hodges	350-87

YOU...ME...US...TEAM!



Scenes outside the Oneida Casino where a gunman allegedly killed two people and critically injured a third before being killed by officers Saturday in Ashwaubenon. PHOTOS BY SARAH KLOEPPING/USA TODAY NETWORK-WISCONSIN

Mass shooting leaves Oneida Nation, Green Bay in mourning

2 people, gunman killed in shooting at Radisson

Benita Mathew and Jeff Bollier
 Green Bay Press-Gazette
 USA TODAY NETWORK - WISCONSIN

ASHWAUBENON - People in the Oneida Nation and across the Green Bay area Sunday continued to process the trauma of a mass shooting at the Radisson Hotel & Conference Center that left three people dead, including the gunman, and a fourth victim in serious condition.

"As it happens in the Oneida Nation community, we treat our community like family. As this happens on our reservation we treat the situation like family, like it happened to us. We send those heartfelt condolences to those affected as well as those who had to be on-site," said tribal Vice Chairman Brandon Stevens during a news conference Sunday evening.

The incident began about 7:30 p.m. Saturday when officers responded to reports of shots fired at the Duck Creek Kitchen + Bar inside the Radisson, which is attached to the Oneida

Casino, the Brown County Sheriff's Office said.

Police killed the gunman outside the facility after he had shot three other people in or near the restaurant, Lt. Kevin Pawlak said at a news conference just after midnight.

The gunman went to the restaurant in search of a specific employee, but the worker he targeted was not there, Pawlak said. The man then shot other workers, two of whom died, the sheriff's office said. The other injured victim was taken to a hospital in Milwaukee for emergency surgery. No information has been made available about that person's condition.

Police said they believed the gunman had been employed at the Oneida Casino and had a dispute with the person he meant to target. Pawlak on Saturday night said the motive and the relationship between the shooter and the victims remained unclear.

Police swarmed the scene soon after a 911 caller reported shots fired, arriving from every law enforcement agency in Brown County as well as several from neighboring counties.

See SHOOTING, Page 6A



A woman talks on her phone outside the Oneida Casino/Radisson Hotel & Conference Center on Sunday after a shooting took place on Saturday at the Duck Creek Restaurant where three people were killed, including the gunman, and one person was seriously injured.

Breaking News Reporting

Division A

First Place: *Green Bay Press-Gazette*, 'Oneida Casino shooting: Three killed, including gunman; one person seriously injured near Green Bay' - Staff.

Second Place: *The Cap Times*, 'Former Wisconsin Supreme Court Chief Justice Shirley Abrahamson dies at 87' - Katie Dean.

Third Place: *The Cap Times*, 'Colectivo is set to become the largest unionized cafe in the U.S. Its owners aren't pleased.' - Natalie Yahr.

Honorable Mention: *The Post-Crescent*, 'Grand Chute police looking for 17-year-old suspect in deadly Fox River Mall shooting' - Chris Mueller.

Division B

First Place: *Daily Jefferson County Union*, 'Hero; Good Guy' - Craig Spychalla, Randall Dullum.

Second Place: *Beloit Daily News*, 'Chemtool fire could last for days' - Hillary Gavin, Austin Montgomery, Brad Allen, Clint Wolf.

Third Place: *The Freeman*,

Sports Feature Story, First Place (Division E)

Grant County Herald Independent, Lancaster

Breaking News Reporting, First Place (Division A)

Green Bay Press-Gazette

‘Tornadoes hit Jefferson, Waukesha counties’ - Nikki Brahm, Jake Ek Dahl.

Honorable Mention: *Beloit Daily News*, ‘Family of shooting victim demands justice’ - Hillary Gavan.

Division C

First Place: *West Now*, ‘Joseph Mensah, the Wauwatosa police officer who has fatally shot three people in the last five years, is resigning’ - Evan Casey. Judge’s Comments: This reporter had no mercy for Joseph Mensah in his coverage. There were 15 entries showing continuous, thorough, ongoing coverage of a topic that affects all citizens. It is hard and scary to turn the mirror to those with power, and this reporter did that – it appears – with no hesitation. Casey’s dedication and passion for journalism is apparent throughout.

Second Place: *Lake Country Now*, ‘Oconomowoc bank robbery coverage’ - Evan Frank, Evan Casey, Joe Taschler. Judge’s Comments: Excellent coverage from the beginning. Reporter had an in depth story right away with quotes from city officials AND bank officials.

That would have been enough, but the next day, there was even better coverage detailing all the police incidents which had occurred leading up to the suspect’s arrest. **Third Place:** *Northwest Now*, ‘It was really scary’: Here’s what Menomonee Falls residents experienced as a wildfire approached their homes’ - Cathy Kozlowski. Judge’s Comments: A human perspective right off the bat pulls readers into the story. Had a lot of perspective from law enforcement, firefighters, DNR and more. We don’t have a lot of brush fires in our area, but reporter did a great job of explaining how serious the

situation was to someone who doesn’t understand. Great thorough coverage.

Honorable Mention: *Peninsula Pulse*, ‘Stranded Angler Says Rescue Went Smoothly’ - Debra Fitzgerald. Judge’s Comments: This coverage was very thorough right of the bat with lots of information from authorities. I do not live near a large body of water like this and I thought the reporter explained the seriousness of the situation well and in a way I could understand. Oftentimes the victims are forgotten, so it was nice to see the reporter circle back to it the next week and get the human perspective in.

Division D

First Place: *Lake Geneva Regional News*, ‘Tragedy on the lake’ - Karena Tse, Dennis Hines, Stephanie Jones, Andrew Tucker. Judge’s Comments: Well done. I appreciated how you rounded out the story with rescue protocol and first responders’ personal experience with incidents of this nature. You structured the story in such a way the held my interested until the very end.

Second Place: *The Northwoods River News*, ‘Police hunt for suspect, vehicle’; ‘Police ID homicide victim, hunt for suspect continues’; ‘Search for homicide suspect continues, both vehicles located’ - Heather Schaefer, Jamie Taylor. Judge’s Comments: I appreciated the way you captured the unfolding of this story as it progressed. You were able to present the updated information along with pertinent background context that was clear and to the point.

Third Place: *Amery Free Press*, ‘Arrest made in six-year Polk County Cold Case’ - April Ziemer. Judge’s Comments: Well

written with great storytelling. I appreciated the way you unfolded the information. I also appreciated your inclusion of the police chief’s comments.

Honorable Mention: *Ashland Daily Press*, ‘Missing Odanah man’ - Rick Olivo, Peter Wasson. Judge’s Comments: Well written piece.

Investigative Reporting

Division A

First Place: *Green Bay Press-Gazette*, ‘First came sex abuse allegations at the abbey. Then secret payments. Then a suicide.’ - Haley BeMiller. Judge’s Comments: This is an amazing piece of reporting which exposes the evils perpetrated by a trusted institution. The author demonstrates bravery and passion for their work, and pays appropriate tribute to the victims by telling their story in an unblinking fashion. This piece could have easily been selected as the winner. The author should be proud of the work they have done.

Second Place: *La Crosse Tribune*, ‘Library staff felt ‘threatened’ after GOP candidate complained about Pride Month display’ - Olivia Herken. Judge’s Comments: Incredible work. Timely and impactful due to the ongoing congressional campaign. Very well-written. Author gives the sense that they told a

story that would not have been told without them. Excellent work.

Third Place: *Kenosha News*, ‘Victim Safe house up for Sale’ - Deneen Smith. Judge’s Comments: Excellent reporting which provides insight to an often overlooked situation. Solid all the way around. Author demonstrates excellent research ability, and masterfully tells a complete story.

Honorable Mention: USA TODAY NETWORK-Wisconsin, ‘American Indians incarcerated at among highest rates in Wisconsin,

FIRST CAME SEX ABUSE CLAIMS AT THE ABBEY.
THEN SECRET PAYMENTS. THEN A SUICIDE.

THEN SECRET PAYMENTS. THEN A SUICIDE.

THE cards arrived every month. • They often had a tranquil photo on the front, a snow-covered scene or a depiction of Jesus in a stained-glass window. The letter's author wrote in messy cursive as he discussed the Green Bay Packers, family events or his "frozen" Toyota Camry that required a new battery. • The writer, a top clergyman in the Green Bay area, often ended his messages with "God Bless." • Inside each card, Nate Lindstrom would find a check for \$3,500 from the Norbertines of St. Norbert Abbey in De Pere.

See NATE, Page 6A

Above: Nate Lindstrom works on his garden in August 2010 at his house in Ramsey, Minnesota. (PHOTO: KHAJUSIA TODAY NETWORK-WISCONSIN)

Above left: Nate Lindstrom with James Stein, a former priest at St. Norbert Abbey in De Pere. COURTESY OF NATE LINDSTROM

Right: A check for \$3,500 made out to Lindstrom from the Norbertines of St. Norbert Abbey. COURTESY OF NATE LINDSTROM

Bottom right: A letter to Lindstrom from the Law Firm of Conway, Olejniczak & Jerry, S.C. dated July 10, 2018, states financial support from St. Norbert Abbey will not be extended. COURTESY OF NATE LINDSTROM (PHOTO)

Investigative Reporting, First Place (Division A)
Green Bay Press-Gazette

as many as half the inmates in some jails' - Frank Vaisvilas. Judge's Comments: Excellent piece which illustrates the difficulties experienced by an often under-represented group of people. Author demonstrates strong research and story-telling skills. Solid piece. **Competition Comments:** This category was extremely difficult to judge. Several pieces could have easily been chosen as "the best." If the country at large isn't taking notice of the journalism being conducted by Wisconsin's investigative reporters, they most certainly should be.

Division B

First Place: *Stevens Point Journal*, 'Officers had concerns about former police chief's drinking'; 'Council leader 'disgusted''; 'Stevens Point Police and Fire Commission defends itself' - Alan Hovorka, Karen Madden. Judge's Comments: The depth of the reporting on this story puts this entry over the top. **Second Place:** *Marshfield News-Herald*, 'Police chief on leave'; 'Officials frustrated'; 'Police Chief faces sexual assault charges' - Karen Madden, Melissa Siegler. **Third Place:** *The Freeman*, 'Questions remain about board vacancy process' - Jake Ekdahl.

Division C

First Place: *The Lakeland Times*, 'Bangstad finance report doesn't balance' - Richard Moore. Judge's Comments: Excellent work. It's always important to keep our lawmakers honest, especially when it comes to finances. **Second Place:** *Lake Country Now*, 'New documents in Roundy's shooting give insight into shooter's actions' - Evan Frank, Elliot Hughes. Judge's Comments:

Interesting and very well-written. This story offers some important context to a tragic event. Good use of records.



Powder keg: Right-wing activists, armed with guns, increase protest tensions as Election Day approaches

By Steven Elbow
Sep 30/2020

Enterprise/Interpretive Reporting, First Place (Division A)
The Cap Times, Madison



Wausau declared February Black History Month. Black residents say it's time for changes, not just declarations

Allison Garfield, Wausau Daily Herald
Published 6:26 AM CST Feb. 24, 2021 | Updated 4:22 PM CST Feb. 24, 2021

Enterprise/Interpretive Reporting, First Place (Division B)
Wausau Daily Herald

Third Place: *Wausau Pilot and Review*, 'Former Weston administrator cleared of 2 charges, resolution reached in Rhinelander

misconduct case' - Shereen Siewert. Judge's Comments: Great use of open records to dig deeper into this story.

Honorable Mention: *The Press Times*, 'Connectivity issues: Benefits questioned for South Bridge Connector project' - John McCracken, Ben Rodgers. Judge's Comments: An excellent look at the pros and cons of this major transportation project.

Division D

First Place: *Ashland Daily Press*, '\$40K missing from Ashland County Jail' - Peter Wasson, Rick Olivo. Judge's Comments: We love that the reporters never gave up on this story. The hard work paid off. This is well written, and well researched. The FOI requests and the abundance of sources really makes this story work.

Second Place: *The Record-Review*, 'False promises'; 'Village of Marathon disputes TIF analysis'; 'No comment from Wisconsin officials' - Peter Weinschenk. Judge's Comments: It's obvious a lot of time went into this. Solid research and succinct reporting really makes this piece stand out.

Third Place: *The Northwoods River News*, 'Frederickson's campaign treasurer is walking quorum judge's son' - Richard Moore. Judge's Comments: This is a very interesting, fact-filled piece. Tighter editing would have improved the piece. The information was all there, but not always easy to digest. **Honorable Mention:** *The Portage County Gazette*, 'The hidden face of homelessness in central Wisconsin' - Kris Leonhardt. Judge's Comments: Great information and excellent research. The article could be improved by personalizing the information more.

Enterprise/ Interpretive Reporting

Division A

First Place: *The Cap Times*, ‘Powder keg: Right-wing activists, armed with guns, increase protest tensions as Election Day approaches’ - Steven Elbow. Judge’s Comments: Writer does an excellent job of setting mood in this piece via growth of militias. Also, provides balance in probing extremism on both sides of the draw.

Likewise, authentic and diverse voices even within the narrow bands of the far right and left.

Second Place: *The Cap Times*, ‘Balancing act: Fundraising for renovations to Madison high schools prompts questions of fairness’ - Scott Girard. Judge’s Comments: Can’t help but believe this was not well read throughout the circulation area as the rich get richer in local school districts. Excellent examination and explanation of how and why the inequities exist and what is being attempted to level the playing field. An informative read.

Third Place: USA TODAY NETWORK-Wisconsin, ‘Unaffordable: No Place to Call Home’ - Jeff Bollier, Natalie Brophy, Nusaiba Mizan. Judge’s Comments: Ambitious project that used situations of a cast of characters as the vehicle

to tell a story about the cost of housing. Those voices and their individual set of circumstances made the entire series of stories approachable and relatable. Nice concept, excellent execution. **Honorable Mention:** *The Cap Times*, ‘Dreams on the line: Many business owners of color were already operating with little room for error. And then the pandemic hit.’ - Natalie Yahr. Judge’s Comments: Excellent story that lays bare the problem racial minority business men and, especially, women face with keeping a business up and running during a tough economic

time when they do not have the same credit profile – or even access to credit or credit history – as their white counterparts. This is a great read – an important read.

Competition Comments: A deep and competitive category with expert storytellers handling topical and engaging stories – all of which had a great sense of immediacy and importance. Most all of these stories

were simultaneously revealing and engaging – and well worth the read.

Division B

First Place: *Wausau Daily Herald*, ‘Wausau declared February Black History Month’; ‘Leaders condemn violence’; ‘Community for All’ back to drawing board’ - Allison Garfield, Renee Hickman. Judge’s

AMIDST DOOR COUNTY’S AFFLUENCE, WORKING FAMILIES STRUGGLE TO FIND AFFORDABLE HOUSING



Rent for a two-bedroom apartment at the Bay Lofts in downtown Sturgeon Bay starts at \$1,600. Like most apartment buildings in Door County, it has no vacant units. USA TODAY NETWORK-WISCONSIN

Daphne Lemke Door County Advocate | USA TODAY NETWORK - WISCONSIN

In a community funded by tourism and affluence, much of Door County’s year-round and seasonal workforce is struggling to live comfortably. Resorts, seasonal rentals and second or third homes dominate the land, but without more affordable housing, the county could lose many of its employees.

According to a 2019 housing report by Housing Door County, three of the biggest forces driving the county’s demand for housing since 2010 are job growth; an expansion of tourism, particularly in northern Door County; and a heightened interest in second homes, especially for people in their 50s or 60s whose income is higher than the national median household income. Many homes in the county – almost 10,000 as of 2019 – are in seasonal use but not rented. Based on interviews conducted as part of the report, some are empty year-round due to aging or busy owners and have the potential to support workforce housing.

Door County Land Use Services Department Director Mariah Goode said part of the housing problem is tied to construction costs, which have climbed higher

due to the coronavirus pandemic and shortage of materials, slowing the construction of new housing.

However, the pandemic did not stop a surge in the real estate market.

“People don’t even bother putting up ‘for sale’ signs here,” Goode said. “Something lists, and within a day, there’s multiple showings and multiple offers.”

Paige Funkhouser, now the Door County Maritime Museum’s community engagement manager, moved from Southern California to Sturgeon Bay in 2003, when housing was a little easier to find. A few years later, just before the recession hit in 2008, she moved further up the peninsula to the Gibraltar area, and

See HOUSING, Page 2A

'It's pure hell': As more people stayed home in 2020, domestic violence incidents skyrocketed in southeast Wisconsin



Erik S. Hanley

Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

Published 11:41 a.m. CT March 24, 2021 | Updated 7:56 p.m. CT March 26, 2021

View Comments



The Sojourner Family Peace Center at 619 W. Walnut St., Milwaukee, offers services to victims of domestic violence. Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

“He had a Ph.D.; he was a really good-looking middle school English teacher. I was divorced and had three little kids.”

“Soon I became pregnant with his child because he really wanted a baby. That’s when the emotional and verbal abuse started.”

“The first time it turned physical he threw me down a flight of stairs when I was seven months pregnant.”

This is the story of Jennifer Moston, a domestic violence survivor from Waukesha County. Moston left for work in a suit every day, met with clients – and then came home to a completely different life. The Milwaukee Journal Sentinel is naming Moston because she agreed to be identified for this story.

Enterprise/Interpretive Reporting, First Place (Division C)
South Now, Milwaukee

Enterprise/Interpretive Reporting, First Place (Division D)
Door County Advocate, Sturgeon Bay

Comments: The reason this entry took first place is due to numerous factors. The importance of this subject to those in the coverage area and to those nationwide is huge. Each article was incredibly well-written and told the story from beginning to end. Thoroughness and research. And each article is an engaging read. Overall, the work is excellent.

Second Place: *Daily Jefferson County Union*, 'Firefighters: They answer the call, but who answers their call for help?'; 'Generation Next'; 'Staffing calls' - Craig Spsychalla, Pam Chickering Wilson. Judge's Comments: I wish there could be two first place finishes. As rules go, though, there could be only one. This series of articles highlighted an important, and frightening, aspect of what can happen when local volunteer fire departments experience a shortage of personnel. However, they also documented what local leaders are doing to address the problem. The articles are well-written. The quotes from those directly involved in the issue are amazing choices that really highlight the struggle for these firefighters/EMS/police officers. Additionally, the photography used is phenomenal. The only reason this entry did not make first place is that, at times, additional clarification is needed.

Third Place: *Baraboo News Republic*, 'School transparency on COVID cases' - Susan Endres. Judge's Comments: Excellent coverage of an important issue. The articles addressed the difficult time that school personnel had in deciding how to keep the public informed, yet maintain privacy for students and staff. The articles were told in an unbiased way and presented multiple viewpoints of those directly involved. Each article was well-written and detailed. Information was provided to let readers

know where to find dashboard information on COVID cases. The author wasn't afraid to ask school leaders the tough questions.

Honorable Mention: *The Sheboygan Press*, 'When police respond to people in mental health crises, the outcomes can be fatal. Some departments are taking a different approach.' - Diana Dombrowski. Judge's Comments: The author's heart was in this article, but a lot could have been said in less words. This would have been a great multi-article series. Focus on one aspect of the story and really make it hit home. I kept wanting to read more about the local impact of this shooting. I wanted to know what residents thought and what numerous officers thought. I wanted to read about how dangerous this situation would have been for a crisis counselor to respond to. It was still a great piece, though. I commend the author.

Division C

First Place: *South Now*, 'It's pure hell': As more people stayed home in 2020, domestic violence incidents skyrocketed in southeast Wisconsin' - Erik Hanley. Judge's Comments: Great article, and so true. Way to bring it out.

Second Place: *The Press Times*, 'Rising referendums: School funding 101'; 'Large districts spend big'; 'Spending big in the suburbs'; 'Competing sides search for solutions' - Ben Rodgers, Heather Graves. Judge's Comments: Nice job. School funding is always a touchy subject, but you explained it well.

Third Place: *Superior Telegram*, 'Detectives dive into 1966 murder of 14-year-old paperboy' - Maria Lockwood. Judge's Comments: Great story. It was very interesting and kept me glued to the end.

Division D

First Place: *Door County Advocate*, 'Amidst Door County's rich tourism industry, working families struggle to find suitable, affordable housing' - Daphne Lemke. Judge's Comments: The category had some very solid and well-done entries. This one topped the field with solid reporting and a detailed view of what is happening with area housing. The overview of the issue was very comprehensive. The real-life examples were quite powerful. Great story organization. Writing flowed well. Thanks for wonderful work!
Second Place: *Ashland Daily Press*, 'Ambulance service lost' - Rick Olivo. Judge's Comments: The loss of ambulance service can be catastrophic for small communities. The package of stories was very well done. I liked the example of people needing emergency medical service, and those needing training. Great work.

Third Place: *Sun Prairie Star*, 'We aren't homeless enough to get help' - Jennifer Fetterly. Judge's Comments: This was a very powerful entry, with its focus on not being homeless enough and its attention to the plight of these people.

Honorable Mention: *The Record-Review*, 'The Cost of TIF' - Peter Weinschenk. Judge's Comments: I liked the details and what TIF can really cost.

Competition Comments: The category had some very strong entries and I would have awarded a couple more places if I could have. At a time when newsrooms have made staff cutbacks and we're all doing so much more with less, it's pretty amazing to see papers dedicating the staff time and resources to such detailed coverage. Great work!

Division E

First Place: *The Freedom Pursuit*, 'Health Series: Bipolar; ADHD; CP; T1Diabetes' - Angie Griepentrog. Judge's Comments: Starting reading this series and you won't stop. The series is composed of health-related stories on people with unusual diseases. What are the diseases, how are they treated, what do they do to you, how can you coop with them? The goal is for readers to better understand the health issues and how to deal with them. The stories are well written and include research, clarity, thoroughness, and observations from persons with the issues. The series stands out from other stories.

Second Place: *Oconto County Reporter*, 'Why did I fall for that?' Oconto victim recounts how she was scammed' - Kent Tempus. Judge's Comments: Scammers often make the news and most people are aware of them. But do you know how much money is paid to scammers? Ever been contacted by one? In what ways do scammers work? This series gives personal accounts of people scammed by thousands of dollars and scares you with the amounts of money turned over to scammers. Lots of research, thoroughness, and many factual informations are included. Read this and you'll report your scam callers or hang up on them.

Third Place: *Crawford County Independent & The Kickapoo Scout*, 'Pursuit of broadband internet for Crawford County' - Charley Preusser. Judge's Comments: This series of stories on looking at broadband clearly caters on a issue or trend, and it contains research and analysis. The writer talked to many people and attended a number of commission meetings to keep the issue alive. No doubt there is

coverage and thoroughness. Facts and figures, money, and material needs are presented. The coverage perhaps was a cause of the stories becoming so detailed and perhaps caused a company officer to criticize his coverage In the paper. No one

can say the issue was not covered. **Honorable Mention:** *The Courier*, 'Slight number of COVID-19 cases found in local public schools' - Amber Gerber. Judge's Comments: COVID-19 cases are down and school actions remain constant in

keeping children safe. That news, fewer nursing calls, the actions in effect, and comments from school leaders gave readers a good look at the school situation. In addition, a lengthy list showing two years of actions was included. The writer included research, analysis, clarity, and needed information in her story. Story reads well.

Competition Comments: An unusual range of stories and some grabbed my attention. Excellence in reporting on an original topic headed the instruction on evaluating the entries and all stories met that qualification. Some entries contained more research, analysis, and more coverage than others. One series caught my attention and its nature and talking with the people impressed me. I'm confident most people would read it. Another series showed its coverage and the amount of research done. Overall, I think you will find things you will like in each story or series.

Environmental Reporting

Division A

First Place: *Leader-Telegram*, 'Seven Mile Creek Landfill stories' - Ryan Patterson.

Second Place: *Wisconsin State Journal*, 'Enbridge pipeline leak' - Chris Hubbuch.

Third Place: *The Post-Crescent*, 'No Mow May returns to Appleton to promote bee-friendly habitat, but council rejects extension into June' - Duke Behnke.

Honorable Mention: *Green Bay Press-Gazette*, 'The bay of Green Bay, the world's largest freshwater estuary, could become a national reserve to protect its waters and habitats' - Madeline Heim.

Division B

First Place: *The Reporter*, 'How can farmers help protect Wisconsin waters? Some in Fond du Lac, Outagamie counties are experimenting' - Sharon Roznik.

Second Place: *Daily Globe*, 'Spring planting' - Tom LaVenture.

Third Place: *The Freeman*, 'County environmental group protecting mussels' - Nikki Brahm.

Honorable Mention: *The Freeman*, 'Orchard Ridge Landfill seeking DNR approval' - Nikki Brahm.

Division C

First Place: *Wausau Pilot and Review*, 'Latest tests show significant contamination on Thomas Street-area property'; 'New Wausau Riverside Park soil tests show wider area of contamination'; 'High concentrations of thallium, a heavy metal toxic to humans, detected on Wausau property' - Shereen Siewert. Judge's Comments: The reader of this newspaper should be thankful for the efforts that produced such a comprehensive and important series on a critical issue.

Second Place: *Peninsula Pulse*, 'Your Litter, Everyone's Problem' - Craig Sterrett. Judge's Comments: An interesting account of action being taken locally to combat an issue of importance to the whole planet.

Third Place: *The Press Times*, 'Brown County birders have no shortage of options' - Ben Rodgers. Judge's Comments: A good piece to let people know how they can become involved in an interesting pastime.

Honorable Mention: *Vilas County News-Review*, 'Loon catastrophe' - Michelle Drew. Judge's Comments: Good information for those interested in helping save local waterfowl.

Farmers pioneer innovative practices



Chad Tasch plants corn seed in an untilled field of cereal rye along St. Paul Road near Pipe. Instead of plowing, the roots of the rye help to loosen the soil while the no-till planter makes a furrow and quickly covers up the seed.

PHOTOS BY DOUG RAFLIK/USA TODAY NETWORK-WISCONSIN

Sights set on protecting soil and waterways

Sharon Roznik Fond du Lac Reporter
USA TODAY NETWORK - WISCONSIN

FOND DU LAC - Water is inextricably linked to life, and the need to protect Wisconsin's valuable natural resource is evident in far-reaching environmental lawsuits before the state Supreme Court that focus on protecting drinking water from agricultural pollution.

Runoff from barnyards, areas spread with livestock manure, eroding agricultural lands and streambanks, cattle accessing those streams and other poor land-use practices are all sources of contamination for waterways that flow through the state's 34,000 miles of river into 15,000 lakes and millions of wetland acres.

In one lawsuit, environmental groups, along with neighbors of Kinnard Farms, a concentrated animal feeding operation known as a "CAFO," with 8,200 cows east of Green Bay, are challenging a permit that allows for expansion of the

See FARMERS, Page 6A



Specialized farm machinery allow farmers to plant the corn directly into the residue from last year's cash crops. The practice reduces erosion and soil runoff, retains moisture in the soil and increases organic matter that contains nutrients.

Environmental Reporting, First Place (Division B)
The Reporter, Fond du Lac

Amery Free Press

Second Place.....Best Special Section (Editorial)
 Third Place.....Breaking News Reporting
 Honorable Mention...Feature Story (Non-profile)

Ashland Daily Press

First Place Investigative Reporting
 First Place Reporting on Local Government
 First Place Local Column
 Second Place...Enterprise/Interpretive Reporting
 Third Place.....Environmental Reporting
 Third Place.....Ongoing/Extended Coverage
 Honorable Mention.....Breaking News Reporting
 Honorable Mention..... Local Outdoor Column

Baraboo News Republic

Third Place.....Enterprise/Interpretive Reporting

Barron News-Shield

First PlaceEnvironmental Reporting
 Second Place..... Sports Feature Story
 Second Place..... Reporting on Local Government
 Third Place..... Coronavirus Coverage
 Third Place..... Business Coverage
 Honorable Mention.....Editorial Award
 Honorable Mention.....Environmental Reporting

Beloit Daily News

First PlaceLocal Column
 First Place Best Multiple Advertiser Spread
 First Place Best Niche Product
 Second Place.....Editorial Award
 Second Place.....Breaking News Reporting
 Third Place..... Best Front Page
 Third Place..... Best Feature/Lifestyle Pages
 Third Place.....Spot News Photo
 Third Place..... Overall Page Design
 Third Place.....Best Newspaper Promotion
 Third Place..... Best Special Section (Advertising)
 Honorable Mention..... Best Sports Pages
 Honorable Mention.....Breaking News Reporting

Courier Press, Prairie du Chien

First Place Best Multiple Advertiser Spread
 Second Place..... Best Large Ad
 Honorable MentionBest Special Section (Editorial)
 Honorable Mention..... Best Small Ad
 Honorable Mention.....Best Use of Art Service

Courier Sentinel, Cornell

First PlaceBest Headlines
 First Place Best Large Ad

Second Place.....Editorial Award
 Second Place..... Visual Storytelling
 Third Place..... Best Restaurant Ad
 Third Place..... Best Small Ad
 Third Place..... Best Use of Humor
 Honorable Mention.....Best Opinion Pages
 Honorable MentionBest Multiple Advertiser Spread
 Honorable Mention...Best Newspaper Promotion
 Honorable Mention..... Best Special Section
 (Advertising)

Crawford County Independent & The Kickapoo Scout, Gays Mills

First Place Feature Story (Profile)
 First PlaceOngoing/Extended Coverage
 First Place Business Coverage
 First PlaceLocal Column
 Second Place.....Environmental Reporting
 Second Place..... Coronavirus Coverage
 Second Place.....General News Photo
 Second Place..... Artistic Photo
 Second Place.....Photo Essay
 Third Place..... Community Engagement Award
 Third Place..... Localized National Story
 Third Place.....Enterprise/Interpretive Reporting
 Third Place..... Reporting on Local Government
 Third Place.....Spot News Photo
 Third Place.....Photo Essay
 Honorable Mention.....Best Headlines
 Honorable Mention..... Business Coverage

Daily Globe, Ironwood

First PlaceBill Payne Award
 First Place Best Restaurant Ad
 First Place Best Real Estate Ad
 First PlaceBest Use of Art Service
 First PlaceBest Newspaper Promotion
 Second Place.....Environmental Reporting
 Second Place..... Best Large Ad
 Second Place..... Best Use of Color
 Second Place... Best Special Section (Advertising)
 Third Place.....Best Special Section (Editorial)
 Third Place.....Sports News Story
 Third Place..... Coronavirus Coverage
 Third Place..... Best Multiple Advertiser Spread
 Third Place..... Best Niche Product
 Honorable Mention.....General News Photo
 Honorable Mention..... Sports Action Photo
 Honorable Mention.....Best Grocery Ad
 Honorable Mention..... Best Small Ad

Daily Jefferson County Union, Fort Atkinson

First PlaceBest Special Section (Editorial)
 First PlaceBreaking News Reporting

First Place Coronavirus Coverage
 Second Place.....General News Story
 Second Place..... Sports Feature Story
 Second Place...Enterprise/Interpretive Reporting
 Second Place..... Coronavirus Coverage
 Second Place.....Spot News Photo
 Third Place..... Best Sports Pages
 Third Place.....Feature Story (Non-profile)
 Third Place..... Reporting on Local Education
 Third Place.....Local Column
 Third Place.....General News Photo
 Honorable Mention..... Feature Story (Profile)
 Honorable Mention..... Localized National Story

Daily News, West Bend

First PlaceBest Headlines

Daily Tribune, Wisconsin Rapids

First PlaceOngoing/Extended Coverage
 Third Place..... Sports Action Photo

Dodge County Pioneer, Mayville

Second Place..... Sports Feature Photo
 Second Place..... Feature Photo

Door County Advocate, Sturgeon Bay

First PlaceEnterprise/Interpretive Reporting
 First Place Business Coverage
 Second Place..... Business Coverage

EagleHerald, Marinette

First Place Feature Story (Profile)
 First PlaceSports News Story
 First Place Artistic Photo
 First PlacePhoto Essay
 First PlaceBest Grocery Ad
 First Place Best Large Ad
 First Place Best Small Ad
 First Place Best Use of Humor
 Second Place..... Feature Photo
 Second Place..... Overall Page Design
 Second Place.....Bill Payne Award
 Second Place.....Best Grocery Ad
 Second Place..... Best Restaurant Ad
 Second Place..... Best Multiple Advertiser Spread
 Second Place.....Best Use of Art Service
 Second Place.....Best Newspaper Promotion
 Second Place..... Best Niche Product
 Third Place.....Ongoing/Extended Coverage
 Third Place..... Feature Photo
 Third Place.....Best Grocery Ad
 Third Place..... Best Small Ad
 Third Place..... Best Use of Color

Honorable Mention Best Special Section (Editorial)
 Honorable Mention..... General News Story
 Honorable Mention..... Feature Photo

Fennimore Times

Third Place..... Best Front Page
 Third Place..... Local Column
 Third Place..... Best Multiple Advertiser Spread
 Honorable Mention..... General News Story

Grant County Herald Independent, Lancaster

First Place Sports Feature Story
 First Place Reporting on Local Government
 First Place Photo Essay
 First Place Best Small Ad
 First Place Best Ad Idea (Series)
 First Place Best Use of Color
 First Place Best Multiple Advertiser Spread
 Second Place..... Best Sports Pages
 Second Place..... Best Use of Color
 Second Place... Best Special Section (Advertising)
 Honorable Mention..... Coronavirus Coverage

Green Bay Press-Gazette

First Place General News Story
 First Place Feature Story (Profile)
 First Place Breaking News Reporting
 First Place Investigative Reporting
 First Place Rookie Reporter of the Year
 First Place General News Photo
 First Place Best Video
 Second Place..... Reporting on Local Education
 Second Place..... Photo Essay
 Third Place..... General Excellence
 Third Place..... Ongoing/Extended Coverage
 Third Place..... Reporting on Local Government
 Third Place..... Sports Action Photo
 Honorable Mention..... Feature Story (Profile)
 Honorable Mention..... Environmental Reporting
 Honorable Mention..... Local Column

Herald Times Reporter, Manitowoc

First Place Sports Feature Story
 First Place Reporting on Local Government
 Second Place..... Reporting on Local Education
 Second Place..... Local Column
 Third Place..... Community Engagement Award
 Third Place..... Localized National Story
 Third Place..... Business Coverage
 Honorable Mention..... Coronavirus Coverage
 Honorable Mention..... Best Video

Juneau County Star-Times, Mauston

First Place Coronavirus Coverage

Kenosha News

Second Place..... Best Special Section (Editorial)
 Third Place..... Investigative Reporting
 Honorable Mention..... Best Front Page

La Crosse Tribune

First Place Localized National Story
 Second Place..... Investigative Reporting
 Second Place..... Ongoing/Extended Coverage
 Honorable Mention..... Editorial Award
 Honorable Mention..... General News Story

Ladysmith News

First Place Editorial Award
 Second Place..... Best Headlines
 Third Place..... Localized National Story

Lake Country Now, Milwaukee

Second Place..... Breaking News Reporting
 Second Place..... Investigative Reporting
 Second Place..... Sports Feature Photo
 Second Place..... Feature Photo
 Third Place..... Reporting on Local Education
 Third Place..... Feature Photo

Lake Geneva Regional News

First Place General Excellence
 First Place Best Front Page
 First Place Best Opinion Pages
 First Place Breaking News Reporting
 First Place Feature Photo
 First Place Artistic Photo
 First Place Best Video
 First Place Best Grocery Ad
 Third Place..... Sports News Story
 Third Place..... Sports Feature Story
 Third Place..... Feature Photo
 Honorable Mention.. Best Feature/Lifestyle Pages
 Honorable Mention..... Artistic Photo
 Honorable Mention..... Best Niche Product

Lake Mills Leader

Second Place..... Feature Story (Non-profile)
 Third Place..... Sports Feature Story

Leader-Telegram, Eau Claire

First Place Sports News Story
 First Place Environmental Reporting

First Place Reporting on Local Government
 First Place Local Column
 First Place Artistic Photo
 First Place Best Special Section (Advertising)
 Second Place..... Best Front Page
 Second Place..... Best Sports Pages
 Second Place..... Feature Story (Profile)
 Second Place..... Localized National Story
 Second Place..... Coronavirus Coverage
 Second Place..... Feature Photo
 Third Place..... General News Story
 Third Place..... Feature Story (Profile)
 Third Place..... Reporting on Local Education
 Third Place..... Local Sports Column
 Third Place..... Photo Essay
 Honorable Mention..... General Excellence
 Honorable Mention..... Sports Feature Story

Lodi Enterprise and Poynette Press

First Place Feature Story (Non-profile)
 Third Place..... Feature Story (Non-profile)

Marshfield News-Herald

Second Place..... Localized National Story
 Second Place..... Investigative Reporting

Monroe County Herald

First Place Best Special Section (Editorial)
 First Place Overall Page Design
 Second Place..... Best Sports Pages
 Third Place..... Overall Page Design
 Honorable Mention... Feature Story (Non-profile)
 Honorable Mention..... Sports News Story
 Honorable Mention..... Sports Feature Story
 Honorable Mention..... Photo Essay

News Graphic, Cedarburg

Honorable Mention..... General Excellence

North Shore Now, Milwaukee

First Place Reporting on Local Education
 First Place Sports Feature Photo
 Second Place..... Sports Action Photo
 Second Place..... Photo Gallery
 Third Place..... Sports Feature Story
 Honorable Mention..... Photo Gallery

Northwest Now, Milwaukee

First Place Sports Feature Story
 First Place Sports Action Photo
 Third Place..... Feature Story (Profile)
 Third Place..... Breaking News Reporting

Awards by Newspaper

Oconomowoc Enterprise

First Place Sports Feature Story
Second Place..... Local Sports Column

Oconto County Reporter

First Place General News Story
Second Place..... General News Story
Second Place.... Enterprise/Interpretive Reporting
Honorable Mention Ongoing/Extended Coverage

Oshkosh Northwestern

First Place Open Records/FOI Award
First Place Photo Gallery
Second Place..... Business Coverage

Peninsula Pulse, Baileys Harbor

First Place Best Front Page
First Place Best Feature/Lifestyle Pages
First Place Reporting on Local Government
First Place Bill Payne Award
First Place Best Restaurant Ad
First Place Best Small Ad
First Place Best Ongoing Niche Publication
Second Place..... Best Special Section (Editorial)
Second Place..... Feature Story (Non-profile)
Second Place..... Feature Story (Profile)
Second Place..... Environmental Reporting
Second Place..... Local Column
Second Place..... Overall Page Design
Second Place..... Best Grocery Ad
Second Place..... Best Real Estate Ad
Second Place..... Best Large Ad
Second Place..... Best Ad Idea (Series)
Second Place..... Best Use of Color
Second Place..... Best Niche Product
Third Place..... General Excellence
Third Place..... Local Column
Third Place..... Sports Feature Photo
Honorable Mention..... Best Opinion Pages
Honorable Mention..... Editorial Award
Honorable Mention..... General News Story
Honorable Mention..... Breaking News Reporting
Honorable Mention Ongoing/Extended Coverage
Honorable Mention..... Reporting on Local Government
Honorable Mention Reporting on Local Education
Honorable Mention..... Artistic Photo
Honorable Mention..... Best Video
Honorable Mention Best Use of Local Photography

Ripon Commonwealth Press

First Place General Excellence

First Place Sports News Story
First Place Rookie Reporter of the Year
First Place Overall Page Design
Second Place..... Best Headlines
Second Place..... Localized National Story
Second Place..... Ongoing/Extended Coverage
Third Place..... Best Sports Pages
Third Place..... General News Story
Third Place..... Environmental Reporting

Sawyer County Record, Hayward

First Place Photo Essay
Second Place..... Coronavirus Coverage
Third Place..... Feature Story (Non-profile)
Third Place..... Local Column

South Now, Milwaukee

First Place Feature Story (Profile)
First Place Enterprise/Interpretive Reporting
Second Place..... Ongoing/Extended Coverage
Honorable Mention..... Feature Photo

Southwest Now, Milwaukee

First Place Coronavirus Coverage
First Place Feature Photo
Second Place..... Business Coverage

Spooner Advocate

First Place Best Special Section (Editorial)
First Place Local Outdoor Column
First Place General News Photo
First Place Sports Action Photo
First Place Sports Feature Photo
First Place Best Niche Product
Second Place..... Best Front Page
Second Place..... Spot News Photo
Third Place..... Local Sports Column
Honorable Mention..... Feature Photo
Honorable Mention..... Artistic Photo

Stevens Point Journal

First Place Investigative Reporting
First Place Reporting on Local Education
First Place Feature Photo
First Place Best Video
Second Place..... Feature Story (Non-profile)
Second Place..... Sports Feature Photo

Sun Prairie Star

First Place Best Sports Pages
First Place Best Special Section (Editorial)
First Place Editorial Award

First Place Reporting on Local Education
Second Place..... Best Feature/Lifestyle Pages
Second Place..... Open Records/FOI Award
Third Place..... Enterprise/Interpretive Reporting
Honorable Mention..... Best Front Page
Honorable Mention..... Feature Story (Profile)

Sun-Argus, Spring Valley

Second Place..... Business Coverage
Third Place..... Business Coverage

Superior Telegram

First Place Best Sports Pages
First Place .. All-Around Newspaper Photography
First Place Sports News Story
First Place Artistic Photo
First Place Photo Gallery
Second Place..... Best Opinion Pages
Second Place..... Localized National Story
Second Place..... Sports News Story
Second Place..... Sports Feature Story
Second Place..... Artistic Photo
Second Place..... Photo Essay
Second Place..... Best Video
Third Place..... Best Headlines
Third Place..... General News Story
Third Place..... Enterprise/Interpretive Reporting
Third Place..... Photo Gallery
Third Place..... Best Use of Local Photography
Honorable Mention..... Coronavirus Coverage
Honorable Mention..... Business Coverage
Honorable Mention..... Spot News Photo
Honorable Mention..... Sports Action Photo
Honorable Mention..... Sports Feature Photo

The Brillion News

Third Place..... Feature Story (Profile)
Honorable Mention..... Environmental Reporting

The Cambridge News and Deerfield Independent

First Place Open Records/FOI Award
Second Place..... General Excellence
Second Place..... Reporting on Local Education
Honorable Mention..... Editorial Award
Honorable Mention... Feature Story (Non-profile)
Honorable Mention..... Spot News Photo

The Cap Times, Madison

First Place Editorial Award
First Place Sports Feature Story
First Place Enterprise/Interpretive Reporting

First Place Photo Essay
 Second Place..... Breaking News Reporting
 Second Place.... Enterprise/Interpretive Reporting
 Second Place..... Visual Storytelling
 Third Place..... Sports Feature Story
 Third Place..... Breaking News Reporting
 Third Place..... Local Column
 Honorable Mention..... Enterprise/Interpretive Reporting
 Honorable Mention..... Reporting on Local Government
 Honorable Mention..... Photo Essay
 Honorable Mention..... Photo Gallery
 Honorable Mention..... Visual Storytelling

The Chetek Alert

First Place Best Newspaper Promotion
 First Place Best Special Section (Advertising)
 First Place Best Niche Product
 Second Place..... Best Front Page
 Second Place..... Community Engagement Award
 Second Place..... Feature Story (Profile)
 Second Place..... Local Outdoor Column
 Third Place..... Best Video
 Third Place..... Best Grocery Ad
 Third Place..... Best Ad Idea (Series)
 Third Place..... Best Multiple Advertiser Spread
 Honorable Mention..... General Excellence

The Chippewa Herald, Chippewa Falls

First Place Best Sports Pages
 Second Place..... Sports News Story
 Second Place..... Photo Essay
 Third Place..... Sports Feature Story
 Third Place..... Photo Gallery
 Honorable Mention..... Sports News Story
 Honorable Mention..... Local Sports Column
 Honorable Mention..... Photo Gallery

The Chronotype, Rice Lake

Honorable Mention..... Business Coverage

The Courier, Waterloo

Second Place..... Sports Feature Story
 Honorable Mention..... Enterprise/Interpretive Reporting

The Edgerton Reporter

First Place Editorial Award
 First Place Environmental Reporting
 First Place Best Special Section (Advertising)

Third Place..... Best Special Section (Editorial)
 Third Place..... Editorial Award
 Third Place..... Best Special Section (Advertising)

The Freedom Pursuit

First Place Enterprise/Interpretive Reporting
 Second Place..... Feature Story (Profile)
 Second Place..... Local Column
 Second Place..... Sports Action Photo
 Second Place..... Sports Feature Photo
 Honorable Mention..... Sports Action Photo

The Freeman, Waukesha

Second Place..... Ongoing/Extended Coverage
 Third Place..... Breaking News Reporting
 Third Place..... Investigative Reporting
 Third Place..... Environmental Reporting
 Honorable Mention..... Open Records/FOI Award
 Honorable Mention..... Environmental Reporting
 Honorable Mention..... Reporting on Local Education

The Gazette, Janesville

First Place Best Front Page
 First Place Best Feature/Lifestyle Pages
 First Place Spot News Photo
 First Place Feature Photo
 First Place Photo Gallery
 First Place Overall Page Design
 First Place Best Use of Color
 Second Place..... Best Headlines
 Second Place..... Open Records/FOI Award
 Second Place..... Sports News Story
 Second Place..... Local Sports Column
 Second Place..... General News Photo
 Second Place..... Spot News Photo
 Second Place..... Photo Gallery
 Second Place..... Best Small Ad
 Third Place..... Best Headlines
 Third Place..... Coronavirus Coverage
 Honorable Mention... Feature Story (Non-profile)
 Honorable Mention..... Reporting on Local Education
 Honorable Mention..... Sports Action Photo
 Honorable Mention..... Artistic Photo
 Honorable Mention..... Overall Page Design
 Honorable Mention..... Best Special Section (Advertising)

The Herald-Independent and The McFarland Thistle

First Place General News Story
 First Place Feature Story (Profile)

The Journal Times, Racine

First Place Reporting on Local Education
 First Place Local Sports Column
 Second Place..... Sports Feature Story
 Second Place..... Reporting on Local Government
 Second Place..... Rookie Reporter of the Year
 Third Place..... Open Records/FOI Award
 Third Place..... Business Coverage
 Third Place..... General News Photo
 Third Place..... Best Video

The Lakeland Times, Minocqua

First Place Investigative Reporting
 First Place Best Large Ad
 First Place Best Use of Color
 First Place Best Use of Local Photography
 First Place Best Niche Product
 Second Place..... General Excellence
 Second Place..... Best Front Page
 Second Place..... Spot News Photo
 Second Place..... Best Multiple Advertiser Spread
 Second Place..... Best Use of Humor
 Second Place..... Best Newspaper Promotion
 Third Place..... General News Photo
 Third Place..... Artistic Photo
 Third Place..... Photo Essay
 Third Place..... Bill Payne Award
 Third Place..... Best Restaurant Ad
 Third Place..... Best Real Estate Ad
 Honorable Mention..... Local Column

The Monroe Times

First Place Best Headlines
 First Place Localized National Story
 First Place Sports News Story
 First Place Coronavirus Coverage
 First Place Local Sports Column
 First Place Spot News Photo
 First Place Photo Gallery
 First Place Visual Storytelling
 First Place Bill Payne Award
 First Place Best Restaurant Ad
 First Place Best Real Estate Ad
 First Place Best Small Ad
 Second Place..... General Excellence
 Second Place..... Rookie Reporter of the Year
 Second Place..... Photo Gallery
 Second Place..... Overall Page Design
 Second Place..... Bill Payne Award
 Second Place..... Best Restaurant Ad
 Second Place..... Best Small Ad
 Second Place..... Best Use of Color
 Second Place..... Best Use of Art Service

Awards by Newspaper

Second Place..... Best Use of Local Photography
 Second Place..... Best Newspaper Promotion
 Second Place... Best Special Section (Advertising)
 Second Place..... Best Niche Product
 Third Place..... Photo Essay
 Third Place..... Visual Storytelling
 Third Place..... Best Large Ad
 Third Place..... Best Small Ad
 Third Place..... Best Use of Color
 Third Place..... Best Newspaper Promotion
 Honorable Mention..... Best Headlines
 Honorable Mention..... Community Engagement Award
 Honorable Mention..... General News Story
 Honorable Mention..... Sports Feature Story
 Honorable Mention..... General News Photo
 Honorable Mention..... Spot News Photo
 Honorable Mention..... Sports Action Photo
 Honorable Mention..... Visual Storytelling
 Honorable Mention..... Best Restaurant Ad
 Honorable Mention..... Best Large Ad
 Honorable Mention..... Best Special Section (Advertising)

The Northwoods River News, Rhinelander

First Place Best Front Page
 First Place Best Sports Pages
 First Place Reporting on Local Education
 First Place Spot News Photo
 Second Place..... Sports News Story
 Second Place..... Breaking News Reporting
 Second Place..... Feature Photo
 Second Place..... Best Small Ad
 Third Place..... General Excellence
 Third Place..... Best Headlines
 Third Place..... Sports News Story
 Third Place..... Investigative Reporting
 Third Place..... Ongoing/Extended Coverage
 Third Place..... General News Photo
 Third Place..... Feature Photo
 Third Place..... Best Large Ad
 Honorable Mention Best Special Section (Editorial)
 Honorable Mention..... Reporting on Local Government
 Honorable Mention..... General News Photo
 Honorable Mention..... Sports Feature Photo
 Honorable Mention..... Photo Essay

The Oregon Observer

Honorable Mention Reporting on Local Education

The Pierce County Journal, Ellsworth

First Place Artistic Photo
 Second Place..... Reporting on Local Government

Second Place..... Best Large Ad
 Second Place..... Best Use of Local Photography
 Third Place..... Coronavirus Coverage
 Third Place..... Reporting on Local Education
 Third Place..... Best Niche Product
 Honorable Mention..... Feature Story (Profile)
 Honorable Mention..... Best Grocery Ad
 Honorable Mention..... Best Large Ad
 Honorable Mention..... Best Niche Product

The Platteville Journal

Second Place..... Best Opinion Pages
 Second Place..... Reporting on Local Education
 Second Place..... Best Ongoing Niche Publication
 Third Place..... General Excellence
 Third Place..... General News Story
 Third Place..... Overall Page Design
 Honorable Mention..... Sports News Story

The Portage County Gazette, Stevens Point

Third Place..... Feature Story (Profile)
 Honorable Mention..... Investigative Reporting

The Post-Crescent

First Place Feature Story (Non-profile)
 First Place Business Coverage
 First Place Sports Action Photo
 First Place Sports Feature Photo
 First Place Visual Storytelling
 Second Place..... General Excellence
 Second Place..... Best Feature/Lifestyle Pages
 Second Place..... Community Engagement Award
 Second Place..... Feature Story (Non-profile)
 Second Place..... Sports Action Photo
 Third Place..... Sports News Story
 Third Place..... Environmental Reporting
 Third Place..... Spot News Photo
 Third Place..... Sports Feature Photo
 Third Place..... Feature Photo
 Third Place..... Artistic Photo
 Third Place..... Photo Gallery
 Third Place..... Visual Storytelling
 Honorable Mention..... Breaking News Reporting
 Honorable Mention..... General News Photo
 Honorable Mention..... Spot News Photo
 Honorable Mention..... Sports Feature Photo

The Press Times, Green Bay

First Place General Excellence
 Second Place..... Enterprise/Interpretive Reporting
 Second Place..... Coronavirus Coverage
 Third Place..... Best Front Page

Third Place..... Best Opinion Pages
 Third Place..... Editorial Award
 Third Place..... Environmental Reporting
 Honorable Mention Best Special Section (Editorial)
 Honorable Mention..... Localized National Story
 Honorable Mention..... Investigative Reporting

The Record-Review, Edgar

First Place Feature Story (Non-profile)
 First Place Sports Action Photo
 First Place Sports Feature Photo
 First Place Best Large Ad
 Second Place..... Feature Story (Non-profile)
 Second Place..... Sports News Story
 Second Place..... Investigative Reporting
 Third Place..... Artistic Photo
 Third Place..... Best Niche Product
 Honorable Mention..... Enterprise/Interpretive Reporting
 Honorable Mention..... Local Column
 Honorable Mention..... Sports Feature Photo
 Honorable Mention..... Feature Photo
 Honorable Mention..... Best Use of Color

The Reporter, Fond du Lac

First Place Localized National Story
 First Place Environmental Reporting
 First Place Business Coverage
 Third Place..... Feature Story (Profile)
 Third Place..... Rookie Reporter of the Year

The Review, Plymouth

Third Place..... Best Sports Pages
 Third Place..... Best Headlines

The Sheboygan Press

Second Place..... Feature Story (Profile)
 Second Place..... Reporting on Local Government
 Second Place..... Sports Action Photo
 Second Place..... Artistic Photo
 Second Place..... Photo Gallery
 Second Place..... Best Video
 Third Place..... Best Video
 Honorable Mention..... Enterprise/Interpretive Reporting

The Star News, Medford

First Place Best Use of Color
 First Place Best Use of Local Photography
 First Place Best Use of Humor
 Second Place..... Best Sports Pages
 Second Place..... Editorial Award

Second Place..... Sports Action Photo
 Second Place..... Artistic Photo
 Second Place..... Photo Essay
 Third Place..... Best Opinion Pages
 Third Place..... Sports Action Photo
 Honorable Mention..... Coronavirus Coverage
 Honorable Mention..... Best Multiple Advertiser Spread

The Tribune-Phonograph, Abbotsford

First Place Localized National Story
 First Place Feature Photo
 First Place Best Use of Art Service
 First Place Best Use of Local Photography
 Second Place..... Best Special Section (Editorial)
 Second Place..... Best Multiple Advertiser Spread
 Second Place..... Best Niche Product
 Third Place..... Open Records/FOI Award
 Third Place..... Sports Action Photo
 Third Place..... Sports Feature Photo
 Third Place..... Artistic Photo
 Third Place..... Best Use of Color
 Honorable Mention..... Sports News Story
 Honorable Mention..... Sports Feature Story
 Honorable Mention..... Bill Payne Award

The Valders Journal

First Place General News Photo
 Second Place..... Best Headlines
 Second Place..... Environmental Reporting
 Second Place..... Spot News Photo
 Second Place..... Best Multiple Advertiser Spread
 Third Place..... Best Special Section (Editorial)
 Third Place..... Editorial Award
 Third Place..... All-Around Newspaper Photography
 Third Place..... Localized National Story
 Third Place..... Reporting on Local Education
 Third Place..... Spot News Photo
 Third Place..... Sports Feature Photo
 Third Place..... Best Special Section (Advertising)
 Honorable Mention..... Reporting on Local Government

The Waunakee Tribune

Second Place..... General News Story

Trempealeau County Times, Whitehall

Second Place..... Localized National Story
 Second Place..... Local Column
 Honorable Mention..... Local Sports Column

Tribune Record Gleaner, Loyal

Third Place..... Bill Payne Award

Third Place..... Best Use of Art Service

USA TODAY NETWORK-Wisconsin

First Place Community Engagement Award
 First Place Ongoing/Extended Coverage
 First Place Coronavirus Coverage
 Third Place..... Feature Story (Non-profile)
 Third Place..... Enterprise/Interpretive Reporting
 Honorable Mention..... Investigative Reporting

Vilas County News-Review, Eagle River

First Place Best Opinion Pages
 First Place Best Headlines
 First Place Community Engagement Award
 First Place Business Coverage
 First Place Local Column
 First Place Photo Essay
 First Place Best Multiple Advertiser Spread
 First Place Best Newspaper Promotion
 Second Place..... Editorial Award
 Second Place..... All-Around Newspaper Photography
 Second Place..... General News Photo
 Second Place..... Bill Payne Award
 Second Place..... Best Restaurant Ad
 Second Place..... Best Use of Local Photography
 Third Place..... Best Sports Pages
 Third Place..... Best Feature/Lifestyle Pages
 Third Place..... Best Special Section (Editorial)
 Third Place..... Local Outdoor Column
 Third Place..... Spot News Photo
 Third Place..... Best Large Ad
 Third Place..... Best Use of Color
 Third Place..... Best Newspaper Promotion
 Honorable Mention..... Feature Story (Profile)
 Honorable Mention..... Environmental Reporting
 Honorable Mention..... Bill Payne Award
 Honorable Mention..... Best Real Estate Ad
 Honorable Mention..... Best Use of Color

Watertown Daily Times

Third Place..... Reporting on Local Government
 Third Place..... Photo Essay
 Honorable Mention..... Business Coverage
 Honorable Mention..... Artistic Photo
 Honorable Mention..... Photo Essay
 Waukesha County Now
 First Place Spot News Photo
 Third Place..... Coronavirus Coverage

Waupaca County Post

Third Place..... Best Front Page

Third Place..... Reporting on Local Government

Wausau Daily Herald

First Place General News Story
 First Place Feature Story (Non-profile)
 First Place Enterprise/Interpretive Reporting
 First Place General News Photo
 First Place Spot News Photo
 First Place Sports Action Photo
 Second Place..... General News Photo
 Third Place..... General News Story
 Third Place..... Artistic Photo
 Honorable Mention..... Reporting on Local Government
 Honorable Mention..... Spot News Photo

Wausau Pilot and Review

First Place Environmental Reporting
 Second Place..... General News Story
 Second Place..... Reporting on Local Government
 Third Place..... Investigative Reporting

West Now, Milwaukee

First Place General News Story
 First Place Localized National Story
 First Place Breaking News Reporting
 First Place Ongoing/Extended Coverage
 Second Place..... Reporting on Local Education
 Third Place..... Sports News Story
 Third Place..... Reporting on Local Government
 Third Place..... Business Coverage
 Third Place..... Sports Action Photo

Wisconsin State Farmer, Waupaca

First Place Feature Story (Non-profile)
 Third Place..... Feature Story (Non-profile)

Wisconsin State Journal, Madison

First Place General Excellence
 Second Place..... General News Story
 Second Place..... Environmental Reporting
 Second Place..... Business Coverage
 Second Place..... Local Column
 Second Place..... Artistic Photo
 Second Place..... Best Video
 Third Place..... Editorial Award
 Third Place..... Localized National Story
 Honorable Mention..... Sports News Story
 Honorable Mention..... Coronavirus Coverage
 Honorable Mention..... Feature Photo
 Honorable Mention..... Best Video

Division D

First Place: *Barron News-Shield*, 'Dallas working on manganese problem' - Ryan Urban. Judge's Comments: These stories were a breeze to read (aside from the concern one gets about possibly being poisoned by manganese in the water). But this story is conveying the severity of an issue and getting every single facet of information - from what the responsible officials are doing about it and what residents need to know all the way through to the scientific and biological impact of this as well as the historical context of manganese in the water and how officials have handled similar issues in the past. Well-rounded reporting.

Second Place: *The Valders Journal*, 'Groundwater cleanup chugs along' - Todd Bergmann. Judge's Comments: These are well-written articles that convey the local impact of environmental issues, steps officials can take to mitigate negative effects on the environment, and how all of that benefits the community. The historical research and tight, but descriptive writing sets this story apart.

Third Place: *Ashland Daily Press*, 'Nature on the Bay' - Rick Olivo. Judge's Comments: What a colorful set of stories that remind a person what we're striving for by measuring the splendor and quantity of nature around us and what these sights, sounds, and events might tell us about what's going on in the world around us - near and far.

Honorable Mention: *Barron News-Shield*, 'Plans set for county's lands, waters' - Bob Zientara. Judge's Comments: Writing about bureaucratic systems never is an easy thing to do, but these stories made it easy to follow this process and the value of the public's feedback in this particular function of state

government.

Competition Comments: There's no question at all as to whether the reporters in this category are knowledgeable about the needs of their communities and the impact that certain events - whether it's a rare bird sighting or a leak in the water - have on those communities. Especially where we are in terms of understanding the impact that our actions have on the environment, this sort of reporting and awareness is more valuable than ever.

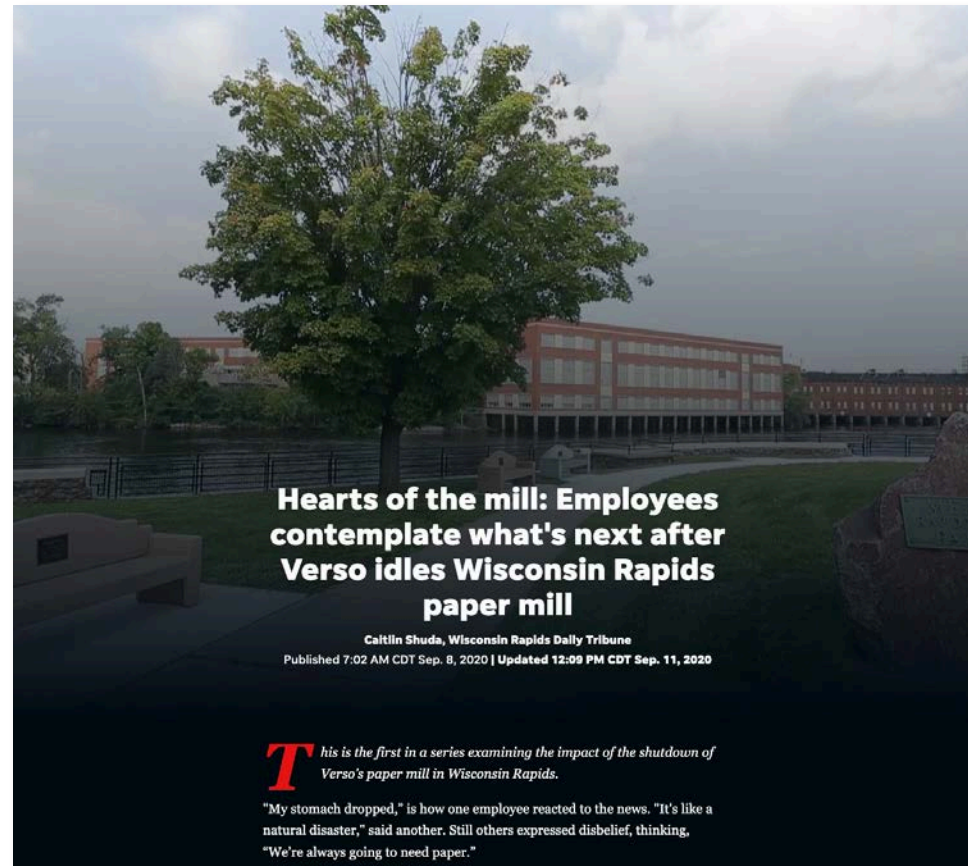
Division E

First Place: *The Edgerton Reporter*, 'Trees cleared from Yahara River' - Diane Everson, Tristan McGough. Judge's Comments: Unique subject, reported on clearly with context and very good visuals.

Second Place: *Crawford County Independent & The Kickapoo Scout*, 'Heavy rainfall and flooding impacted by streambank restoration' - Gillian Pomplun. Judge's Comments: Good, in-depth reporting on the multiple layers of this issue.

Third Place: *Ripon Commonwealth Press*, 'Big Green Lake's health is declining, more action needed to preserve lake for future generations' - Joe Schulz. Judge's Comments: Good clear writing to lay out the community challenge, and add context of the players and action steps to meet it.

Honorable Mention: *The Brillion News*, 'East River flooding project underway'; 'East River flooding begins in headwaters'; 'Flooding study finds blurry lines of authority' - Ed Byrne. Judge's Comments: Clear reporting with depth.



Hearts of the mill: Employees contemplate what's next after Verso idles Wisconsin Rapids paper mill

Caitlin Shuda, Wisconsin Rapids Daily Tribune
Published 7:02 AM CDT Sep. 8, 2020 | Updated 12:09 PM CDT Sep. 11, 2020

This is the first in a series examining the impact of the shutdown of Verso's paper mill in Wisconsin Rapids.

"My stomach dropped," is how one employee reacted to the news. "It's like a natural disaster," said another. Still others expressed disbelief, thinking, "We're always going to need paper."

Ongoing/Extended Coverage, First Place (Division B)
Daily Tribune, Wisconsin Rapids

Ongoing/Extended Coverage

Division A

First Place: USA TODAY NETWORK-Wisconsin, 'Businesses say finding employees is their top headache. This series explores the trends behind Wisconsin's workforce woes.' - Natalie Brophy, Nusaiba Mizan. Judge's Comments: Such a timely series. Many have heard about the worker shortage, but this gives an easy-to-understand look into the intricacies of what is actually happening and what some of the proposed solutions might entail. Wonderful work.

Second Place: *La Crosse Tribune*, 'The Altman files: Controversial priest comes under fire for political comment's' - Olivia Herken. Judge's Comments: A story of the perseverance and tough skin a journalist has to have. Props to the author to not only exposing the story to the world, but to her continued efforts to bring it into the spotlight.

Third Place: *Green Bay Press-Gazette*, 'As Ethan Hauschultz's 10th birthday nears, cases against his accused killers continue in court system' - Doug Schneider. Judge's Comments: Tragic that this situation happened, but wonderful that some good will come from it. The author is obviously passionate about the topic, and it shows in the flow and readability. This series was a testament to the flexibility of the author, able to simplify court proceedings, foster care systems and government work as well.

Division B

First Place: *Daily Tribune*, 'Hearts of the mill; Unfolding 126 years of

history; Verso has halted its effort; How are Verso employees coping' - Caitlin Shuda. Judge's Comments: The breadth and depth of this series made it stand out above the rest of the field.

Second Place: *The Freeman*, 'Woman set afire' - Nikki Brahm.
Third Place: *EagleHerald*, 'Man tried, convicted for decades old double murder' - Dan Kitkowski.

Division C

First Place: *West Now*, 'Nearly eight months after a 17-year-old was killed by a Wauwatosa police officer, the investigation continues with no end in sight' - Evan Casey. Judge's Comments: Casey expertly organized a vast amount of information from numerous sources and angles to provide a multi-faceted and thorough level of coverage. Clear writing and formatting make following the story engaging and easy to follow. Outstanding work.

Second Place: *South Now*, 'Strauss

Brands is planning a new 152,000 square-foot meatpacking and distribution facility in Franklin' - Erik Hanley. Judge's Comments: Hanley expertly follows this story through several twists and turns while providing thorough and complete details from both sides. He keeps the reader engaged and informed throughout his coverage with concise language and smart structure. Excellent work.

Third Place: *Ashland Daily Press*, 'Fans fighting to save historic Mellen bank' - Rick Olivo. Judge's Comments: Olivo provides a detailed look into this hyper-local issue as he expertly organizes relevant information throughout his coverage. Excellent work.

Honorable Mention: *Peninsula Pulse*, 'Hope for Tower Repair Soars'; 'Potawatomi Tower Achieves National Historic Status'; 'DNR Restates Intent to Demolish Tower' - Debra Fitzgerald. Judge's Comments: Fitzgerald provides an intriguing look into the complicated process of saving a local landmark.

Her organization, concise language, and smart formatting make this topic an educational read.

Division E

First Place: *Crawford County Independent & The Kickapoo Scout*, 'Breached dams, heavy rainfall, and climate change present challenges' - Gillian Pomplun.

Second Place: *Ripon Commonwealth Press*, 'Dispatch Center discussion' - Jonathan Bailey, Joe Schulz, Tim Lyke.

Third Place: *The Northwoods River News*, 'City administrator misconduct in office case' - Heather Schaefer.

Honorable Mention: *Oconto County Reporter*, 'Elderly man accused of 1976 double homicide deemed competent for trial' - Kent Tempus.

Coronavirus Coverage

Division A

First Place: USA TODAY NETWORK-Wisconsin, 'As Wisconsin hospitals fill up with COVID patients, front-line workers sound the alarm'; 'Contact tracers were supposed to be key players in fighting COVID-19. But as Wisconsin's cases surge, they're overwhelmed' - Madeline Heim. Judge's Comments: Madeline Heim takes a deep dive into pandemic coverage, providing readers of USA Today Network-Wisconsin with in-depth coverage and personal stories of the public-health emergency. The quality of her work, and obvious time and energy invested into her articles, shows. Congrats.

Second Place: *Leader-Telegram*, 'Pandemic takes a toll' - Eric Lindquist. Judge's Comments: The

Leader-Telegram's Eric Lindquist does a great job in sharing with readers a variety of pandemic stories, from the tragic loss of a World War II veteran to the challenge faced by health care workers in caring for COVID-19 patients.

Third Place: *The Gazette*, 'No shot, no job'; 'Vaccine resistance drives exodus'; 'Rock County: You must wear a mask; County threatened with lawsuits'; 'County notified of lawsuit potential' - Neil Johnson. Judge's Comments: The Gazette's Neil Johnson demonstrates a willingness to investigate the often overlooked side of the pandemic story - those health care workers who risked losing their jobs for not taking the jab.

Honorable Mention: *Wisconsin State Journal*, 'Patient fates are uncertain'; 'Hope's on horizon, but no holiday from losses'; 'Dane County leads in shots, but racial disparities persist' - David Wahlberg. Judge's Comments: The Wisconsin State Journal's David Wahlberg shines a light on those who were lost during the pandemic. His work deserves recognition.

Division B

First Place: *Daily Jefferson County Union*, 'Retiring Fort Doctor'; 'Struggling with Mental Health'; 'County taking vaccines to migrant workers'; 'Contact tracers work to help people'; 'The vaccine and me' - Pam Chickering Wilson.

Second Place: *Daily Jefferson County Union*, 'The Call'; 'Fact vs Fiction'; 'Pandemic positive: No Flu'; 'Backlog'; 'Critical Care level' - Craig Spychalla.

Third Place: *Daily Globe*, 'Hurley School 'mood meter' to help articulate feelings' - Tom LaVenture.
Honorable Mention: *Herald Times Reporter*, 'Manitowoc addiction recovery': Coronavirus isolation has 'been pretty brutal' - Patti Zarling.



'I wish they could see how bad things are getting': As Wisconsin hospitals fill up with COVID patients, front-line workers sound the alarm

Madeline Heim, USA TODAY NETWORK-Wisconsin
 Published 7:18 AM CDT Oct. 1, 2020 | Updated 1:22 PM CDT Oct. 1, 2020

Coronavirus Coverage, First Place (Division A)
USA TODAY NETWORK-Wisconsin

Division C

First Place: *Southwest Now*, '13% of adults say they will 'definitely not' get the COVID-19 vaccine. Here are their reasons'; 'If you're scared of needles ahead of your COVID vaccine, you're not alone. Here are 12 tips from a psychologist for dealing with fears' - Bob Dohr. Judge's Comments: A wide spread of coverage and stories with ample coverage of why people don't take the vaccine, intriguing questions of teenagers, and strong look at providing food to people. Information was included to show accuracy, clarity and insight and enterprise. Interviews showed why people didn't want the vaccine and why most did. Good interviews shows how parents talked with teenagers and key reasons some teenagers had questions. One story explained why some people were afraid of needles and had answers from a doctor on how such fears can be overcome. Several food distribution services were visited and information provided on how food was distributed, including a soup kitchen held to remember a man who died from COVID-19. Good work.

Second Place: *The Press Times*, 'COVID's effect on homeless community multifaceted'; 'Local leaders reinvent holiday season plans amid pandemic'; 'Shelters offering sense of joy this holiday season' - Heather Graves. Judge's Comments: A goal of the entries is to report underreported stories or issues and new angles on familiar topics and this entry does both. It provides a look at what is happening among homeless folks, many of whom are working, what happens when normal things can't be done at residential places, and what happens at homes where Christmas and

Thanksgiving are celebrating with large family gatherings. Families and directors of homeless areas and residential places find ways to space people, do without holiday decorations, and keep the places working. Clarity, accuracy, and enterprising work are shown. A nice look at what many would not be giving attention.

Third Place: *Waukesha County Now*, 'Yes, Milwaukee-area municipalities without a health department actually can issue mask mandates.

Here's why.' - Jim Riccioli. Judge's Comments: Masking ranging from a story on how masking can be ordered to a volunteer woman taking senior citizens to places to a written letter to key officials, COVID-19 among courthouse employees to fights and roughing up grocery store items. The volunteer woman is pleasant news and the difference of opinions among city leaders is probably expected, but other news stirs oppositions. Police and sheriff lack employees to answer

mask calls and don't go to grocery stores unless a crime is involved. Questions are raised about missing employees at the courthouse and among sheriff's employees. Possible questions are raised by the facts cited. Clearly, some issues exist and some folks have questions.

Honorable Mention:

Superior Telegram, 'Bong Center adapts to record veterans' stories during pandemic'; 'Douglas County struggles with contact tracing'; 'COVID-19 outbreak at Superior Rehabilitation claims 9 lives' - Shelley Nelson. Judge's Comments: Finding unusual and interesting angles to cover and make this coverage of pandemic of wide interest. For instance, once story shows how a place with no visit found a way to set up coverage with a plastic coverage

to allow families to reach through and touch others. An interesting story traced the problems of contact tracing with people not tracing or many not wanting to talk. One story told of a woman's husband and many people dying at the housing area. Also, each story had related pandemic coverage readers could go to. Good range of coverage.

Competition Comments: Some informative stories and issues covered, particularly the type of unreported and new angles as outline in the entry. To read the stories required multiple readings. Could have read a couple of books in the time required. Most contests have three or four stories, and the main dedication is choosing from among those few entries. Not so in this contest. First, a decision had to be made to eliminate entries and then choose from the remaining few. I had a tough time selecting the winners. Had some good stories to read.

Division D

First Place: *The Monroe Times*, 'Vaccine Warrior'; 'Committee seeks pay raise for health officer'; 'Raise approved for Green Co. health officer'; 'Local arts, culture orgs get COVID-19 relief grants'; 'Pleasant View resident dies, another outbreak reported' - Kat Cisar. Judge's Comments: Newspapers everywhere have risen to the challenge of the pandemic, by providing news readers need. This was an extremely strong field of entries. Monroe topped the group with a really diverse package of stories. I especially liked the vaccine warrior piece as it added a strong local and personal touch. Outstanding!
Second Place: *Sawyer County Record*, 'County moves to give teeth to public health orders';

THE VACCINE AND ME



A quick jab better than the alternative

By Pam Chickering Wilson
pawilson@dailyunion.com

This was supposed to be a positive column about how the last member of our family - our 19-year-old, Michael - has now received his COVID-19 vaccine and how we're looking forward to a return to normal activities.

Vacations, trips, dining out, seeing friends and family, the county fair. You can almost taste it. Just beyond that final dose, wait two weeks and breathe easy.

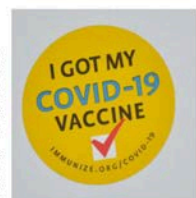
But forgive me if I'm not feeling all that positive right now. For one of our family members, it may be too late to enjoy that "normal" summer or any of the activities to which they were looking forward.

Despite taking extreme care, our whole family still came down with COVID-19 back in December. My younger child had two days of fever and crankiness. My husband experienced fever and an unusual cough.

I'm asthmatic, so I had a little harder time. I had a week-long headache, followed by weeks of exhaustion, coughing, and shortness of breath that for a few days made me wonder if I should be calling the doctor.

These symptoms gradually subsided, however. For most of us, an off-kilter sense of taste and/or smell is our only remaining symptom after several months.

However, it is possible to get something called "long COVID" even with a case that's initially considered mild. And one of our family members is



Kevin Wilson

TOP: Daily Jefferson County Union reporter Pam Chickering Wilson received her first Moderna shot recently at the Johnson Creek Premium Outlets mall. Giving the shot is Kasey Johnson Crosby, RN, BSN, of the Jefferson County Health Department.

ABOVE: The sticker Daily Jefferson County Union reporter Pam Chickering Wilson received after getting her first Moderna shot Friday at the Johnson Creek Premium Outlets mall.

experiencing symptoms that correlate with this extremely worrisome syndrome.

Rolling fevers. Body aches that come and go. Persistent exhaustion. And now heart palpitations and shortness of breath that last for hours.

You've heard of athletes who seem perfectly healthy, only to be sidelined weeks or months after a COVID-19 diagnosis with myocarditis that's later linked to the virus: a potentially fatal

complication. Despite millions of people across the globe having gotten COVID-19, and millions who have died from it, the science is still developing as to how it affects the body, how to treat it and exactly what the long-term effects will be.

There is one thing that we know works, though. That's not to get the disease in the first place.

And the best way to assure that is to go get the vaccine. Right now. For everyone age 12 or up, it is available at multiple locations across the county, free of charge, no waiting.

If you're like my husband, you'll only get the mildest of side effects to let you know your immune system has engaged: a low fever and a dip in energy. His vaccine effects were not even strong enough to keep him from work. He went from athletic event to athletic event the day after getting his second dose, albeit taking photos rather than competing.

If you're like me, you'll be low in the saddle for a day or two after receiving the vaccine - fever, chills, exhaustion that left me plastered to the couch. But after that, I was up and about with all of my usual energy.

We have learned that in an extreme minority of cases, even people who have received the vaccine can experience "breakthrough" COVID-19 cases, but these are asymptomatic or extremely mild - hospitalization or death is almost unheard of.

The chances of an individual experiencing an allergic reaction to the

See Vaccine, Page A2

Coronavirus Coverage, First Place (Division B)
Daily Jefferson County Union, Fort Atkinson

'Local hospitals, clinics stressed by COVID-19'; 'LCO vaccine supports mass clinic to community' - Frank Zufall. Judge's Comments: I really liked this package of stories and it was a very close second. The variety of stories was good and I appreciate work that goes beyond department of health press releases. These stories showed good initiative. Great work,.

Third Place: *Barron News-Shield*, 'County COVID cases head down'; 'New COVID-19 cases tick up'; 'A battle for life versus COVID-19' - Bob Zientara, Ryan Urban. Judge's Comments: I liked this package of stories, especially the focus on first responders and how they and those in their lives have been affected by the pandemic. Great work.

Honorable Mention: *The Star News*, 'Sending a message'; 'COVID complication lands 4-year-old in PICU'; 'Closed doors'; 'Rib Lake keeps school mask rules in place'; 'Looking forward' - Brian Wilson. Judge's Comments: I liked the coverage and the diversity of stories. It was comprehensive and thorough. The column added a lot.

Competition Comments: Newspapers everywhere have risen to the challenge of the pandemic, by providing news readers need. This was an extremely strong field of entries. Covering the pandemic has quite frankly been a grind and I appreciate very much the different angles stories took. It's all too easy to just cut and paste press releases and these entries did much more than that. I would like to have been able to give one or two more awards.

Division E

First Place: *Juneau County Star-Times*, 'Former restaurant Little Crane Cafe reinvented as LC Market to combat economic effects of COVID-19' - Christopher

Jardine. Judge's Comments: I really enjoyed reading about this. So important to report on hopeful topics related to Covid. Well written!

Second Place: *Crawford County Independent & The Kickapoo Scout*, 'COVID outbreak overwhelms Prairie du Chien prison' - Gillian Pomplun. Judge's Comments: Very thorough account on this subject. I think it's important the people think about this underreported group. Well done.

Third Place: *The Pierce County Journal*, 'Heartbreak leads to hope: A look at AZ Snyder's year' - Sarah Nigbor. Judge's Comments: I enjoyed this article. I appreciated reading such an in depth account of Snyder's journey and learning about

her role and experience. Well done. **Honorable Mention:** *Grant County Herald Independent*, 'Saying Goodbye, Muench family deals with COVID'; 'Coming to Grips'; 'Coroner reviews info and makes decision' - David Timmerman. Judge's Comments: This submission stands out among the rest. Very personal and captivating. I enjoyed learning more about Phil and his family.

Reporting on Local Government

Division A

First Place: *Leader-Telegram*, 'DHS investigation ongoing at year's end'; 'More than just a law'; 'A profession built on relationships' - Ryan Patterson.

Judge's Comments: A sheriff's investigation is clearly covering a local government, but so are the two stories covering a white cane story and how it operates and examining the work of social workers trying to repair relationships. And the writer writes with clarity emphasizing the news values of the stories. Of note are the number of sources used and some excellent inclusion of quotes to emphasize the facts. Sources and the way they are used stand out and make clear the reasons for the white cane and social work stories. The writer helps makes these stories.

Second Place: *The Journal Times*, 'Chocolate City' title may change'; 'It just all

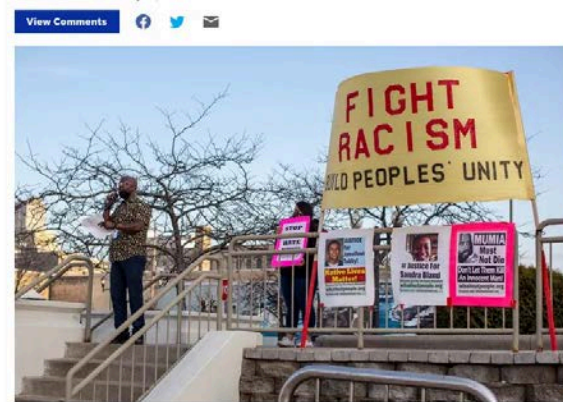
kind of fell apart'; 'Off-road vehicles moving in?' - Scott Williams. Judge's Comments: Mention government and the person you are talking with will mention city councils, police or fire departments, county commission, or other governing committees. But news values may be other things in which government is a part, such as a new city promo, loss of a brewery, and letting ATVs and golf carts being on city roads. The writer tackled those three stories and made each a clearly written, full of information, and a well researched story. My guess is that these three entries would be among the most read stories by readers. Good stories.

Third Place: *Green Bay Press-Gazette*, Records: 'Former Green Bay clerk accused mayor's office of taking over elections process'; 'Green Bay's November election has been controversial'; 'Report finds Green Bay properly handled 2020 elections despite GOP criticism' - Haley BeMiller. Judge's Comments: Many people involved in this local story but two main people were the mayor and city clerk and their different opinions. The clerk accused the mayor's office of running the elections and he didn't agree, but specifics of what he was accused of were not clear and the clerk didn't do any interview. Email documents were obtained and reported, and the city attorney issued a report with the clerk and others not responding to her. Tough stories to do.

Honorable Mention: *The Cap Times*, 'Pivoting to politics'; 'Going virtual'; 'Madison needs more housing' - Abigail Becker. Judge's Comments: A noteworthy story on non-white candidates, an usual story on virtual government, and an informational story on the need for more housing in town. Several people were contacted and interviewed for the stories. Of the

Manitowoc is represented by mostly white men. Why some say changing that is 'necessary work.'

Alisa M. Schafer
Manitowoc Herald Times Reporter
Published 5:50 a.m. CT July 12, 2021



Crusaders of Justice's Aaron Bailey speaks during the rally near city hall honoring the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Monday, April 5, 2021, in Manitowoc, Wis. King was assassinated April 4, 1968 in Memphis, Tenn. Gary C. Klein, Gary C. Klein/USA TODAY NETWORK-Wisconsin

MANITOWOC - Manitowoc Common Council made strides toward diversity in 2020 when it appointed Aaron Bailey, the first Black man to ever serve on the council, to an open seat.

A little more than a year later, the council is again composed of all white men.

Sonia Vasquez, president of Lakeshore's United Visionaries, said diversity is necessary. LUV formed in summer 2020 amid racial unrest in the country and aims to foster "unity in the community through education, understanding and love."

"Diversity in local government is necessary for the betterment of our communities, but also takes constant work and reflection to become successful," Vasquez told the Herald Times Reporter. "It is not a Band-Aid. It cannot happen once."

Reporting on Local Government, First Place (Division B)
Herald Times Reporter, Manitowoc

three, the virtual story seemed to have the most new information and might have had more new items for the readers. Good work.

Competition Comments: Some good entries and tough to make choices. Several stories required multiple readings in coming to my conclusions. Some entries had unusual news value, and some made stories on different topics. I liked those. I noticed that several stories included more interviews and researching for facts. I was impressed by the overall clarity of writing.

Division B

First Place: *Herald Times Reporter*, 'Manitowoc's first Black alderman 'felt bullied' after city probe into his residence'; 'LUV condemns Facebook post by Manitowoc County supervisor for using 'outdated, offensive, and inflammatory language'; 'Manitowoc is represented by mostly white men.' - Alisa Schafer. Judge's Comments: Covert racism is unacceptable. Racism is racism and as journalists we must hold a light to the fire to hold racists accountable. Schafer does this well in her continued coverage over Manitowoc's first Black alderman, who has been mistreated. It's an easy topic to ignore or gloss over, but she took a subject and has explored it in depth with follow-ups turning the mirror to the mostly-white representatives of Manitowoc. These stories are important in such a trying time for the Black community.

Second Place: *The Sheboygan Press*, 'Wisconsin's Supreme Court raised doubts about local health officers' power to enforce orders. Some counties are trying to change that.'; 'Wisconsin's Supreme Court raised doubts about local health officers'

power to enforce orders. Some counties are trying to change that.'; 'Too many luxury apartments? Sheboygan studied its housing supply and affordability. Here's what it discovered.' - AnnMarie Hilton. Judge's Comments: AnnMarie Hilton's stories have everything - statistics, citation of documents she uses, through explanations. I felt like what was often missing was the human dimension. There were rarely any quotes or perspectives

from community members in her stories, save her story "Wisconsin's Supreme Court raised doubts." That story drew me in from the lede on with its details, such as the large group taking to the courthouse steps and the county administrator using a megaphone to talk to them. I felt like I was there during the chaos. Then she went on to blow me away with the detailed story that followed. Many of the entries were just coverage of council meetings

and I appreciate the reporter went beyond that. **Third Place:** *Watertown Daily Times*, 'Recall petition filed against longtime supervisor'; 'Sharp divide in Tuesday recall election'; 'Siegmann ousts Schaefer by landslide in recall' - Ed Zagorski. Judge's Comments: Stories that make one uncomfortable are always signs of good journalism. The thought of calling two political figures to get quotes on a story like this makes me want to crawl under a desk and hide, but Zagorski did not back down. Nothing has been more significant for journalism in the last 18 months than to focus on public health and safety. Reporting on representatives who go against public health and safety so residents know who they have voted into office is of utmost importance. He could have just left it to the city meetings, but took the stories beyond that. I applaud him for taking on the task.

Honorable Mention: *Wausau Daily Herald*, 'Federal proposal threatens Wausau's metro status, and money to pay for housing, streets, playgrounds, facilities'; 'Biden's 'historic' infrastructure plan could help Wausau get big projects done without borrowing'; 'Wausau finally makes strides for cleanup' - Allison Garfield. Judge's Comments: What caught my eye in these stories is Garfield's ability to make a story outside of a meeting setting. Most of the entries I saw came from community meetings, whereas it seems Garfield was able to find hers outside of the council halls and courthouse. Each of the stories was well researched, thorough and in depth. They each also impacted Wausau residents directly. I wish it the reporter would have quoted community members for her story. It seems like the mayor is the "go-to." While the mayor's opinion is an

Ashland County to vote on \$25 wheel tax

BY RICK OLIVO
rolivo@ashlanddailypress.net

Members of the Ashland County Board will consider Tuesday \$25 per vehicle wheel tax as a way to deal with an estimated \$430,000 shortfall in the 2021 county budget.

The board meets at 10 a.m. at Salem Church of Ashland, moving from the County Board room at the courthouse to a more spacious meeting room at the church to be able to maintain social distancing.

The wheel tax would be tacked on to the state's annual vehicle registration fee, now set at \$85 per car and \$100 for most light trucks. Under state law, municipalities can use wheel tax money only for transportation related purposes; 12 counties 28 municipalities now levy wheel taxes ranging from \$10 in St. Croix County to \$30 in Milwaukee and St. Croix counties, according to the Department of Transportation.

County Administrator Clark Schroeder, who proposed the tax, said the additional revenue would allow the county to shift money out of the Highway Department budget to



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Vehicles travel on Highway 13 at the White River in Ashland County Thursday. Most vehicles registered in the county would be taxed \$25 a year under a proposal to be considered by the Ashland County Board on Tuesday Oct. 6. Funds raised by the tax would be earmarked for transportation-related expenses.

help cover other county services.

The proposal has already made it through the county Highway and Finance committees.

Schroeder said several is-



Schroeder

sues forced the county to consider a wheel tax. County forest revenues were anticipated to be down for next year by about \$200,000 and the county is expecting about \$100,000 less in sales taxes than it had budgeted.

SEE TAX, 5A

Reporting on Local Government, First Place (Division D)

Ashland Daily Press

important one, it is not the only one.

Division C

First Place: *Peninsula Pulse*, ‘Trail to Nowhere?’; ‘County Supervisors Declare Racism a Public-Health Crisis’; ‘Fincantieri Asks City to Remove Legal Barrier that Could Delay Building Improvements’ - Debra Fitzgerald. Judge’s Comments: Diverse topics and complicated issues covered clearly and thoroughly. Good use of photos and graphics. Engaging writing style.

Second Place: *Wausau Pilot and Review*, ‘Wausau mulls borrowing \$4.7 million for mall plan, Wausau Center slated for Jan. 31 closure’; ‘Public hearing on correcting Cleveland Avenue zoning mistake not certain for Wausau’; ‘Wausau committee chooses \$24.9M development for north riverfront’ - Shereen Siewert. Judge’s Comments: Writer focuses on concise issues and explains details in an easy-to-read and understandable style. Solid, informative coverage of local government.

Third Place: *West Now*, ‘Wauwatosa lacks diversity and affordable housing, report says. Here’s how the city plans to address that’; ‘The Wauwatosa Common Council has a new alderman, but some are disappointed a person of color wasn’t chosen’; ‘Wauwatosa’s mayor says the police union is ‘a problem’ and ‘has not been a good partner’ with the city’ - Evan Casey. Judge’s Comments: Writer does a great job covering controversial issues, looking at each side fairly. A balanced perspective is presented using good writing and interviews.

Honorable Mention: *Peninsula Pulse*, ‘Sticker Shock?’; ‘Special Assessments Raise Questions in Fish Creek’; ‘Assessment Policy Under Review’ - Myles

Dannhausen, Jr. Judge’s Comments: A good focus on impact of local government policies and taxes on residents.

Division D

First Place: *Ashland Daily Press*, ‘County tax shortfall’ - Rick Olivo. Judge’s Comments: Good coverage of issue that could hit readers in the pocketbook.

Second Place: *Barron News-Shield*, ‘Embrace not likely between board and organization’ - Bob Zientara. Judge’s Comments: Compelling coverage of issues that have nationwide interest and how those issues trickle down to local level.

Third Place: *Waupaca County Post*, ‘Crossing guards to stay’; ‘City not enforcing yard sign rules’; ‘Clintonville gets \$1 million grant’ - Bert Lehman. Judge’s Comments: Good community government reporting.

Honorable Mention: *The Valders Journal*, ‘Rockland residents asked to craft plan for town ATV routes’; ‘Town could green light ATV routes’; ‘Rockland OKs use of ATVs but can’t enforce the rules’ - Brian Thomsen.

Division E

First Place: *Grant County Herald Independent*, ‘Varnam relents on library board appointments’; ‘Expedited timeline shortened library fundraising schedule’; ‘Fire, Sheriff working to improve rescue boat deployment’ - David Timmerman. Judge’s Comments: Good example of sticking with a story and following it through over a period of time.

Second Place: *The Pierce County Journal*, ‘Board of Health meeting erupts in anti-masker chaos’; ‘Prescott bar chose changes to 1 a.m.’; ‘Ag agent proposal set for

committee vote at county’ - Sarah Nigbor, Theodore Tollefson. Judge’s Comments: Good timely coverage of an issue many places are dealing with right now.

Third Place: *Crawford County Independent & The Kickapoo Scout*, ‘Choices’; ‘Swing vote’; ‘Writes’ - Charley Preusser. Judge’s Comments: Excellent reporting on candidates many other reporters would ignore, ensuring that voters have information on all candidates.

Honorable Mention: *The Northwoods River News*, ‘Voter feedback: Felzkowski holds listening session at Rhinelander City Hall’; ‘PFC, city leaders seek middle ground on fire chief search’; ‘Chambers, county take aim at tourist rooming houses’ - Jamie Taylor.

Reporting on Local Education

Division A

First Place: *The Journal Times*, ‘Milatz is ‘a good man’; ‘After tragedy, a furry friend’; ‘Severe, pervasive and persistent’ - Scott Williams. Judge’s Comments: The writer did a delightful and informative feature on a bus driver who donated money to the high school, did an informative story on the donation of a therapy dog to the school, and wrote a detailed story on a complaint about racism and the reactions to it. All three stories show the writer’s skill at recognizing news value stories, gathering information, and writing the stories well. He demonstrates an ability to see fun things, to understand serious stories, and to write both. I would have enjoyed having him on my staff.

Second Place: *Green Bay Press-Gazette*, ‘Sorry, kids! COVID-19,

‘virtual learning’ threaten to end snow days’; ‘Two Pulaski teachers took on the challenge of teaching remotely for a full year’; ‘To keep kids reading in summer, De Pere schools go to where children hang out’ - Doug Schneider. Judge’s Comments: A newsy and unusual look at things to do in school. One story takes a look at the possibility of turning snow days into online working days, but the story compares the viewpoints of those favoring two days as off days and those favoring snow days as work days. At one school, books are being provided in the summer at parks and elsewhere for kids to keep them reading. The story notes that students who read regularly made higher grades and learn more. In the third story, the writer follows two teachers who volunteered to do online daily and found that their ideas attracted students and many parents loved it. Interesting stories.

Third Place: *Leader-Telegram*, ‘Hundreds gather in EC to support, heal with Asian Americans’; ‘Display recognizes murdered, missing indigenous women’; ‘UW-EC students protest after racist Snapchat posts’ - Ryan Patterson. Judge’s Comments: Hate or dislike of Asian Americans has increased during the pandemic and the writer of these three stories produced a clearly written, fact-filled reports of two protests and a discussion. He notes that the protests were peaceful and pictures show maintenance of proper spacing. However, he includes the type of instances people have faced, several sources and interviews, and gathering of reports on types of racism and actions. A reader gets a full story. No doubt, these stories have news value.

Honorable Mention: *The Gazette*, ‘Turning home...into homeroom’; ‘Breakfast with Bergum’; ‘Former Milton schools administrator sues

school board member' - Benjamin Pierce. Judge's Comments: With the pandemic problems at schools, issues are concerning about virtual school when to hold classes, and reaching students with no computers. One answer by some parents is to home-school, and this writer wrote two nice stories about home-school. One addresses

how two parents handled work and school and how their students adjusted. The other story visits for Breakfast with Bergum, a teacher who has a weekly breakfast with students to talk, get to know each other, and learn more about others in class. Students love the occasion. The third story was a detailed account of a teacher suing a board

member. The stories have news value and are written well.

Competition Comments: When starting to read these entries, I assumed that many of the stories would be about racism, the pandemic, and how to organize and handle schools. And many stories were variations of these with many of them becoming long stories. Many of the stories were quite similar and had many of the same facts. Such stories were key stories but were there unusual stories or different types of educational stories. Encountering some of those caught my attention. In choosing entries some included one, maybe two, of the expected stories but then included other stories such as ways of handling online teaching, differing ways of reaching students, and other stories. Finding all these made reading these entries interesting and caught my attention.

Division B

First Place: *Stevens Point Journal*, 'Stevens Point charter students create social justice documentaries, one method of learning at Point of Discovery'; 'Educating during the pandemic changed how SPASH history teacher connects with students'; 'Stevens Point schools considers uses for \$6 million' - Alan Hovorka. Judge's Comments: Not only did these three articles touch on three different aspects of education, but also three totally different systems and methodologies. The author did a phenomenal job of explaining details and kept the cadence captivating every step of the way.

Second Place: *Herald Times Reporter*, 'Manitowoc schools are working toward a culture of diversity and inclusivity. Here's how.'; 'Manitowoc schools aren't teaching critical race theory, but a

'very vocal minority' say otherwise'; 'Dozens join rally at Manitowoc Lincoln High in support of diversity' - Alisa Schafer, Patti Zarling. Judge's Comments: A close second. These stories hit on some tough issues and grappled with one of the toughest aspects of education: parents. Specifically, the CRT story was what stuck out as a wonderful piece of news. Well done.

Third Place: *Daily Jefferson County Union*, 'Lessons from the pandemic'; 'Staying connected'; 'Are Snow Days a Thing of the Past' - Pam Chickering Wilson. Judge's Comments: These three stories asked some interesting questions that the public is asking. When writing about educations, I feel that is one of the paramount things to keep in mind. On top of that, the author kept the topic of education engaging and fun.

Honorable Mention: *The Freeman*, 'Empathetic engineering'; 'Waukesha schools on guard for cyber threats'; 'The Leader's Mindset' - Jake Ekdahl. Judge's Comments: Worthy of an honorable mention for sure. The Leader's Mindset shows an aspect of education we don't see enough of and giving it coverage in the media is a great way to get similar programs in more schools.

Competition Comments: As an education reporter myself, this really gave me a lot to think about in my own writing. I appreciate these news outlets submitting work for me to read.

Division C

First Place: *North Shore Now*, 'Cedarburg student says she's been victim of racism for years'; 'Can't ignore us anymore': Cedarburg parents call out the school district for 'allowing' racism'; 'DPI rules that Cedarburg School' - Alec Johnson.

BURLINGTON SCHOOLS



SCOTT WILLIAMS, SCOTT.WILLIAMS@JOURNALTIMES.COM

Bill "Tiny" Milatz waits with other bus drivers for students outside Burlington High School. He has been a school bus driver nearly 20 years, including for several Burlington High School sports teams.

Milatz is 'a good man'

Bus driver donates \$3K to school district

SCOTT WILLIAMS
scott.williams@journaltimes.com

BURLINGTON — The bus driver for Burlington High School football, baseball and basketball is a real team player.

After nearly 20 years behind the wheel, Bill "Tiny" Milatz has become so connected with the teams that players and coaches alike recognize him as a valued booster and a diviser.

Now, Milatz is taking his affection for Burlington school kids to a new level — with cash donations.

The school district recently accepted \$1,500 in donations

from Milatz to support the sports teams, plus another \$1,500 for Waller Elementary School, where his daughter is a teacher.

Milatz, who also drives a regular school bus route, is open about his love for Burlington schoolkids. The 73-year-old grandfather said he decided to open up his wallet because he wants to ensure that the athletes and other students always have enough resources to enjoy their time in school.

"Whatever they use it for — for the kids — is fine with me," he said.

The donations include \$500 each for the high school football team, baseball team and basketball team.

Burlington High officials say

the donations will help to cover expenses like equipment for the sports teams. And Waller Elementary School is discussing using the money for a special student event to be determined later.

Milatz's daughter, Ashley Cates, who teaches first grade at Waller, said her father always was her biggest supporter when she attended Burlington schools and played on teams.

Now that she is an adult, Cates said, her father has shifted his paternal affection and generosity to other Burlington school kids.

"My dad's a good man," she said. "He likes to give back."

Burlington roots

Milatz, who grew up in Bur-

lington and graduated from Burlington High in 1966, later enjoyed a successful career with a pipeline contracting company. When the company was sold and his position was eliminated in 2000, Milatz could have retired. But he wanted a way to stay busy. So he took a job as a driver for Thomas Bus Services Inc., the company that operates buses for the Burlington Area School District.

He also served many years as a volunteer firefighter, as a Burlington Park Board member, and as an umpire and coach for baseball and softball teams.

Settling in behind the wheel of a school bus, Milatz found

Please see MILATZ, Page A9

Reporting on Local Education, First Place (Division A)
The Journal Times, Racine

Judge's Comments: Good follow through on sensitive story, telling all sides fairly and showing the impact students and parents can have on calling out school boards.

Second Place: *West Now*, 'Elmbrook School Board votes to remove 'equity principles' from district's strategy plan'; 'Elmbrook School Board holds a listening session on proposed 'equity principles'; 'One year ago, Elmbrook was the first Milwaukee area school district to go virtual.' - Evan Casey. Judge's Comments: Thorough coverage of a controversial topic that allows each

side to tell the story. Well written. **Third Place:** *Lake Country Now*, 'Coverage of the Oconomowoc School Board' - Evan Frank. Judge's Comments: A solid, well-written look at the political ramifications of disagreements among school board members and the impact of public opinion on education issues. Very well done.

Honorable Mention: *Peninsula Pulse*, 'Administrative Resignations at Gibraltar Not Normal, Association Says'; 'Homeschooling on the Road'; 'Pandemic Hits Some School Enrollments' - Craig

Sterrett. Judge's Comments: Interesting cross section of subjects related to impact of pandemic, including the difficulty in being, and retaining, principals, an often overlooked topic.

Division D

First Place: *Sun Prairie Star*, 'PMMS teachers placed on leave after questionable slavery 'lesson'; 'Letter refuses to fire administrator for PMMS slavery activity'; '3 PMMS teachers resign after slavery assignment investigation' - Christopher Mertes. Judge's Comments: Excellent coverage on a very controversial issue. **Second Place:** *The Platteville Journal*,

'Platteville starting school year with masks'; 'City, School Board discuss CRO, equity'; 'A hyena eating a crouton' - Steve Prestegard. Judge's Comments: Excellent coverage on an issue that is facing every BOE in the nation.

Third Place: *The Valders Journal*, 'Education shifts on a dime'; 'Apprentices get jump start'; 'School says masks will be optional' - Todd Bergmann. Judge's Comments: Very thorough work on the issues you chose to submit. Great job!

Division E

First Place: *The Northwoods River News*, 'School board tables gender equity policy'; 'Parents protest after superintendent announces ...'; 'School board approves preparedness plan as presented' - Heather Schaefer, Jamie Taylor.

Second Place: *The Cambridge News and Deerfield Independent*, 'School music class moves to pandemic'; 'School districts anticipate COVID-19 funding'; 'Deerfield teachers pivot to all-virtual' - Madeline Westberg, Karyn Saemann.

Third Place: *The Pierce County Journal*, 'Parents speak out against transgender movie, 'indoctrination'; 'Prescott SD clarifies referendum timeline'; 'Plum City educators propose full inclusion model' - Sarah Nigbor.

Honorable Mention: *The Oregon Observer*, 'Board addresses virtual concerns'; 'Learning during a pandemic'; 'Slowing the growing' - Scott De Laruelle.

Business Coverage

Division A

First Place: *The Post-Crescent*, 'Lessons businesses learned during the pandemic'; 'Hiring in Fox

Valley gets tough again amid plummeting unemployment'; 'Restaurants worry about winter' - Maureen Wallenfang. Judge's Comments: The author did a great job including numerous voices and perspectives in each of the articles. The unemployment story did a great job explaining a complicated, polarizing issue in a human way that should make community members think deeper about their businesses' struggles. All these are issues nationwide, but the author localized incredibly well. I loved the final piece with takeaways; it was originally presented and useful information for readers.

Second Place: *Wisconsin State Journal*, 'State tourism spending plummets'; 'A grand vision for West Towne Mall'; 'An evolving business model for Gempler's in Mount Horeb' - Barry Adams. Judge's Comments: These stories do a great job together demonstrating the struggles local businesses are facing, but also the potential on the rise. The author does a great job demonstrating how these businesses work together. The inclusion of other business owners and people who are looking forward to the developments while also lamenting their wasted years really lifted the stories.

Third Place: *The Journal Times*, 'This can't continue'; 'Making dough rise'; 'Village seeks pop-up applicants' - Scott Williams. Judge's Comments: Though the pop-up applicants story left a lot wanting (What kind of businesses would thrive here? Has anyone applied? Do any currently exist?), the other two stories are fully fleshed out, well reported and heartfelt. The stories benefited from having others reflect on the people they're about and the places they hold in the community.

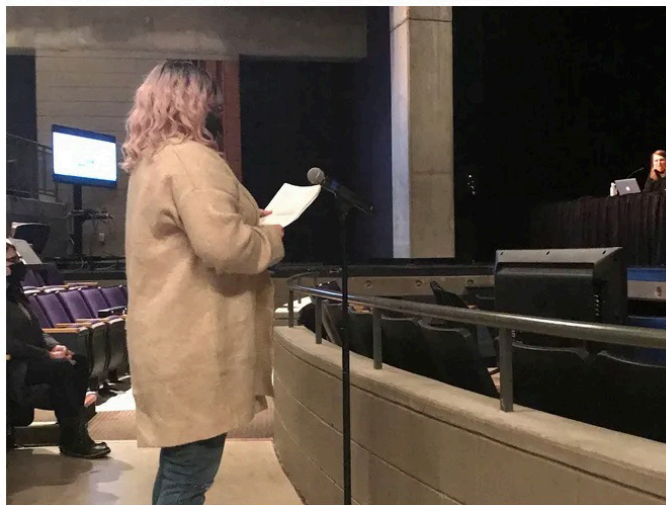
'Can't ignore us anymore': Cedarburg parents call out the school district for 'allowing' racism



Alec Johnson
Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

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View Comments



Cedarburg School District parent Jessica Mchomvu speaks to the Cedarburg School Board Feb. 17. Alec Johnson / Now News Group

A group of concerned parents and residents are speaking out against racism in the Cedarburg School District and have called out the district and school board for ignoring the issue.

One of those parents, Jessica Mchomvu, specifically identified school board members Chris Reimer, David Krier, Kevin Kennedy, Brandon Goldbeck and Rick Leach, as well as district Superintendent Todd Bugnacki — all of whom are white — as failing to address racism being experienced by students of color in the district. She said that her emails, conversations with staff and comments at past school board meetings have been ignored.

Reporting on Local Education, First Place (Division C)
North Shore Now, Milwaukee

Division B

First Place: *The Reporter*, ‘One year later: Here are 9 Fond du Lac businesses that closed, and 5 that adapted, during the pandemic’; ‘Fresh faces, convivial spaces: Fond du Lac’s young workers are key to the city’s vibrancy. How do we keep them?’; ‘Readers urge culturally focused efforts to keep young workers in FDL’ - Daphne Lemke.

Judge’s Comments: This was a very well done, expansive look at labor and wellness challenges for one community. It did a great, original job explaining the impact of the pandemic but also challenges that existed before and were exacerbated by it. The author’s efforts in explaining why keeping young workers in the area is important was clear and effective. The articles were well sourced, tightly written and flowed nicely together despite being separate stories.

Second Place: *Oshkosh Northwestern*, ‘Oshkosh outlet mall falls into foreclosure’; ‘Competition hot for Oshkosh homebuyers’; ‘Homeless, not jobless’ - Lydia Slattery. **Judge’s Comments:** I really enjoyed the original perspectives in this entry, but especially the article on homelessness. It was a fresh and nuanced

take on a complicated topic that provided context and compassion for the people it centered on. The accompanying articles – all solidly written – explored different issues in the area that, purposefully or not, better informed each other story. These are issues in every community, but the author’s writing style, chosen subjects and attention to detail made them feel both universal and local at the same time.

Third Place: *Herald Times Reporter*,

Fresh faces, convivial spaces



Bre Zoch manages the Young Professionals of Fond du Lac program, part of Envision Greater Fond du Lac. COURTESY OF TRACY QUALMANN



Vicente Lezama Morales of Fond du Lac opened Hair Lounge at 104 S. Main St., Suite 102. COURTESY OF CASEY FIEBIG/FIEBIG PHOTO



Liz Morrell is executive director of The Arc Fond du Lac. COURTESY OF TRACY QUALMANN



Sadie Parafiniuk is Envision Greater Fond du Lac president and CEO. COURTESY OF TRACY QUALMANN

Fond du Lac’s young workers are key to the city’s vibrancy; how do we keep them?

Daphne Lemke
Fond du Lac Reporter
USA TODAY NETWORK - WISCONSIN

FOND DU LAC – Johnson Street developments and a steadily growing downtown area illustrate that Fond du Lac is changing, but a Lakeside Park development project has sparked ongoing conversations about why change is necessary, and why the city should try to appeal to a younger generation. But the city isn’t alone in seeking to attract and retain young workers. Oshkosh is redeveloping its industrial Sawdust District into an entertainment district, and Sheboygan has added downtown stores and events, as well as apartment complexes to accommodate newcomers, based on feedback from 60 young professionals back in 2011, according to the Sheboygan County Economic Development Corporation.

For years, Fond du Lac movers and shakers have posed the question: What developments within their control would encourage young residents to stay in the city and, subsequently, inherit the workforce from current residents?

The city is already home to events like Walleye Weekend, Fondue Fest and Sturgeon Spectacular, and to places that offer family activities, nature

sight-seeing and convivial spaces — outside of the current pandemic, that is.

It’s also a hub of industry, fishing and hunting. It holds a coveted spot in Wisconsin at the base of Lake Winnebago, sharing the lake with Oshkosh and Appleton, and sits on Interstate 41, halfway between Green Bay and Milwaukee.

But, back in 2017, Business Insider considered it the most boring city in Wisconsin, based on business activity. Comments came in at the time that felt Fond du Lac needed to be open to new things, new ventures and events.

Since then, more businesses shut their doors for good, but many also seized their chance to open. Fond du Lac gained countless small businesses, saw growth at its large businesses, renovated the Hotel Retlaw and introduced short-term pop-up spaces downtown, so potential businesses can test the viability of their ideas.

Most recently, the city entered into two development agreements. One improves the Forest Mall area of Johnson Street, bringing in retailer Meijer and other businesses, as well as making Johnson Street safer. The other agreement allows the vacant Shopko property to be split in half for two retailers,

See YOUNG, Page 4A

Business Coverage, First Place (Division B)
The Reporter, Fond du Lac

‘Location, location, location: Why places like Two Creeks could see more solar farms’; ‘As more pets become members of the family, one Lakeshore company aims to keep them well fed’; ‘Manitowoc game shop owner on why Pokemon and other games are in such short supply’ - Patti Zarling. **Judge’s Comments:** Each article in this entry is tightly written and edited, but still able to provide crucial and in-depth context for the complicated issues at hand. No matter the subject – renewable energy to games – the author seems an expert, and made me consider aspects and topics I had never thought about before.

Honorable Mention: *Watertown Daily Times*, ‘Helenville businessman’s been ‘shrooming for decades’; ‘Bison add flavor of the West to Watertown landscape’; ‘Memories, characters abound for Hepp after 36 years in limos’ - Steve Sharp. **Judge’s Comments:** Like many in this category, this entry focused on showcasing a handful of businesses around its region. These stories, however, stood out. They are interesting, sometimes funny, often entertaining and honest looks at different industries. In reading, the author seems happy and excited to be with the subjects. That extended to me as a reader, something that is often difficult to do.

Competition Comments: A ton of great entries, though many were

very similar (generally well-written features on new businesses opening or weathering the pandemic). What stood out in this category were outlets and authors that took different, often more original, looks at the issues the business and labor communities around them are facing amid the pandemic.

Division C

First Place: *Vilas County News-Review*, ‘After two years since bankruptcy, Shopko store in city still vacant’; ‘Eagle Waste weathers headwinds in national, global recycling markets’; ‘Bucking year-long COVID cancellations, Derby Complex wraps up six-race season’ - Eric Johnson.

Second Place: *Southwest Now*, ‘Greenfield reaches milestone in development’; ‘After 49 years, Rupena’s bids farewell to the State Fair’; ‘These bike racing sisters are teaming up to open The Bread Pedalers, a West Allis bakery and café’ - Bob Dohr.

Third Place: *West Now*, ‘It’s gonna affect us’: Days before holiday shopping season, shooting at Mayfair mall could impact future business’; ‘Business owner Dan Zierath finally gets his Mexican restaurant approved after previous denials’; ‘Draft and Vessel, with locations in Shore...’ - Evan Casey.

Honorable Mention: *Superior Telegram*, ‘Facing shortage, Maple School District raises substitute teacher pay’; ‘Reimagined journalism program returns to UWS, public leadership program kicks off’; ‘Northwestern, Superior yearbooks share historic moments through a student lens’ - Maria Lockwood.

Competition Comments: Lots of good business reporting submitted. Enjoyed reading each entry.

Super job, 

CARI CORNELIUS

YOU MAKE THE SUN-ARGUS
& WOODVILLE LEADER
GREAT!

GATEWAY PUBLISHING, INC

Division D

First Place: *Door County Advocate*, ‘Door County concert series try to plan for 2021 amid COVID-19 uncertainties’; ‘German Christmas market in Sister Bay expected to be a big attraction’; ‘New full-service gun shop opening in Sturgeon Bay with innovative indoor shooting range’ - Christopher Clough.

Second Place: *Door County Advocate*, ‘Wisconsin Dells, Door County tourism is surging – but businesses are struggling to find employees’; ‘The Dorr Hotel in Sister Bay honors Door County’s Scandinavian heritage, aims for younger guests’; ‘Room tax, short-term rentals: Here’s what could change’ - Daphne Lemke, Christopher Clough, Isabel Koyama.

Third Place: *Barron News-Shield*, ‘McEwens sell business to Milwaukee firm’; ‘Lots of local help through Payroll Protection Program’; ‘Barron County company recognized for innovation’ - Bob Zientara.

Honorable Mention: *The Chronotype*, ‘Spring cleaning made simple’; ‘Seed Song Flowers is in tune with nature’; ‘Baker blends upbringing into her desserts’ - Ruth Erickson.

Division E

First Place: *Crawford County Independent & The Kickapoo Scout*, ‘Gays Mills has a lot going on’ - Charley Preusser. Judge’s Comments: I enjoyed reading your articles. Their subjects were interesting and well reported on. I appreciated the context you gave for each of them, detailing the stories simply and with clear direction. Well done. For next time, it would have been helpful to clearly headline

your entry as the instructions state. It was a bit confusing to search for your submissions.

Second Place: *Sun-Argus*, ‘Shortage economy and supply chain issues continue to persist’; ‘Fall in love with Maple Leaf Orchard’; ‘IRS pushes filing deadline, tips from a tax professional’ - Cari Cornelius. Judge’s Comments: I appreciated the topics you chose to report on and how you were able to deliver a broad topic and relate it to the specific community. I also enjoyed your writing style. One area to improve would be to simplify the ideas a bit for the reader so it is more concise. Well done.

Third Place: *Sun-Argus*, ‘Vino in the Valley celebrates 15th year’; ‘Ra’s on Main expands’; ‘Mooney’s Rusty Horse has a grand opening’ - Paul J. Seeling. Judge’s Comments: I enjoyed the submissions, especially the first. The first article in particular had excellent storytelling of the vineyard from inception to present. I would have liked the board meeting story to be more focused on the new library director rather than presenting minutes of the meeting. Similarly, with the story on the pastors, I would have preferred interview style reporting or your interpretation of his report, rather than hearing directly from the pastor. Overall, great work.

Honorable Mention: *Crawford County Independent & The Kickapoo Scout*, ‘Driftless Region stimulates diverse business undertakings’ - Gillian Pomplun. Judge’s Comments: I like your use of sub-headers to organize the information, and I especially enjoyed the creativity of your topics. I also liked that your submissions were about people in the context of their businesses. However, each story was extremely detailed, which took away

from the clarity of the story. Well done with style and subject matter.

Local Column

Division A

First Place: *Leader-Telegram*, ‘A shot in the arm’; ‘The odds of rain’; ‘The purpose of firewood’ - Nickolas Butler.

Second Place: *Wisconsin State Journal*, ‘Mining continues to threaten river’; ‘Grooming the trails’; ‘Volunteers swarm Boscobel in aftermath of tornado’ - Barry Adams.

Third Place: *The Cap Times*, ‘If you give Donald Trump a democracy, he’s going to ask for your unconditional loyalty’; ‘Salute to a hometown champion from the other side of the aisle’; ‘Wisconsinites deserve safe water - and lawmakers who will fight PFAS contamination’ - Jessie Opoien.

Honorable Mention: *Green Bay Press-Gazette*, ‘Packers win, but Lambeau devoid of fans is just weird on game day’; ‘Packers get stuffed on Thanksgiving’; ‘These

websites have some interesting things to say’ - Richard Ryman. **Competition Comments:** There were a lot of well-written entries, so it was difficult to decide who was first, second, third and honorable.

Division B

First Place: *Beloit Daily News*, ‘A pandemic grandson marks first birthday’ - Bill Barth. Judge’s Comments: Bill Barth’s columns are informative and cover a wide range of topics: social issues, censorship and even sports. Each column pulled the reader in and made them care about the topic. Excellent work!

Second Place: *Herald Times Reporter*, ‘Trapp Family Singers entertained in Manitowoc 67 years ago’; ‘Manitowoc icon Ruth West was an avid gardener, patron of the arts and beloved humanitarian’; ‘Amelia Earhart visited Manitowoc the year before she disappeared. Here’s what happened.’ - Bob Fay. Judge’s Comments: The submission focusing on Amelia Earhart’s visit was an exceptional topic for a local history column. It was well researched and had just the right

SAWDUST STORIES

A shot in the arm



The morning was unseasonably mild, and the parking lot of the church was packed. I walked into the church where two security guards directed me to a queue off to my right, and there I stood, in line, 6 feet apart from the men standing before and after me. Everyone wore a mask, everyone seemed somber and abided by the rules, and we shuffled forward, deeper into the church, as if we were marching to Sunday communion. The waiting turned me introspective. Of course, it’s all too

easy to dive into the screen of my cell phone and avoid that introspection, that examination. But like billions of other humans on this planet, I’d been eagerly awaiting this very moment, the day when I would be able to roll up my sleeve and feel the needle push into my arm. And so, I very consciously did not look at my phone. I looked at the other people in line. I looked at the workers, diligently processing our names and insurance and general health. I thought about everything that has happened since about March of 2020 when life as we knew it was unended.

Thought about those first weeks of the safer-at-home measures, when we still didn’t quite understand the facts of COVID-19, how deadly or contagious it was. Thought of my mom coming over to our house, just to say hello, to make some human contact, and how nervous I was accepting her into our home. Then, weeks later, when we decided as a family that we were going through the pandemic with my mom, and that she wouldn’t be alone, even if there was a risk of somehow introducing the disease to her.

SEE SAWDUST PAGE 2A

Nickolas Butler

Butler is the internationally best-selling and prize-winning author of “Shotgun Lovesongs,” “Beneath the Bonfire,” “The Hearts of Men” and “Little Faith.” His books have been translated in more than nine languages and optioned by Hollywood for film and TV. His fifth book, “Godspeed” will be published by Putnam in 2021. Follow him on Instagram and Twitter at @wisconbutler or on Facebook or Goodreads.

Local Column, First Place (Division A)
Leader-Telegram, Eau Claire

presentation. Great work!

Third Place: *Daily Jefferson County Union*, 'The Vaccine and Me'; 'Troyer Rexall Drugs'; 'Senior activity inspires' - Pam Chickering Wilson. Judge's Comments: Who could argue the premise for these columns - How to live well without going broke? We're sure readers appreciate the insights provided by Ms. Wilson. Really solid columns!

Division C

First Place: *Vilas County News-Review*, 'The stories live on'; 'Musky tails - er, tales'; 'Information two-laner' - Eric Johnson. Judge's Comments: This was the winner by far. The entries varied widely and show the writer's skill at tackling any subject and making it both informative and entertaining for readers. Excellent work.

Second Place: *Peninsula Pulse*, 'Let's Assume the Best of Each Other'; 'Two Roads, One County'; 'Giving is a Key to Success' - Bret Bicoy. Judge's Comments: Thought-provoking columns of local interest.

Third Place: *Peninsula Pulse*, 'What Keeps Me Up At Night'; 'At One Time or Another We're All Tourists'; 'We're All Privileged' - Debra Fitzgerald. Judge's Comments: Writer does a good job of explaining her views.

Honorable Mention: *The Lakeland Times*, Movie reviews: 'Raya and the Last Dragon'; 'Godzilla vs. Kong'; 'A Quiet Place Part II' - Brett LaBore. Judge's Comments: Comprehensive and enthusiastic movie reviews.

Division D

First Place: *Ashland Daily Press*, 'Addiction claims another gentle

soul' - Peter Wasson.

Second Place: *Trempealeau County Times*, 'Just Another Week' - Andrew Dannehy.

Third Place: *Sawyer County Record*, 'A day spent with a new friend named Mr. Gillis'; 'Before citing history, read it first'; 'Hayward Indian School an ugly history' - Rich Jackson.

Honorable Mention: *The Record-Review*, 'Everywhere I go I find a pal' - Peter Weinschenk.

Division E

First Place: *Crawford County Independent & The Kickapoo Scout*, 'Jane's World' - Jane Schmidt.

Second Place: *The Freedom Pursuit*, 'From My Mind Only' - Angie Griepentrog.

Third Place: *Fennimore Times*, 'About our Times' - Matt Johnson.

Local Sports Column

Daily Division

First Place: *The Journal Times*, 'Farewell To A Friend'; 'A Rapid Ascent'; 'Without Bob, We're Blue' - Peter Jackel. Judge's Comments: Peter Jackel with *The Journal Times* provides effective, award-winning, local sports columns with topics that are reader-friendly to all.

Second Place: *The Gazette*, 'Approach of prep football stirs memory of a lost friend'; 'Kickoff hopefully a harbinger of return to normal'; 'Field of Dreams game was all it was cracked up to be' - David Vantress. Judge's Comments: The *Gazette's* David Vantress offers local sports columns that are topical, and compelling, and easily grab the reader's attention.

Third Place: *Leader-Telegram*, 'Rough Forecast'; 'Year brought reminder of why we love sports'; 'Unique Path' - Jack Goods. Judge's Comments: The *Leader-Telegram*

Jack Goods delivers the goods with compelling and effective local sports columns.

Honorable Mention: *The Chippewa Herald*, 'A victory for many', 'Returning to normal', 'Set up for future' - Brandon Berg. Judge's Comments: Effective, local sports columns, are on display by *The Chippewa Herald's* Brandon Berg.

Weekly Division

First Place: *The Monroe Times*, 'Most of baseball's unwritten rules should be phased out'; '50 years later, the 414 is titletown again'; 'Goodbye college conferences' - Adam Krebs.

Second Place: *Oconomowoc Enterprise*, 'Sportsmanship differs'; 'Giannis impression hits'; 'Local LOL legends' - Mark Hutchinson.

Third Place: *Spoooner Advocate*, 'Minnesota Moose'; 'Ron Neitge'; 'Spoooner Rodeo' - Bill Thornley. **Honorable Mention:** *Trempealeau County Times*, 'The Whole Nine Yards' - Zac Bellman.

Local Outdoor Column

Overall Division

First Place: *Spoooner Advocate*, 'Deer diary'; 'Owl'; 'Wobbly legs' - Bill Thornley. Judge's Comments: Excellent writing in a personal manner that draws the reader in. Once in, the information provides a learning experience as well.

Second Place: *The Chetek Alert*, 'Dealing with the loss of a four-legged friend'; 'Cast, troll for northern pike-tips for summertime gators'; 'Forage season 'ramp-ing' up across Badger State' - Tyler Florczak. Judge's Comments: Personal experience and additional detail within the columns bring

Addiction claims another gentle soul

Most of the time, when I hear about another overdose death, I say a quick, "there but for the grace of god..." and go on about my day.

But as I write this, I've just learned of one that hits particularly close to home, and might for readers, too.

Nathan Thomas was a local cook. He was a devoted Christian. He was an uncle and a brother and a fantasy role-playing gamer capable of a great belly laugh.

He also was a drug addict who lost his battle.

I knew Nate because we traveled in some of the same circles and attended some of the same meetings when he was doing his damndest to stay clean. Readers may remember him from stories we did about a local Christian café where Nate was a cook — or a story we did in February about Nate and some other folks living homeless in Ashland when it was 20-below out.

"I lost everything because of my addiction," Nate said at the time. "It really destroyed my life, man. It took everything from me. It took my job, it took



Nate Thomas a couple of years ago, frying up a burger when he was clean and sober and working at a local cafe.

my home, and it took my family, everything.

"Given the choice between drugs and a warm place to stay for the night, I'd choose drugs every time."

That's the reality of addiction — a disease so powerful that people in its throes will sacrifice anything for the next drink, the next drug. It's inexplicable, really. Especially because guys like Nate are so kind, generous and loving when they are clean and sober.

I watched Nate during one of his clean periods, playing cards with his niece and talking excitedly about starting a Dungeons & Dragons group with others in the local recovery

community.

But a few weeks later, the drugs were back in control, and they never again loosened their grip.

There are countless stories like that here in the Bay Area. Every overdose, every fatal drunken crash, every addict who simply disappears, they all have similar tales to tell.

Good people with a bad disease.

That's why organizations like the local Voices of Recovery exist. They remind us that there are addicts who get clean and transform back into those people they were before — kind, gentle, loving men and women who become parents,

business owners, solid employees, volunteers.

I know a lot of them in our community.

I also know quite a few who have succumbed to the disease. Just like any other disease, they wanted to get better. Some did all the right things — took the treatment and followed their doctor's guidance. But the disease was too powerful.

There are such unfortunates. They are not at fault.

Unfortunately, we hear all too often about those who don't make it, rather than those who do. Often accompanied by words of scorn or derision.

But I think it's important to remember that we can never give up — never stop giving addicts the support they need, any more than we would stop hoping that a cancer or diabetes patient recovered.

I will choose to remember Nate as the man he was the last time I saw him, playing cards, laughing, sharing fellowship with friends and fighting his disease. I'm sure others who knew and loved him will, too, and I hope readers will remember that every time they read or hear about another overdose, it represents a warm, loving and caring person taken from us too early.

Peter J. Wasson is managing editor of the *Ashland Daily Press*.



PETER J. WASSON

Local Column, First Place (Division D)

Ashland Daily Press

out emotion and facts. Good combination of the two.

Third Place: *Vilas County News-Review*, 'Gotta love this 'working remote' business'; 'Rich deer hunting tradition in jeopardy'; 'Not just another night on the trout stream' - Kurt Krueger. Judge's Comments: Good combination of factual info and personal experience to make a column what a column should be. **Honorable Mention:** *Ashland Daily Press*, 'Not everyone's a fan of this tiny, noisy frog' - Sarah Morris. Judge's Comments: A lot of info packed into these columns. Good job.

Rookie Reporter of the Year

Daily Division

First Place: *Green Bay Press-Gazette* - Alexandria Bursiek Kloehn.

Judge's Comments: New reporter or not-so-new, she does good work. While she may not be covering the most exciting beat, she is finding exciting things to cover and to make news for readers. The closing of a long-term restaurant, a look at what's not happening downtown, and an interesting proposal for a new business area is a nice variety of news. With this type of work, she appears to be doing well as a reporter and suggests she will continue to produce interesting stories. I would hire her.

Second Place: *The Journal Times* - Diana Panuncial. Judge's Comments: This young reporter tackled two hate stories writing about ways in which to combat hate and show what people can do. She also showed a soft touch writing about the handouts of house blueprints drawn by her father during his career. The man's daughter



Rookie Reporter of the Year, First Place (Daily Division)
Alexandria Bursiek Kloehn, Green Bay Press-Gazette



Rookie Reporter of the Year, First Place (Weekly Division)
Joe Schulz, Ripon Commonwealth Press

drives down each weekend to help her mother deliver the blueprints to each home, whether the person know they were coming or not. In the hate stories, she recounted how a man is speaking out and how basketball players have formed a organization against guns and showing people can work against them. You would enjoy any of the three stories. The reporter may be a rookie, but I doubt that you think of her that way.

Third Place: *The Reporter* - Daphne Lemke. Judge's Comments: While this is a rookie reporter nominee, the depth of stories she is handling is not rookie reporter stories. She has written stories which take a lot of research, finding about facts, and putting all that information into stories. The stories are not easy to write for general interest. A good reporter now and appears to be one who will continue her work.

Competition Comments: These are rookie reporter stories, but they are interesting ones. If I were picking the stories that might be the rookie reporter stories, these would not be the stories I picked. They are well written and cover some interesting stories. I doubt that your readers see the reporters as rookie stories. If I were still an editor and newspaper owner, I would not hesitate hiring any of these reporters.

Weekly Division

First Place: *Ripon Commonwealth Press* - Joe Schulz. Judge's Comments: Reporter shows ability to cover a wide range of important topics and cover them well. Keep up the good work!

Second Place: *The Monroe Times* - Angie Maag. Judge's Comments: Interesting profiles of these community members. Reporter shows strong writing ability.

General News Photo

Division A

First Place: *Green Bay Press-Gazette*, 'Man in a helmet votes during the Nov. 3 elections' - Sarah Klopping.

Second Place: *The Gazette*, A sudden market crash - Anthony Wahl.

Third Place: *The Journal Times*, 'Homeless get their COVID-19 vaccines in a special popup clinic at HALO' - Scott Williams.

Honorable Mention: *The Post-Crescent*, 'Miss Rock River Valley Jennifer Schmidt is named the new Miss Wisconsin' - Bill Glasheen.

Division B

First Place: *Wausau Daily Herald*, 'Spin Sisters pole, flow and spin arts classes in Wausau' - Tork Mason.

Second Place: *Wausau Daily Herald*, 'Executive Director Marge Gibson holds an owl as its X-ray scans

appear on the monitor at Antigo bird rehab center' - Samantha Madar.

Third Place: *Daily Jefferson County Union*, 'Hero' - Randall Dullum.

Honorable Mention: *Daily Globe*, 'Kids learn about bubble-ology' - Tom LaVenture.

Division C

First Place: *The Valders Journal*, 'Face Mask Showdown' - Brian Thomsen. Judge's Comments: Picture is framed/cropped nicely and tells the story.

Second Place: *Vilas County News-Review*, 'Hold On' - Kurt Krueger. Judge's Comments: Great expression with good perspective.

Third Place: *The Lakeland Times*, 'Pillow Fight' - Dean Hall. Judge's Comments: Great action and framed picture.

Honorable Mention: *The Monroe Times*, 'Fun at the Green County Fair' - Angie Maag. Judge's Comments: Tells the story good emotion and cropping.

Division E

First Place: *Spoooner Advocate*, 'Look of pure joy' - Bill Thornley. Judge's Comments: Shows another side of the event with great emotion.

Second Place: *Crawford County Independent & The Kickapoo Scout*, 'New chef at J&J on Main' - Charley Preusser. Judge's Comments: Great action for the story.

Third Place: *The Northwoods River News*, 'Newbold Town Clerk Kim Gauthier' - Jamie Taylor. Judge's Comments: Fits perfect with story and good crop.

Honorable Mention: *The Northwoods River News*, 'Reaction shot' - Bob Mainhardt. Judge's Comments: Shows emotion.

Second Place: *The Gazette*, Chief: 'Rural Rock County home destroyed by electrical fire' - Anthony Wahl. Judge's Comments: Just a great shot! Great job!

Third Place: *The Post-Crescent*, 'Shoppers are escorted by police out of the Fox River Mall in Grand Chute' - Bill Glasheen. Judge's Comments: Scary situation but a powerful photo. Great job!

Honorable Mention: *The Post-Crescent*, 'Fox Crossing and Grand Chute firefighters work to contain a house fire' - Dan Powers. Judge's Comments: Gives a small look into a firefighters life. Great job!

Division B

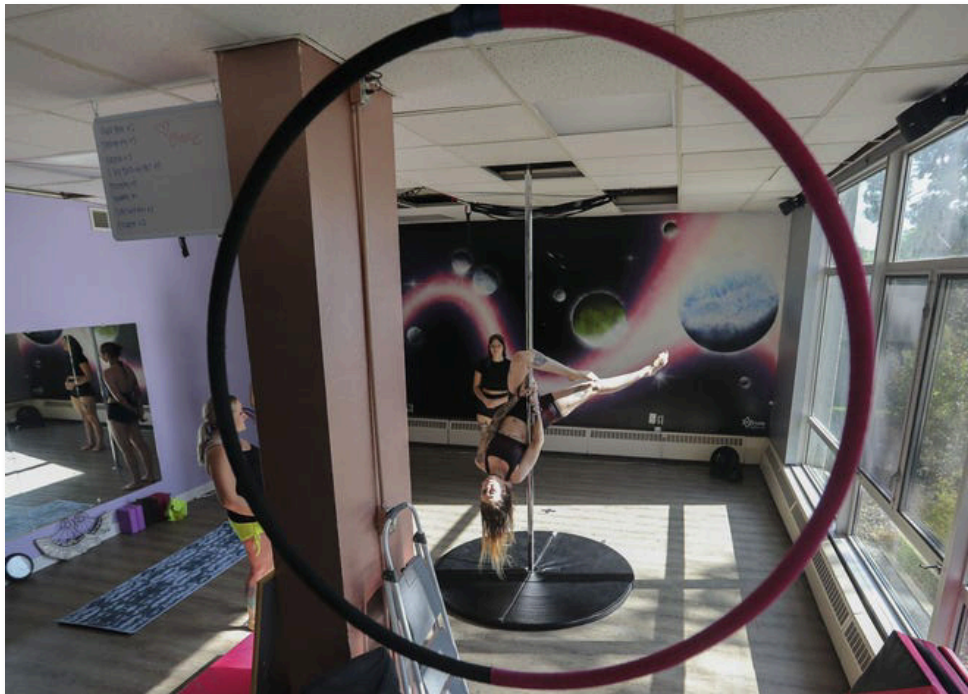
First Place: *Wausau Daily Herald*, 'Family and friends attend a candlelight vigil for Renee Caird in Weston' - Samantha Madar. Judge's Comments: This photo captured a community in grief. Violence affects a community not just the family. Great job!

Second Place: *Daily Jefferson County Union*, 'No Known Injuries' - Pam Chickering Wilson. Judge's

Spot News Photo

Division A

First Place: *The Gazette*, 'Former fire chief was man killed in Rome home explosion' - Anthony Wahl. Judge's Comments: Amazing photo from above. Great job!



General News Photo, First Place (Division B)
Wausau Daily Herald



General News Photo, First Place (Division C)
The Valders Journal

Comments: I really liked the layout of the photos. These photos told the story. Great job!

Third Place: *Beloit Daily News*, 'Chemtool Fire' - Clint Wolf.

Judge's Comments: The contrast between the fire, smoke and rainbow was amazing. Great job!

Honorable Mention: *Wausau Daily Herald*, 'Storm damage buries Weston house in trees' - Tork Mason. Judge's Comments: Lots of detailed photos to tell this story. Great job!

Competition Comments: This was a difficult category to choose. They all were very well done.

Division C

First Place: *Waukesha County Now*, 'Extensive damage is visible on Jim Zastrow's home' - Scott Ash. Judge's Comments: Great photo. Really unique to see the car in the garage under the house even after the tornado has torn most of the walls away.

Second Place: *The Lakeland Times*, 'One Dead in Iron County Crash' - Dean Hall. Judge's Comments:

Excellent framing and composition offers a good overall view of the crash scene.

Third Place: *Vilas County News-Review*, 'Vehicle Rollover' - Eric Johnson. Judge's Comments:

The white snow and evergreen background offer a good contrast to the uniformed firefighters and vehicle rolled over on its side off the road. Well done.

Honorable Mention: *Superior Telegram*, 'Superior standoff ends with woman jumping from second-story window' - Jed Carlson. Judge's Comments: The eyes of the dog tell you everything in this photo.

Division D

First Place: *The Monroe Times* - Adam Krebs. Judge's Comments: With all the cuts and down-sizing at newspapers, it's impressive, and commendable to still have a staff member available for news stories in its community. Adam Krebs has a great 'eye' for catching the shots that capture the story for the readers.

Second Place: *The Valders Journal*, 'Up in Smoke' - Brian Thomsen.

Judge's Comments: Photo really captures the severity of the blaze! Extra points for not cropping and using a 3-column layout.

Third Place: *The Valders Journal*, 'Checking on His Neighbor' - Brian Thomsen. Judge's Comments: This photo alone tells a human interest story. I think readers will feel an emotional connection. Excellent picture for a community newspaper and the unfortunate event that's behind it.

Honorable Mention: *The Monroe Times*, 'Art Therapy at Twining Park' - Angie Maag. Judge's Comments: Readers love pictures like this. I believe they find it delightful, (a youth engrossed in a project) and engaging (what is the child doing?) so that they'll want to read the story. A very complimentary picture for the story.

Division E

First Place: *The Northwoods River News*, 'Firefighters and first responders' - Jamie Taylor. Judge's

Comments: What a shot! The severity and tragedy of the accident CLEARLY comes through on this photo. Extra points for 3-column layout. Good reporting too.

Second Place: *Spooner Advocate*, 'Wildfire season grassfire' - Julie Hustvet. Judge's Comments: Readers really relate to this kind of photo. It's in the moment, and something that they can relate to emotionally considering the potential in wildfires getting out of control. Extra points for placing it 4-column wide layout and not cropping it.

Third Place: *Crawford County Independent & The Kickapoo Scout*, 'Damage to bridge from Citron Creek flash flood' - Gillian Pomplun. Judge's Comments: Impressive photo - but seems like it's cropped, too bad considering the front page coverage.

Honorable Mention: *The Cambridge News and Deerfield Independent*, 'Slide' - Madeline Westberg. Judge's Comments: Great



General News Photo, First Place (Division E)
Spooner Advocate



Spot News Photo, First Place (Division A)
The Gazette, Janesville

action shot. Readers get a kick out of seeing their kids in the paper, and on the front page all the more!

Sports Action Photo

Division A

First Place: *The Post-Crescent*, 'All eyes on Aaron Jones as he finds some running room against the Rams' - Dan Powers. Judge's Comments: Truly an amazing shot, that makes me feel like the players are just feet away. Great job.

Second Place: *The Post-Crescent*, 'Collision at home plate' - Bill Glasheen. Judge's Comments: Perfectly timed capture - excellent shot!

Third Place: *Green Bay Press-Gazette*, 'Green Bay Notre Dame player dragging along Bay Port player in football game' - Samantha Madar. Judge's Comments: Amazing - the player in the background is caught "levitating" a few inches above the ground. Super cool!

Honorable Mention: *The Gazette*, 'Perez, Elks take big step' - Anthony Wahl. Judge's Comments: The various facial expressions in this shot make it memorable.

Division B

First Place: *Wausau Daily Herald*, 'Wausau West running back breaks through a tackle' - Tork Mason. Judge's Comments: Great capture with a crisp, clean look.

Second Place: *The Sheboygan Press*, 'Vanderpan track meet' - Gary Klein. Judge's Comments: I wish I knew what these runners were thinking. This shot just makes me smile!

Third Place: *Daily Tribune*, 'Finish line at WIAA Division 3 state track meet' - Tork Mason. Judge's

Comments: The absolute joy on this runner's face is wonderful!

Honorable Mention: *Daily Globe*, 'On to Green Bay' - Jason Juno. Judge's Comments: Another example of the wonderful effectiveness of b/w photography. The emotion on the girls' faces is priceless.

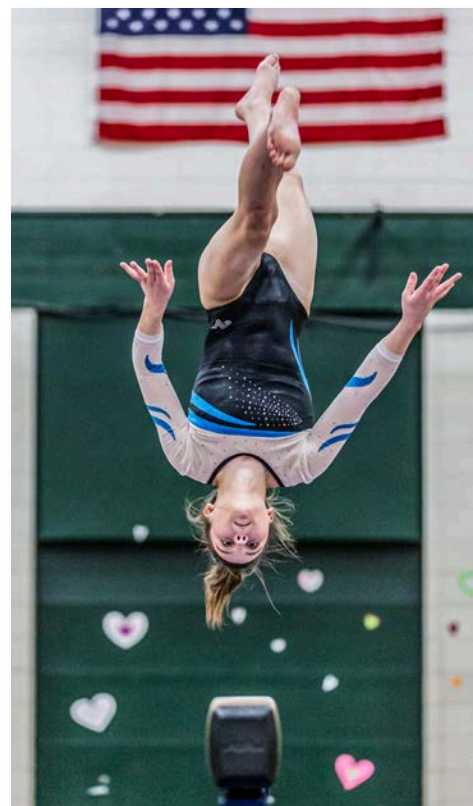
Division C

First Place: *Northwest Now*, 'Menomonee Falls/Germantown co-op gymnast Miranda Knabe competes on the beam' - Scott Ash.

Second Place: *North Shore Now*, 'Kimberly's Mckenzie Vosters competes in the long jump' - Scott Ash.

Third Place: *West Now*, 'DSHA's Caitlyn O'Brien competes in the long jump' - Scott Ash.

Honorable Mention: *Superior Telegram*, 'Making the catch' - Jed Carlson.



Sports Action Photo, First Place (Division C)
Northwest Now, Milwaukee

Division D

First Place: *The Record-Review*, 'Never gonna give you up' - Ross Pattermann.

Second Place: *The Star News*, 'Ben Meyer diving to catch baseball' - Matt Frey.

Third Place: *The Star News*, 'Soccer team wins section shootout' - Matt Frey.

Honorable Mention: *The Monroe Times* - Adam Krebs.

Division E

First Place: *Spoooner Advocate*, 'Safe on the slide' - Bill Thornley.

Second Place: *The Freedom Pursuit*, 'Abby Bredael shot' - Jessi Griepentrog.

Third Place: *The Tribune-Phonograph*, 'Getting Dirty' - Ross Pattermann.

Honorable Mention: *The Freedom Pursuit*, 'Ben Vosters ball carrier' -

Angie Griepentrog.

Sports Feature Photo

Daily Division

First Place: *The Post-Crescent*, 'Young baseball player celebrates a victory in the Major Baseball City Championship game' - Dan Powers.

Second Place: *Stevens Point Journal*, 'A shot put lands in bounds during the WIAA Division 1 state track and field meet' - Tork Mason.

Third Place: *The Post-Crescent*, 'Arrowhead High School wrestling coaches jump for joy' - Bill Glasheen.

Honorable Mention: *The Post-Crescent*, 'Wauwatosa East High School's Marsean Billips celebrates a victory against Kimberly High School' - Dan Powers.



Sports Action Photo, First Place (Division D)
The Record-Review, Edgar

Division C

First Place: *North Shore Now*, 'USM players celebrate with goalie Dara Omoloja' - Scott Ash. Judge's Comments: Love the emotion on the players' faces. This picture truly is worth a thousand words!

Second Place: *Lake Country Now*, 'Jon Travers of Florida places second in the men's slalom' - Scott Ash. Judge's Comments: Fantastic shot taken at just the right moment!

Third Place: *Peninsula Pulse*, 'Some Day' - Brett Kosmider. Judge's Comments: Poignant shot that has

great perspective and tells a full story.

Honorable Mention: *Superior Telegram*, 'Photo ready' - Jed Carlson. Judge's Comments: Very cool picture! Not the typical entry in a sports category, but I love it.

Division D

First Place: *The Record-Review*, 'A dream fulfilled' - Casey Krautkramer.

Second Place: *Dodge County Pioneer*, 'Jennings' Confetti' - Mitchell Keller.

Third Place: *The Valdres Journal*, 'Gentle Giants' - Brian Thomsen.

Honorable Mention: *The Record-Review*, 'Battle for every possession' - Ross Pattermann.

Division E

First Place: *Spoooner Advocate*, 'Playoff loss ends season' - Bill Thornley. Judge's Comments: This is a very emotional shot - you can read the coach's eyes and see the disappointment there. Great capture.

Second Place: *The Freedom Pursuit*, 'Calvin Schuh runs to dugout' - Angie Griepentrog. Judge's Comments: Fun picture, with a joyful little boy lighting it up!

Third Place: *The Tribune-Phonograph*, 'A Moment Of Triumph' - Ross Pattermann. Judge's Comments: This shot proves that b/w pictures can be just as effective as color. Great shot!

Honorable Mention: *The Northwoods River News*, 'Rhineland High School softball coach D.J. Demeyer' - Jeremy Mayo. Judge's

Comments: Very cool perspective and angle.

Feature Photo

Division A

First Place: *The Gazette*, 'Fireworks show takes center stage' - Anthony Wahl.

Second Place: *Leader-Telegram*, 'Cuddling Before Competition' - Dan Reiland.

Third Place: *The Post-Crescent*, 'Kids hang out in hammocks on a pleasant spring day in Menasha' - Dan Powers.

Honorable Mention: *Wisconsin State Journal*, 'Rope Swing' - Amber Jensen.

Division B

First Place: *Stevens Point Journal*, 'Child cools off in Stevens Point during heat wave' - Tork Mason.

Second Place: *EagleHerald*, 'Breakfast blocking' - John Liesveld.
Third Place: *EagleHerald*, 'Recess



Sports Feature Photo, First Place (Division C)
North Shore Now, Milwaukee



Feature Photo, First Place (Division A)
The Gazette, Janesville

Hang-out' - Rick Gebhard.

Honorable Mention: *EagleHerald*, 'High wire pole positioning' - John Liesveld.

Division C

First Place: *Southwest Now*, 'Eli Timmerman, 8, of West Allis, goes for a ride' - Scott Ash. Judge's Comments: Great timing. You can see the determination in the boys face.

Second Place: *Lake Country Now*, 'Skiers launch off the dock' - Scott Ash. Judge's Comments: I absolutely love this photo. The lighting and color is great along with perfect timing.

Third Place: *Lake Country Now*, 'Tunnel of 30,000 lights' - Scott Ash. Judge's Comments: Great photo composure. And technically very well done.

Honorable Mention: *South Now*, 'Snowboarder Michael Harris of Franklin enjoys a picturesque evening' - Scott Ash.

Division D

First Place: *Lake Geneva Regional News*, 'A sweet embrace' - Stephanie Jones.

Second Place: *Dodge County Pionier*, 'Rollie's Taps' - Mitchell Keller.

Third Place: *Lake Geneva Regional News*, 'Dressed to the nines, Sharon Model A Day' - Dennis Hines.

Honorable Mention: *The Record-Review*, 'Is there something on my face?' - Ross Pattermann.

Division E

First Place: *The Tribune-Phonograph*, 'No eggs, but plenty of candy' - Ross Pattermann. Judge's Comments: Love the faces and the placement of the subjects in the photo. Great job!

Second Place: *The Northwoods River News*, 'Nothing like the fair' - Jamie Taylor. Judge's Comments: You can feel the excitement the kiddos faces. Great timing.

Third Place: *The Northwoods River News*, 'Eagle nests' - Dean Hall.

Judge's Comments: Unusual photo but the light and darks are very well done and makes the photo more dramatic.

Honorable Mention: *Spooner Advocate*, 'Puppy love' - Bill Thornley.

Artistic Photo

Division A

First Place: *Leader-Telegram*, Morning Frost - Dan Reiland.

Judge's Comments: This looks like a holiday card! Very well done.

Second Place: *Wisconsin State Journal*, Summer Swing - John Hart. Judge's Comments: This looks like a painting and the cover of a young adult novel.

Third Place: *The Post-Crescent*, Airplane crosses in front of sun turned hazy due to wildfires in West - Bill Glasheen. Judge's Comments: I don't know how the photographer

took this photo but it is very cool and eye catching.

Honorable Mention: *The Gazette*, Frosty scene - Anthony Wahl. Judge's Comments: This is an interesting photo and looks like a cover of a dystopian novel involving global cooling.

Competition Comments: This was a really tough one to judge — there were so many great photos that were entered. Everyone brought something that would make readers stop and really focus on the art. Well done.

Division B

First Place: *EagleHerald*, 'Angling from the Pier' - John Liesveld.

Judge's Comments: I was immediately taken with this photo — the colors, the perspective, the lines, very eye catching.

Second Place: *The Sheboygan Press*, 'Making Spirits Bright' - Gary Klein. Judge's Comments: We always run light display photos too, but I liked the use of the car light



Feature Photo, First Place (Division D)
Lake Geneva Regional News



Feature Photo, First Place (Division B)
Stevens Point Journal

“trails” to do something different with it. Good job.

Third Place: *Wausau Daily Herald*, ‘Wausau street during a snowstorm’ - Samantha Madar. Judge’s Comments: All of the photos were very well framed and were interesting.

Honorable Mention: *Watertown Daily Times*, ‘Watertown Goslings’ - Ed Zagorski. Judge’s Comments: I liked the first picture of the mama and baby goose. Very cute.

Competition Comments: A lot of very well-done photos that will catch readers’ eyes.

Division C

First Place: *Superior Telegram*, ‘Lake Superior Ice Festival Fireworks’ - Jed Carlson.

Second Place: *Superior Telegram*, ‘Lights, Santa bring holiday cheer in Douglas County’ - Jed Carlson.

Third Place: *The Lakeland Times*, ‘Licia Kuckkahn Johnson flips her wet hair’ - Dean Hall.

Honorable Mention: *Peninsula*



Artistic Photo, First Place (Division C)
Superior Telegram

Pulse, ‘Bay Thaw’ - Brett Kosmider.

Division D

First Place: *Lake Geneva Regional News*, ‘Winter beauty’ - Stephanie Jones, Steve Targo.

Second Place: *The Star News*, ‘Frost’ - Brian Wilson.

Third Place: *The Record-Review*, ‘Fireworks in the background of the carnival’ - Casey Krautkramer.

Honorable Mention: *Lake Geneva Regional News*, ‘The pier’ - Steve Targo.

Division E

First Place: *The Pierce County Journal*, ‘Flood Run’ - John McLoone.

Second Place: *Crawford County Independent & The Kickapoo Scout*, ‘Apple Blossom’ - Charley Preusser.

Third Place: *The Tribune-Phonograph*, ‘Cold and colorful’ - Kevin O’Brien.

Honorable Mention: *Spoooner Advocate*, ‘Forest ghost’ - Bill Thornley.

Photo Essay

Division A

First Place: *The Cap Times*, ‘Time stood still: Photos capture the pandemic ‘before times’ - Ruthie Hauge. Judge’s Comments: This idea was a great one, and the photographer did a phenomenal job! It’s all very photos from an apocalypse.

Second Place: *Green Bay Press-Gazette*, ‘See the boxers of Soaring Eagle Boxing Club in action’ - Samantha Madar. Judge’s Comments: This photographer really

has a great eye for different angles and interesting ways to tell the story.

Third Place: *Leader-Telegram* - Efrain Sueldo. Judge’s Comments: Those are really great wildlife photos!

Honorable Mention: *The Cap Times*, ‘From closets to restaurants; the classrooms of virtual learning’ - Ruthie Hauge. Judge’s Comments: An interesting look at where all children were doing their virtual schooling.

Competition Comments: There was some really great storytelling done with these essays. Very impressive work by everyone in this category.



Artistic Photo, First Place (Division B)
EagleHerald, Marinette



Artistic Photo, First Place (Division A)
Leader-Telegram, Eau Claire

Division B

First Place: *EagleHerald*, 'Breath of Fresh Air' - Rick Gebhard, Melissa Kowalczyk. Judge's Comments: I really liked the layout of this package good job to designer – and it was a nice event coverage.

Second Place: *The Chippewa Herald*, 'Scenes from state' - Brandon Berg. Judge's Comments: Good essay of sports coverage that wasn't the usual.

Third Place: *Watertown Daily Times*, 'King for a day: Colletti turns 100' - Ed Zagorski. Judge's Comments: Nice community essay for the schoolteacher/100-year-old.

Honorable Mention: *Watertown Daily Times*, 'Training Day: Preparing for the worst' - Ed Zagorski. Judge's Comments: Interesting photo essay of training and something everyone might not see otherwise.

Competition Comments: I think all the photo essays submitted will draw readers in and cover the event nicely. Good job.



Photo Essay, First Place (Division B)
***EagleHerald*, Marinette**

Division C

First Place: *Vilas County News-Review*, 'Spring Show' - Kurt Krueger.

Second Place: *Superior Telegram*, 'Playing with foxes?' - Jed Carlson.

Third Place: *The Lakeland Times*, 'Ghost deer' - Dean Hall.

Honorable Mention: *Monroe County Herald*, 'Soggy Strides' - Nate Beier.

Division D

First Place: *Sawyer County Record*, 'Lumberjack World Championships' - Terrell Boettcher. Judge's Comments: Great pics.

Second Place: *The Star News*, 'Parkfest' - Sarah Komarek, Brian Wilson.

Third Place: *The Monroe Times* - Adam Krebs.

Division E

First Place: *Grant County Herald Independent*, 'Olympic Hopefuls' - A.J. Gates.

Second Place: *Crawford County Independent & The Kickapoo Scout*, 'Gays Mills Spring Festival 2021' - Charley Preusser, Gillian Pomplun. Judge's Comments: LOVE the little boy on the steer! Amazing photo.

Third Place: *Crawford County Independent & The Kickapoo Scout*, 'Seneca Ridge & Valley Rally 2021' - Charley Preusser.

Honorable Mention: *The Northwoods River News*, 'Hodag Run For Your Life' - Jeremy Mayo.

Photo Gallery

Division A

First Place: *The Gazette*, 'Lake Geneva's illuminated Ice Castles' - Anthony Wahl.

Second Place: *The Gazette*, 'Rock County 4-H Fair 2021' - Anthony Wahl.

Third Place: *The Post-Crescent*, 'A tour of Walker Forge steel plant in Clintonville' - Bill Glasheen.

Honorable Mention: *The Cap Times*, 'A look inside Monona's San Damiano Friary' - Ruthie Hauge.

Division B

First Place: *Oshkosh Northwestern*, 'Day 4 from EAA AirVenture in Oshkosh' - Bill Glasheen. Judge's Comments: Good use of blurred motion gives readers a sense of the speed of these flying machines. A lot of non-traditional photographs of an airshow. The photographer did more than look up; he looked around.

Second Place: *The Sheboygan Press*, 'Holy Name 175 years' - Gary Klein. Judge's Comments: I loved the use of the fisheye lens in this series. A nice variety of pictures to highlight a church's celebration.

Third Place: *The Chippewa Herald*, 'Marshfield at Chi-Hi softball 6-23-21' - Brandon Berg. Judge's Comments: Nothing says, "Look, I can shoot a lot of pictures with my fast camera" than having a lot of repeat images of the same play sequence. Some nice action and emotion photos, but the photographer needs to cut way back on similar shots.

Honorable Mention: *The Chippewa Herald*, '2021 Chippewa Falls



Photo Essay, First Place (Division C)
***Vilas County News Review*, Eagle River**

High School Graduation Parade’ - Parker Reed. Judge’s Comments: The photo of the graduate riding his motorcycle in the parade is an attention grabber. I get the theme ... Grads in Cars. I would have liked to have seen more pre- and post-parade photos. It looks like the photographer just picked a spot and stood there for the duration. Move around!

Competition Comments: A lot of these entries lacked a dominant, attention-grabbing photo that would pull the reader into wanting to see more. The sports entries were nice, but you don’t need to show the same person at different intervals in a single sequence unless something dramatically changes. Pick your best.

Division C

First Place: *Superior Telegram*, ‘A secret spot at Pattison State Park’ - Jed Carlson.

Second Place: *North Shore Now*, ‘Beloved Thiensville restaurant, the

cheel, is demolished’ - Scott Ash. **Third Place:** *Superior Telegram*, ‘Superior firefighters hone rescue skills at Fraser Shipyards’ - Jed Carlson.

Honorable Mention: *North Shore Now*, ‘Wisconsin Lacrosse Federation 2021 Girls State Championship’ - Scott Ash.

Division D

First Place: *The Monroe Times*, ‘A super royal day’ - Angie Maag.

Second Place: *The Monroe Times*, ‘Congratulations Class of 2021’ - Angie Maag.

Overall Page Design

Daily Division

First Place: *The Gazette*, ‘Camping in the cold’; ‘All the rage’; ‘Fight the bite’ - Greg Little. Judge’s Comments: I really enjoyed the simplicity and clean look to all of these. They draw the eye and are

not too cluttered. Sometimes less is more!

Second Place: *EagleHerald* - Melissa Kowalczyk. Judge’s Comments: Good idea for the Q&A look and good approaches to all of the pages. I liked the fair one especially!

Third Place: *Beloit Daily News* - Brad Allen. Judge’s Comments: I liked the background image on all the pages. Many of them, though, I wished there was a bit more of the text to draw you in to the story.

Honorable Mention: *The Gazette* - Tim Seeman. Judge’s Comments: These are all good pages.

Competition Comments: All of the pages did a good job with drawing the eye for the reader. I think your readers will be pleased.

Division C

First Place: *Monroe County Herald* - Nate Beier.

Second Place: *Peninsula Pulse* - Ryan Miller.



Photo Gallery, First Place (Division B)
Oshkosh Northwestern



Overall Page Design, First Place (Division D)
Ripon Commonwealth Press

Third Place: *Monroe County Herald* - Nate Beier.

Division D

First Place: *Ripon Commonwealth Press* - Jonathan Bailey.

Second Place: *The Monroe Times* - Adam Krebs.

Third Place: *The Platteville Journal* - Jason Nihles.

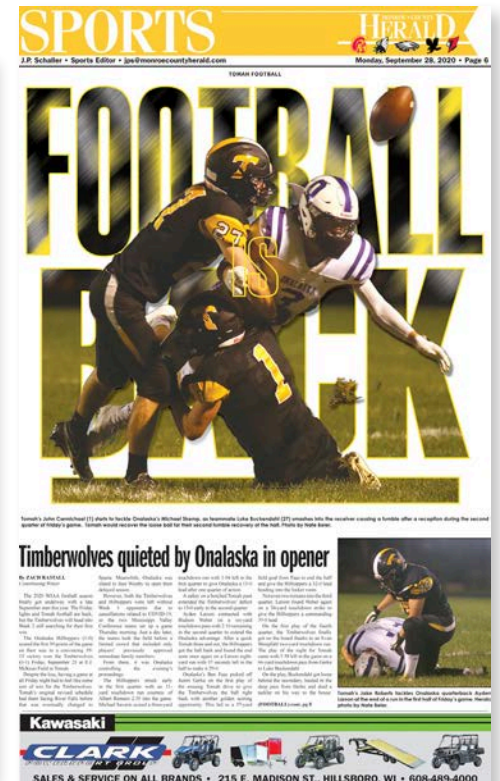
Visual Storytelling

Daily Division

First Place: *The Post-Crescent*, ‘Dan Powers looks back on 25 years as a photojournalist’ - Dan Powers, Jordan Tilkens.

Second Place: *The Cap Times*, ‘A year of our lives: A 12-month timeline charting the pandemic, civil unrest, an election and more’ - Ruthie Hauge, Steven Elbow.

Third Place: *The Post-Crescent*,



Overall Page Design, First Place (Division C)
Monroe County Herald



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Bill Payne Award, First Place (Daily Division)
Daily Globe, Ironwood

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 Sweet Mini Peppers \$2.99 16 oz	 Zucchini Squash 99¢ lb	 On The Vine Tomatoes 99¢ lb	 Russet Potatoes 2/\$3 5 lb bag	 Vidalia Onions 99¢ lb

Best Grocery Ad, First Place (Daily Division)
EagleHerald, Marinette

'Varsity Game of the Week livestreams' - Brett Christopherson, Ricardo Arguello, Jim Rosandick.
Honorable Mention: *The Cap Times*, 'Under the umbrella: The Cap Times' guide to 250 patios in Madison and beyond' - Ruthie Hauge, Abigail Becker, Lindsay Christians.

Weekly Division

First Place: *The Monroe Times*, 'Remembering those who gave' - Angie Maag.
Second Place: *Courier Sentinel*, 'Memorial Day' - Staff.
Third Place: *The Monroe Times*, 'Burning bridges' - Adam Krebs.
Honorable Mention: *The Monroe Times*, 'Should hikers and bikers share the trails with ATVs?' - Adam Krebs.

Best Video

Division A

First Place: *Green Bay Press-Gazette*, 'Video of health care worker heroes of 2020' - Sarah Kloepping.
Second Place: *Wisconsin State Journal*, 'An outpouring of support as Boscobel cleans up from tornado' - Barry Adams.
Third Place: *The Journal Times*, 'Racine County firefighters train for ice rescues on frozen lake' - Scott Williams.
Honorable Mention: *Wisconsin State Journal*, 'Madison nonprofit works to support Latinos with developmental disabilities' - Molly DeVore.

Division B

First Place: *Stevens Point Journal*, 'Stevens Point artist Stephon Freeman takes on his largest 'canvas' yet' - Tork Mason.

Second Place: *The Sheboygan Press*, 'Sheboygan Armory demolition' - Gary Klein.

Third Place: *The Sheboygan Press*, 'Elkhart Lake vintage race car parade' - Gary Klein.

Honorable Mention: *Herald Times Reporter*, 'Big Blue' - Gary Klein.

Weekly Division

First Place: *Lake Geneva Regional News*, 'Delavan ice carousel' - Stephanie Jones.

Second Place: *Superior Telegram*, 'The sights from sea of the Apostle Islands' - Dan Williamson.

Third Place: *The Chetek Alert*, 'Chetek Winter Fest 2021' - Carl Cooley.

Honorable Mention: *Peninsula Pulse*, 'The Language of Pride' - Rachel Lukas.

Bill Payne Award

Daily Division

First Place: *Daily Globe*, 'Aili Concrete' - Staff. Judge's Comments: Love this ad! Displays what the business can do very nicely.
Second Place: *EagleHerald*, 'The Garage' - Ross Menor. Judge's Comments: Love the guitar element and the font.

Division C

First Place: *Peninsula Pulse*, 'Draeb Jewelers' - Steve Grutzmacher, Renee Puccini.

Second Place: *Vilas County News-Review*, 'Derby Thanks 58 Years' - Betsy Boulden, Kurt Krueger, Gary Ridderbusch, Doug Etten.

Third Place: *The Lakeland Times*, 'Wake Responsibly' - Heather Holmes, Dean Hall.

Honorable Mention: *Vilas County News-Review*, 'Best in Nation' - Betsy Boulden, Kurt Krueger, Gary Ridderbusch, Doug Etten.

Division D

First Place: *The Monroe Times*, 'Luna Maya Shop Local' - Diane Albright.

Second Place: *The Monroe Times*, 'Monroe Woman's Club' - Laura Hughes.

Third Place: *Tribune Record Gleaner*, 'Grassland Kids Zone Thanksgiving' - Karie Schmidt.

Honorable Mention: *The Tribune-Phonograph*, 'Colby Track Sig Ad' - Julie Seifert, Mercadees Schara.

Best Grocery Ad

Daily Division

First Place: *EagleHerald*, 'Jack's Fresh Market Produce Sale' - Ross Menor.

Second Place: *EagleHerald*, 'Jack's Fresh Market New Year's Eve' - Tricia Hurley.

Third Place: *EagleHerald*, 'Jack's Fresh Market 3 Day Sale' - Ross Menor.

Honorable Mention: *Daily Globe*, 'Sunday Lake Supermarket' - Staff.

Weekly Division

First Place: *Lake Geneva Regional News*, 'Best Bargains advertising' - Amanda Gaastra.

Second Place: *Peninsula*

Pulse, 'Piggly Wiggly' - 'Steve Grutzmacher, Renee Puccini.

Third Place: *The Chetek Alert*, 'Country Lane Market & Pantry' - Jim Moran.

Honorable Mention: *The Pierce County Journal*, 'Nilssen's' - John McLoone, Nancy Price.

Best Restaurant Ad

Daily Division

First Place: *Daily Globe*, 'Sharon's' - Staff.

Second Place: *EagleHerald*, 'The Shop On Main' - Ross Menor.

Division C

First Place: *Peninsula Pulse*, 'Lure' - Steve Grutzmacher.

Second Place: *Vilas County News-Review*, 'Rummy's Bar' - Betsy Boulden, NiCole Peterson.

Third Place: *The Lakeland Times*, 'Black Bear Bar' - Chris Frame, Yvonne Immel, Tony Loomis, Buzzy Mode.

Division D

First Place: *The Monroe Times*, 'Luna Maya' - Diane Albright. Judge's Comments: Great layout, use of color, mentioned the restaurants amenities. Nice job.

Second Place: *The Monroe Times*,

'Suisse Haus' - Diane Albright. Judge's Comments: Love your photos!

Third Place: *Courier Sentinel*, 'Valentine Couples Dinner' - Joy Dain. Judge's Comments: Great use of spot color.

Honorable Mention: *The Monroe Times*, 'Friendly Inn' - Diane Albright. Judge's Comments: Love the photos.

Best Real Estate Ad

Daily Division

First Place: *Daily Globe*, 'Remax Action North Realty' - Staff. Judge's Comments: Nice, clean ad. Easy to read with an appealing photo of the house.

Weekly Division

First Place: *The Monroe Times*, 'First Weber Realtors Hedeman Group' - Diane Albright.

Second Place: *Peninsula Pulse*, 'True North' - Steve Grutzmacher, Renee Puccini.

Third Place: *The Lakeland Times*, 'Redman Realty Group' - Chris Frame, Yvonne Immel, Buzzy Mode, Tony Loomis.

Honorable Mention: *Vilas County News-Review*, '#1 Brokerage in the Northwoods' - Betsy Boulden, Doug Etten.

Best Large Ad

Daily Division

First Place: *EagleHerald*, 'Menominee Downtown Business Association' - Melissa Kowalczyk.

Second Place: *Daily Globe*, 'Sturgul & Long, Inc.' - Staff.

Division C

First Place: *The Lakeland Times*, 'Redman Realty Beef-A-Rama' - Chris Frame, Yvonne Immel, Buzzy Mode, Tony Loomis.

Second Place: *Peninsula Pulse*, 'Alpine Golf' - Jess Farley.

Third Place: *Vilas County News-Review*, 'COVID-19' - Betsy Boulden, NiCole Peterson.

Division D

First Place: *The Record-Review*, 'Charlie's Hardware' - Julie Seifert.

Second Place: *Courier Press*, 'Spring Savings Lansing Furniture' - Kim Corpian.

Third Place: *The Monroe Times*, 'Figi Financial & Insurance' - Lance Ray.



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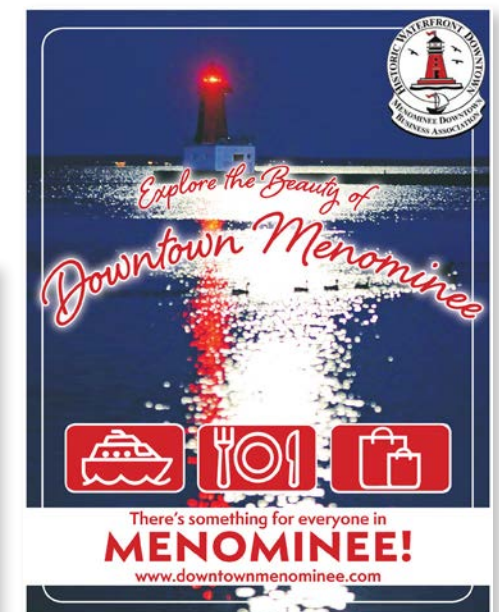
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Best Real Estate Ad, First Place (Daily Division)
Daily Globe, Ironwood



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MENOMINEE!
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Best Large Ad, First Place (Daily Division)
Eagle Herald, Marinette

Honorable Mention: *The Monroe Times*, 'Historic Cheesemaking Center' - Diane Albright.

Division E

First Place: *Courier Sentinel*, 'Employee Milestones' - Joy Dain.

Second Place: *The Pierce County Journal*, 'Hastings bus company' - Bruce Karnick.

Third Place: *The Northwoods River News*, 'Oneida County ADRC 'Let's help ... vaccine' - Heather Holmes, Buzzy Mode.

Honorable Mention: *The Pierce County Journal*, 'Prescott School District thank you' - Nancy Price.

Best Small Ad

Daily Division

First Place: *EagleHerald*, 'The Garage' - Ross Menor.

Second Place: *The Gazette*, 'You made our day brighter' - Amber Loizzo.

Third Place: *EagleHerald*, 'Swing For Hope Golf Outing' - Ross Menor.

Honorable Mention: *Daily Globe*, 'WhiteCap Mountains' - Staff.

Division C

First Place: *Peninsula Pulse*, 'Evenings in Ephraim' - Jess Farley.

Judge's Comments: Really nice looking ad. Love the use of the musical notes in the background.

Division D

First Place: *The Monroe Times*, 'Thank You to All' - Bank of Brodhead - Diane Albright. Judge's Comments: Love the community spirit.

Second Place: *The Monroe Times*, 'Monroe Arts Center' - Laura Hughes. Judge's Comments: Small ad that is very aesthetically pleasing.

Third Place: *The Monroe Times*, 'Veteran Salute' - Ruda Chevrolet - Diane Albright. Judge's Comments: Love the old stars and stripes.

Honorable Mention: *Courier Press*, 'Haines Construction & Handyman Service' - Kim Corpian. Judge's Comments: This small ad checks a lot of boxes.

Division E

First Place: *Grant County Herald Independent*, 'Grant Regional Eli James' - Jessica Brownell. Judge's Comments: I can totally see where you were going with this. I hate that blue rag creative was showing in the middle of your beautiful ad. Still very deserving.

Second Place: *The Northwoods River News*, 'Rhineland Brewery'

- Heather Holmes, Buzzy Mode. Judge's Comments: Love the photos.

Third Place: *Courier Sentinel*, 'Fall Maintenance Special' - Joy Dain. Judge's Comments: Nice job.

Best Ad Idea (Series)

Weekly Division

First Place: *Grant County Herald Independent*, 'Grant Regional Health Center Series' - Jessica Brownell.

Second Place: *Peninsula Pulse*, 'Spot' - Steve Grutzmacher.

Third Place: *The Chetek Alert*, 'Lake Country Marina' - Jim Moran.

Best Use of Color

Daily Division

First Place: *The Gazette*, 'Fall Color' - Amber Loizzo.

Second Place: *Daily Globe*, 'Gabrielle's Chocolates' - Staff.

Third Place: *EagleHerald*, 'Easter Dining' - Ross Menor, Tricia Hurley.

Division C

First Place: *The Lakeland Times*, 'Lakeside Docks Sunset' - Chris Frame, Yvonne Immel, Buzzy

Mode, Tony Loomis. Judge's Comments: BEAUTIFUL ad - would make anyone stop to look!

Second Place: *Peninsula Pulse*, 'Bliss' - Jess Farley, Renee Puccini. Judge's Comments: Fun, creative, attractive... Definitely makes the reader stop and look.

Third Place: *Vilas County News-Review*, 'Northern Lakes Landscaping Reserve Your Spot' - Kurt Krueger, Betsy Boulden.

Honorable Mention: *Vilas County News-Review*, 'Village Market Holiday Bazaar' - Betsy Boulden, NiCole Peterson.

Division D

First Place: *The Star News*, 'Dairy Producers Thank You' - Lydia Erickson, Todd Lundy.

Second Place: *The Monroe Times*, 'Monroe Woman's Club' - Laura Hughes.

Third Place: *The Monroe Times*, 'Monroe Arts Center - Kiwanis 100th Anniversary' - Laura Hughes.

Honorable Mention: *The Record-Review*, 'Maple Grove School Open House' - Julie Seifert.

Thank you to all... for helping to support the 2021 Brodhead Covered Bridge Days, and making it another great success!

See you in 2022!

Bank of Brodhead
Strength. Stability. Service.
www.bankofbrodhead.com

Member FDIC

Best Small Ad, First Place (Division D)
The Monroe Times

EVENINGS
IN EPHRAIM

AUGUST 16
**ERIN KREBS
QUARTET**
HARBORSIDE PARK
EPHRAIM 6-8PM

www.ephraim-dddcounty.com

Best Small Ad, First Place (Division C)
Peninsula Pulse, Baileys Harbor

Division E

First Place: *Grant County Herald Independent*, 'Walkers Blowout Sale' - Jessica Brownell, Kevin Kelly. Judge's Comments: Creative use of the photo of the shows as the header.
Second Place: *Grant County Herald Independent*, 'Christmas in Cassville' - Jessica Brownell. Judge's Comments: Very cute and colorful.
Third Place: *The Tribune-Phonograph*, 'Happy 13th Birthday Hazel' - Julie Seifert. Judge's Comments: Very cute.

Best Multiple Advertiser Spread

Daily Division

First Place: *Beloit Daily News*, 'Design An Ad' - Kim Boreen.
Second Place: *EagleHerald*, 'Rediscover Your Community' - Melissa Kowalczyk.



Best Use of Local Photography, First Place (Division C)
The Lakeland Times, Minocqua

Third Place: *Daily Globe*, 'Gift Guide Page' - Staff.

Division C

First Place: *Vilas County News-Review*, 'Derby 2021' - Betsy Boulden, Chris Boone, NiCole Peterson, Doug Etten.
Second Place: *The Lakeland Times*, 'Thank you' - Chris Frame, Yvonne Immel, Buzzy Mode, Tony Loomis.

Division D

First Place: *Courier Press*, 'Congratulations PDC Wrestlers' - Kim Corpian. Judge's Comments: Great support theme, great use of photos along with creativity.
Second Place: *The Valders Journal*, 'Cross Country Salute' - Brian Thomsen, Dawn Coonce. Judge's Comments: Good layout even with so much information.
Third Place: *The Chetek Alert*, 'Crazy Days' - Jim Moran. Judge's Comments: Great promotion, good



Best Use of Color, First Place (Division C)
The Lakeland Times, Minocqua

use of color, all ads clean, good use of white space.

Honorable Mention: *The Star News*, 'Rib Lake Ice Age Days' - Sarah Komarek, Lydia Erickson, Megan Graff. Judge's Comments: Eye-catching promotion, very colorful.

Division E

First Place: *Grant County Herald Independent*, 'Track Golf Soccer Congrats Page 2021' - Jessica Brownell.
Second Place: *The Tribune-Phonograph*, 'Abby-Colby Baseball' - Mercadees Schara.
Third Place: *Fennimore Times*, 'FFA Week' - Emily Koch, Jessica Brownell, Jodi White.
Honorable Mention: *Courier Sentinel*, 'Cornell Community Fair' - Joy Dain.

Best Use of Art Service

Daily Division

First Place: *Daily Globe*, 'Winter Fun 2020' - Staff. Judge's Comments: Great use of the single creative. Very powerful.
Second Place: *EagleHerald*, 'Valentine's Day Dining & Gifts Page' - Ross Menor, Tricia Hurley, Nancy Menor. Judge's Comments: Love the spotlight on the roses.



Best Multiple Advertiser Spread, First Place (Daily Division)
Beloit Daily News

Weekly Division

First Place: *The Tribune-Phonograph*, 'Kid's Zone' - Julie Seifert.

Second Place: *The Monroe Times*, 'Monroe Woman's Club Toy Drive' - Laura Hughes.

Third Place: *Tribune Record Gleaner*, 'Thanksgiving Grassland Kids Zone' - Karie Schmidt.

Honorable Mention: *Courier Press*, 'Comfort and Joy Lansing Furniture' - Kim Corpien.

Best Use of Local Photography

Division C

First Place: *The Lakeland Times*, 'Wake responsibly' - Heather Holmes, Dean Hall.

Second Place: *Vilas County News-Review*, 'Derby Thanks 58 Years' - Betsy Boulden, Kurt Krueger, Gary Ridderbusch, Doug Etten.

Third Place: *Superior Telegram*, 'Spartan Hockey' - Staff.

Honorable Mention: *Peninsula Pulse*, 'Green for Life' - Jess Farley, Brett Kosmider.

Division D

First Place: *The Star News*, 'Congrats Medford Soccer' - Lydia Erickson.

Second Place: *The Monroe Times*, 'Community Bank' - Lance Ray.

Division E

First Place: *The Tribune-Phonograph*, 'Colby Track' - Julie Seifert, Mercadees Schara, Ross Pattermann. Judge's Comments: Very creative use of photos!

Second Place: *The Pierce County Journal*, 'Harrington's Greenhouse' - John McLoone.

Best Use of Humor

Daily Division

First Place: *EagleHerald*, 'June Dairy Month' - Ross Menor. Judge's Comments: Simple but humorous. Well done. I love the black and white theme with the cow.

Weekly Division

First Place: *The Star News*, 'My Nose Didn't Turn On' - Lydia Erickson, Todd Lundy. Judge's Comments: Nice job tying into the holiday!

Second Place: *The Lakeland Times*, 'Island Collision Center' - Chris Frame, Yvonne Immel, Buzzy Mode, Tony Loomis. Judge's Comments: Love the sign and the steer horns on the car!

Third Place: *Courier Sentinel*, 'Don't ghost us!' - Joy Dain. Judge's Comments: Timely word usage. Way to reach out to the younger crowd.

Best Newspaper Promotion

Daily Division

First Place: *Daily Globe*, 'Bingo Promotion' - Staff.

Second Place: *EagleHerald*, 'Legacy' - Melissa Kowalczyk.

Third Place: *Beloit Daily News*, 'Power of the People promotion' - Khoury Heilman.

Division C

First Place: *Vilas County News-Review*, 'Best in Nation' - Betsy Boulden, Kurt Krueger, Gary Ridderbusch, Doug Etten.

Second Place: *The Lakeland Times*, 'Who would' - Gregg Walker.

Third Place: *Vilas County News-Review*, 'Rush Hour' - Betsy Boulden, Kurt Krueger.

Division D

First Place: *The Chetek Alert*, 'Chetek Crossword Puzzle' - Carl Cooley, Julie LeMoine, Tyler Florczak, Lisa Rhodes.

Second Place: *The Monroe Times*, 'Past Present Future' - Laura Hughes.

Third Place: *The Monroe Times*, 'Our Roots Run Deep' - Laura Hughes.

Honorable Mention: *Courier Sentinel*, 'Wake Up' - Joy Dain.

Best Special Section (Advertising)

Daily Division

First Place: *Leader-Telegram*, 'Wisconsin Made' - Staff. Judge's Comments: Wow, what a great idea to create ad revenue. I mean, "Wisconsin Made??" It sounds like a huge challenge, but your ad department pulled it off. Lots of well-designed, well-thought out ads to attract readers attention. Couple that with the great stories, photos and page design and you have a first-class project. I loved it!

Second Place: *Daily Globe*, 'Creative Kids Design An Ad' - Staff. Judge's Comments: What a novel concept for a special section (I think I'll steal the idea). Having kids in school make the ads is awe-inspiring. You guys deserve high praise for this project. My only question is how many readers without kids in school will read this project

Third Place: *Beloit Daily News*, 'Salute to First Responders' - Kim Boreen. Judge's Comments: Every newspaper does a salute to first responders. The Beloit Daily News did a great job of getting content to go along with the advertising. The ad department certainly put in a lot of effort to make this special section a success.

Honorable Mention: *The Gazette*, 'Best of Janesville' - Steve Lauber.

Division D

First Place: *The Chetek Alert*, 'Tis the Season' - Julie LeMoine, Carl Cooley, Tyler Florczak, Lisa Rhodes. Judge's Comments: Excellent ad supplement. Nicely designed, with lots of good content and ads. Successful. Wouldn't have led with the hunting feature, though ... but everything strong.

Second Place: *The Monroe Times*, 'Rooted From Switzerland' - Laura Hughes, Diane Albright, Tai Ruegsegger, Lance Ray. Judge's Comments: A real community supplement, crafted specifically for

DAILY GLOBE

BINGO

Play Today

Play as many cards as you want!

Keep the Bingo Card in today's paper for your chance to **Win \$500!**

Two numbers published every day starting Wednesday, Sept. 23, 2020!

See complete rules listed below!

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NO PURCHASE NECESSARY - Daily Globe Bingo cards can be picked up at the Daily Globe, 118 E. McLeod Ave., Ironwood, MI 49801 after the game starts while supplies last. Limit **ONE FREE** card per person. Additional cards may be purchased for \$1.00 at the Daily Globe. Bingo numbers may be viewed at the Daily Globe office after numbers appear in the newspaper. **Bingo numbers will NOT be given out on the phone or on the website.**

HOW TO PLAY - Every day, Tuesday through Saturday, two numbers will be published in the Daily Globe. If the printed numbers match a number(s) on your card, mark the space on your card, keeping the number visible under the mark. **Bingo cards with numbers not clearly visible will be disqualified.** Numbers will be on display at the Daily Globe office.

WINNERS - Winners must be over the age of 18 and must show a valid picture ID to claim any prizes. The winners of the Grand Prize or Consolation Prizes are responsible for the tax liability, if any, on the prizes won.

PARTICIPANTS - Employees of the Daily Globe and their immediate families are **NOT** eligible to be a prize winner.

RULES - The rules and directions on how to play will be published each Saturday in the Daily Globe during the Bingo game. Official rules will also be posted at the Daily Globe office at 118 E. McLeod Ave., Ironwood, MI.

COPIES OR REPRODUCTIONS - Only official Daily Globe Bingo cards printed by the Daily Globe will be accepted. Any reproduction of a Daily Globe Bingo card will be void.

All other Bingo cards can be submitted for the Consolation Prize Drawing once the Grand Prize winner is announced. The Consolation Prize drawing will be held at 4:00 p.m., two weeks after the last Daily Globe Bingo number is published in the Daily Globe. Drop off or mail Bingo cards with the information completed on the front of the card to: Daily Globe, 118 E. McLeod Ave., Ironwood, MI 49801. The Grand Prize is \$500.

Best Newspaper Promotion, First Place (Daily Division)
Daily Globe, Ironwood

the Monroe Times reader. A real celebration of the community's tie to a heritage, and its current industry (cheese). Well sold in with advertisers, who clearly are part of that community. Excellent.

Third Place: *The Valders Journal*, 'Children's Christmas Album' - Brian Thomsen, Mary Thomsen, Dawn Coonce. Judge's Comments: Very clever use of children's holiday drawings as "ad" content that can be colored in by readers. Fantastic supplement.

Honorable Mention: *The Monroe Times*, 'Kiwanis Club of Monroe Wisconsin 100 Years' - Laura Hughes, Diane Albright, Tai Ruegsegger, Lance Ray. Judge's Comments: A nice piece for an important local community organization. Well done. Strong advertiser buy-in, which shows why the supplement was a good idea.

Division E

First Place: *The Edgerton Reporter*, 'Tobacco Days Festival' - Staff. Judge's Comments: Very clever to make this "supplement" the front page wrap, so create a high-profile

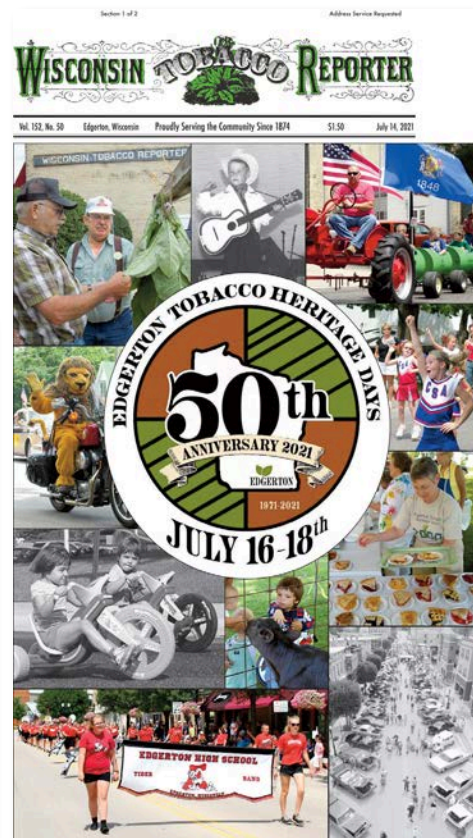


Best Special Section (Advertising), First Place (Daily Division)
Leader-Telegram, Eau Claire

community celebration's milestone timed for when the community was able to come out of COVID for the summer. Strong advertiser buy in. Great job.

Second Place: *Grant County Herald Independent*, 'Grant County Showdown' - Jessica Brownell, Emily Koch, Kevin Kelly, Jodi White. Judge's Comments: Excellent supplement (replacement for the area's annual youth farm animal contest). Well designed, with just the right amount/type of content. The ads are strong, and specific to the supplement's idea.

Third Place: *The Edgerton Reporter*, 'Christmas' - Staff. Judge's Comments: A beautiful holiday front section supplement that blends great holiday stand-bys (letters to Santa, etc.) with interesting features on local traditions (Norwegian holidays). Big advertiser buy in,



Best Special Section (Advertising), First Place (Division E)
The Edgerton Reporter

showing a strong community support. Excellent.

Honorable Mention: *Courier Sentinel*, 'Class of 2021' - Staff. Judge's Comments: A strong supplement, with wonderful local content and a strong, strong advertising bench tied specifically to this graduating class.

Best Niche Product

Daily Division

First Place: *Beloit Daily News*, 'Stateline Magazine 2021' - Kim Boreen. Judge's Comments: Excellent! Clean, easy to read, great graphics and use of color!! This publication is a keeper for reference! Ads POP!! Great to include young people and their accomplishments. Unique way to highlight oldest businesses and the newbies! Great job overall!

Second Place: *EagleHerald*, 'Small Business Every Day' -



Best Niche Product, First Place (Division C)
The Lakeland Times, Minocqua

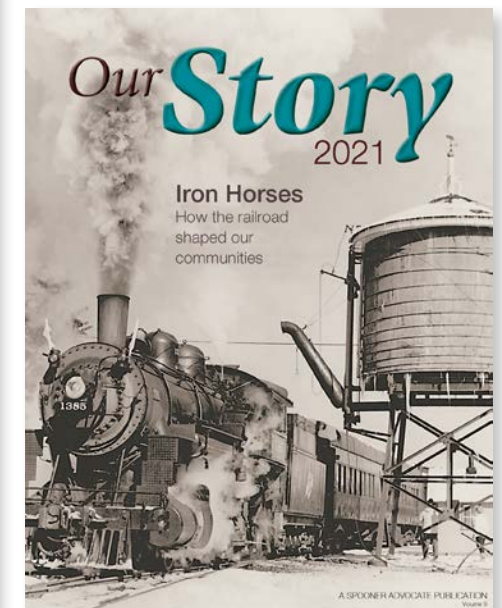
Melissa Kowalczyk, Staff. Judge's Comments: Lots of savings for customers. Small businesses rely on these types of promotions and the ads offer many options. People love discounts, and there are many. Colorful, creative.

Third Place: *Daily Globe*, 'Business Card Directory' - Staff. Judge's Comments: Nice concept, should have an index of advertisers.

Division C

First Place: *The Lakeland Times*, 'Northern Highland-American Legion State Forest Visitor's Guide 2021' - Heather Holmes, Chris Frame, Yvonne Immel, Buzzy Mode. Judge's Comments: What a great entry! Great history, inviting, relaxing, great source of information and easy to read, a pleasure to look at! Great job!

Second Place: *Peninsula Pulse*, 'Annual Lighthouse Festival' - David Eliot. Judge's Comments: With not many real photos it makes you want to see the actual lighthouse. Very colorful! Maps and fees are essential!



Best Niche Product, First Place (Division E)
Spooner Advocate

Division D

First Place: *The Chetek Alert*, Summer Scene - Julie LeMoine, Carl Cooley, Tyler Florczak, Lisa Rhodes. Judge's Comments: Packed with information about the events of the area! Good resources for upcoming events. Seems to be something for everyone! Lot of advertisers!!

Second Place: *The Monroe Times*, 'Source' - Laura Hughes, Diane Albright, Tai Ruegsegger, Lance Ray. Judge's Comments: Really is what the cover says: Source! Includes a lot of great tourist and local info packed into this "takeable" guide for those who like paper resources. Maps are great! Index takes me to section I want to look at next. Ads that have complete addresses are best. Some may be area-wide businesses but knowing where they are located is good. Where is Stephenson Co. Fair held (town)?

Third Place: *The Record-Review*, 'Rural Living' - Staff. Judge's Comments: Gained 3rd place due to what it is all about. Wish there would have been more than 6 feature articles in the 16 pages but highlighting generations and talents — well, that's inspirational!

Honorable Mention: *Lake Geneva Regional News*, 'Luxury Lake Geneva' - Steve Targo, Stephanie Jones. Judge's Comments: 1st impression was WOW! Further review is that I would look at it once and be done. Did not like transition to next articles. Seems articles could have been shorter to include more!

Division E

First Place: *Spooner Advocate*, 'Our Story' - Michelle Carlson, Janis Redman, Bill Thornley. Judge's Comments: Great historical compilation for reminiscing and teaching others about the past.

In-depth review of the years is a great preservation tool for history buffs. Bringing out the past, yet highlighting future plans.

Second Place: *The Tribune-Phonograph*, 'Central Wisconsin Community Guide' - Staff. Judge's Comments: Festive, fun guidebook! All the things you want to know about are found here!

Third Place: *The Pierce County Journal*, 'Pierce County Graduation Tab' - John McLoone, Jack McLoone, Sarah Nigbor. Judge's Comments: Looks like all high schools in the county represented, not just one. Future plans can be good or bad. Good - inspirational; bad - some may not know for sure how or what their future holds.

Honorable Mention: *The Pierce County Journal*, 'Pierce County Fair results' - Nancy Price, Sarah Nigbor, Jack McLoone. Judge's Comments: Winners always like to see their name in print - which encourages competition for next year!

Competition Comments: Always hard to judge such good work!

Best Ongoing Niche Publication

Weekly Division

First Place: *Peninsula Pulse*, 'Pioneer Times' - David Eliot. Judge's Comments: This is an exceptional work of those involved. Great resource, great information, spotlighting the educational system and its components and upgrades for the future!

Second Place: *The Platteville Journal*, '2021 Exploring The Tri States' - Ann Rupp, Carol Tyson. Judge's Comments: Unique take on featuring communities and what they have to offer. Colorful additions to pages, creative advertising, events, tourist map and lots more. Good to go with this one!

~ WNAF Collegiate Newspaper Contest ~

General Excellence

Division A

First Place: *Marquette Tribune*. Judge's Comments: This was overall the strongest of the entries. The stories are good, the layout and use of photos is very strong, and overall, the paper is well-organized and easy to read. There's a good variety of issues covered. Too many college publications tend to latch onto one topic and this wasn't the case here. The editing is solid and all of the sections were well-done. I especially

liked the editorials and the editorial pages for inclusion of a lot of voices. Holding your school's feet to the fire is important. Great work! BUT I really didn't need the long piece on why you do what you do. You almost lost me there.

Second Place: *The Clarion*. Judge's Comments: *The Clarion* was a close second in this category. I liked the balance and breadth of issues covered, the layout and organization, and use of photos. I also enjoyed the editorial pages and the sections. They were clearly delineated. The front pages seem a bit cluttered. I also saw some leads that were a

mouthful. But overall, good work.

Third Place: *The Advance-Titan*. Judge's Comments: *The Advance-Titan* was a close third in this category. Page layout and design were quite good, with great uses of photos and illustrations. I liked the varied issues covered and thought the editing and reporting were solid. Some leads were a mouthful and some stories had buried leads. All sections of the paper were good, and I liked seeing a variety of voices on the editorial pages. Don't assume readers know acronyms and the various policies higher ed operates with. "Clery report" threw me as a

headline. But good work generally.

Honorable Mention: *The Daily Cardinal*. Judge's Comments: The writing was generally good, although some stories needed a firmer hand from the editor. I'd like to see better organization of the content, and better use of photos. Some photos were small and could have been larger. That would have made for more attractive pages. I think if you are going to a magazine format that calls for really honing in on how the content is organized. You have more latitude IMO in how pages are laid out and how content is provided.

Collegiate Journalist of the Year

Division A

First Place: *Marquette Tribune* - John Leuzzi. Judge's Comments: The amount of work-ethic, passion and effort John has for his writing and journalism is very impressive to see out of a college student. These traits are something even professionals in the field lack. John has a very bright future ahead of him and will get scooped up in no time with the resume he's working to build.

Second Place: *Media Milwaukee* - Jeromey Hodsdon. Judge's Comments: What I found most impressive about Jeromey was his expansive portfolio. Having as many outlets on his resume as he does will be a surefire way into a great post-college career.

Third Place: *The Clarion*, - Kaleia Lawrence. Judge's Comments: Time

management is something even professionals in the journalism field can struggle with, and hearing about the cool and collected way Kaleia is able to balance her work and school is admirable. Keep up the good work.

Breaking News Reporting

Division A

First Place: *Marquette Tribune*, 'Marquette's Kappa Sigma Fraternity expelled' - Benjamin Wells. Judge's Comments: The criteria listed for these stories are all included in your entry. Well done. You used enterprise to check the stories, objectivity, clearly local importance, wrote with clarity, used style, and thoroughness was there but you might have broadened it a bit. Strong lead and some quotes. If I still owned my newspaper, these stories would have earned you a chance to be interviewed.

Second Place: *Royal Purple*, 'UW-W student investigated

for assaults' - Alicia Dougherty. Judge's Comments: Compelling leads in both stories, and stories written such that readers are taken through each story on orderly form. Stories keep the readers and present thoroughness, objectivity, local importance, and clarity. Good job to approach the coach and to get information from witnesses. Good to show that student is no longer at the university. Stories very informative.

Third Place: *The Daily Cardinal*, 'Ho Chunk flag raised over Bascom Hall for the first time in UW-Madison history' - Kodie Engst. Judge's Comments: The criteria were included in the story and the importance was clearly made. An excellent lead. Story is well written, though one or two grammatical changes would help. Multiple sources in story with several quotes, and those help the thoroughness. Some information included is good information. Organization of the story is well done. Couldn't help but like the story.

Honorable Mention: *The Badger Herald*, 'UW to reverse policy barring compensation for

international telecommuting student workers' - Erin Gretzinger. Judge's Comments: Nice story to read because it touches all the criteria mentioned in the judging and reads well throughout the story. Writer states the lead and organizes the placing of information and uses several quotes. An unusual topic and helps make the story. If I still owned a newspaper, this is the type of story I would like to receive from a student looking for a position.

Public Affairs Reporting

Division A

First Place: *Marquette Tribune*, 'Outdoor sit-in calls upon the Jesuit Community' - Benjamin Wells.

Second Place: *Media Milwaukee*, 'Experiencing Homelessness During the Pandemic' - Haley Osness.

Third Place: *Media Milwaukee*, 'Rittenhouse Closing Arguments' - Jeromey Hodsdon.

Honorable Mention: *The Badger Herald*, 'Springing into a smart restart' - Mary Magnuson, Molly Devore, Harrison Freuck. Judge's Comments: Almost exhausting in its length and depth, it's still a good primer on facing a new semester amid the pandemic.

Division B

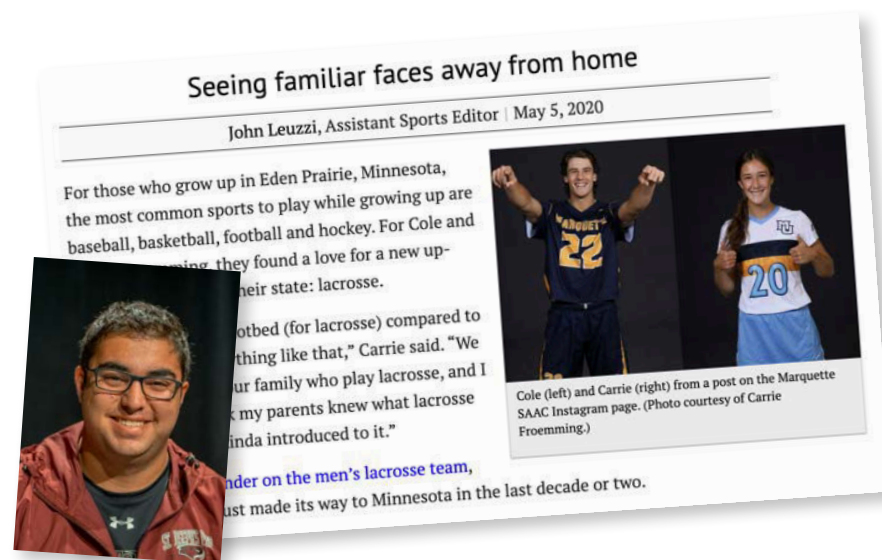
First Place: *Student Voice*, 'Food shelf prepares for holiday season' - Jack Van Hoof.

Second Place: *Student Voice*, 'Governor visits campus for vaccine discussion' - Isabella Forliti.

Third Place: *Student Voice*, 'UWRF adjusts COVID policies' - Isabella Forliti. Judge's Comments: Solid work on the topic of the day.



General Excellence, First Place (Division A)
Marquette Tribune



Collegiate Journalist of the Year, First Place (Division A)
John Leuzzi, Marquette Tribune

In-Depth Story

Division A

First Place: *The Badger Herald*, 'Go big or go bankrupt: Wisconsin farmers face daunting challenges as factory farms flourish' - Ben Baker. Judge's Comments: Great research. The writer does a great job of weaving facts and interviews together for this story

Second Place: *The Badger Herald*, 'Two steps forward, three steps back: Some fear for the future of the right to choose' - Audrey Thibert. Judge's Comments: This took a lot of time and effort to put together. The reporter's hard work really shows. Good job.

Third Place: *The Badger Herald*, 'All Aboard: Why high-speed rail is the future of transportation in the U.S., Wisconsin' - Harrison

Freuck. Judge's Comments: Great background. Solid interviews. This reporter is not afraid of research. **Honorable Mention:** *Marquette Tribune*, 'A journey filled with overcoming adversity: Wojciechowski's 'beat-the-odds' mentality from Cardinal Gibbons to Marquette' - Zoe Comerford. Judge's Comments: This is a great piece of work. Excellent interviews. A very in depth look at a complex person. Unfortunately, this piece was entered in a very tough category.

Feature Story

Division A

First Place: *The Daily Cardinal*, 'Ex-Badger tight end returns to the classroom amidst pandemic' - Kalli Anderson. Judge's Comments: This is clearly a feature story that you will start reading and will be until you finish it. The featured man was

a tight end in college but failed to get his degree. He played ball, had a family and grandchildren, got a job helping the homeless, and now is back in college to get his degree. No doubt, this is human interest, shows originality of approach, and the writing is excellent. It shows the man's thought and attitudes. If I were still an editor, I would be happy to run the feature.

Second Place: *Marquette Tribune*, "There's such strength in each other': Meet Sister MacCanon Brown' - Lelah Byron. Judge's Comments: What a wonderful feature. The story sparkles with human interest, has interesting approach as seen in the lead, and the writing stands out, as per this sentence, "Now, at age 74, she is the fresh face of a movement." The woman smiles, is named for a building, and works among homeless and other people. Several sources show her work, and the ending of the story is a good one. Loved the story.

Third Place: *The MATC Times*, 'Alum and former commencement speaker's life saving decision' - Victoria Magee. Judge's Comments: For 10 years she was a heroin addict, often in jail. Then, a parole officer gave her the chance to get out or end up in jail long-term. She decided to change and now was graduate speaker at college. What happened is truly human interest, and the writer gathered solid information and put it in clear writing. The things the woman says about college you will find interesting. Good work.

Honorable Mention: *The Daily Cardinal*, 'Al 'The Badger' Purves is still learning' - Sophia Vento. Judge's Comments: The writer wrote his first column on TikTok and reactions were immediate.

Comments appeared and now the student writes daily for 50,000 followers. His topics are many and not every one likes him, but he says like him or not it's great. The negative comments can help. The reactions suggest that human interest is there, and the originality of approach clearly works. The people reading the column suggests that his writing is good and so is the writer of the feature. Can't help but say this is a fine feature.

Division B

First Place: *The Clarion*, 'Instructor shares historical perspective on Capitol riots' - Chris Bird. Judge's Comments: This story topped the entries with its strong writing and organization. It was well done and is very timely. Do watch attribution. But otherwise this was a solid piece.

Second Place: *College Days*, 'Messitte Reflects on Lessons Learned at Ripon' - Deana Johnson. Judge's Comments: This feature gave a good overview of the departing leader's career and years in the community. The personal touches were great, with the stories about his family.

Third Place: *The Clarion*, 'Meet Clarion Radio's new GM' - Paige Zezulka. Judge's Comments: This was a fun personality feature. I learned a lot about the subject. I would like to have seen a few more quotes from friends about the subject.

Honorable Mention: *Student Voice*, 'Team presents research on teaching about race relations' - Brooke Shepherd. Judge's Comments: This could have placed higher had the lead not been so boring. There was a lot of good information but it was buried. The personal stories and quotes were good but one of them needed to be in the lead.

Outdoor sit-in calls upon the Jesuit Community

Benjamin Wells, Executive News Editor | April 20, 2021

Not even the wind of a cold April afternoon could stop the continuing protests and sit-ins that the Marquette Academic Workers Union has held over the school year, as the organization most recently held a sit-in Monday.

On the lawn outside of Jesuit Residence, members of the Marquette community adorned signs that read "No one gets fired" and "Marquette is not a business." These slogans have become prominent in the continuing protests across the year ever since the university announced budget cuts that have lead to 39 staff members being laid off and not renewing the contracts of a "single-digit percentage" of nontenure-track faculty.

"Well, the Jesuits are an apostolate of the Catholic Church, and the Catholic Social Teachings are very clear that workers are entitled to a living wage and they're also entitled to organize to attain living wages and benefits," Stephen Beal, associate professor of classics, said. "We're hoping that the Jesuits will assert their moral authority on campus. ... Our message is for them today."

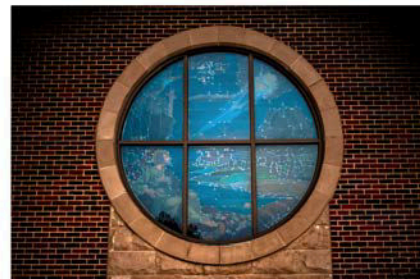


Photo by Zach Bukowski
A protest was held outside of the Jesuit Residence April 19

Public Affairs Reporting, First Place (Division A)

Marquette Tribune

Arts and Entertainment Story

Division A

First Place: *The Badger Herald*, 'Rock the 608: Passionate student musicians find community at UW' - Kyah Bratz. Judge's Comments: The winning article gives a fun and detailed overview of Madison's music scene, and of how some of the current musicians became involved. The lead pulls the reader in right away. Putting the reader "there" makes the entire story more compelling. Great organization and quotes make for a fun story. The story flowed very well. Pictures added a lot. Outstanding work!

Second Place: *The Clarion*, 'Olbrich Gardens' GLEAM show puts art in a new light' - Hailey Griffin. Judge's Comments: I enjoyed this story very much. The lead draws the reader in right away, and does a fine job of describing a unique arts experience. It was well-organized and had good quotes and photos. Great work!

Third Place: *The Badger Herald*, 'Sphinx Virtuosi paint more complete picture of American classical music with new program "Tracing Visions"' - Rachael Lee. Judge's Comments: This was a very close third. It was well organized and fun to read. The story flowed well, which isn't easy given the amount of history and current details the writer presented. Great work!

Honorable Mention: *Marquette Tribune*, 'A clear cut passion for stained glass' - Kim Cook. Judge's Comments: This was a nicely done feature about an artist and her craft. Fun to read.

Sports Story

Division A

First Place: *The Badger Herald*, 'Maui Invitational' - Ian Patton. Judge's Comments: This is the sort of reporting I think of when I hear sports news and is prime example of what should go into sports reporting. A beautiful mix of news, opinion and analysis. Very well done and very well executed.

Second Place: *The Advance-Titan*, 'Coach Cerroni retires' - Jacob Link. Judge's Comments: For any sports team, it's big news when a coach retires suddenly, but when it's someone with as storied a career as Cerroni, it's a tough story to cover, but this author did a wonderful job of bringing in other voices and making it just as much about the coach as it was about his career.

Third Place: *Marquette Tribune*, 'Sarah Rose battles Ewing Sarcoma' - Jackson Gross. Judge's Comments: A beautiful piece which shows that sports are about the people just as much as they're about the scores. A lovely feature and very well written.

Honorable Mention: *Royal Purple*, 'Warhawks crush Central College' - Parker Olsen. Judge's Comments: This gets an honorable mention because it was just a textbook example of how to write a sports story well for a big game. It didn't have the same oomph as the winners, but it was really well-written coverage.

Division B

First Place: *The Clarion*, 'A new eye in the sky: WolfPack athletics is live streaming a whole new way' - Paige Zezulka.

Second Place: *College Days*, 'Striking Out COVID-19' - Madelyn Kohn.

Third Place: *College Days*, 'Referees

At Ripon College' - Madelyn Kohn. Judge's Comments: This is a good issue to tackle, but starting a story with a direct quote is (almost) never the best approach — especially if it's lengthy. It assumes the reader is conversant with the situation, which most won't be.

Editorial Writing

Division A

First Place: *Media Milwaukee*, 'Violence Taking Over the Fun on Water Street' - Faith Rae. Judge's

Comments: Excellent editorial. Quality is an excellent word for the way the editorial shows up on the criteria: quality of writing, quality of importance, significant to the school, success of the argument, and general impact. The problem is drawn out and action is suggested to help take care of it. That's what an editorial does. When you do it, you have an editorial I would run.

Second Place: *Marquette Tribune*, 'Marquette failed faculty, staff' - Alex Garner, Editorial Board. Judge's Comments: The editorial passes all the criteria by having



A new Pixellot Artificial Intelligence camera system has been installed in Redsten Gymnasium to help broadcast Madison College athletic events. Similar cameras have also been installed on the outdoor athletic fields.

WolfPack athletics is live streaming in a whole new way

PAIGE ZEZULKA
Managing Editor

The Pixellot Artificial Intelligence camera system has brought a whole new ball game to Madison College.

For the past few years, the college had been livestreaming sports events. But when the pandemic hit there was a shift in accessing technology. This created an opportunity.

To make sure friends and family could easily see their student athletes compete, the college invested in a higher tech system that would benefit everyone.

"I just knew the importance of it. I knew that we had to find a better solution and continue to innovate in order for us to continue to film everything for the games," said Jason Verhelst, the Associate Athletic Director of Madison College.

The Pixellot camera is specifically for AI-automated sports production. The production supports ESPN, the National Federation of High School network, European soccer and is seen all around the Madison community.

They are now found at Madison College at the gymnasium, soccer field, softball field and one is soon to be installed for the baseball field.

The multi camera system has four cameras that team up together in one housing unit. By using a stitching method, the camera can capture panoramic views of the entire playing field.

Not only does the camera take high quality visuals, but it is able to follow an object, like a ball, with focused movement.

"So out at soccer you'll see the camera kind of following the ball or telling the

other cameras within the bunch. 'Hey, here comes the ball,'" said Verhelst.

The camera is also water and weather resistant. So, existing through Wisconsin's coldest winters is not a problem with the new upgrade.

For years the college has taken much time, money, energy and planning to cover sport events.

Now, nobody has to physically be on the scene of an event to record it and less equipment is needed.

"You think of a baseball game. It could be six, seven, eight hours. So, we were essentially paying somebody six, seven, eight hours of work to do the camera. And that person may or may not be in 40-degree weather with winds and rain and cold," said Verhelst. "So now we don't

» SEE **STREAMING** PAGE 13

Sports Story, First Place (Division B)
The Clarion, Madison College

quality writing, significance to the school, importance of the issue, a convincing argument and clearly reader impact. The editorial offers ways to have more money for faculty and staff and notes the important part faculty provided. Cutting down on faculty is not a strong argument. One noticeable argument was the timing of the faculty announcements.

Third Place: *The Daily Cardinal*, 'To Chancellor Blank: Unfortunately, I did not get to know you' - Madison Targum. Judge's Comments: Unusual to have the editorial written as though it were a one-on-one conversation with the university president. That may be a way to gain attention and help with impact of the piece. It is quality writing and it has bits of good information in the arguments. The topic is important, especially to the school. Whether one agrees with the article or does not, it is one you will read.

Honorable Mention: *The Badger Herald*, 'UW expands sexual assault services to UHS, campus rape culture persists' - Leah Terry. Judge's Comments: Good lead and the editorial tackles an issue of importance and of interest to the school. It presents some arguments that will be listened to by the reader and which have some impact. Writing is okay though the length of the editorial is somewhat long and might distract some readers. Overall, a key topic is discussed and some actions to take are noted.

Division B

First Place: *The Clarion*, 'Diversity in athletics' - Kaleia Lawrence. Judge's Comments: This editorial was by far the strongest of the class. The writing was strong and clear, and it got to the point quickly. Use of statistics made a stronger case, as did examples. It was well-organized

and used kudos to the coach to make a strong case.

Decades after the start of Title IX, the editorial shows that we still have a long way to go. Great work!
Second Place: *Student Voice*, 'Further recognition from UWRF needed for Indigenous communities' - Staff.

Judge's Comments: The editorial on Indigenous Peoples' Day was solid but frankly, I think the last line would have worked better as the first line. The arguments were solid and laid out well but just took too long to get to the point.

Third Place: *The Clarion*, 'Flexible learning options should be the way of the future' - Anica Graney. Judge's Comments: This was solidly done but could have used some tightening up and reorganization.
Honorable Mention: *Student Voice*, 'It's safe to return to campus, but students should have options' - Staff. Judge's Comments: The information is solid but it read too much like a news story in places, and took too long to get to the point.



Sports Photography, First Place (Division A)
The Daily Cardinal, UW-Madison

Column Writing

Division A

First Place: *Media Milwaukee*, 'Why Chris Harrison's Cancellation Is a Problem for Us All' - Brooke Nelson. Judge's Comments: While I am not a Chris Harrison fan nor have I ever watched *The Bachelor*, I am from the reader appeal that agrees with the writer's main point nuance. If you can't listen to both sides and try to have some degree of understanding, you will have various types of the Harrison situations. With research and clarity of writing, the writer of this column makes a quite valid point. Good column.

Second Place: *The Badger Herald*, 'Rittenhouse trial highlights white privilege in criminal justice system' - Celia Hiorns. Judge's Comments: The writer puts this trial result in far reaching perspectives. Not everyone will agree but the writer tries to make her point. She does so with clarity of writing and presents

some material and research. She takes a definite point of view makes it clear to the reader. No doubt she is convinced that the person on trial will have a difference feeling than a Black would in the same situation.

Third Place: *The Advance-Titan*, 'Self-defense or not? Rittenhouse verdict will likely have lasting impact' - Cory Sparks. Judge's Comments: Chances are this opinion column will have ample reader appeal and the clarity of writing is fine. Material and research are done though some may question its interpretation since the column is from the town. Nonetheless, the writer makes a presentation of his viewpoint at the latter part of the column. I think readers will see his point.

Honorable Mention: *Media Milwaukee*, '7 Reasons Why Dads With Daughters Are Best' - Faith Rae. Judge's Comments: What a nice note for folks who have dads and folks who hope to have - especially like yours. A topic of interest and was well written, plus it showed ample research. May want to send it to my two daughters, my granddaughters, and my great granddaughter when she is old enough. You made a strong point of how important dads can be and what so many miss.

News Photography

Division A

First Place: *The Advance-Titan*, 'Pub Crawl' - Amber Brockman. Judge's Comments: Good "action shots" that tell the story well.

Second Place: *The Badger Herald*, 'Stand up, fight back: UW students, Madison community protest for Asian lives' - Ahmad Hamid, Zhen Wang. Judge's Comments: Excellent pictures of an

important event. The expressions in the eyes of the protesters are well captured.

Third Place: *The Advance-Titan*, 'Governor Earl at opening of Culver vaccination site' - April Lee. Judge's Comments: Good shot of a moment we've all seen a lot lately -- it instantly brings to mind COVID precautions, without needing to read the article.

Honorable Mention: *The Badger Herald*, 'Trans rights activists protest anti-trans bill packages in Wisconsin, other state legislatures' - Katie Hardie, Yonah Davis. Judge's Comments: Good coverage of a meaningful protest.

Feature Photography

Division A

First Place: *The Badger Herald*, 'UW Marching Band returns to action after performance hiatus' - Justin Mielke. Judge's Comments: Outstanding photos that include action and great perspective. I can almost hear the band playing!

Second Place: *Marquette Tribune*, 'REO Speedwagon' - Collin Nawrocki. Judge's Comments: Perfect capture! Bonus points because REO Speedwagon was my favorite band when I was young!

Third Place: *The Badger Herald*, 'Community members highlight need for crime prevention, addressing systemic issues after MPD crime report' - Ahmad Hamid. Judge's Comments: Great shot from an amazing perspective!

Honorable Mention: *Marquette Tribune*, 'Multicultural Perspectives' - Sarah Kuhns. Judge's Comments: Beautiful shot - hard to believe it's the photographer's first assignment!

Sports Photography

Division A

First Place: *The Daily Cardinal*, 'Wisconsin wins the NCAA Volleyball Championship game' - Taylor Wolfram. Judge's Comments: Phenomenal shots, especially the one with the trophy held aloft. That one showed interest throughout - in the foreground and background.

Second Place: *The Badger Herald*,

'Announcement of Barry Alvarez Field' - Justin Mielke. Judge's Comments: Great photos with excellent focus on the central subjects.

Third Place: *Marquette Tribune*, 'Darryl Morsell' - Isabel Bonebrake. Judge's Comments: Perfect capture of a moment suspended in time!

Honorable Mention: *The Badger Herald*, 'Women's Volleyball Game vs. Michigan-Big 10 Champs' - Abby Cima. Judge's Comments: Great shot of a poignant moment.

Infographic

Division A

First Place: *The Advance-Titan*, 'UWO to become carbon neutral by 2030' - Mallory Knight.

Second Place: *The Badger Herald*, 'Total Case Numbers for COVID-19 in India' - Katie Hardie.

Third Place: *The Clarion*, 'Making the team just part of the battle' - Kaleia Lawrence.

Honorable Mention: *The Advance-Titan*, 'COVID-19' - Amanda Hollander.

Page Design

Division A

First Place: *The Clarion*, 'Oct. 27, 2021' - Ivan Becerril-Gutierrez.

Second Place: *The Advance-Titan*, 'Sports, They're Back' - Carter Uslabar.

Third Place: *Marquette Tribune*, 'Sean Kingston Spread' - Staff.

Honorable Mention: *The Advance-Titan*, '500,000 deaths: Quantifying the tragedy' - Staff.

Use of Multimedia

Division A

First Place: *The Daily Cardinal*, 'The Student Dive: Our Impact Episode 1' - Honor Durham, Julia Wiessing, Gaby Vinick, Cole Wozniak. Judge's Comments: A slick, professional podcast worth listening to.

Second Place: *The Advance-Titan*, 'Indigenous People's Day' - Nick Morrissey. Judge's Comments: The subject made for great visuals and audio.

Third Place: *Marquette Tribune*, 'Indian Student Association celebrates the triumph of light



Page Design, First Place (Division A)
The Clarion, Madison College

over darkness at Diwali Night' – Staff. Judge's Comments: Good combination of print and audio that had the potential for dynamite visuals.

Honorable Mention: *The Clarion*, 'GLEAM puts art in a new light at Olbrich Gardens' – Hailey Griffin. Judge's Comments: Captivating visuals.

Website

Division A

First Place: *The Daily Cardinal*. Judge's Comments: It looks like the Cardinal's web redesign has paid off. The new site is very clean and well put together. There was very little if any story duplication on the front and the categories were easy to navigate between. Well done. **Second Place:** *Marquette Tribune*. Judge's Comments: A close second. This website was sharp and offers



Advertisement, First Place (Division A)
The Advance-Titan, UW-Oshkosh

the reader a variety of media to consume. The sections are well divided, the front page is a bit busy but overall, it's a well put together website.

Third Place: *Media Milwaukee*. Judge's Comments: Again, another close winner. I really liked the column layout of the website and how well everything flows together. The pages were responsive and there were no major issues to be found. Good work.

Advertisement

Division A

First Place: *The Advance-Titan*, 'Free studio headshots' – Jon Woodall. **Second Place:** *Marquette Tribune*, 'Marquette Madness Ad' – John Leuzzi. **Third Place:** *The Clarion*, 'Bad Love Poem Contest' – Steven Andriantsiratahina.

Coronavirus Coverage

Division A

First Place: *The Badger Herald*, 'The Lab Report: How former UW physician scientist changed gene therapy forever, inspiring COVID-19 vaccines' – Trey Jones. Judge's Comments: Great research great way to localize a very important story. **Second Place:** *Media Milwaukee*, 'Milwaukee Restaurants and Service Workers Face Pandemic Stress' – Thomas Hoffman. Judge's Comments: Excellent interviews really tell the story. **Third Place:** *The Daily Cardinal*, 'For new freshmen, a daunting and exciting fresh start' – Will Cioci.

Judge's Comments: Students bring the story to life Great research intermingled with great interviews

Division B

First Place: *Student Voice*, 'Pandemic increases bias toward Asian Americans' – Brooke Shepherd. Judge's Comments: Very professionally written coverage of an aspect of the pandemic we hear so much about, but don't hear many speak out on. Listening to a college student's fears about discrimination and hate crimes was eye-opening. **Second Place:** *The Clarion*, 'Financial relief for all Madison College students' – Eimy Gonzalez.

Judge's Comments: While many still aren't sure what all the ARPA funds will be used for or go toward, this was a great, straightforward example of pandemic relief in action. The story was contextualized, well-written and nicely put together. **Third Place:** *College Days*, 'Pandemic Performances: The Show Must Go On!' – Sarah Nakis. Judge's Comments: As a former theatre kid, the pandemic's toll on the stage was something I wish was covered more in the media, kudos to *College Days* for their coverage on this and bringing light to some of their school's pandemic performances.

Brooke Shepherd
brooke.shepherd@my.uwf.edu

As a child, a UW-River Falls graduate said he remembers facing discrimination in school, and sometimes being one of the only Asian students in class.

"From my personal experience growing up, it's not anything super new," said Zachary Vang, who graduated from UWRF in December of 2020.

Vang majored in marketing and communications, and currently runs a photography business. The recent rise in hate crimes against Asian-Americans has Vang reconsidering his future path.

"Originally, I was searching for a job at a marketing agency in the Twin Cities," said Vang. "But then I recently switched to the non-profit route in something that's more passionate about improving the community and having a direct impact. Additionally, my family is Asian and these attacks tend to be pretty sporadic. So it is scary to think about my parents and my grandparents potentially just being out in public and being attacked for simply being Asian."

Discrimination and attacks against Asian-Americans have risen since the pandemic. Data from the Stop Asian American Pacific Islander (AAP) Hate national report found that over 3,700 incidents have been reported since March of 2020, and this number doesn't account for unreported incidents.

Vang participated and photographed a Stop Asian Hate rally in St. Paul back in March. He said he thought the crowd would be mostly Asian, but it was a diverse group in terms of both race and age.

At UWRF, AAP students make up about 3% of the campus population, according to the 2019-2020 enrollment data.

Martin Olague is the director for Diversity, Inclusion and Belonging (DIB). Olague said campus had done a lot of programming focused around the increased crimes against Asian-Americans last year.

"Coming back to campus, a lot of our attention was pulled toward COVID," Olague said. "Recently we've been re-looking at this situation. I know we've been having talks at the cabinet level of what our campus should do and what our response should be. So we're still trying to figure that out."

Olague said these hate crimes are suspected to be tied to the racist remarks made by the former president, calling the coronavirus the "Chinese virus," and other offensive names. Olague sent out a statement to campus after the recent shooting in Atlanta, Georgia.

"My wife is also Asian," Olague continued. "So when this popped up last week, I was trying to write a response from my office. Let's just say the first draft looked pretty bad because sometimes the situation gets too personal."

St. Paul rally in March protesting discrimination against Asian-Americans. Photo courtesy of Zach Yang.

Photo courtesy of Zach Yang.

Increased violence against the Asian community can cause anxiety. Mark Hattencir is a licensed psychologist in the state of Minnesota and a licensed professional counselor in the state of Wisconsin. He works at UWRF counseling services. Hattencir said for students who feel that what they are doing to manage anxiety is not working or is making things worse, it may be time to seek counseling.

"Counseling is ultimately about supporting students in problem solving next steps and some of those steps may include advocacy or engagement at the community, state, or national level," Hattencir said. "That's true for all students no matter the background."

Students can set up appointments with Counseling Services by calling 715-425-3884 or emailing counseling@uwrf.edu. Olague said the DIB staff is also available to support students in need.

Coronavirus Coverage, First Place (Division B)
Student Voice, UW-River Falls

~ WNAF High School Newspaper Contest ~

General Excellence

Division A

First Place: *The Viking Voice* - Staff. Judge's Comments: Lots of promise with this crew. Keep working to improve – and should you choose to pursue journalism in college, do not give in to academia's penchant for "storytelling," and "advocacy," rather than unbiased, fact-based, ethical journalism readers can trust.

General Reporting

Division A

First Place: *The Tosa Compass*, 'Lack of Substitutes Teachers Presents Challenge to the District' - Henna



General Excellence, First Place (Division A)
The Viking Voice, Gibraltar High School

Kingdom. Judge's Comments: This was a good report. The reporter explained how school staff has been affected by COVID-19 and what they have to do in order to get through a day. What an eye-opener!
Second Place: *The Pulse*, 'Trend leads to damaged, stolen school property, disappointing staff, fellow students' - Jayden Kimpel. Judge's Comments: As adults, we often wonder what drives children and teens to engage in social media challenges. Now we know. Thanks to this report, we also learned how some of those challenges, when they cause damage, can affect others. Good job!

Third Place: *The Tosa Compass*, 'Wisconsin Teens Speak Out About Abortion' - Evelyn "Sky" Skyberg Greer. Judge's Comments: It's interesting to hear young people's opinions on controversial topics. This is no exception. The reporter did a good job in gathering various comments from peers and presenting them in an interesting report.

Honorable Mention: *The Pulse*, 'Fewer Poor Families turn in forms leading to loss of federal Title I funds' - Sophia Hysaw. Judge's Comments: This was an interesting report on a topic that's often wondered about. The reporter did a good job in explaining Title I funding and why some schools get less than they used to.

Division B

First Place: *The Viking Voice*, 'How To Be Environmentally Friendly During the Holidays' - Helen McCormack. Judge's Comments:

Good job on schooling the audience when it comes to the environmental impact that wrapping gifts can cause. The bonus to this report is the alternatives that are listed. The reporter identified the problem and offered a solution.

Second Place: *The Prowler*, "'Forensics still competing'" - Karin Juhl. Judge's Comments: This was an interesting piece about the Forensics Team.

Third Place: *The Viking Voice*, 'Best Fall Hangouts' - Helen McCormack. Judge's Comments: If you want to know where the best fall hangouts are, just read this report. Good job in compiling the list.

Honorable Mention: *The Viking Voice*, 'The Best Hangout Spots for Artists in Door County' - Hayden Reetz. Judge's Comments: Artists and those who want to hang out with artists will find this piece useful.

Public Affairs Reporting

Division A

First Place: *The Tosa Compass*, '4 Things to Know about Superintendent Candidates' - Ava Beisenstein, Beatrice Lazarski, Sara Stanislawski. Judge's Comments: Good reporting on an issue critical to the school district and community: The selection of a new school district superintendent. No doubt, these reports helped inform the faculty, staff, students, parents and community about the selection

process and the candidates. Keep up the good work!

Second Place: *The Tosa Compass*, 'Wauwatosa School Board Approves Shift to Full In Person Instruction Starting Apr 5' - Sara Stanislawski, Lucy Hildebrand, Vivienne Anderson. Judge's Comments: The Tosa reporting staff is clearly well-trained. What great reporting on such an important issue! Both reports were thorough and covered all the bases. Keep up the good work!

Third Place: *The Tosa Compass*, 'Solar Panels Installed on Wauwatosa City Hall and Library' - Claire Guttormson, Alexandra Kratochvil. Judge's Comments: Solid reporting. You answered the five Ws and H: Who, What, Why, When, Where and How! The lede sentence does a great job of luring readers into the story.

Honorable Mention: *The Tosa Compass*, 'School Board Votes to Move High Schools to Mitigation Level 2' - Eve Lazarski. Judge's Comments: Good reporting. Thorough!

In-Depth Reporting

Division A

First Place: *Cardinal Columns*, 'The Stigma Around Mens Health' - Zach Holzmann.

Second Place: *Cardinal Columns*, 'Burnout' - Hannah Fenrick.

Third Place: *The Tosa Compass*, 'The Case of Legalizing Marijuana in Wisconsin' - Daisy Lehman.

Honorable Mention: *The Tosa Compass*, 'Reimagining Education

After the Pandemic' - Evelyn "Sky" Skyberg Greer.

Feature Story

Division A

First Place: *The Tosa Compass*, 'The Impact Social Media Causes on Body Image' - Daisy Lehman. Judge's Comments: Excellent reporting on a very relevant issue. Seen from a student's perspective makes it even more powerful. Great job!

Second Place: *The Tosa Compass*, 'The Custodial Staff: The Unsung Heroes of Wauwatosa West' - Olivia Watters, Jenna White. Judge's Comments: Very well written piece recognizing those who

are behind the scenes.

Third Place: *The Pulse*, 'Homecoming 2021: An Indian Trail original' - Katlyn Marotz. Judge's Comments: Well written piece on a subject relevant to every school while focusing on their particular school. Well done.

Honorable Mention: *The Tosa Compass*, 'Girls in STEM Club Looks to Bridge the Gender Gap in STEM Related Careers' - Claire Guttormson. Judge's Comments: Great observations and encouragement provided in this piece.

Division B

First Place: *The Prowler*, "Kochan leaves to train for National Guard

Band" - Karin Juhl, Hale Miron. Judge's Comments: Well written with feeling but also with factual details. Great job.

Second Place: *The Viking Voice*, 'The Big Plant Leads a Community-Wide Plan to Plant Thousands of Trees' - Betsy Lecy. Judge's Comments: Detailed writing on a topic that is relevant everywhere. Good work reporting what your community is doing.

Third Place: *The Prowler*, "Retired librarian returns to work in CHS office" - Karin Juhl. Judge's Comments: Nice piece on the return of a staff member. Great details on what her new job entails through the use of interviewing.

Honorable Mention: *The Viking Voice*, 'Commentary on Door County's Fall Fest' - Hayden Reetz. Judge's Comments: While a relatively short piece, it captures the feeling of a somewhat return to normal activity.

'Committed coach elevates IT volleyball, leads team to state for fourth time' - Sophia Hysaw. Judge's Comments: Good reporting.

Editorial Writing

Division A

First Place: *The Tosa Compass*, 'Editorial: School Board Decision Threatens Students' Safety' - Staff. Judge's Comments: This was the best example of a true editorial in the contest. Efficiency with words will come with experience, but this is a promising start.

Second Place: *The Viking Voice*, 'Should Kids Be Shielded From The Realities of the Pandemic?' - Hayden Reetz.

Third Place: *Cardinal Columns*, 'Loans and Titles and Banking, Oh My!' - Julie Rebek.

Honorable Mention: *The Viking Voice*, 'Should Backpacks Be Banned From School?' - Olivia Finck.

4 Things to Know About Superintendent Candidate Mark Holzman

Beatrice Lazarski

April 21, 2021 | 729 Views

Wednesday, April 21 brought the second of the three finalists for the Wauwatosa School District Superintendent position to Wauwatosa. Mark Holzman toured Wauwatosa schools and participated in multiple forums. He visited Wauwatosa West to meet with and speak to students before heading to East for a student forum with over a dozen students from East, West and Whitman. After this forum, students were asked to fill out a survey expressing their opinions to be shared with the school board. Holzman also participated in a community forum as well as a final interview conducted in closed session with the school board in the evening.

Background

Originally from Wisconsin, Madison area native Mark Holzman is currently the superintendent of Manitowoc School District where he has served for the past five years. Throughout his lengthy career, he has worked in Elkhart Lake, Howards Grove, Fond du Lac, as well as Sheboygan school districts. His roles in these districts have been varied, including everything from a social studies teacher to the director of human resources. He has been the principal at both elementary and high school levels, and retains a deep understanding of the inner workings of schools.



Wauwatosa Superintendent finalist Mark Holzman

Sports Story

Division A

First Place: *The Tosa Compass*, 'Student Referees Face Harassment While On the Job' - Scarlet O'Neil. Judge's Comments: An interesting story told well. Great use of quotes. Solid reporting. Keep up the good work!

Second Place: *The Tosa Compass*, 'Bus Driver Shortage Impacts Wauwatosa West Athletics' - Jenna White, Olivia Watters. Judge's Comments: Good reporting on an important issue: school bus driver shortage and how it affects athletes and games. Great use of quotes.

Third Place: *The Pulse*, "Despite rousing crowd, Hawks suffer disappointing loss" - Katlyn Marotz. Judge's Comments: Good reporting.

Honorable Mention: *The Pulse*,

Column Writing

Division A

First Place: *The Pulse*, 'Before buying, consider real cost of that \$5 T-shirt, latest smartphone' - Jayden Kimpel. Judge's Comments: Excellent use of information to explain the topic. Well written and organized. Good job!

Second Place: *The Pulse*, 'Eternals provides showgoers Marvel movie like no other' - Savannah Cooks. Judge's Comments: Extremely well written review using details to compare positive and negative.

Third Place: *The Pulse*, 'Consumed with fear, LGBTQ+ skip going home for the holidays' - Sal Montemurro. Judge's Comments: Good topic choice that is fleshed out well. Only comment is to make

Public Affairs Reporting, First Place (Division A)

The Tosa Compass, Wauwatosa East and West High School

sure to use one tense – either first person or not.

Honorable Mention: *The Tosa Compass*, ‘Women are still being excluded from the American Constitution’ - Evelyn “Sky” Skyberg Greer. Judge’s Comments: Good use of back up materials and data to reinforce the column.

News/Feature Photography

Division A

First Place: *The Pulse*, ‘Homecoming 2021 festivities’ - Elly Herrick. Judge’s Comments: Kudos to the photographer for some great photos! The second and third photo entries are especially great because of the emotion that’s captured.

Second Place: *The Pulse*, ‘Homecoming 2021’ - Savannah Cooks. Judge’s Comments: This is another great batch of homecoming photos. The photographer knew when to snap these shots!

Third Place: *The Pulse*, ‘Teens navigate intense job market’ - Curtis Lindgren. Judge’s

Comments: Good photo illustrating a teen at work.

Honorable Mention: *The Pulse*, ‘New Assistant Principal’ - Curtis Lindgren. Judge’s Comments: Good photo illustrating a school official at a meeting.

Sports Photography

Division A

First Place: *The Pulse*, ‘Despite Rousing Crowd, Hawks Suffer Loss: Homecoming 2021’ - Elly Herrick. Judge’s Comments: Great action shots. Lots of face shots. NICE! Lots of parents and students were thrilled with your photographs, no doubt! Lots of variety. Keep up the good work!

Second Place: *The Pulse*, ‘First Home Basketball Victory for Hawks’ - Elly Herrick. Judge’s Comments: Nice swimming photos. I’d like to have seen a little more light on the faces but I suspect it was indoors and your camera or lens were not professional level. Still, these are nice photos! Good composition.

Third Place: *The Pulse*, ‘Nick

Klinkhammer makes his way to the finish line.’ - Stephanie Perez. Judge’s Comments: Good action shot and good posed images. Lots of smiling faces, which parents love (and they buy newspapers). Great job!

Honorable Mention: *The Pulse*, ‘Boys Swim & Dive Surrender First Home Meet’ - Elly Herrick. Judge’s Comments: Nice photos. Good job!

Infographic/ Illustration

Division A

First Place: *The Pulse*, ‘Eternals provide showgoers Marvel movie like no other’ - Stephanie Perez. Judge’s Comments: Nice work! At first glance it appeared to be a photograph, rather than an illustration.

Second Place: *The Pulse*, “SAD: ...Please let me go” - Katlyn Marotz. Judge’s Comments: This is an interesting illustration because there’s many things to look at. It perfectly illustrates the story that it accompanies.

Third Place: *The Tosa Compass*,

‘Wisconsin teens speak out about abortion’ - Evelyn “Sky” Greer. Judge’s Comments: This illustration will keep the reader engaged for a while, because there’s so much to read!

Honorable Mention: *The Tosa Compass*, ‘Women are still being excluded from the American Constitution’ - Evelyn “Sky” Skyberg Greer. Judge’s Comments: Another illustration that keeps the reader engaged with lots of text.

Best Use Of Multimedia/ Website

Division A

First Place: *Cardinal Columns*, ‘We Are Cardinals.com Website’ - Staff.

Second Place: *The Tosa Compass*, ‘The Tosa Compass website’ - Staff.

Third Place: *The Tosa Compass*, ‘10 Questions With ...’ - Claire Guttormson, Daisy Lehman.

Honorable Mention: *The Tosa Compass*, ‘Solar Panels and Sustainability in Wauwatosa’ - Eve Lazarski, Claire Guttormson.



News/Feature Photography, First Place (Division A)
The Pulse, Indian Trail High School and Academy



Sports Photography, First Place (Division A)
The Pulse, Indian Trail High School and Academy

