

WNA
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Winners!

2016 Better Newspaper Contest



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WEATHER • 11A

TODAY
50°/52°
A morning t-storm,
partly sunny

MONDAY
55°/55°
Sunny, nice
breezy in the p.m.

The Gazette

WISCONSIN'S BEST NEWSPAPER

Sunday, June 26, 2016 • Our 170th Year • \$2.50

Sports • 1B

Jenna Speth of Delavan-Darien High School is The Gazette's softball player of the year



The value of 'working lands'

Town of La Prairie residents believe land already is developed, thank you

By Elliot Hughes
ehughes@gazetteextra.com

LA PRAIRIE Three winters ago, Janesville City Manager Mark Freitag began his new job by reaching out to other municipal leaders in Rock County to schedule meet-and-greets.

One of them, Allan Arndt, chairman of the La Prairie Town Board, told Freitag to wait a few months. Making friends with the top dogs in Janesville is in the best interests of Arndt and La Prairie, a homogeneous farming town southeast of the capital city.

But Freitag wanted to make sure that, as long as Freitag was in the mood for town and face time, he'd get to see La Prairie in July during growing season.



The agricultural land of La Prairie, southeast of Janesville, is considered some of the world's best, and local residents want to protect and develop that resource.

La Prairie cutting a notch into its bottom right corner.

But Freitag found out why when he met with Arndt and saw the crops rising skyward.

Experts agree La Prairie's home to some of the best soil on the planet, and folks there don't want the land wasted. Something like 97

percent of the town's 22,000 acres are zoned for the farming hustle. Developers might look at all those green crops next to the Interstate, imagine some concrete and see green paper. But if anyone wants to take the land for a purpose other than agriculture, best of luck.

The solidarity in La Prairie stretches from the town board and its word-of-god zoning laws to the property owners who border Janesville and could choose not to give an inch.

"You start zoning things differently, and soon that zone spreads," Arndt said. "People who own land here don't want to be the one to screw it up."

Garza helps Brewers to win



Milwaukee Brewers' Matt Garza pitches to a Washington Nationals' batter during the first inning of a baseball game Saturday at Miller Park in Milwaukee. Garza pitched six solid innings as Milwaukee handed Washington its sixth straight loss, 6-5. It was Garza's first win of the season. Story on Page 1B.

Gazette at a Glance

LOCAL • 2A-3A, 8A
New pastor enjoys festival

When New Lutheran Church of God went looking for a new pastor last year, some in the church community wondered if the replacement would be up to hosting Freedom Fest. It's a lot of time, money and effort for a church to spend on a day of free carnival rides, Christian music and food for the masses, the new pastor might think. But the Rev. Jason Karampatsos saw it as more than a frivolous fun. He believes the festival, which celebrates family, patriotism and piety, should go on.

STATE • 5A

State force-feeding inmates

Officials with the Wisconsin Department of Corrections are force-feeding three prisoners who are on a hunger strike as part of a protest of solitary confinement, according to court documents. Laton McKinley, 61, Norman Green, 44, and Cesar Delson, 34, are among six inmates who began refusing food about two weeks ago. The three have said they're being force-fed water and a nutrition drink through a nasal tube, the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel reported.

DEATH NOTICES • 10A

Arlene Theresa Dorothy Arntz/Milwaukee
Arlene "Mae" M. Cleveland/Sullivan
Patricia Yvonne Miller/Janesville
Lora Marie Stratton/Sun City, Arizona, and Janesville

OBITUARIES • 10A

Shirley B. Hylle/Janesville
Lillian "Gig" Ansel/Groves City
Jeffrey R. Jeff Patta/Milwaukee
Alice Wallace Pickett/Elkhorn
Robert Spooner/Black River Falls and Janesville
Robert C. Wilson/Janesville

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The LAKELAND TIMES

WISCONSIN NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION BEST IN DIVISION 2015

FRIDAY, MAY 6, 2016

MINOCQUA, WISCONSIN
Print Run 8,300 • E-Subscribers 213
Vol. 124 - Issue 20 • 3 Sections, 132 Pages

75 CENTS "THE VOICE OF THE NORTHWOODS SINCE 1891" WWW.LAKELANDTIMES.COM

VICTORY
T-Bird softball nabs first win of 2016 Page 20

INSIDE TODAY'S TIMES

Progress 2016: Momentum in the Northwoods

Lakeland comes ALIVE

What's happening in entertainment in the Northwoods

MAY 7

Tony Ocean 6 to 10 p.m., Whitetail Inn, Martins in May, St. Germain

GAS WATCH

Nat. Average: \$2.22
WI Average: \$2.21
Green Bay: \$2.14
Madison: \$2.09
Milwaukee: \$2.17
Minocqua: \$2.14

Latest prices reported for one gallon of unleaded gasoline according to local observations and GasBuddy.com as of 3 p.m., Wednesday, May 4, 2016.

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Ready ... set ... FISH!



Mike Handrich starts the motor while his father, Glen Handrich, holds on to their pontoon Wednesday from a newly renovated dock at the Schoolhouse Bay boat landing in Minocqua. The pair were looking forward to their inaugural pontoon ride of the season.

2016 fishing season kicks off Saturday

By Beckie Joki
OF THE LAKELAND TIMES

The 2016 game fishing season kicks off Saturday and anglers across the state are ready to hit the water. It is an exciting time for many anglers and the outlook for fishing this year is very good. There are a few changes and new items anglers should know about, as well as some reminders to have a great fishing season.

Go Wild licensing system The Go Wild licensing system. With this system, an angler can get their license online and be ready to head out on the water in a matter of minutes. There will be no more waterproof licenses such as the ones anglers have become familiar with. Licenses can be printed directly from a home computer. For most residents, proof of license can be a driver's license or a department-issued PDF on a smartphone or other smart device. The

See Opener... page 28

INSIDE: 2016 SEASON DATES & LICENSE FEES | PAGE 28

New overtime rule is on the D.C. fast track

By Richard Moore
OF THE LAKELAND TIMES

Last summer the federal Department of Labor proposed significant changes to the Fair Labor Standard Act's overtime pay requirements, and now the Obama administration is putting the new regulation on a fast track to be finalized, possibly within the next 10 days. The regulations set out criteria that determine whether a white-collar employee will be classified as exempt from being paid overtime. The rule change

See Overtime... page 27

Manitowish Waters Town Board delays Rest Lake boat launch project

More input sought despite offer for privately funded improvements

By Rob Hanson
OF THE LAKELAND TIMES

Discussion on how to fix the crumbling Rest Lake boat landing in Manitowish Waters continued at a plan commission meeting Tuesday evening, as supervisor Eric Behnke suggested the town hire an engineering company to draft plans and pursue state Department of Natural Resources matching grants to halve the cost — which is estimated at around \$300,000.

See Launch... page 26

Oneida County generates second-highest tourism revenue in Northwoods

Statewide direct visitor spending reportedly reached \$11.9 billion in 2015

By Rob Hanson
OF THE LAKELAND TIMES

The start of National Tourism Week on Monday brought some good news to the state, as the department of tourism reported increases in direct visitor spending in all of Wisconsin's 72 counties in 2015.

As a whole, statewide tourism spending rose 4.39 percent to a total of \$11.9 billion — which marks a 30 percent increase to the tune of \$4.5 billion over the past five years. That translates to about 105.2 million visits to the state last year alone.

See Tourism... page 27

British vote reflects economic resentment

Globalization leaves many in UK, US feeling left behind

By Christopher S. Rugaber
AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON The United Kingdom's stunning vote to leave the European Union was driven by much of the same sentiment that fueled Donald Trump's insurgent march toward the Republican presidential nod: a rejection of economic globalization and the elites who favor it — those who feel left behind.

Many economists warn that the British vote to leave the EU, dubbed "Brexit," could cripple that nation's economy — just as many see Trump's ideas would stifle U.S. growth or even trigger another recession.

Millions of voters have defied those concerns. The Brexit vote and Trump's widespread support reflect a sweeping rejection of expert opinion in advanced countries. Yet that rejection itself could raise the likelihood of further economic harm, some economists warn.

"At some level it is a cry of frustration but one that could end up hurting an already economically harmed part of the population," says Eswar Prasad, an economics professor at Cornell University and former official at the International Trade Commission.

Fearing the future

Fungal disease threatens prospects for Wisconsin bats



Three brown bats eat barn owned by Justin Shultz near Milton. Shultz volunteers for the Wisconsin bat program, where he counts the bats in his barn throughout the summer to monitor their numbers.

MILTON Justin Shultz may be witnessing a vanishing flight of nature.

Nightly at dusk, he watches the first bat slip out of an opening in his family's 90-plus-year-old barn.

Then a few more emerge as if to test the air.

Soon, hundreds explode from their daytime roost and swirl upward like a plume of dark smoke to devour huge numbers of insects.

"It takes about an hour for them all to leave," Shultz said. Earlier this month, he took part in the state's Great Wisconsin Bat Count and tallied more than 800 with a hand-held counter at his home north of Milton.

Most were little brown bats, which are one of four cave-dwelling bats on the state-threatened species list.

Wisconsin residents may volunteer for two bat monitoring programs sponsored by the DNR. They are the summer colony roosting and acoustic monitoring programs.

For more information, contact Paul White at 608-267-0813 or Heather Kasarika at 608-266-2576 or go online to www.dnr.wisconsin.gov/bats/volunteer.

The count provides critical information from summer-roost locations across Wisconsin as the state grapples with deadly white-nose syndrome. The disease has killed millions of hibernating bats in eastern and southern states and was discovered in Wisconsin in 2014.

Shultz urges others to take part in the Department of Natural Resources counts.

"You can help researchers understand bats and

Turn to RESIDENT on Page 10A

The New Fagan Automotive

2016 Buick Envision 3 IN STOCK!

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Daily: The Gazette, Janesville
Publisher: Sidney "Skip" Bliss

Weekly: The Lakeland Times, Minocqua
Publisher: Gregg Walker

The 2016 Better Newspaper Contest included 3,042 total entries from 122 newspapers

2017 Convention & Trade Show

WNA

Feb. 23-24 | Middleton, Wis.

Entries were judged by members of the Illinois Press Association

On the cover

Clockwise from top left:

Feature Photo, Division B, First Place:
The Reporter, Fond du Lac — “Sturgeon
Stampede” by Douglas Raflik

Feature Photo, Division E, Second Place:
The Ripon Commonwealth Press — “Color
me happy” by Ian Stepleton

General News Photo, Division E, First
Place: *The Northwoods River News*,
Rhinelander — “Rainy bugler” by Jamie
Taylor

General News Photo, Division D, First
Place: *Vilas County News-Review*, Eagle
River — “Hold on” by Douglas Etten

Need duplicates?

Additional plaques and certificates are
available for purchase from the WNA
Foundation. Plaques are \$60 each and
certificates are available for \$6 each. Tax,
postage and handling are included in the
price.

Deadline to order is Monday, March 27.
Order online at bit.ly/WNA16Duplicates.

Thank you!

Our special thanks to Capital Newspa-
pers in Madison and Wisconsin State
Journal Editor John Smalley for printing
and assisting with this 2016 Better News-
paper Contest results tab.

Let your readers know:



WISCONSIN NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION FOUNDATION

Visit www.wnanews.com
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Better Newspaper Contest
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Congratulations division winners!

Daily Newspapers

Division A

Green Bay Press-Gazette

Division B

The Gazette, Janesville

Division C

Watertown Daily Times

Weekly Newspapers

Division D

The Lakeland Times, Minocqua

Division E

Ripon Commonwealth Press

Division F

The Crawford County Independent
& *The Kickapoo Scout*, Gays Mills

Branen Scholarships

William E. Branen, former publisher of the Burl-
ington Standard Press and a past president of the
Wisconsin Newspaper Association, died in 1988
but his legacy lives on. One way is through an
annual scholarship established by his wife, Nan,
through the family foundation.

Initially awarded to a Burlington High School
student, the Branen scholarships took a new
focus in 1999. Since that time the scholarship
has honored each school earning first place for
General Excellence in the Wisconsin Newspa-
per Association Foundation High School Better
Newspaper Contest.

The William E. Branen Scholarships honoring
excellence in high school journalism will be pre-
sented to three Wisconsin student newspapers.
School newspapers receiving a \$1,000 Branen
Scholarship are:

**Extra-curricular publication, Division B,
enrollment of 500 or more:**

Noctiluca, Appleton North High School, advised
by Aaron Ramponi

**Classroom-based publication, Division B,
enrollment of 500 or more:**

The Highlander, Homestead High School
(Mequon), advised by Rachel Rauch

Division A, school enrollment of 500 or fewer:

The Viking Voice, Gibraltar High School
(Fish Creek), advised by Andrew Holdmann

General Excellence

Division A

First Place: Wisconsin State Journal, Madison – “While on a daily basis the State Journal tends to be a bit thin, these contest entries were well chosen. They are packed with good stuff. They represent the best photo use, good graphics, sports section, news analysis. The paper is well produced – good registration makes the photos pop. A very nice newspaper.”

Second Place: Kenosha News – “I was impressed by the overall localness of the Kenosha News. It doesn't rely too much on wire copy; nor does it overplay the chicken dinner news. It celebrates community. Lots of names and faces, solid feature on pumpkin beers by a home-brewing photographer. I thought putting a special section on a new handicapped-accessible playground on high-bright stock was a great bonus for advertisers whose stuff jumped off the pages. Well done.”

Third Place: Green Bay Press-Gazette – “I was most struck by the opinion page, which is SO engaging and deep, with multiple pages, a dominant image, columns and letters to the editor. Such an important part of any newspaper and the Press-Gazette seems to get that. A couple of criticisms: Even for a Sunday paper the stories are TOO long, so much so that they squeeze out any meaningful art that would make jumps less daunting. Also, mugshots are too small. Seems to diminish the value of the people they represent.”

Division B

First Place: Marshfield News-Herald – “Some terrific watchdog reporting, interestingly presented, make for a must-read for Marshfield area residents. A solid local newspaper all the way around.”

Second Place: The Freeman, Waukesha – “There is a lot going on when you pick up a Freeman, but it's all about interesting points of entry. The Favre fan story was fun, with solid headlines. Solid sports section, too.”

Third Place: Oshkosh Northwestern – “Nice burned in story previewing the air show and the disappearance of the Pearl Harbor generation. A moving front page. Other good section front design. One criticism: too much reliance on Gannett network material in these editions and on a daily basis.”

Division C

First Place: Stevens Point Journal – “Good design, great content across the board in

SUNDAY STATE JOURNAL

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www.wisconsinjournal.com

BETTER AFTER THE BREAK
LW rebounds from sluggish first half to beat Maryland

Outlaw's last act
A number of art pieces feature makes on last night's show

OSCAR BAYER CLOSING ADJACENT NEIGHBORHOOD UNSURE OF IMPACT

HE'S GOT NEXT
IN TODAY'S PAPER
A 40-page special section on the LW men's basketball team

EBRIDGE TALK '2ND
LAW INBROOD STATE

Pipeline could get a 'twin'
Current hard output exceeds controversial Keystone X proposal

Residents reflect, worry
Eken Park, developed after WWII, was home to many plant workers

Journalist brought nation images of war
Wisconsin native Dickey Chapelle died in Vietnam about 50 years ago

WISCONSIN
OSCAR BAYER CLOSING ADJACENT NEIGHBORHOOD UNSURE OF IMPACT
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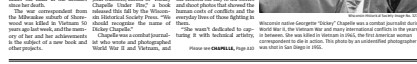
Gov. Scott W. Kessler, D, Wis., who was seen across the street from the State Journal building, reflects on his family history with the newspaper while he was in Madison, Wis., last week. He was seen across the street from the State Journal building, reflecting on his family history with the newspaper while he was in Madison, Wis., last week. He was seen across the street from the State Journal building, reflecting on his family history with the newspaper while he was in Madison, Wis., last week.

Residents reflect, worry
Eken Park, developed after WWII, was home to many plant workers



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Journalist brought nation images of war
Wisconsin native Dickey Chapelle died in Vietnam about 50 years ago



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THE POLAR EXPRESS
Trains depart Middleton to the North Pole this November & December

RESERVE NOW
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Wisconsin State Journal, Madison, First Place, Division A General Excellence

business, sports and local institutions. Clearly the best of the group.”

Second Place: Watertown Daily Times – “Really like this paper's dedication to color photos, though toning at times could be better. Good content mix. Could benefit from an updated design.”

Third Place: Baraboo News Republic – “Good local content, prep football preview page is a highlight.”

Honorable Mention: Portage Daily Register – “Like the local content mix. Paper works hard with what it has.”

Division D

First Place: The Lakeland Times, Minocqua – “The Lakeland Times pushed the boundaries of traditional layout design creating an interesting publication. Overall, the reporting was balanced and well written with a variety of coverage for the community.”

Second Place: Franklin-Greendale-Hales Corners-Oak Creek Now – “Now provides a traditional approach to page design creating a clean publication. Although the front-page

State of Opportunity

Marshfield News-Herald

DEATH NOTICES | **INDEX** | **CLASSIFIED** | **ADVERTISING**

SEX SLAVERY IN THE HEART OF WISCONSIN



Sex slaves on the back in a room at a hotel in Marshfield, Wis., where they are being held against their will.

Marshfield, Wis. – A drug-infused life of prostitution wasn't Lisa Rose's life dream. The never planned or wanted to be a prostitute. It just happened, she said.

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DEATH NOTICES | **INDEX** | **CLASSIFIED** | **ADVERTISING**

Marshfield News-Herald, First Place, Division B, General Excellence

typically only has two stories, the use of web refers and subheads breaks up the text nicely and coaxes the reader to continue reading.”

Third Place: Door County Advocate, Sturgeon Bay – “The Door County Advocate had a crisp design overall and utilized photos and advertisements well. The use of feature stories on the front page gave the publication a new twist. The sports section was also handled very well.”

Honorable Mention: Hudson Star-Observer – “With some minor tweaks, the Hudson Star-Observer has the potential to be a well-rounded publication. Visually, the paper tends to have competing photos and stories.”

Division E

First Place: The Oregon Observer – “Great community newspaper. Strong visual attraction, good pictures, solid writing.”

Second Place: The Dunn County News, Menomonie – “Enjoyed the outstanding writing and stories. Good design.”

Third Place: The Northwoods River News, Rhinelander – “Really enjoyed this newspaper. Good writing and outstanding

Always on his mind

Stevens Point Journal

DEATH NOTICES | **INDEX** | **CLASSIFIED** | **ADVERTISING**

OVERTIME COSTS TOP \$10K AFTER SHOOTING



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Stevens Point, Wis. – A shooting at a local business on Monday night cost the Stevens Point Journal more than \$10,000 in overtime pay for reporters and editors who worked through the night to get the story out.

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DEATH NOTICES | **INDEX** | **CLASSIFIED** | **ADVERTISING**

Stevens Point Journal, First Place, Division C, General Excellence

layout. Good headlines.”

Honorable Mention: The Stoughton Courier Hub – “Congrats on a strong community newspaper.”

Division F

First Place: New London Press Star – “I knew I was looking at the first place winner after going through the three submissions. Great writing and photos. And the photos were of good size where you could actually see them, other than all of the other entries which had smaller photos. Layout was good, however I would like to see a tighter format without so much white space. I guess I am somewhat old-fashioned in this regard. A great variety of story content, and everything was well written. Maybe this has changed, but I would also ‘anchor’ sections of your newspaper, so that common sections that people look for are on the same page each week, i.e. obituaries, classifieds, sports, etc.”

Second Place: Sauk Prairie Eagle, Sauk City – “I really like the front page of this newspaper, probably best of all of the entries. What separated this newspaper

from the others was the quality of the writing and the use of photos. The layout was clean and easy to read. The headlines were clear and concise. The overall tone was professional and informative. The use of local news stories was a highlight. The photos were well chosen and added to the stories. The writing was clear and easy to read. The overall quality was excellent. I was impressed by the attention to detail and the high standards of the publication. The use of local news stories was a highlight. The photos were well chosen and added to the stories. The writing was clear and easy to read. The overall quality was excellent. I was impressed by the attention to detail and the high standards of the publication.

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 Vol. 102 • 10th Anniversary
 No. 121 • Size 9 1/2 • Section 40 Pages
 "THE VOICE OF THE NORTHWOODS SINCE 1891" WWW.LAKELANDTIMES.COM

- Lakeland comes **ALIVE**
- NOV. 20
- News
- Top Tale
- Local
- Community
- Don Pfeiffer
- Education
- NOV. 21
- Dueling
- Placed
- Real Estate
- Business
- Classified
- INDEX

Aiming for ANTLERS

Deer season 2015 Outlook for Oneida County: CDCAC recommends no antlerless permits

By Debra Hill

While deer hunters have been up on their feet since the start of November, the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is still in the process of setting the rules for the 2015-16 season. Oneida County's Deer Commission (CDCAC) has recommended that no antlerless permits be issued for the season.



Lawsuit: O.C. sheriff's department records law
 Secney raises the 'very real specter of secret criminal proceedings'

By Richard Mease

News: A bill of the county's sheriff's department records law Secney raises the 'very real specter of secret criminal proceedings'.

Hono Berry — 12/2/2015

The Lakeland area has a good...

Sneak Peek on the Island

A special look at downtown Oneida, reflect this weekend!

Walker saying no to Syrian refugees

Obama wants to accept 10,000 next year

Walker saying no to Syrian refugees

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The OREGON OBSERVER

Thursday, October 8, 2015 • Vol. 131, No. 14 • Oregon, WI • www.OregonObserver.com • \$1

Brochure: Walk, bike around Oregon
 Chamber, historical society collaborate to foster tourism

Friends rally for crash victim

Returning the hospitality
 Russian teachers impressed with Oregon during visit

Water tower fundraiser set for next week as organizer sees momentum building

County approves \$25.2 million in property taxes

Law firm acquires old admin building

Sharkus HOMETOWN DENTISTRY
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top DENTISTS

New London Press Star

THE PRESS STAR
 FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2015 10:00 AM • www.newlondonpressstar.com

COMMUNITY FOX WEST CHAMBER AWARD WINNERS
 Page 18

SPORTS JIRSCHLE ACHIEVES BASEBALL DREAM
 Page 15

Weekend of terror

Veteran's Day program

UW-Varsity Band concert to benefit Veterans' Memorial Foundation

County approves \$25.2 million in property taxes

Law firm acquires old admin building

Sharkus HOMETOWN DENTISTRY
 "Great Experience • Total Care"

top DENTISTS

questions”

Third Place: Green Bay Press-Gazette: “Lead in the water” – Pete Frank, Adam Rodewald. “Great effort from beginning to end including editorial and illustrations/photos. An issue that surely was important to the community. Loved the map but went looking for video and couldn’t find it.”

Honorable Mention: Baraboo News Republic: “53913: Gettin’ Rid of the Blues” – Staff. “A wealth of information told in an interesting way through personal stories”

Weekly

First Place: Vilas County News-Review, Eagle River: “Warm the Children program” – Staff. “The amount of coverage and variety of use of stories, editorials and advertising gave excellent coverage and kept the community updated every step of the way. Stories were well written. Excellent coverage and a worthy community project.”

Second Place: Lake Country Reporter, Hartland: “Yule Feed Families” – Staff. “Great coverage with a variety of articles keeping the event fresh for the readers each week.”

Third Place: The Ripon Commonwealth Press: “Bullying number was ‘under-reported’” – Ian Stepleton. “The story was very important to bringing the real issue to the public as well as the school board. It was excellently written. I placed it in third because I would have liked to have seen more entries with follow up stories covering some of the points shared in the judges letter. It shows the importance of the community newspaper as a watch dog in their community.”

Honorable Mention: The Lakeland Times, Minocqua: “Northwoods Youth Deer Hunt Challenge” – Staff. “Good coverage with excellent use of photos.”

Special Section

Division A

First Place: Kenosha News: “The Dream becomes a reality” – Joe Potente, Mike Larsen, Laura Tucker, Julie Vander Velden, Brian Passino, Bill Siel, Kevin Poirier, Deneen Smith, Sean Krajacic, Jeff Zampanti, Terry Flores, Janine Anderson, Diane Giles. “A superb documentation of how a community comes together to make local life better. Well written and executed.”

Second Place: The Journal Times, Racine: “Forward Racine County” – Ann M. Walter, Dan Talsky, Gregory Shaver, Mick Burke. “Very thorough and well written section

New London Press Star, First Place, Division F, General Excellence

we don’t need a photo of him with every important person in his life for the story. Also, I don’t particularly care for taking pictures of inanimate objects. That is not to say never run these types of photos, just use them sparingly. OK, now for the good stuff! Your photo essays are AWESOME! I absolutely loved the mock accident, the school concert, great pieces! Sports photos? Again, great photography! Your center pull-out sections were really great! Great piece on the color run! Here, the face shots work because of the colors. Production-wise, one of the best color press jobs I have ever seen! Kudos! I would like to see more news on the front, as opposed to the large teaser bar on the left side of the page. I also saw several pages in a row with no photos or graphics on them, very boring stretch. Writing in this publication was well done, although after every story, I kept seeing ‘from XXXXXX.’ I would think about dropping these from submitted items – shows the ratio between staff written stories and what is ‘given’ to you. A nice little paper, which should be ready to take it to the next level.”

Honorable Mention: Clintonville Tribune Gazette – “A nice little newspaper. The teaser photos at the top of the front page is a bit distracting, possibly because of that green background. Looking through the paper, writing could be a bit more crisp, which was the difference between this newspaper placing and getting honorable

The Lakeland Times, Minocqua, First Place, Division D, General Excellence

from the first place entry was the size of some of the photos. There were group photos that contained a large number of people which were only two columns wide. I had to struggle to see the individual faces. Then there were a few photos with one person in them (granted performing a task) that were four columns wide. Great imbalance here. A good rule to follow is 1 person, 1 column; 2-3 people, 2 column; 3-5 people, 3 column; 5 or more – as needed. Nice layout. I prefer a ‘tighter’ layout, but your staff’s use of the white space is much less obvious and is much less distracting than most of the other newspapers, and it works here so well! Nice job! I absolutely was entranced with your July 20 front page, with your hospital story – great piece of work. As with the first place newspaper, anchoring is a big part of being user friendly. Would like to see common reading areas assigned to the same page each week – obituaries, classifieds, legals, etc.”

Third Place: Washburn County Register, Shell Lake – “A lot of ‘grip and grins’ and ‘execution at dawn’ photos in this newspaper – probably 80-90 percent of the photos in this publication have people staring at the camera. Page after page I sought a photo where people were not staring into the camera. Also the amount of photos on some of the stories were overkill. While I realize that a student going to state is a big deal,

The Oregon Observer First Place, Division E, General Excellence

we don’t need a photo of him with every important person in his life for the story. Also, I don’t particularly care for taking pictures of inanimate objects. That is not to say never run these types of photos, just use them sparingly. OK, now for the good stuff! Your photo essays are AWESOME! I absolutely loved the mock accident, the school concert, great pieces! Sports photos? Again, great photography! Your center pull-out sections were really great! Great piece on the color run! Here, the face shots work because of the colors. Production-wise, one of the best color press jobs I have ever seen! Kudos! I would like to see more news on the front, as opposed to the large teaser bar on the left side of the page. I also saw several pages in a row with no photos or graphics on them, very boring stretch. Writing in this publication was well done, although after every story, I kept seeing ‘from XXXXXX.’ I would think about dropping these from submitted items – shows the ratio between staff written stories and what is ‘given’ to you. A nice little paper, which should be ready to take it to the next level.”

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New London Press Star, First Place, Division F, General Excellence

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on the many diverse aspects that steer the community's progress."

Third Place: *Green Bay Press-Gazette*: "How to Lambeau" – Staff. "A cute, light take on enlightening the uninitiated on what's hot when attending the game. Well executed all around."

Honorable Mention: *Leader-Telegram*, Eau Claire: "REMAKING THE VALLEY" – Staff. "Another great group effort looking at the future of a community in the midst of major changes."

Division B

First Place: *Wausau Daily Herald*: "20 Under Forty: Class of 2015" – Staff. "An excellent package of multiplatform channels that showcase the outstanding young people in the community."

Second Place: *Beloit Daily News*: "Gamechangers" – Staff. "An excellent topic backed by solid profiles of the people making a difference in the community"

Third Place: *Beloit Daily News*: "Legends of Sports XXI" – Staff. "A sharp, glossy keepsake edition that is chocked full of local sports memories. Very well executed."

Honorable Mention: *The Gazette*, Janesville: "The Next Generation" – Staff.

"Another solid effort to showcase the people who are making a difference in the community."

Division C

First Place: *Daily Globe*, Ironwood: "A History Project: Journey Back in Time" – Staff. "An interesting, in-depth look at community history that no doubt was well-read. Enjoyed the historical photos and the explaining what shaped the community. Great job."

Second Place: *Watertown Daily Times*: "Family & Friends Magazine" – Staff. "Lot of good, in-depth local stories told in long-form style. Readers can learn a lot about their neighbors."

Third Place: *Stevens Point Journal*: "Enduring Excellence: Amherst championship season" – Staff. "Lot of nice design and an exhaustive look at the team by a writer who has become very close to the story."

Honorable Mention: *Daily Jefferson County Union*, Fort Atkinson: "Football 2016" – Jacob Onak, Jeff Seisser, Paul Beroza, Matt Gardner. "Eye-catching design and good info on teams at every level. Pro and college seems tacked on at

end of what is essentially a prep section. Would like to see more consistency in info presented."

Division D

First Place: *Vilas County News-Review*, Eagle River: "Salute to Emergency Personnel 2015" – Staff. "Lots of original articles that were informative and interesting. good layout and pictures. Nice use of color and good printing job. Must be a lot of hard work. Good job!"

Second Place: *Door County Advocate*, Sturgeon Bay: "Impact – Business and Industry 2015-16" – "Although not as many original articles as other entrants, the 10 Questions is interesting and informative. That was probably a lot of work to transcribe or fill out the answers for the people, so you get credit for hard work. I like the standing head for the questions. Nice looking piece with great layout, typography and use of color."

Third Place: *The Star News*, Medford: "Deer Hunting Extra" – Matt Frey. "Amount of original articles in the 16 pages tipped the scale to win third place. Although there were other entrants that could have won, the staff-generated articles

for this entry had information for hunters as well as features on local officials."

Honorable Mention: *Vilas County News-Review*, Eagle River: "2016 Headwaters Area Guide" – Staff. "Although this category is based on editorial excellence, which in my mind equates to original articles, the sheer quantity of information in this piece deserves an honorable mention. Great color and printing."

Division E

First Place: *Dodge County Pionier*, Mayville: "Wisconsin Faces-Vietnam Veterans Memorial" – Andrew Johnson, Mallorie Clark, Heather Kopsi, Danielle Wiedmeyer, Jessica McBride. "Congratulations ... This section tugs at the heartstrings and shows the role of a newspaper."

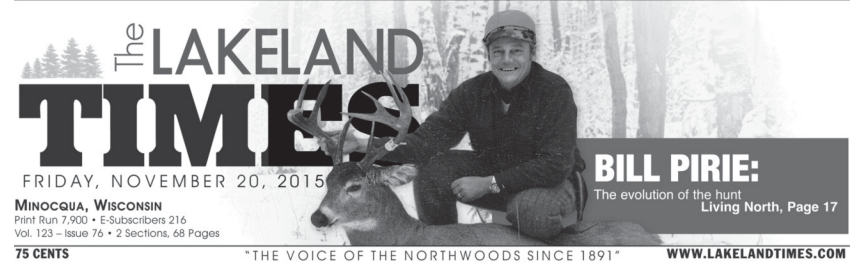
Second Place: *Burnett County Sentinel*, Grantsburg: "100 Years of Grantsburg Football" – Stacy Coy, Jessica Johnson. "What a fun section!!!! I'm sure you had the community talking."

Third Place: *New Richmond News*: "2016 Graduation Keepsake" – Staff. "This is how a graduation section should be done. Great local content in addition to

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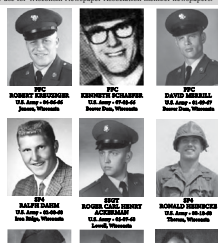
*Congratulations to the staff of The Lakeland Times
and The Northwoods River News!*

DODGE COUNTY PIONEER MEMORIAL DAY 2016
Wisconsin Faces
 VIETNAM VETERANS MEMORIAL



Finding The Photos

In our January 2014 when I took a walk through the Dodge County Pioneer Memorial Day Special Section, I was struck by the photos of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial. The photos were taken by a local photographer, and they were a beautiful reminder of the sacrifices made by our veterans. I was able to find the photos of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in the Dodge County Pioneer Memorial Day Special Section. The photos were taken by a local photographer, and they were a beautiful reminder of the sacrifices made by our veterans. I was able to find the photos of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in the Dodge County Pioneer Memorial Day Special Section.



PHOTOGRAPHER: [Name] (12 photos) (12 photos) (12 photos) (12 photos) (12 photos) (12 photos) (12 photos) (12 photos) (12 photos) (12 photos) (12 photos) (12 photos)



Dodge County Pioneer, Mayville, First Place, Division E, Special Section

the photos. I'm going to remember this one."

Honorable Mention: Dodge County Pioneer, Mayville: "Cancer Awareness Section" – Zach Cook, Danielle Wiedmeyer, Heather Kopsi, Breonna Bleuel. "As a thyroid cancer survivor this special section brought a tear to my eye. You made this section 'SPECIAL.'"

Division F

First Place: Campbellsport News: "Wisconsin Faces – Vietnam Veterans Memorial" – Mallorie Clark, Andrea Steger, Tracy Dieckman, Andrew Johnson, Jessica McBride. "This special section is a wonderful example of the powerful role community weekly newspapers can play in the world around us. A lot of hard, determined work went into this project by a lot of people. It's a labor of love that will be appreciated today and in years to come."

Second Place: Oconomowoc Focus: "Destination Oconomowoc" – Amy Nixon, Matt Colby, Staff. "This is a nice slick piece that can only be done at this level in bigger markets. It provides a nice flavor of the community."

Third Place: Clintonville Chronicle: "Graduation Special" – Tricia Rose. "This was close to being second place. Kudos to the young people who worked on this special section."

Editorial Award

Division A

First Place: The Post-Crescent, Appleton: "Transparency is not negotiable for police; Neenah police valor awards are tone deaf; Neenah deserves better chief than Wilkenson" – Sarah Riley. "Fearless, powerful, persuasive, relevant, unambiguous. Strong editorial writing that looks out for the community."

Second Place: The Journal Times, Racine: "Redactions waste taxpayers' money; Frivolous Starbucks lawsuit should be iced; Parking on lake ice on a mild day? Really?" – Mark Lewis, Tom Farley, Steve Lovejoy, Stephanie Jones. "Conversational editorial writing that elevates readers, not just opinion leaders."

Third Place: Wisconsin State Journal, Madison: "Snowzilla' has nothing on D.C. debt" – Scott Milfred. "Thoughtful, farsighted, clearly articulated."

Honorable Mention: The Capital Times, Madison: "The Capital Times" – John Nichols, Dave Zweifel, Lynn Danielson, Judie Kleinmaier. "Not afraid to be bold. Strongly defined positions."

Division B

First Place: Beloit Daily News: "Takeaways from Beloit's Hot Mess" – Bill Barth. "Thorough and well-written editorials here. Good service to the community. Commentaries help newspaper inform readers as much as offer an opinion."

Second Place: EagleHerald, Marinette: "Retirement pay not earned yet; Proof that drug court is working; Menominee needs to get right" – Dan Kitkowski. "Nice to see a pat on the back for drug court. Snappy writing."

Third Place: The Gazette, Janesville: "Sen. Nass' meddling unwarranted; 'Change does not come by violence'; District shares blame for thefts" – Andrew Broman. "Good calling out of school district for its responsibility in safeguarding student account cash."

Honorable Mention: Herald Times Reporter, Manitowoc: "Our 'pursuit of Happiness' (July 3, 2016); Election 2016: Five takeaways (July 17, 2016); Avoid Manitowoc Company blame game (Aug. 14, 2016)" – Brandon Reid. "Nice localization in 'pursuit of Happiness' piece"

Division D

First Place: The Chronotype, Rice Lake, Rice Lake: "Choose words carefully; Public service demands more; Three months and

Editorial

Takeaways from Beloit's hot mess

Deception and secrecy — factors that undermine good government and high achievement.

IT IS ALL BUT irrelevant who was selected Beloit School Board president last night. In a split vote Shannon Scharmer kept the gavel, edging out rival Nora Gard.

After what has transpired the past week it's safe to assume the well of goodwill has been poisoned. The only question is how high is the level of toxicity and what will it take to begin the process of decontamination.

We can only imagine the shock going through the minds of the newest board members elected just a couple of weeks ago. Undoubtedly, this is not what they signed up for.

It is, however, what they inherit.

Beloit Daily News, First Place, Division B, Editorial

holding" – Eileen Nimm, Ryan Urban, Jim Dorrance, Sam Finazzo. "The editorials covered a wide array of issues, local and statewide, and are well written and draw in the reader. Of especial interest was the editorial, 'Three months and holding.' It's an important issue. It's an issue with which other newspapers face."

Second Place: The Star News, Medford: "Save the fibs for fishing camp; Wisconsin needs an honest road plan; Let The Sun, Osceola shine on open government; Vos should be removed from legislative leadership" – Brian Wilson. "The editorials explore local and state issues and take a stand that's clear cut. They also explore issues that should be of interest to everyone."

Third Place: The Country Today, Eau Claire: "Change could come to TV market regulations; Collaboration needed to narrow health gap; Youth livestock sales are worthwhile investment" – Heidi Clausen.

Honorable Mention: Inter-County Leader, Frederic: "Jan. 13, 2016; March 30, 2016; April 13, 2016" – Gary King.

Division E

First Place: The Record-Review, Edgar: "A shadow falls on free speech; The system is rigged; We can't look away" – Peter Weinschenk. "This paper provides a strong voice on local issues that obviously mean a lot to its readers. Its edit board isn't afraid to hold officials accountable; the editorials make strong cases through solid reporting and writing. This town is lucky to have a newspaper willing to stick its neck out on important issues"

Second Place: The Ripon Commonwealth Press: "Boca deal's losers; Dogs, drivers

licensed; You never voted?" – Tim Lyke. "This paper isn't afraid to take strong stances on local issues. Great writing and viewpoints; voting editorial impressed the importance and gravity that comes with the right to vote"

Third Place: Lake Geneva Regional News – Rob Ireland. "Solid editorials on the importance of open government."

Editorial Page or Section

Division A

First Place: Green Bay Press-Gazette – Staff.

Second Place: Wisconsin State Journal, Madison: "Sunday Opinion" – Scott Milfred, Phil Hands, Laura Nolan, Amy Geiger.

Third Place: The Capital Times, Madison: "The Capital Times" – Dave Zweifel, John Nichols, Lynn Danielson, Judie Kleinmaier.

Honorable Mention: The Post-Crescent, Appleton: "Sept. 13, 2015; May 1, 2016; July 24, 2016" – Sarah Riley.

Division D

First Place: Vilas County News-Review, Eagle River: "Editorial/Opinion/Commentary pages from Sept. 30, 2015; June 8, 2016 and July 27, 2016." – Staff. "This is a strong first with great local editorial content. Love the variety of information on these pages, from the local editorial voice to photography, cartoons, local columnists and letter writers. The layout of these pages set them apart. They rise to the top!"

Second Place: The Star News, Medford: "Feb. 4; Feb. 18; March 24" – Brian Wilson. "This entry was a close second with an equally impressive variety of content."

Third Place: The Chronotype, Rice Lake: "Oct. 21; June 8; July 27" – Sam Finazzo, Ryan Urban, Eileen Nimm, Dave Greschner. "Great pages with lots of local voices sharing their views."

Division E

First Place: Lake Geneva Regional News: "Dec. 24, 2015; Jan. 7, 2016; Feb. 25, 2016" – Rob Ireland, John Halverson. "The majority of my career in newspapers has been with black and white newspapers, and when judging this contest, I looked heavily on content. What I really liked about this newspaper's editorial section was, well, virtually everything. Virtually. If there is perhaps one thing that bugged me, it was the obituaries in the editorial section, but that is just a matter of personal preference,

and the section does have the word 'Community' in its title as well. I like the opinions on local topics, as well as tidbits dealing with state and national issues. There were some letters and opinion pieces (state legislator) that went from the bottom of one column to the top of the next. Personally, I would have like to have seen these in a more 'blocked' style, as opposed to running column to column. This may have been done to break up the pages more and use different styles, but to me, this format made these items just a little bit harder to read. While I don't know whether I would group editorial and 'community' content together, it mixes well in this newspaper's section. Editorial content very well done. Just because something is not done how a judge is used to doing it or seeing it, doesn't make it bad, and in this instance, it was a pleasure reading it. Oh, and the splash of color was good too!"

Second Place: *The Platteville Journal:* "The First Amendment" – Steve Prestegard. "I really liked the way this editorial page is laid out. It is a clean layout, sectioning out the different parts. I definitely liked the use of white space here, the font choices, etc. It 'looks' like an editorial page. I would have liked to see the continuation of the Veteran's Day entry, where the letters to the editor were continued on another page. By looking at these pages, it appears that this group of entries comes from a small newspaper, and if this assumption is correct, you have a very talented and professional staff! Very close competition between this entry and the first place!"

Third Place: *River Falls Journal:* "River Falls Journal editorial section entry" – Phil Pfuehler, Staff. "This is a nice editorial section, with a variety of content. On the Dec. 10 entry, I thought the top of the page had too many graphics. To break it up, the photos on the left side of the page could have been put at the bottom of the commentary, to move it away from the political cartoon. I like the sleekness of the masthead, combining the newspaper info, letter to the editor policy and contact info. In today's modern world, could include the emails here of staffers. The 'Opinion' header contains The First Amendment, which I love, but it seems too busy for my personal tastes. For the editorials on the left side – who penned these? They are not credited to anyone, which to me, as a reader, tells me either the person who wrote the piece does not want to back it up with a name, the newspaper doesn't want to acknowledge the authors, or some other reason the

newspaper doesn't want to publish the author's name. To me, these pieces gives the readership a bit about who the editor, publisher, staffer is, embedding the newspaper in the community even moreso than it already is. The lack of a name makes the piece more distant and impersonal, in my opinion. Again, love the complete reader interaction with the 'Reader Letters' section, demonstrating the readers feel like they are a part of this newspaper! Again, a personal preference here, but I would use a 'block' layout for the letters, as opposed to the column to column layout. Overall a nice page."

Front Page

Division A

First Place: *Green Bay Press-Gazette:* "Front Page" – Staff. "A well-executed, clean, consistent, and vibrant design."

Second Place: *The Post-Crescent,* Appleton: "Feb. 7, 2016; July 17, 2016; Aug. 14, 2016" – Rachel Rausch. "These pages were well-designed and it was a difficult choice between first and second place."

Third Place: *Daily News,* West Bend: "Front page" – Christopher Becker. "A more traditional layout, everything works together."

Division C

First Place: *The Monroe Times:* "Front Page" – Mary Jane Grenzow. "Very appealing front pages. Great use of lead art and headlines. Nice use of accent colors. Love the use of teasers above the banner. Lots of eye-catching elements that would make someone want to read the paper. Well done."

Second Place: *Daily Globe,* Ironwood: "July 13, 2016; July 5, 2016; May 31, 2016" – Larry Holcombe. "Lots of things to like here. In some cases, I would make some items smaller in order to get more news and information on the front page. The banner is very crisp and clean, so I get the style you are going for. But the use of skyboxes or other teasers around the banner might help draw more readers to the paper. Very nice use of photography."

Third Place: *Watertown Daily Times:* "10-7-2015, 4-4-2016, 6-20-2016" – Heidi Schwoch. "Very professional looking newspapers. The news is presented very well. Lots of information. In some cases, though, too much information and seems jammed. Could benefit from saving some standalone photos for the inside pages so

WHAT'S NEXT Moments in Time series National Geographic series Line of local history MONDAY NEWS HONESTY + LIFE	WHAT'S IN Calendar Community Dear Abby Horoscope Letters Sports Vows	DEATHS • PAGE A2 Robert D. Bandy - 72, Monticello Park, IL Margaret M. Hartung - 88, Monroe, WI
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The Monroe Times, First Award, Division C, Front Page

some items can be fleshed out."

Honorable Mention: *Daily Jefferson County Union,* Fort Atkinson: "Dec. 31, 2015; April 11, 2016; April 28, 2016" – Christine Spangler. "A lot of information here, which is good. But almost too busy, which takes the eye in a lot of different directions. Readers will appreciate all the information and news – more bang for their buck – but it is almost too busy. Too many different photos, graphs, shades, big headlines taking the eye a lot of different directions."

Division D

First Place: *Germantown-Menomonee Falls Now:* "Best Front Page: Sept. 17, 2015; June 9, 2016; July 28, 2016" – Staff. "The photography on these front pages made them pop and made me want to read on. Really great work!"

Second Place: *The Lakeland Times,* Minocqua: "Oct. 30, 2015; Nov. 20, 2015; May 6, 2016" – Staff. "Creative layouts. Love that the reader is given a sampling of what's in the paper."

Third Place: *Door County Advocate,* Sturgeon Bay: "May 14; July 20; Aug. 6" – Tim Cochran. "Impressive front pages that

make the reader want to open the paper and keep reading."

Division E

First Place: *River Falls Journal:* "River Falls Journal Front Page entry" – Staff, Phil Pfuehler.

Second Place: *The Stoughton Courier Hub:* "Feb. 18, 2016; March 10, 2016; Aug. 25, 2016" – Staff.

Third Place: *The Verona Press:* "June 9, 2016; June 16, 2016; Aug. 25, 2016" – Staff.

Honorable Mention: *The Dunn County News,* Menomonie: "Dunn County News, Menomonie-Front page" – Barbara Lyon, Brock Fritz, Dan Lea, UW-Stout News Bureau.

Division F

First Place: *The Brillion News:* "July 28, 2016; June 9, 2016; Nov. 5, 2015" – Darcy Zander-Feinauer. "The Brillion News has an overall clean, sharp look to it with enough space between stories to keep everything in its place without looking crowded. The index along the side is very helpful to readers. The quality of the photos is excellent with cropping done accurately in most cases. I would like to see a variety in the headlines, maybe less words and a larger font for the top article, graduating to the size used of the bottom headline and maybe one of them in a lighter font. This is the only thing I could see that would improve it. Just a nice clean looking newspaper with excellent written articles."

Second Place: *Clintonville Tribune Gazette:* "Nov. 5, 2015; May 19, 2016; and Aug. 4, 2016" – Bert Lehman, Sue Schroeder, Robert Cloud, Jeff Hoffman. "The Tribune-Gazette has a good, clean layout with good use of headlines using a variety of set fonts. Stories are all appropriate front page worthiness. photos are excellent quality. Very nice package."

Third Place: *Columbus Journal:* "Jan 30, June 25 and July 30, 2016" – Lisa Cestkowski. "The Columbus Journal has great graphics and overall page designs are excellent. Headlines incorporated into the page design is also a great touch. Columns of text need a little more space between them and a few widows should have been fixed. But overall a nice creative touch with the Jan. 30 and June 25 issue."

Honorable Mention: *Washburn County Register,* Shell Lake: "Sept. 9, 2015; Oct. 7, 2015; May 25, 2016" – Staff. "I like the Register's basic layout. I like the index of inside stories consistently on the left. The photos have captured the subjects

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 and Buyers Guide

well but are not as sharp quality as the other newspapers in my top four pick. Also headlines could use some more creative writing with less words in some of the longer ones. Overall a good looking newspaper that I would like to see the full edition."

Sports Page or Section

Division A

First Place: *Green Bay Press-Gazette*: "10-Oct" – Staff. "Clearly the leader of the pack. This sports section is ambitious, complete, balanced and big league with strong writing, photography and design."

Second Place: *La Crosse Tribune*: "La Crosse Tribune sports pages" – Jeff Brown. "Beautiful writing and powerful photography set this sports section apart."

Third Place: *Kenosha News*: "Oct. 31, 2015; Feb. 3, 2016; June 9, 2016" – Dave Marran, Dave Boehler, Mike Johnson, Paul McKillip, Jeremy Reeves, Dan Truttschel, Andrew Horschak. "An excellent sports section in all ways with an obvious appreciation of prep sports."

Honorable Mention: *Leader-Telegram*, Eau Claire: "Leader-Telegram" – Joe Ziemer, Mike Klees, Jason Cox, Nick Erickson. "Creative and clever with an intimate connection with its audience."

Division B

First Place: *The Gazette*, Janesville: "Gazette Sports Pages" – Eric Schmoltdt, Tom Miller, John Barry, Tim Seeman.

Second Place: *The Chippewa Herald*, Chippewa Falls: "Chippewa Herald Sports Pages: October 2015; November 2015; February 2016" – Brandon Berg, Ben Peterson.

Third Place: *Beloit Daily News*: "Beloit Daily News Sports" – Jim Franz, Josh Flickinger.

Honorable Mention: *Watertown Daily Times*: "Sports Page Entries" – Kevin Wilson, Dave Radcliffe.

Division D

First Place: *Door County Advocate*, Sturgeon Bay: "Sports Section – Sep. 12, Oct. 17, Feb. 3" – Door County Advocate Sports Staff.

Honorable Mention: *Barron News-Shield*: "Barron News-Shield sports coverage" –

Mark Bell.

Second Place: *The Star News*, Medford: "Oct 29; Feb 25; June 2" – Matt Frey.

Third Place: *Inter-County Leader*, Frederic: "Oct. 21, 2015; Jan. 27, 2016; Feb. 3, 2016" – Staff.

Division E

First Place: *Lake Geneva Regional News*: "Oct. 15, 2015; Feb. 25, 2016; June 2, 2016" – David Michels. "Great graphics and color. Covers variety of sports. The clipped pics add action to the pages. Good job!"

Second Place: *The Star*, Sun Prairie: "Sports Section" – Nick Daniels, Karl Raymond. "Packed full of great sports writing and pics. Lots of coverage of the local sports scene!"

Third Place: *Spooner Advocate*: "February 18, 2016; July 28, 2016; Oct. 29, 2015" – Bill Thornley. "Nice looking piece with good writing!"

Honorable Mention: *Milton Courier*: "Milton Courier Sports Section" – Michael Gouvion. "Has a bright energetic feel with good use of pics."

Division F

First Place: *Oconomowoc Focus*: –

"Oconomowoc Focus Sports: 10/22/15; 11/5/15; 2/18/16" – JR Radcliffe, Evan Frank, Matt Colby. "The first page of the three week's issues was so eye catching that it made me anxious to see what came next. While none of the other pages quite equaled this page, this was a very creative use of artwork and type font. The overall sections are nicely laid out. Photo quality is excellent, as well as appropriately cropped to remove unnecessary background. I especially like the clean design, for example: page 15 of the February submission. The color box along the bottom is a very nice break to separate articles and keep the clean layout. The Q&A article is excellently laid out. I would suggest making an effort to have the bottom of each column lined horizontally across the page. Playing with a little leading can fix that issue. Writing quality is also excellent. Very nicely done."

Second Place: *Reedsburg Times Press*: "Reedsburg Times-Press" – Chris Flores. "The Reedsburg Times-Press was my favorite pick of the top four newspapers in this category. But after looking at each of the criteria, I just had to drop it down to second solely on the lack of quality in the photo color. The washed out quality takes

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WATERTOWN DAILY TIMES

away from the otherwise excellent design of the sports pages. The headlines are creative and the design is very nice. I like the left column and the fact that each submission is using the same layout template. I like the schedules showing what is up for the coming week as opposed to the entire season schedule. (I will likely borrow this concept for my paper!) The stories are also well written. A very nice package that just needs the photo color improved upon. The photo shot is great and I am thinking the color should be a simple Photoshop fix or a discussion with the press to see what they recommend. I would love to see your entire edition!”

Third Place: *Sussex Sun*: “Sussex Sun Sports: 10/28/15, 11/19/15, 2/4/16” – JR Radcliffe, Evan Frank, Matt Colby. “Like the Oconomowoc Focus, the Sussex Sun has much similar design, photo, headline and writing quality, all very well done. Photos are excellent, headlines are well written, as well as the articles well written. The wrestling photo is especially eye-catching in excellent quality. Good job over all.”

Honorable Mention: *The Sun*, Osceola: “Oct. 28 2015; Feb. 3 2016; May 18 2016” – Ron Jaspersen, Jo Jaspersen, Carrie Larson. “Very good – and large! – sports sections. Lots of good quality photos. Headlines and articles are well written. I like the format for the scoreboard stats. It is consistent throughout each issue and is easy to read unlike a lot of stats. Overall very nice.”

Lifestyle Page or Section

Division A

First Place: *Green Bay Press-Gazette*: “4-Aug” – Kendra Meinert, Tim Lyford. “Makes reader feel like there’s a lot going on that they should see. Nice interviews with big-name entertainers making local stops as well as local acts. Many entry points in stories. Really well done.”

Second Place: *The Post-Crescent*, Appleton: “Dec. 13, 2015; April 7, 2016; Aug. 21, 2016” – Ed Berthiaume, Shane Nyman. “Some of the best design in the group, and a good job spotlighting local acts and stories that are off-beat. Really liked holiday lights map – sure readers did as well.”

Third Place: *Wisconsin State Journal*, Madison: “Wisconsin State Journal Sunday Best Oct. 18, 2015, Feb. 21 and Aug. 14, 2016” – State Journal Staff. “A colorful, vibrant section with some unique content.”

Honorable Mention: *The Journal Times*,

Racine: “Dec. 3, 2015; Feb. 14, 2016; March 27, 2016” – Loreen Mohr, Lee B. Roberts, Kristen Zambo, Ann M. Walter. “Liked the writing in this section. Would like to see more and bigger art.”

Division B

First Place: *Herald Times Reporter*, Manitowoc: “Nov. 1, 2015; March 6, 2016; Aug. 28, 2016” – Alyssa Bloechl, Sarah Kloepping, Brandon Reid, Kelley Simms. “Excellent local photography (I think it’s local and not for an entire chain?) ... Good decisions on play of photographs. Neat, logical, organized layouts. Good spacing (keeping copy away from ads ... if you think you have to cram copy in, copy editors can, and in this case, will, cut some wordiness). Good, subtle use of extra color. Caution: Be careful not to always follow the same formula. Story on the 100-year-old had a wonderful lede, but that’s exactly how much of the story readers got to see on the first page before having to turn to the jump. I like the huge typography but if you’re fitting a template, don’t crowd yourself into a corner. ... Weekly Mishicot report could use subheads or bold body copy (sans serif?) when new topics are introduced.”

Second Place: *Daily Citizen*, Beaver Dam: “Lifestyles Jan. 30-31, March 12-13, July 9-10” – Amanda Lutey. “This weekend section is gigantic. Hope there’s news in the paper, too. Local photos could be played larger at times, and sometimes two bigger photos rather than three can make layouts better. Good local columns and nice organization. ... Didn’t like the two related stories jumping to B2 and B12 respectively (extra work for the reader). ... Maybe sometimes move editor’s column to B1 instead of B5 and seniors writer column to B5 to shake things up (but you might already be doing that) ... Why insert addresses into sentence (bridge to the Setting Limits story)? Parenthetical address stuff pollutes the sentence and probably causes readers to tap the brakes ... if the addresses are important, maybe put them in an info box or into cutlines. Rules between stories are too thick. Bookworm column is nice. Good work.”

Third Place: *Beloit Daily News*: “Weekend: Guatemala Getaways” – Erica Pennington. “Creative, and the staff is making a good effort. Excessive use of color and thick frames. Some good photos are played too small ... ‘FACES’ feature is fine but the big logo is a waste of space. Run a nicer portrait or an action shot of the subject doing whatever he or she does,

and lose the logo. Watch out for adjectives, adverbs and excess stuff littering sentences and detracting from good reporting.”

Division D

First Place: *Burlington Standard Press*: “Lifestyle page for 9/3/15; 1/28/16; 8/18/15” – Tracy Ouellette, Jason Arndt, Vicky Wedig, Mike Hoey. “Superior photography. Stories captivated audience and touched many ‘souls.’ Very well done!”

Second Place: *Brookfield-Elm Grove Now*: “Best Lifestyle Section: Dec. 3, 2015; May 19, 2016; June 9, 2016” – Staff. “Covers many aspects of life and reaches all age groups regardless of interest. Awesome photographs”

Third Place: *The Lakeland Times*, Minocqua: “Lakeland Times Outdoors Section” – Staff. “Very informative stories. Great photography.”

Honorable Mention: *New Richmond News*: “12/24/15; 3/10/16; 5/9/16” – Raymond Rivard, Jordan Willi, Tom Lindfors. “Great layout on all pages. Using color photos would only add more dimension to pages and help discern the difference in pages. Loved the headings which helped to determine the different sections on pages.”

Headlines

Division A

First Place: *The Post-Crescent*, Appleton: “Heart of the storm: Good Samaritans ease blizzard’s sting; Inane matters: LU trivia players bask in weekend of weirdness; Tied up in a knot garden: Even in winter, Green Bay Botanical Garden shows its Tudor influences” – Ed Berthiaume. “You can tell some effort was put into these headlines.”

Second Place: *Kenosha News*: “Houston, we have no problem; Prue Grit; A whale of an achievement for Melville” – Paul McKillip. “Creative use of puns makes for some interesting headlines.”

Third Place: *The Post-Crescent*, Appleton: “Hearing Voices: Master impressionist Frank Caliendo returns to Appleton; We Salute You: Tribute bands keep the music alive; Profane, Again: Metal band rewrites its turbulent exit” – Shane Nyman. “An interesting approach to these headlines.”

Division B

First Place: *Watertown Daily Times*: “Now all Schurz students can get in the swing; Turning turkey into a swan; Trek 100: Guest 4” – Heidi Schwach. “Turning a

turkey into a swan worked well and fit well with the layout and subject matter. Other entries were clever and appropriate.”

Second Place: *Herald Times Reporter*, Manitowoc: “Having a rare old time (April 24, 2016); Unrest assured (Oct. 18, 2015); One thing beads to another (Sept. 12, 2015)” – Sarah Kloepping. “Close runner-up to the winner ... The Unrest Assured kicker for the Dead and Breakfast story was great, and so was One thing Beads to another”

Third Place: *The Monroe Times*: “Beyond the sleigh; Catch them if you can; An animal’s best friends at a blazing hot fair?” – Shari Rampenthal.

Division D

First Place: *The Chronotype*, Rice Lake: “Rice Lake Chronotype - Headlines” – Ryan Urban, Dave Greschner, Ruth Erickson. “In Comets flying in rare air, the photo matches the headline perfectly! ‘Creaming the competition’ and ‘This little piggy went to jail,’ show how much fun newspaper headline writing can be.”

Second Place: *The Country Today*, Eau Claire: “Night Gallery; Recovering Addicts; Crunch Time” – Sara Bredesen. “The more I thought about ‘Recovering addicts,’ the more I liked the headline. It describes the story perfectly. I also thought ‘Night Gallery’ set the tone of the story.”

Third Place: *Lake Country Reporter*, Hartland: “Best headlines: Gone in a flurry; The unstoppable force and the immovable object; Three skis to the win” – JR Radcliffe. “‘Gone in a flurry’ is one of my favorites in this category, because the photo adds to the double meaning. ‘The unstoppable force and the immovable object’ would have been a stronger headline if there had been some reference to it in the first part of the story.”

Honorable Mention: *Monroe County Herald*, Sparta: “Their future’s so bright they have to wear shades; Squirrel charged in power outage; Manure issue has yet to hit the fan” – Pat Mulvaney. “A strong entry. In the ‘squirrel’ headline, the reader was left hanging about the squirrel until the very end.”

Division E

First Place: *Lake Geneva Regional News*: “Less was more to museum than she’ll say; Shipwrecks! What lies beneath; Torcasos love business of saving others’ soles” – Chris Schultz. “Writing a good headline can be difficult and when it gets down to crunch time, it can make that task moreso. A good headline will draw the reader into the story, and this publication was fantastic at doing

that without sounding too 'hokey.' Headlines in these entries drew me into the story, and made sense for the content and subject matter, while not being cliché. Great job!"

Second Place: *The Northwoods River News*, Rhineland: "Bored to tears; Coupes and coops; Bridal wave." – Jeremy Mayo, Jamie Taylor, Kayla Breese, Heather Schaefer. "The sports story headline is what brought this newspaper into second place. A good headline will bring the reader into a story without being complicated. The Bored To Tears headline brought me into the story, as well as the editorial on the left side of the page as an added bonus. Bridal Wave was a creative headline, and I certainly was anxious to see what the story contained, and there was no written connection between the story and the use of the headline. I was expecting maybe a swarm of brides-to-be swarming the event in a 'wave,' or even one of the little girls in the photo 'waving' to the audience. The play on words was good, just didn't see a connection to the story. I think the 'Coupes and coops' headline could have done without the tag on it. Sometimes vague is good, and although I agree an addition was needed to the headline, the tag told too much information. Good direction however that this was going, just kind of fell flat for me in the end. However these entries show the creative flair of the staff/editors in trying to bring creativity in their headline writing! Don't stop doing this!"

Third Place: *The Ripon Commonwealth Press*: "Thus 'spoke' the Lord: Serve God? Service his people's bikes; See Jill. See her books. Take one. Leave one. Thanks, Jill.; A la cart" – Tim Lyke. "Clever headlines. The first two a bit long for my taste, but still clever. The book headline's second part could have stayed with the spirit of the the first half, such as Read, people, read, or something similar. A little more development would have made these perfect! But still, nice job!"

Honorable Mention: *Crawford County Independent & The Kickapoo Scout*, Gays Mills: "If loving pie is wrong, we don't wanna be right; Poisonous parsnip presents persistent problems proclaims Powell; Louisa the Pig is no 'long tall sally' – Emily Schendel, Gillian Pomplun. "All of these entries were based off of the continuations and should have been the main headlines instead of on the continuations! Very well written and thoughtful, but headlines are supposed to draw people into the stories, which these

This little piggy went to jail Loose pet pig causes commotion

by Eileen Nimm
Chronotype staff

Although it's only been a couple of months since Leonard the mini pig was added to the Hestad/

Madison household in Rice Lake, he's rooted his way into the hearts of all.

But Leonard's seemingly blissful existence came to a screeching halt on Sunday at about 7 p.m. The



Leonard the mini pig with Ashley, 15.

family was at Madison's parents' house having dinner.

Left behind, and perhaps tired of grazing grass in the gated backyard, Leonard nudged the unlatched gate open and ventured out. Someone spotted a pig out and about and called the police.

After a long chase, Leonard was captured and returned to his owners, but now his place in the Hestad/Madison household hangs in the balance because it's illegal to have swine in the city limits.

HE THINKS HE'S A DOG

Leonard was a birthday gift to Amanda Madison from her boyfriend, Curtis Hestad. While having a mini pig—in Leonard's case a mixed Juliana—for a pet seems like a novel idea, once time is spent with Leonard, it seems quite natural.

The nearly 1-year old black pig with white stockings comes at the call of his name, his tail wagging behind him. He eats about as much pig chow as a dog eats dog

food, said Madison, a night shift waitress who'd always wanted a pig for a pet.

Unlike a dog, Leonard knew immediately that he was to do his business outdoors, no training necessary.

Leonard sleeps in a dog bed with his favorite blanket in the house. He can learn tricks.

When Leonard accompanies the family to Madison's parents' lake home, Leonard likes to swim. His short stubby legs aren't deterred from a flight of stairs. "He just runs up them really fast," said Madison.

Leonard gets on well with the family's two Chinese Chin Chihuahua terriers, except for when he tries to take their food. And don't tell them, but pigs are smarter than dogs.

The 34-pound pig can get up to 100 pounds. He loves to lay on his side for a good belly scratching.

As for hygiene, Leonard is bathed with baby shampoo. Like a dog, neutering has made him a calmer pig. He's never been

See **PIG**, Page 2

The Chronotype, Rice Lake, First Place, Division D, Headlines

would have done if they had been used. Swap the headlines and the continuations and these would have given the first place finisher a run for the money."

Open Records/FOI Award

Division A

First Place: *USA TODAY NETWORK-Wisconsin*: "Wisconsin judges seal 200 cases from public view" – Eric Litke. "Outstanding reporting, explanation of how this issue affects the public. Scope and difficulty of reporting pushed this to the top of a strong category."

Second Place: *Wisconsin State Journal*, Madison: "State expands definition of transitory records" – Matthew DeFour. "Aggressive watchdog reporting – well-done."

Third Place: *Leader-Telegram*, Eau Claire: "Closed session question" – Eric Lindquist, Don Huebscher, Andrew Dowd, Julian Emerson. "Kudos to the Leader-Telegram for pushing for records on this issue."

Honorable Mention: *Wisconsin State Journal*, Madison: "Back to class for UW System" – Scott Milfred. "Pointed and well-argued."

Division B

First Place: *Oshkosh Northwestern*: "Police seek 2 escaped inmates; Oshkosh police 'erred' in escape info delay;

Council queries city's notifications policy; Inmate said he'd escape, kill girlfriend" – Nathaniel Shuda. "It wasn't immediately evident from the first story, but this is a fantastic example of a reporter serving the public and finding crucial information that was not being released by the police. Police screwed up in a big way by not letting the public know about two dangerous escapees, and the Oshkosh reporter's efforts served, as the state police admitted, 'as a wake-up call.' Great job. ... Police need to know they're not protecting anybody if they try to keep information from the public."

Second Place: *The Gazette, Janesville*: "Open government office merits salute for efforts to foster transparency" – Greg Peck. "Yes, these articles aren't an example of using the FOIA or open records, but rather they clearly convey the importance of not letting public officials and public entities conduct business in the shadows. The Gazette's Opinion page takes a strong stance for what's right via these powerful editorials."

Third Place: *Daily Tribune*, Wisconsin Rapids: "Port Edwards likely violated meeting laws" – Karen Madden. "Newspapers that care need to take this sort of stand when public officials and public bodies misguide residents, regardless of whether vague information on agendas results from laziness or ignorance or whether the public officials really are being sneaky scoundrels.

We've all come across local governments that don't adhere to rules, but the Daily Tribune in these cases held them accountable. Good job."

Honorable Mention: *Marshfield News-Herald*: "Justice Dept. defends request for gag order and follow-up" – Jonathan Anderson. "Excellent job by a news organization and a reporter in causing a state body to lift a gag order."

Division D

First Place: *The Lakeland Times*, Minocqua: "Lee Lech accused of violent sexual assault" – Richard Moore. "Excellent example of watchdog journalism and the public's right to know."

Second Place: *Lake Country Reporter*, Hartland: "Survey flagged LaBorde's abilities" – Bob Dohr. "Fair reporting on an important topic in the community. This shows us why open records are necessary."

Third Place: *Lake Country Reporter*, Hartland: "Library dispute costs \$170K" – Kelly Smith. "Fine example of reporting that holds public bodies responsible for how they spend taxpayer dollars."

Honorable Mention: *News Graphic*, Cedarburg: "Freedom of Information no longer totally free" – Gary Achterberg. "Very interesting article on a school board's policy regarding public records. Glad to see you made the public aware of the change in policy and the reasoning for it."

Division E

First Place: *Lake Geneva Regional News*: "Attorney General agrees with Regional News" – Rob Ireland. "Well written. I like that they expounded on previous issues they had getting information and also that they credited the police department from not withholding in previous cases keeping from being all negative against the police department."

Second Place: *New Richmond News*: "Open Records Court Case" – Raymond Rivard, Jonathan Anderson, Dustin Brown. "Excellent job of keeping the readers informed of the long case. Articles well written."

Third Place: *The Star*, Sun Prairie: "Ex-fire chief Tory Strauss tells his side" – Jennifer Fetterly. "Well written. Good coverage including quotes and digging into the facts for the readers to get the whole story."

Honorable Mention: *Clintonville Tribune Gazette* – Bert Lehman. "Well written story."

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“Rookie” Reporter of the Year

Daily

First Place: *The Capital Times*, Madison – Saiyna Bashir. “Demonstrated strong reporting skills through text, photos and video! Nice touch with portraits that help bring subjects to life.”

Second Place: *The Journal Times*, Racine – Patrick Leary. “Has handled a wide variety of challenging stories well.”

Third Place: *La Crosse Tribune* – Emily Pyrek. “Nice touch with both features and news. Good for her for continuing news of record duties too.”

Honorable Mention: *The Sheboygan Press* – Leah Ulatowski. “Nice touch with sensitive but compelling features and can handle news too.”

Weekly

First Place: *Dodge County Pioneer*, Mayville – Zach Cook. “Good, strong writing. Answers the important questions.”

Second Place: *Franklin-Greendale-Hales Corners-Oak Creek Now* – Tiffany Stoiber. “Well organized stories. Good writing. Work on your ledes.”

Third Place: *The Lakeland Times*, Minocqua – Beckie Gaskill. “Impressive grasp of a subject many women wouldn’t try.”

Honorable Mention: *Wauwatosa Now* – Andrew Gruman. “Good to see a sports guy nominated as a rookie writer. Good writing.”

General News Story

Division A

First Place: *Wisconsin State Journal*, Madison: “After 82 years, Stoughton honors police officer whose slaying remains unsolved” – Shelley K. Mesch. “Compelling writing and great research make this a story that’s was hard to put down.”

Second Place: *Wisconsin State Journal*, Madison: “Whad’Ya Know?” bids farewell to public radio after 31 years” – Amanda Finn. “Not much, you? Writing reflects fun, and fans, of the show. Nice feature approach to a news story.”

Third Place: *Green Bay Press-Gazette*: “Three sex traffickers busted in Brown County” – Doug Schneider. “Writer took what could’ve been a basic court story and made it highly personal; great work at

making the details count. Good example of how compelling court stories can be.”

Honorable Mention: *The Post-Crescent*, Appleton: “Who stole the cheese?” – Duke Behnke. “Good eye for the quirky story and finding a way to make it sing.”

Division B

First Place: *The Gazette*, Janesville: “Trump pumps ‘em up” – Marcia Nelesen, Jake Magee, Andrea Anderson, Frank Schultz. “Great 360-degree view of how the city was affected by a Donald Trump campaign appearance, and how the community looked in national spotlight.”

Second Place: *Marshfield News-Herald*: “Homeowners wary of massive oil pipeline” – Jonathan Anderson. “Excellent job of dispassionately describing what is at stake in a potential oil pipeline expansion in human and economic terms.”

Third Place: *The Sheboygan Press*: “Widow of shooting suspect: My husband needed help” – Miller Jozwiak. “Good localized look at a national problem – ineffective care for veterans through the federal VA.”

Honorable Mention: *Daily Tribune*, Wisconsin Rapids: “Drugs, guns prompt outcry in Nekoosa” – Jonathan Anderson. “Revealing look at how people react when the drug trade intrudes on their small town. Good job relating it to a regional issue.”

Division C

First Place: *Stevens Point Journal*: “Point hired Gulan after Hurley told to fire him” – Sari Lesk.

Second Place: *The Daily Reporter*, Milwaukee: “Local 139 head defends ad run against wheelchair-bound candidate” – Dan Shaw.

Third Place: *Daily Jefferson County Union*, Fort Atkinson: “County declared ‘in distress’” – Alexa Zoellner.

Honorable Mention: *The Daily Reporter*, Milwaukee: “Ash borer” – Alex Zank.

Division D

First Place: *Oconto County Reporter*, Oconto: “Suring man gets 24 years for abuse of daughters” – Kent Tempus. “Shocking lede drew reader into story; good reporting. Strong quotes. The kind of story a writer never wants to write but has to.”

Second Place: *Waupaca County Post*, Waupaca: “District attorney reprimanded by victims board” – Robert Cloud. “Important story about local state’s attorney in that it informs community about job being done

in that office. Good job at giving both sides their say.”

Third Place: *Brookfield-Elm Grove Now*: “Elm Grove businesses endure construction” – Geoff Bruce. “The lede set the stage for a story that affects local businesses. good amount of sources”

Honorable Mention: *Door County Advocate*, Sturgeon Bay: “Hero” – Samantha Hernandez. “More of a feature than general news, but the dramatic lede captured the gravity of the situation for this family.”

Division E

First Place: *The Dunn County News*, Menomonie: “PSC urged to deny Xcel...; Petition pits EPA against DNR” – Barbara Lyon. “Lede could have been stronger. Second paragraph should have been lede. Story shows why the people were so upset. Part 3 of this entry had a much better lede and story flow. Good background and history of the problem.”

Second Place: *The Stoughton Courier Hub*: “Trusted. Respected. Convicted.” – Jacob Bielanski. “Good story and writing. Covers a lot of material. But by starting story with the victim’s name, when the headline is all about the perpetrator, it forces the reader to readjust.”

Third Place: *River Falls Journal*: “The Chief: Into The Sunset...” – Phil Pfuehler. “Really nice profile of retiring police chief. Contained some humor and good outlook for the future of the police department. I liked that it was all on one page, and the use of the chief’s photo from when he first started in law enforcement was a nice touch.”

Honorable Mention: *The Oregon Observer*: “Bringing one back” – Scott De Laruelle. “Nice tribute to EMTs and others who are one the job to rescue us.”

Division F

First Place: *Crawford County Independent & The Kickapoo Scout*, Gays Mills: “Area residents want to cross railroad tracks for river access” – Charley Preusser.

Second Place: *Clintonville Tribune Gazette*: “Meads recognized for 50 years of teaching” – Bert Lehman.

Third Place: *Crawford County Independent & The Kickapoo Scout*, Gays Mills: “Judge deferred sentence in vehicular homicide case” – Emily Schendel.

Honorable Mention: *The Cambridge News and Deerfield Independent*: “Community-driven Utica Fest turns 45” – Walker Jaroch.

Breaking News Coverage

Division A

First Place: *Kenosha News*: “Andrew Obregon coverage” – Daniel Gaitan, Deneen Smith, Janine Anderson, Bill Siel, Jill Tatge-Rozell, Jeff Zampanti, Brian Passino, Sean Krajacic. “Fascinating tale well reported each step along the way ... wanted to check out more photos and video but didn’t have access which hurt entry.”

Second Place: *Leader-Telegram*, Eau Claire: “Quiet shattered” – Julian Emerson. “Great storytelling and solid reporting!!”

Third Place: *The Capital Times*, Madison: “Scott Walker bows out” – Jessie Opoien. “Good thorough report including thoughtful reaction.”

Honorable Mention: *The Post-Crescent*, Appleton: “Police ‘shot the wrong guy’” – Duke Behnke, Alison Dirr, Ethan Safran, Ron Page. “Great mix of text and video reporting.”

Division B

First Place: *Daily Tribune*, Wisconsin Rapids: “Wisconsin Rapids stunned by murder-suicide” – Karen Madden, Jonathan Anderson, Jacob Byk, Peter Wasson. “Solid, thorough news coverage with great followup. Clearly a well-coordinated team effort.”

Second Place: *Beloit Daily News*: “Tragic night in Beloit” – Staff. “Good reporting from the start and following through on the incidents.”

Third Place: *The Sheboygan Press*: “Two Children die in Sheboygan falls House Fire” – Phillip Bock. “Good straight-forward news reporting.”

Division C

First Place: *Baraboo News Republic*: “Baraboo bartender: ‘No fight in this bar’” – Tim Damos, Rhonda Siebecker, Todd Krysiak. “Great teamwork for a good run of stories about a tragic incident. Getting the bartender’s recollection was awesome, and something too many reporters (young and old) don’t do enough of anymore.”

Second Place: *Daily Globe*, Ironwood: “Saxon Harbor storm claims life, causes millions in damage” – Ralph Ansami. “Good storm damage coverage with inclusion of multiple elements to give a greater scope of the devastation.”

Third Place: *The Daily Press*, Ashland: “Arson said to be cause of Salem Baptist Church fire” – Rick Olivo. “A moving piece that is not just another fire story. The

writer actually showed that the victims were not just a pastor or a church board but a whole community.”

Honorable Mention: *Watertown Daily Times*: “Police pursuit ends with crash in Watertown; 2 dead, 3 injured” – Sarah Weihert, Steve Sharp, Hannah Becker, Michael Koller. “Some more reporting could’ve been done with this story, but the brevity of it and the thought to incorporate a breakdown of what actually happens in a pursuit helps increase the appeal of this piece.”

Division D

First Place: *The Star News*, Medford: “Barn fire” – Brian Wilson. “Solid story. Answered all my questions. Strong lede.”

Second Place: *Monroe County Herald*, Sparta: “Goodman Court standoff ends in arrest of couple” – Pat Mulvaney. “Good story. Would’ve liked a stronger lead.”

Third Place: *Wauwatosa Now*: “Coyotes in Wauwatosa” – Rachel Minske. “Thorough story but question if this is a breaking news story.”

Honorable Mention: *Wauwatosa Now*: “Jay Anderson protest” – Rachel Minske, Peter Zuzga. “Important story. Concerned that vital information about why there was a protest is buried in the fifth or sixth paragraph.”

Division E

First Place: *The Valders Journal*: “Helicopter crash stuns rural neighbors” – Todd Bergmann. “Excellent legwork demonstrated by this reporter who got witness testimony as well as information about pilot in this freak helicopter accident.”

Second Place: *The Record-Review*, Edgar: “Neighbors may have saved fire victim” – Casey Krautkramer. “Best fire coverage of the number of fire-related stories submitted in this category. The voices of the victims and the details about saving dogs showed the reporter was hustling.”

Third Place: *Pierce County Herald*, Ellsworth: “Missing woman Marya Christiansen found dead in Mississippi River after days of searching” – Michael Longaecker, John Russett, Sarah Young. “Great coordination of efforts between three reporters. Good use of reporting work during the search to write the reaction story.”

Honorable Mention: *Mukwonago Chief*: “Four drown in Mill Lake” – Carol Spaeth-Bauer. “Nice thorough work on drunken tourist boating accident in January. A gold star for including droll quote from DNR spokesman.”

Division F

First Place: *Oconomowoc Focus*: “Amy Van Wagner charged with murdering her husband” – Donna Frake. “By all accounts, this is solid reporting that establishes a clear timeline, pertinent background and lets the reader know

of the newspaper’s diligence in pursuing the story for, apparently, months.”

Second Place: *DeForest Times-Tribune* – Jake Kurtz, Joe Pruski. “Great variance of sources in adding clarity to a situation that obviously threw this community for a loop. All of the pertinent people were interviewed and the neighbors’ perspectives are also important.”

Third Place: *New London Press Star*: “Man killed in NL police shooting” – John Faucher, Robert Cloud. “Good job supplying the details of the incident as well as background. The quotes from neighbors give an added dimension as well.”

Honorable Mention: *Fennimore Times*: “I knew it wasn’t just a trash fire” – Robert Callahan. “A good fire story with quick turnaround and solid quotes from varied sources.”

Investigative Reporting

Division A

First Place: *The Capital Times*, Madison: “Neglecting Wisconsin’s Vets” – Katelyn Ferral. “This investigation almost has it all. My only quibble is the length of the original piece. The reporter has found an issue that grabs the reader’s attention. It is helping the helpless and it resulted in action by those able to right a wrong. Excellent journalism.”

Second Place: *The Post-Crescent*, Appleton: “Coroner: Funk died at scene of Neenah shooting” – Duke Behnke. “Excellent coverage of a difficult story. Fighting for access to information and explaining that process can be laborious for readers, but was handled deftly by the reporter. Great legwork and sourcing.”

Third Place: *USA TODAY NETWORK-Wisconsin*: “Steven Avery murder case” – John Ferak. “Excellent work on chasing a national story. Thorough coverage, but one that was likely made easier by the work of journalists that came before. Still, very compelling and easily digestible.”

Honorable Mention: *Wisconsin State Journal*, Madison: “When cyclists die” – Doug Erickson. “Outstanding mining of public data and terrific sourcing. The presentation is what really made this story by giving each victim a separate segment. Solid reporting and writing.”

Division B

First Place: *Marshfield News-Herald*: “Clark County hires deputy accused of rape” – Jonathan Anderson. “Good job finding records and pursuing this story, bringing this to light, and doing a better job on the background checks on the officers than the municipality did.”



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Second Place: *Beloit Daily News*: “No Chief selected yet” – Staff. “Not sure what the city council was thinking here, but they chose the more expensive police chief and went against the board that’s supposed to do the choosing. Whether the council made the right choice or not, this paper certainly exposed a rift between the police and fire commission and the city council. Good job finding offer letters that were somehow extended to both candidates. Thorough and persistent coverage of this story.”

Third Place: *Oshkosh Northwestern*: “Police seek 2 escaped inmates; Oshkosh police ‘erred’ in escape info delay; Council queries city’s notifications policy; Inmate said he’d escape, kill girlfriend” – Nathaniel Shuda. “There were several good entries in this category, but reporting in this case clearly made a difference in state police procedures in reporting dangers to the public. These news reports shed light on a dangerous situation.”

Honorable Mention: *The Gazette*, Janesville: “The spirit of the ‘Klaw’” – Eric Schmoldt, Nick Crow, John Barry. “Yes, a sports department can dig deep and tackle tough stories.”

Division C

First Place: *Daily Jefferson County Union*, Fort Atkinson: “Heroin: Consuming resources” – Alexa Zoellner. “Heroin is a problem both local and national and it takes a lot of time and effort to understand why that is. This series clearly dedicated the time and resources to effectively communicating why heroin is such a deadly drug.”

Second Place: *Stevens Point Journal*: “Unconscious victims of sexual assault rarely see justice” – Chris Mueller. “Journalists should be a voice for the voiceless, and this story certainly gives voice to an important issue.”

Third Place: *Baraboo News Republic*: “Warning preceded dorm contract dispute” – Tim Damos. “This is a great example of public service journalism.”

Division D

First Place: *Sawyer County Record*, Hayward: “Local girl caught up in human trafficking” – Frank Zufall.

Second Place: *Hudson Star-Observer*: “Hudson officer’s resignation followed misconduct” – Mike Longaecker.

Third Place: *Hocak Worak*, Black River Falls: “With approach of spring, Road Division crew faces obstacles and challenges” – Ken Luchterhand.

Honorable Mention: *Hocak Worak*, Black

River Falls: “Greendeer walks the line for the environment” – Tim Wohlers.

Division E

First Place: *Pierce County Herald*, Ellsworth: “Coverage of puppy mill investigation” – Michael Longaecker, Ricky Campbell. “The reporters dug deep for the systemic flaws in local government and non-profit regulations that allowed a puppy mill breeder to continue an abusive and unsanitary business for years. Reporters FOIAed and analyzed years’ worth of law enforcement incident reports. Really excellent work.”

Second Place: *Juneau County Star-Times*, Mauston: “Internal complaints against Solovey revealed” – Jason Cuevas. “Tenacity and followthrough demonstrated by this reporter who obtained internal documents via FOIA and asked district attorney in question about every incident.”

Third Place: *The Ripon Commonwealth Press*: “Bullying number was ‘under-reported’” – Ian Stepleton. “Good investigation of a school superintendent caught stonewalling about the true extent of bullying in the district. Followup with parents is key to writing this sort of story, and this reporter clearly has a trust relationship.”

Division F

First Place: *Clintonville Chronicle*: “Mayor Complaint/Resignation” – Greg Rose.

Second Place: *Clintonville Chronicle*: “Kennedy’s Visit” – Jerry Buerer.

Third Place: *Clintonville Chronicle*: “Sex Offender Housing” – Tricia Rose.

Honorable Mention: *Crawford County Independent & The Kickapoo Scout*, Gays Mills: “County raises target group of employees” – Charley Preusser.

Enterprise/Interpretive Reporting

Division A

First Place: *Wisconsin State Journal*, Madison: “Homeless in Madison | A City Challenged” – Dean Mosiman, Doug Erickson, Staff. “Impressive, sustained commitment, and nuanced reporting of a topic that often gets reduced to superficial truisms.”

Second Place: *USA TODAY NETWORK-Wisconsin*: “Wisconsinjustice” – Eric Litke. “Great watchdog effort. The online presentation was somewhat hard to

navigate, however – flow wasn’t intuitive.”

Third Place: *Wisconsin State Journal*, Madison: “Cancer: New frontiers in treatment” – David Wahlberg. “Science rendered accessibly and compelling. Clear, crisp writing and storytelling.”

Honorable Mention: *Wisconsin State Journal*, Madison: “Gene-changer a game-changer” – David Wahlberg.

Division B

First Place: *Beloit Daily News*: “The achievement gap” – Hillary Gavan. “Succinct and timely, this report uses two decades of data to show the disparity between black and white students.”

Second Place: *Daily News*, West Bend: “The weight of it all” – Ralph Chapoco. “Story slams home the point about suicide with deliberate intensity. Grabs the reader right away.”

Third Place: *Daily Tribune*, Wisconsin Rapids: “A heroin hub” – Karen Madden. “Heroin is a national problem but this story turns it into a very local one.”

Honorable Mention: *The Freeman*, Waukesha: “Health insurance checkup series” – Katherine Michalets. “Subject cries out for consumer attention which it gets in this article.”

Division C

First Place: *Baraboo News Republic*: “KEPT OUT: School discourages gay, transgender enrollment” – Tim Damos. “Localizes a major national issue, as well as puts the newspaper’s ‘neck’ out there for ridicule by the religious elite in the area. Even with this incredibly balanced/objective reporting, it’s a touchy subject. Was handled very well and was fair to both sides. Well done.”

Second Place: *Stevens Point Journal*: “Stuck in the system; Mentally ill inmates left waiting in jail” – Chris Mueller. “Definitely a subject that more newspapers need to pay attention to. Good way of addressing this national issue.”

Third Place: *Baraboo News Republic*: “Warning preceded dorm contract dispute” – Tim Damos. “Good story that exposes what happened and sheds light on the issue of a breakdown in communication.”

Honorable Mention: *Watertown Daily Times*: “Three part series on suicide, depression and suicide prevention” – Sarah Weihert.

Division D

First Place: *Door County Advocate*, Sturgeon Bay: “The mystery of John

Kodanko; The search for John Kodanko” – Samantha Hernandez. “Compelling, well-written story about the mysterious disappearance of a Door County man. The story had me hanging on every word. Excellent job.”

Second Place: *Inter-County Leader*, Frederic: “Time for the community to take a stand” – E. Royal Emerson. “Exceptional job at looking at all the aspects of the meth problem in the county. Well-researched story on a disturbing topic.”

Third Place: *Greenfield-West Allis Now*: “Homeless and hungry” – Jane Ford-Stewart. “Well-written story on the plight of the homeless in the community schools. Good graphics and charts helped illustrated the story.”

Honorable Mention: *Lake Country Reporter*, Hartland: “Fighting the fade” – Donna Frake. “Nice job covering the topic of Alzheimer’s. Good balance talking with professionals and also with families coping with family members in various stages of the disease.”

Division E

First Place: *The Valders Journal*: “Addiction rips into family (two stories) and Addicts need more help (two-part series)” – Todd Bergmann. “Excellent in-depth reporting with multiple voices talking about the multi-faceted tolls of addiction.”

Second Place: *The Ripon Commonwealth Press*: “So, how did Ripon fare?; City of Ripon appears to ...” – Ian Stepleton. “Fine analysis of a variety of data and presented in an easy-to-follow and understand manner.”

Third Place: *Lake Geneva Regional News*: “Officers trained in crisis intervention” – Chris Schultz. “Thought-provoking, informative, and descriptive article.”

Honorable Mention: *Lake Geneva Regional News*: “New shoreland rules stirring opposition” – Chris Schultz. “Solid piece of reporting. An interesting story that could have been even better had the story included more information on what exactly shoreline erosion is and short and long-term ramifications for fish, trees, plants, soil, property values, and costs to prevent erosion.”

Division F

First Place: *The Sun*, Osceola: “Addressing Meth Use in Polk County” – Suzanne Lindgren. “Great lede. It is good to show the personal side of addiction and what can do to the individual and those he or she touches. Excellent writing.”

Second Place: *Reedsburg Times Press*:

“Schools recruit students into agricultural fields” – Heather Stanek. “Good lede, good facts all the way through and plenty of sources for information. Good flow and ending.”

Third Place: *Merrill Courier*: “Courts take notice of jury duty shirkers” – Collin Lueck. “Like the headline. It caught my attention. Good explanations and overall view of the court system and procedures for jury duty.”

Honorable Mention: *Reedsburg Times Press*: “First responders ready for language barriers” – Heather Stanek. “Good lede. Good explanation of the problem and the solutions being used. Liked the stat box on the jump. Everything fell into place on this article.”



Dave Banas (middle, with his wife, Jan) survived a potentially fatal heart attack, thanks to coordinated care that started with Aurora Memorial Hospital of Burlington staff; (from left) Kirsten Hagenow, cardiac rehab; Lisa Wagner, RN; Dr. James Pavlich, Dr. Jacquie Cates, RN; and Carolyn Dickmann, RN.

Back from the BRINK

Coordinated care saves man from heart attack

By Jennifer Eisenhart
STAFF WRITER

Nothing a few feet away and listening to greetings exchanged as Dave Banas walks to the Aurora Memorial Hospital of Burlington cardiac rehab unit, it sounds like old friends are reuniting.

“Oh my God, you look so good!”
“Thanks to you!”
“How’s my favorite staff?”
“Life is good. Life is good.”
For Banas and his wife, Jan, life nearly changed forever – nearly ended, in fact – on July 16, 2014. Staying in their summer home on the shores of Powers Lake, Banas suffered what is known in the medical world as a STEMI – an ST segment elevation myocardial infarction, or a heart attack with total blockage of an artery.

What followed – from Banas’ initial care from the Twin Lakes Rescue Squad through his cardiac rehabilitation – is what nurse Carolyn Dickmann called a perfect example of coordinated care.

“It’s just a neat representation of how it’s supposed to go,” Dickmann explained. “To see it work ... it’s what we want.”



Dave Banas and his wife, Jan, believe he got a new lease on life after he survived a life-threatening heart attack in the summer of 2014.

On the clock

For Banas, what started off as a normal summer day at the house quickly turned sour.

After cleaning up the beach area and raking the sand, Banas climbed a long set of stairs back up to the house. Sitting down next to Jan, he said he “felt a little pain, a little uneasy feeling.”
The situation escalated to nausea. “Sweats like you wouldn’t believe,” and harsher pain in his chest. Having previously had a minor heart attack, Banas knew the symptoms ... but it still took some time before Jan called 911.

Rescue arrived, and tried giving Banas nitroglycerin, which had helped before. When it didn’t relieve his symptoms, Twin Lakes hooked him up to an EKG machine and started immediately into Aurora Memorial Hospital of Burlington.

And in a move that likely saved Banas’ life, the rescue personnel sent the EKG ahead to the hospital – giving the emergency room staff a heads up that a patient with a STEMI was on his way in. That enabled the ER staff to have Flight for Life already on its way to take Banas to St. Luke’s for placement of a stent.

“That is one of the most potentially life-threatening findings you can see on an EKG,” said Dr. James Pavlich. “You’re on the clock. The faster you can reverse the blockage, the better the patient does.”

Dave remembers arriving at the ER, and being moved from the gurney to the table.
“The last thing I remember is saying, ‘I can’t hold my arms up. Someone, please help me,’” he said. “I remember seeing someone in blue garb at my feet, and that was it.”

Working the code

Seeing a patient lose a rhythm on the heart monitor and reacting to save that patient’s life – is, in ER parlance, called a code.
Nurse Jacquie Cates remembers looking at the monitor.

“You had squiggles,” Cates said to Dave, in a gathering of the ER staff and the Banas family recently. “It was bad squiggles. I think it was my high-pitched voice going, ‘Pavlich!’”

Dr. Pavlich was the “someone” in blue garb at Banas’ feet. He explained that the ER staff sees lots of codes, but very rarely do they actually witness someone go down the way Dave did.

Flight for Life was minutes out when Banas arrived at the ER. They stood by as the ER staff worked

See BANAS, Page 4

“Digging in the dirt pays off” – Sarah Weihert. “Great take on a topic I wouldn’t have expected to be interesting. Strong lede and enough details to keep it interesting without bogging it down.”

Honorable Mention: *The Monroe Times*: “The gift that keeps on giving” – Bridget Cooke. “Good job with a tough topic. Well-written.”

Division D

First Place: *Oconto County Reporter*, Oconto: “A soldier’s story” – Kent Tempus. “Heartwarming story of relatives hearing first-hand account of a loved one’s life and death during the Vietnam War. Truly excellent story telling.”

Second Place: *News Graphic*, Cedarburg: “I loved the military” – Gary Achterberg. “Another terrific story, this time of a World War II veteran who was awarded the French Medal of Honor at age 90. Strong writing, fine work.”

Third Place: *The Chronotype*, Rice Lake: “Father struggles with loss” – Eileen Nimm. “Unbelievable tragedy. This feature tells the story of tremendous loss and one family’s struggle to adjust to a new normal. Compassionate writing, a fine local interest piece.”

Honorable Mention: *The Country Today*, Eau Claire: “Recovering addicts: Passion for Craft brings new life to old furniture” – Sara Bredesen. “The writer takes what could have been a dull piece and adds flare. There’s nothing dull about it. Well done!”

Division E

First Place: *Burlington Standard Press*: “Back from the brink” – Jennifer Eisenbart.

Second Place: *Mukwonago Chief*: “Woman moves into ‘miracle home’” – Andrea Tritschler.

Third Place: *Reedsburg Independent*: “Local family nabs jewel thief” – Barb Steinhorst.

Honorable Mention: *The Waunakee Tribune*: “PANDAS” – Roberta Baumann.

Division F

First Place: *The Sun*, Osceola: “Loss, Revival and Corn” – Suzanne Lindgren. “The clear winner. A good tale of suffering, perseverance with local ties and a connection to global current events.”

Second Place: *Columbus Journal*: “TRIAL BY FIRE” – Lisa Cestkowski. “Interesting, well-researched story of local history and a current institution.”

Third Place: *Crawford County Independent & The Kickapoo Scout*, Gays

Mills: “Castle Sparks Intrigue” – Len Harris. “Fun read about something in the community a lot of people have probably wondered about for a long time.”

Honorable Mention: *Kettle Moraine Index*, Dousman: “Locals to appear on ‘Worst Cooks’ on Food Network” – Erik Hanley. “Interesting story with funny quotes and a ‘behind the scenes’ type look at reality television.”

Feature (Profile)

Division A

First Place: *USA TODAY NETWORK-Wisconsin*: “Memories of murder and rape haunt refugees” – Rory Linnane. “Outstanding reporting, compelling story using an Appleton family from Congo to illustrate the larger situation of refugees fleeing conflict.”

Second Place: *Leader-Telegram*, Eau Claire: “Lasting scars” – Eric Lindquist. “A disturbing account of abuse of a child and the lingering aftereffects well into adulthood. The story of the victim – still clearly feeling effects of her ordeal – was told with sensitivity and care and can stand as a cautionary tale for parents.”

Third Place: *Green Bay Press-Gazette*: “Completely blindsided” – Adam Rodewald.

Honorable Mention: *Leader-Telegram*, Eau Claire: “Gone, not forgotten” – Dan Lyksett. “Well-timed and told story about a seemingly forgotten man who died in World War I and whose memory and service was spotlighted and shared with a wider audience.”

Division B

First Place: *Marshfield News-Herald*: “Woman beat cancer wearing a cape” – Mitch Skurzewski, Jacob Byk. “Well-crafted story that captures the emotions and roller coaster ride of this woman well to pull in the reader.”

Second Place: *The Freeman*, Waukesha: “Tempering justice with mercy” – Brian Huber. “Great use of quotes and full telling of this man’s story. Solid profile, informative and detailed.”

Third Place: *Oshkosh Northwestern*: “Student finds purpose helping refugees” – Noell Dickmann. “Well-written piece capturing the sacrifices this young man makes and his reasons for doing so.”

Honorable Mention: *The Gazette*, Janesville: “A man of many meetings: Jens Jorgensen, 19, has grown up around

Feature (Non-profile)

Division A

First Place: *Green Bay Press-Gazette*: “A great day to be Polish” – Paul Srubas. “Wow! Fabulous writing that moves far beyond what at first seems to be routine subject matter. Paul Srubas is an incredible talent.”

Second Place: *Wisconsin State Journal*, Madison: “Long after death, mom’s words live on” – Gayle Worland. “Sweet, poignant, heartwarming, a real treat to read.”

Third Place: *Leader-Telegram*, Eau Claire: “A deadly lesson” – Dan Lyksett. “Solid, observant, simply but movingly written.”

Honorable Mention: *Wisconsin State Journal*, Madison: “Lab develops new eye in the sky” – Rob Schultz. “Fascinating.”

Division B

First Place: *Wausau Daily Herald*: “Finding Private Clark: WWII soldier’s death still echoes” – Keith Uhlig.

“Incredibly in-depth and well-told story of the ripple effects of one man’s life and death. Clearly a dedicated and thoughtful reporter at his best.”

Second Place: *The Sheboygan Press*: “Sheboygan family opens home to hospice kids” – Leah Ulatowski. “Heart-rending and well-written story of a unique family whose mission is rare and one that not many people would have the fortitude to take on.”

Third Place: *The Gazette*, Janesville: “World War II poem tells of veterans’ pangs of separation” – Frank Schultz. “Touching, well-thought-out story of a dedicated father and close-knit family whose bond led them through the difficult times of separation as he served America in the military.”

Honorable Mention: *The Reporter*, Fond

Burlington Standard Press,

First Place, Division E, Feature (Non-profile)

du Lac: “Moonshine in the Holyland” – Sharon Roznik. “Well-written tale of little-known history that shows that ‘ordinary’ people often have extraordinary backgrounds.”

Division C

First Place: *Stevens Point Journal*: “Family’s ‘field of dreams’ honors son” – Sari Lesk. “Good lede and compelling narrative. Tone is appropriate for discussing loss and healing.”

Second Place: *Daily Citizen*, Beaver Dam: “Saving grace” – Amanda Lutey. “Engaging topic and strong lede. A couple of editing errors and could use some tightening in second half, but well done overall.”

Third Place: *Watertown Daily Times*:

politics” – Elliot Hughes. “Fun profile of a young up-and-comer, with good detail.”

Division C

First Place: *The Chippewa Herald*, Chippewa Falls: “Picking up the pieces: Kind-hearted Erickson learns from father’s death” – Ben Peterson. “Great profile all the way around. One normally doesn’t think of profiling someone so young, but the effective writing has readers rooting for this young man. Nicely done.”

Second Place: *Portage Daily Register*: “Noah, Good Profile” – Noah Vernau. “Story has a nice flow. It provides a strong look into Good’s life as a band leader and music teacher. Excellent work.”

Third Place: *Stevens Point Journal*: “Hometown legacy/Chet Krause story” – Nathan Vine. “Good lede. I liked the writing in this profile. Its focus, Krause, had a lot of personal information. I liked how the writer brought out these facts by interviewing people who knew Krause.”

Honorable Mention: *The Monroe Times*: “The sweetest thing: Mother and daughter connect 83 years after adoption” – Bridget Cooke. “Touching story and well written. Provides a positive outcome from two devastating experiences in this woman’s life.”

Division D

First Place: *The Lakeland Times*, Minocqua: “The Incredible Journey” – Kayla Breese. “An incredible journey indeed!”

Second Place: *The Star News*, Medford: “Doctor’s hands help bring new life” – Brian Wilson. “Compelling story. Excellent use of photography.”

Third Place: *Lake Country Reporter*, Hartland: “Surrogacy: Making dreams come true” – Donna Frake. “An eye opener.”

Honorable Mention: *Waukesha Now*: “Outrunning multiple sclerosis” – Christopher Kuhagen. “Very inspirational story and nice headline.”

Division E

First Place: *River Falls Journal*: “Victim of beating is ‘survivor and fearless’” – Deb Eliason. “Compelling and thought-provoking. Sidebar provided important information.”

Second Place: *The Star*, Sun Prairie: “One step at a time” – Jennifer Fetterly. “Fascinating, but not maudlin, look at how science and technology came together to help a paralyzed man walk again.”

Third Place: *The Verona Press*: “Rewriting history” – Scott De Laruelle. “Interesting! Not everybody can make archaeology come

Brown County paid \$61K to attorney

Board unaware of settlement with former counsel

DOUG SCHNEIDER
USA TODAY NETWORK-WISCONSIN

GREEN BAY - Without notifying the County Board, the Brown County executive quietly agreed in March to pay a settlement of almost \$61,000 to a department head who

apparently hadn’t done county work in a month.

The agreement was signed March 18, but supervisors didn’t know until they were told by a reporter last week that former Corporation Counsel Juliana Ruenzel was given a payment worth six months’

salary, plus an amount that would cover Ruenzel’s health, dental and vision coverage for nine months. As part of the \$60,578.71 settlement, Ruenzel — the county’s chief legal officer — received a letter of recommendation.

She agreed not to sue the county. Executive Troy Streckenbach signed the agreement.

Two months after the agreement was signed, however, the factors that led to Ruenzel’s departure remain undisclosed even to colleagues and County Board members. Administration officials have brushed off some questions about her settlement, and provided limited answers



Streckenbach

See RUENZEL, Page 5A

Green Bay Press-Gazette, First Place, Division A, Reporting on Local Government

alive in a newspaper feature, but you did just that.”

Honorable Mention: *The Record-Review*, Edgar: “He’s a Hall of Famer” – Peter Weinschenk. “Good work. I felt as if I had met this fellow – and gained a better understanding and appreciation for polka music.”

Division F

First Place: *The Brillion News*: “Twice Born” – Andrew Pantzloff. “Love the lede, and love how you carried the question throughout. Clear winner.”

Second Place: *The Coulee News*, West Salem: “From jungle to jungle Bangor man recounts years riding the rails as a hobo” – Tobias Mann. “Very interesting and well written!”

Third Place: *The County Journal*: “Sitbon thinks outside the box with line of wearable art” – Hope McLeod. “Your writing was so descriptive; it was like I was in her home! The questions as transitions knocked this entry down for me.”

Honorable Mention: *Kettle Moraine Index*, Dousman: “The ‘clothes’ of a career” – Kristen Kubisiak. “Love the lede. Article flowed well. Very nice feature.”

Reporting on Local Government

Division A

First Place: *Green Bay Press-Gazette*: “Local Government” – Doug Schneider. “Solid, resourceful reporting on an important story the public might not have gotten otherwise.”

Second Place: *La Crosse Tribune*: “Three La Crosse County government stories” – Randy Erickson. “Nice blend of narrative and descriptive writing along with explanatory details.”

Third Place: *La Crosse Tribune*: “City of La Crosse Coverage” – Jourdan Vian.

Honorable Mention: *The Journal Times*, Racine: “Nowhere to Grow; Sewer extensions without annexation crippled city’s ability to grow, officials say; Rebounds from rock bottom” – Cara Spoto.

Division B

First Place: *The Gazette*, Janesville: “Too far gone; looking for a long-term solution; Almost 300 attend meeting” – Catherine W. Idzerda. “We hear a lot about the need for infrastructure repair – this story puts it in perspective. Outstanding look at need for better bridges and the problems involved.”

Second Place: *The Gazette*, Janesville: “Another war of words; Is new BID in the cards?; Those near Oak Hill Cemetery don’t want to see the city of Janesville sell it to a private company” – Elliot Hughes. “Janesville clashes are well documented – on the city council front and in the public-private battle for a cemetery.”

Third Place: *Marshfield News-Herald*: “Selection of Jonathan Anderson’s work” – Jonathan Anderson. “Jonathan Anderson does a nice job of keeping the public informed as to what’s going on.”

Honorable Mention: *Daily News*, West Bend: “Reporting on Local Government” – Ralph Chapoco. “Should the public be involved in managing a golf course? Ralph Chapoco plays through.”

Division C

First Place: *Stevens Point Journal*: “Selection of Sari Lesk’s work” – Sari Lesk. “Interesting government stories and very good use of the state’s open records law to ferret out information for the story. A lot of legwork went into these stories. Very effective use of the website to complement these stories.”

Second Place: *Daily Citizen*, Beaver Dam: “Dodge County sales tax use” – Ben Rueter. “Very comprehensive look at the use of county sales tax funds. Also a very good use of interactive online graphics to enhance the reporting on the tax funds. It’s clear that a

lot of work went into this report.”

Third Place: *Portage Daily Register*: “Lyn Jerde, Government coverage” – Lyn Jerde. “Nice, concise, readable stories about government. Clearly written. Very engaging.”

Division D

First Place: *The Star News*, Medford: “Residents say: Leave it be; Drama as tree is cut down; Commission sets 7-shift suspension for cop” – Brian Wilson. “The coverage of the battle to save a tree was enthralling.”

Second Place: *Monroe County Herald*, Sparta: “Monroe County Board approves, Witt: Termination was a case, County board approves justice center financing plan” – Pat Mulvaney. “Well-written coverage that takes the reader just a little deeper.”

Third Place: *Lake Country Reporter*, Hartland: “Riverwalk” – Tyler Langan. “Strong coverage of an important city project.”

Division E

First Place: *The Stoughton Courier Hub*: “Coverage of the City of Stoughton” – Bill Livick. “Reporter shows he’s well-versed in the development issues of more than one municipality. Also good at capturing frustration felt by some as large developments are pushed through city governments. Great use of sidebars to summarize complicated development deals.”

Second Place: *The Record-Review*, Edgar: “County could end NCHC relationship; Dollar General TID defeated; Karger suspended for rally” – Peter Weinschenk. “Coverage of this board of supervisors might be exhibit A in the argument for the importance of a local newspaper. Reporter has a good ear for quotes. Different voices in these stories show reporter’s thoroughness.”

Third Place: *The Northwoods River News*, Rhinelander: “Coupes and Coops; Nuisance violation notices draw complaints; After backlash, city to change permit

process for tent structures” – Jamie Taylor. “A good exploration of the conflict and backlash of a local government’s getting nuisance properties to clean up their act. This reporter has a great ear for quotes, and so I was left wanting to hear voices of the residents with tents and vehicles in their front yards.”

Honorable Mention: *The Verona Press*: “Coverage of the City of Verona” – Jim Ferolie. “The reporter’s institutional knowledge is important in this budget story, which simplifies a complicated process for the reader. The quarry story raises questions that are unanswered, about a municipality paying eight-times the market price per acre for a quarry. The reporter gives the reader an impression someone’s pulling fast one, but doesn’t dig enough to find out why.”

Division F

First Place: *The Brillion News*: “Unsustainable” – Ed Byrne. “Clear, concise and informative with all the necessary quotes and numbers. The clear winner.”

Second Place: *Washington Island Observer*: “Fire chief confronts Town Board over budget and salaries” – Mary Marik. “Great job following the fire chief saga, providing opinions from both sides and highlighting the stubbornness. Sidebars and graphs had great info.”

Third Place: *The Sun*, Osceola: “Coverage of the Village of Osceola” – Suzanne Lindgren. “Clear, concise and a good job following several issues. Quotes used well, very informative.”

Honorable Mention: *Columbus Journal*: “City buys Countryside property; Council rolls back decision; Contractor hired to remove bricks” – “Overall solid job on the government beat, with a good concentration on how people are affected by government action.”

Reporting on Local Education

Division A

First Place: *Leader-Telegram*, Eau Claire: “The day the music cried; Comments anger lawmaker from area; School board, superintendent at odds” – Elizabeth Dohms. “Good issue based stories enhanced by conflict between sides.”

Second Place: *Green Bay Press-Gazette*: “Seeking solutions: Inside Green Bay’s poorest neighborhood; Fundraisers: Will poor schools get left behind?; Early grade

truancy raised red flags” – Patti Zarling. “Good issue-based reporting”

Third Place: *The Post-Crescent*, Appleton: “Skips evaluations; sex crimes; drug tests” – Jen Zettel.

Honorable Mention: *Wisconsin State Journal*, Madison: “Changes rock higher education in Wisconsin” – Nico Savidge. “Some good in-depth efforts.”

Division B

First Place: *Wausau Daily Herald*: “Following young entrepreneurs” – Nora Hertel. “Truly dedicated coverage to education, going in-depth on an interesting subject.”

Second Place: *The Reporter*, Fond du Lac: “Local Education Coverage” – Sharon Roznik. “These entries contained strong in-depth reporting and also good news coverage.”

Third Place: *The Gazette*, Janesville: “School is knocking, Aug. 24, 2016; Girls only, July 15, 2016; Change the Model, July 18, 2016” – Catherine W. Idzerda. “Strong feature coverage that is well written.”

Division C

First Place: *The Chippewa Herald*, Chippewa Falls: “School plan’s costs can’t be ignored; School board president won’t seek re-election; Czech, Strecker play key roles” – Ross Evavold. “Excellent lede. Good start to a densely packed story. Strong first story. Second story was good, too. Clear and concise writing in all three pieces. I liked this writer’s style of relaying vital information to the public, which can sometimes find these sorts of stories boring.”

Second Place: *Watertown Daily Times*: “Reporting on local education” – Sarah Weihert. “Nice story on school winning architecture prize. Second story highlights a good program. Good background and future outlook for health care program.”

Third Place: *The Monroe Times*: “Reporting on Local Education” – Susan Endres. “Lede is good on first story. It gives readers a clear idea of what is being worked on and what teachers will get. I would think getting teachers to comment would be a good thing, unless the school district does not permit it. Good writing overall.”

Honorable Mention: *Stevens Point Journal*: “Selection of Sari Lesk’s work” – Sari Lesk. “Strong writing by this reporter.”

Division D

First Place: *Muskego-New Berlin Now*: “Muskego-Norway Schools referendum”

– Jane Ford-Stewart. “This series of stories has all the elements: well-written and researched, multiple sources and quotes with great accompanying photos to tell the story as well as show the story.”

Second Place: *Barron News-Shield*: “Local education reporting” – Bob Zientara. “Excellent school coverage.”

Third Place: *Superior Telegram*: “Board approves referendum” – Emily Kram. “Solid and well written.”

Honorable Mention: *Wauwatosa Now*: “Wauwatosa schools” – Rachel Minske. “Well done pieces from writing to layout.”

Division E

First Place: *Juneau County Star-Times*, Mauston: “Feeling the crunch; Read and Ride brings alternative learning to Mauston; Breaking with tradition” – Kevin Damask. “Excellent explanation of complex issues and use of tables and other informative elements to break down the information in easily digested pieces.”

Second Place: *River Falls Journal*: “Whatever you call it, it’s workout time; Mission possible: Students take on the world; Flooding won’t slow school’s big rebuild” – Phil Pfoehler. “Good reporting with just a touch of irreverent humor.”

Third Place: *The Verona Press*: “Coverage of the Verona Area School District” – Scott Girard. “Good breadth of topics and depth of information covered.”

Honorable Mention: *The Oregon Observer*: “Coverage of the Oregon School District” – Scott De Laruelle. “Great headlines!”

Division F

First Place: *New London Press Star*: “Pay increase likely for teachers after ‘awkward’ negotiation; Parents blast HASD amid allegations of teacher bullying; Hortonville weighs costs of underused activity bus routes” – Scott Bellile. “Good, in-depth and balanced coverage of contentious meetings and other goings on at the schools.”

Second Place: *Clintonville Tribune Gazette*: “Administration plans to change high school scheduling; Facilities referendum pursued; CHS selected as a Top Global Learning School” – Bert Lehman. “Good coverage of important issues to the public, such as schedule change and referendum. Paper also does a good job of highlighting district successes, i.e. the award received.”

Third Place: *Columbus Journal*: “Thinking Outside the Books, Aiming

High and Ag Classes Return” – Lisa Cestkowski. “Interesting features about some of the programs school provides and good news article about ag’s return.”

Honorable Mention: *Crawford County Independent & The Kickapoo Scout*, Gays Mills: “Board hears complaint about football coaching; Parents complain about football coaching at school board meeting; Seneca Middle School sports discussed” – Charley Preusser. “Varied coverage of school programs give insight into the district, and a very nice NHS feature.”

Business Coverage

Division A

First Place: *Green Bay Press-Gazette*: “No home playoff game costs Green Bay millions; Packers property taxes take temporary dip; Packers schedule a mixed bag for bars, eateries” – Richard Ryman. “This was a great entry. You don’t often see business reporters looking at how the success or failure of a professional sports team can affect the local economy.”

Second Place: *Wisconsin State Journal*, Madison: “Business coverage by Barry Adams” – Barry Adams. “Well-written, interesting, in-depth looks. This entry received strong consideration for first place, and it was a difficult choice.”

Third Place: *Green Bay Press-Gazette*: “Can-Do Man: Matthiesen amazes co-workers, Craft Beer Debate cans or bottles? Arcade classic Skee-Ball finds home in Pulaski” – Jeff Bollier. “This entry contained several well-written, in-depth features and also received strong consideration for first place.”

Division B

First Place: *The Sheboygan Press*: “Pension cuts outrage Wisconsin Teamsters; Sheboygan County firm revives Jolly Good soda; How a NASA spinoff landed in Wisconsin” – Josh Lintereur.

Second Place: *Herald Times Reporter*, Manitowoc: “Having a rare old time (April 24, 2016); All aboard (May 29, 2016); Flower power (May 22, 2016)” – Sarah Kloeping.

Third Place: *Portage Daily Register*: “Business stories” – Noah Vernau.

Honorable Mention: *The Gazette*, Janesville: “Beloit Ironworks a burgeoning tech hub; Studer’s Way; Sun shining bright on Alliant solar project” – Neil Johnson.

Division D

First Place: *The Country Today*, Eau Claire: “Thinking Regionally; Old Challenges; Fresh Start” – Sara Bredesen. “Well-written stories on farming issues facing the communities and county. Interestingly written so that a person who has no knowledge of the farming industry can understand it. Well done.”

Second Place: *Waukesha Now*: “Waukesha Business Coverage” – Chris Kuhagen. “Good business reporting on the uptick in downtown Waukesha business, while the story on the GE plant moving and its repercussions is interesting.”

Third Place: *Monroe County Herald*, Sparta: “Sparta has a new option for health care; Weathering the sandstorm; Organic Valley plants” – Pat Mulvaney. “Business features are well-written and interesting. They represent important news on businesses in the community”

Division E

First Place: *The Ripon Commonwealth Press*: “Is it all over?; If lawsuit is coming ...; So, how did Ripon fare?; City of Ripon appears ...; No cell. No cable. ...; Charter mum ...” – Ian Stepleton. “Solid, in-depth coverage of a big story in the community. Good explanation of all the numbers and presented in an easy-to-read manner.”

Second Place: *The Waunakee Tribune*: “Creative Economy” – Roberta Baumann. “Tight writing with solid supporting quotes.”

Third Place: *The Valdres Journal*: “How low will it go?; County’s housing market thriving; Creek’s new path draws high praise” – Todd Bergmann. “Using multiple sources for different perspectives help give personality to the story.”

Division F

First Place: *Columbus Journal*: “One Stop Trucking; Fall River Foundry; Craft Brewers” – Lisa Cestkowski. “Good, solid business reporting. Ms. Cestkowski has a great ear for quotes.”

Second Place: *The Brillion News*: “Unsustainable; Sargento Expansion; Downtown Dilemma” – Ed Byrne. “Mr. Byrne can sure tell a good story. Solid ledes bring the reader in.”

Third Place: *New London Press Star*: “Erotic dancer causes trouble for bar; McDonald’s to close in October for rebuild; Wolf River Trips reports good summer despite outbreak” – Scott Bellile. “Mr. Bellile didn’t sensationalize an issue, and instead provided solid, smart reporting

DUMP 9-12 INCHES OF RAIN



A car sits tilted off collapsed pavement at Deonnie Creek near Odessa following flooding that collapsed much of U.S. 2 east of Ashland. Torrential rains dumped between eight to 12 inches of rain on northern Wisconsin Monday night and Tuesday morning, causing flash flooding that washed out a number of highways, including several spots on U.S. Highway 2 and Highway 13.

Storms hammer region

RICK CLYD

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A powerful series of thunderstorms dumped torrential rains over northwest Wisconsin, including Bayfield, Ashland and Iron counties, flooding area rivers and streams and washing out a number of highways.

According to the Wisconsin Emergency Operations Center, several areas from Missoula to Cable in northern Iron County received eight to 12 inches of rain, causing flash flooding.

Near-constant lightning and strong winds that downed trees and powerlines during the storms accompanied the rains.

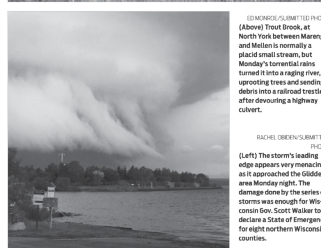
Flash flooding and storms were responsible for at least two deaths locally, including an 88-year-old Illinois man near Cable (See Story, S4).

The flooding and damage by the heavy rains was extensive enough for Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker to declare a State of Emergency Tuesday afternoon in eight northern Wisconsin counties. The counties included in the governor's declaration are Ashland, Bayfield, Burnett, Douglas, Iron, Price, Sawyer, and Washburn.

The Ashland County Emergency management agency Tuesday issued a civil emergency message for Ashland County warning that travel in Ashland County was not advised. Many local roads between Ashland and Melan were flooded during the storms and had impassible damage.

Watermain roads are closed in the region on Tuesday, including in Ashland County, U.S. 2 at Sun Road, U.S. 2 at Deonnie Creek in Odessa, High

SEE STORMS S4



ROADS CLOSED TO TRAFFIC

(Above) Trout Brook, at North Fork between Marengo and Melan is normally a placid small stream, but Monday's torrential rains turned it into a raging river, uprooting trees and sending debris into a railroad trestle after drenching a highway culvert.

RACHEL OWEN/SUBMITTED

PHOTO

(Left) The storm's leading edge appears very menacing as it approached the Golden area Monday night. The damage done by the series of storms was enough for Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker to declare a State of Emergency for eight northern Wisconsin counties.

The Daily Press, Ashland,
Third Place, Division C,
Ongoing/Extended Coverage

that explored each side of the issue. Good business reporting.”

Honorable Mention: *The Sun*, Osceola: “Business in the St. Croix River Valley” – Suzanne Lindgren. “Ms. Lindgren provided excellent business reporting. The Sun is lucky to have her.”

Environmental Reporting Award

Division A

First Place: *Wisconsin State Journal*, Madison: “Protection of water quality in Wisconsin” – Steven Verburg, Mark Pitsch. “Outstanding in both scope and execution – readers are well-served by having this tough reporting on the state’s DNR and issues. Impressively done.”

Second Place: *The Post-Crescent*, Appleton: “Cool clouds; strawberry moon; lake flies” – Ethan Safran. “These articles are short, but what propelled them up was the fresh view – the ‘what people wonder about’ factor – and the nice writing style. I’m sure they were popular reads.”

Third Place: *Green Bay Press-Gazette*: “Cleanup continues on the Fox River” – Paul Srubas. “Very well-explained.”

Honorable Mention: *Green Bay Press-Gazette*: “Every environmental ‘cog and wheel’ holds potential” – Patrick Durkin. “These columns (especially the author’s other entry) didn’t seem to fit in a ‘reporting’ category, but wanted to give a nod to the author’s obvious knowledge of the topic.”

Division B

First Place: *Beloit Daily News*: “City: Nobody’s here to make it difficult to run a business” – Hillary Gavan.

Second Place: *The Gazette*, Janesville: “There’s lead in the water” – Frank Schultz.

Third Place: *Daily Tribune*, Wisconsin Rapids: “Fight over a proposed megafarm” – Jonathan Anderson, Karen Madden.

Division C

First Place: *Daily Globe*, Ironwood: “Iron County students study loon nests” – Richard Jenkins. “Good story that ‘gets in the water.’”

Second Place: *Watertown Daily Times*: “Derailment could have been worse” – Jake Batterman. “Great piece that asks the ‘what if?’ questions that too many writers don’t do. The difference between a reporter and a journalist.”

Third Place: *Portage Daily Register*: “Environmental stories” – Lyn Jerde. “While organic farming does involve the environment, the piece on game birds had a more appealing angle from the conservation perspective.”

Honorable Mention: *The Monroe Times*: “Residents: Put Moratorium on Large Dairy and County Board Rejects Water Study” – Mary Jane Grenzow. “Good piece addressing the public outcry on more dairy expansions.”

Division D

First Place: *The Country Today*, Eau Claire: “Bluff Prairie Restoration” – Nate Jackson. “Great package on an interesting topic. Nice art.”

Second Place: *The Lakeland Times*, Minocqua: “Clean roads vs. clean water: Can we have both?” – Beckie Gaskill. “Unique look at common problem. No one thinks twice about using sodium chloride when it cold, icy and convenient.”

Third Place: *Muskego-New Berlin Now*: “Invasive algae in Little Muskego Lake” – Jane Ford-Stewart. “Little think causes big problem. Nice package. Keep up the good work.”

Honorable Mention: *The Lakeland*

Times, Minocqua: “What are CWD studies telling us?” – Beckie Gaskill. “I have been dealing with CWD for several years and this is an excellent piece that give us new information.”

Division E

First Place: *The Ripon Commonwealth Press*: “Lessons on the Lake” – Aaron Becker. “This is great story telling, but it also drives home the point about how this affects a regular person.”

Second Place: *Lake Geneva Regional News*: “DNR confirms blue-green algae in Delavan Lake” – Sammi Wendling. “This goes beyond basic reporting to let the reader know how this story affects them.”

Third Place: *Lake Geneva Regional News*: “Initiative strives to bring back the stars” – Chris Schultz. “Interesting, well-told story that the average reader can understand.”

Division F

First Place: *Crawford County Independent & The Kickapoo Scout*, Gays Mills: “County conservation plan moving towards approval; Conservation plan drew information from many sources; Conservation plan used assessment of resources; County plan protects water; Conservation plan addresses nutrient management issues” – Gillian Pomplun. “Wow, what a series, the clear winner from an environmentally-minded newspaper.”

Second Place: *Oconomowoc Focus*: “Watershed work embraced by area farmers” – Tyler Langan. “Informative coverage, might even get more farmers to participate.”

Third Place: *The Brillion News*: “Storm Water” – Ed Byrne. “Interesting read, very informative with useful accompanying image.”

Honorable Mention: *Crawford County Independent & The Kickapoo Scout*, Gays Mills: “County’s conservation history has deep roots in the 1930’s” – Gillian Pomplun. “A good deep dive into Wisconsin’s environmental history and how it shaped current efforts.”

Ongoing/Extended Coverage

Division A

First Place: *The Post-Crescent*, Appleton: “Appleton teen makes heartbreaking decision to die” – Jim Collar. “Outstanding job of developing and staying in front of what turned out to be a national story. Reporter clearly gained the trust and

confidence of the mother and her 14-year-old daughter preparing to die on her own terms. Nice job of following the story when it took a dramatic twist as other groups attempted to impose their will on the case. Excellent first-person reaction to the story in its early stages. Excellent photography.”

Second Place: *The Post-Crescent*, Appleton: “Ongoing coverage after police cleared in shooting at Eagle Nation” – Duke Behnke. “Really nice and thorough job of providing all the details and remaining persistent and diligence in bird-dogging a highly questionable police shooting. Terrific editorial spells it out clearly.”

Third Place: *Leader-Telegram*, Eau Claire: “Eau Claire County treasurer embezzlement scandal” – Eric Lindquist, Andrew Dowd, Dan Holtz. “Wonderful job of chronicling the embezzlement of a treasure and deputy and all the resultant fallout.”

Division B

First Place: *The Reporter*, Fond du Lac: “Teacher donates kidney to student” – Nathan Phelps, Sharon Roznik. “Such a simple, yet powerful story told well in text, video and photos!”

Second Place: *Wausau Daily Herald*: “The aftermath of a deadly prom shooting” – Liz Welter, Keith Uhlig, Peter Wasson. “Fascinating profile ... and other details. The perfect example of why you never to let a story like this die!”

Third Place: *The Sheboygan Press*: “Dissecting the issue of drug addiction in Sheboygan County; Recovering addicts find redemption through faith; Lawmakers target roadblocks to recovery; Sheboygan Drug Court to launch; New program helps Sheboygan inmates beat addiction...” – Phillip Bock. “Comprehensive look at a community problem and potential solutions.”

Honorable Mention: *The Gazette*, Janesville: “Great Lakes Basin Railroad coverage” – Catherine W. Idzerda, Jake McGee, Jim Dayton, Gina Duwe. “Exhaustive coverage of this ongoing process.”

Division C

First Place: *Baraboo News Republic*: “Defense: Smoke may have caused fatal crash” – Tim Damos.

Second Place: *Daily Citizen*, Beaver Dam: “Lynch case to return to circuit court” – Bobbye Pyke.

Third Place: *The Daily Press*, Ashland: “Storms, flooding hammer region” – Rick Olivo, Larry Servinsky, Sara Chase.

Cheers, Wisconsin as we're No. 1 in drinking

The trouble with ridiculing Wisconsinites is we don't realize we're being put down. In fact, we take most insults as compliments.

We can be a backward lot. This explains why we call freezing January temperatures “fishing weather.”

It also explains why, when our neighbors to the south derisively dubbed us “cheeseheads,” we didn't know enough to feel hurt. Instead, we embraced the nickname and started wearing foam cheese wedges on our heads.

Wisconsinites accepted with that same lack of self-consciousness last week's news that America's Dairyland is home to more than half the drunk-est cities in America. I wonder whether people in Appleton, the city anointed drunkest of them all, are spilling out of the taverns and onto the streets, swearing foam fingers and chanting “We're No. 1!”

No doubt the authors of the report on America's drunkest and driest cities, published by 247wallst.com, would be perplexed by such a reception. And by Wisconsinites' fascination with accessories made of foam.

The report used statistics on binge drinking, alcohol-related deaths and overall health to rank cities' weakness for the bottle. Wisconsin claims 12 of the 20 drunkest U.S. cities. Some might view such a showing as “abysmal,” but Wisconsinites would call it “dominant.”

The Milwaukee metropolitan area came in at No. 17, with 23 percent of adults admitting to binge drinking. Sure, they could've lied, but the secret is out on us: Cheeseheads are known to take a second drink. And sometimes an eighth.

The twin cities of Janesville and Beloit were No. 16, but they deserve a pass. If you lived in Janesville or Beloit, you'd drink, too.



Racine ranked 15th, due to a high rate of driving deaths involving alcohol, as well as obesity and premature death. Sheboygan ranked 12th, tied with Wausau at No. 11. Despite its high binge drinking rate, Wausau ranked above average in overall health. Perhaps this is true because Wisconsinites exercise as they imbibe, cutting or playing softball or shooting darts to burn some calories. Someone should tell Racine to get with the program.

Eau Claire ranked ninth because it's home to 6.4 bars for every 10,000 residents, the second-highest in the country. They say that like it's a bad thing.

Fond du Lac ranked seventh, but overall passed its health test. The city has one of the lowest premature death rates, a fact the study's authors attributed to Fond du Lac's financial health. Less than 10 percent of residents live in poverty. There's something to be said for \$1 mall numbers.

The La Crosse area came in at No. 6, because there are nearly 7 bars for every 10,000 people. In our state's defense, significant capacity is needed here to accommodate Minnesotans sneaking across the Mississippi in search of real beer.

Our capital city came in at No. 4. The only surprise there was that Madison wasn't higher up the list. The University of Wisconsin traditionally ranks among the top party schools in America, another

dubious honor cheeseheads regard with pride rather than shame. Hey, Badgers fans are just happy to have beaten Ohio State at some-

Next up was Green Bay at No. 3, but another pass is in order here. Until you've tried to survive a winter along the icy lakefront without carrying a fifth of brandy in your pocket, don't judge.

Oshkosh-Neenah was ranked second, topped only by Appleton. Nearly 27 percent of adults in Appleton report binge drinking, highest in the nation. I'd raise a toast to you, Appleton, but you're already out the floor drooling, just think what that percentage might be if Appleton had more than 4-4 bars per 10,000 residents. In Wisconsin we call that a dry town.

Speaking of dry towns, Provo, Utah was named the least-drunk U.S. city. People there might ask, why would cheeseheads want to drink excessively when it leads to risky behavior and unknown outcomes? They'd be answering their own question.

It's no accident the drunkest cities are in the Upper Midwest. The winter is dark, the summer is short, and there isn't much else to do here. So we have a few pops and throw cash to the wind.

You may say we should be ashamed of ourselves. But we say we're No. 1.

Follow the columnist on Twitter at [ben.bromley](#).

rare and rarely explained. This series show the unanticipated results of the Kelso decision by the SCOTUS”.

Second Place: *The Verona Press*: “Behavior in the Verona Area School District” – Scott Girard. “Excellent series on pros and cons of behavioral training in schools.”

Third Place: *Mukwonago Chief*: “Library restructuring in Mukwonago” – Erik S. Hanley. “Nice coverage of controversial event, but I believe there is more behind this story and this should be watched closely.”

Honorable Mention: *The Northwoods River News*, Rhinelander: “Ashley Martinson murder trial” – Jamie Taylor. “Three great series on murder trials, hard to pick one over the others.”

Division F

First Place: *Clintonville Chronicle*: “Matthew Pagel Murder” – Tricia Rose.

Second Place: *Clintonville Tribune Gazette*: “Fire raises suspicions; Fire jeopardizes future of outdoor swimming pool; Pool likely not to open; Swimming pool insurance claim saga continues; Cause of swimming pool building fire ‘undetermined’” – Bert Lehman, Scott Bellile, John Faucher, Jeff Hof.

Third Place: *Clintonville Tribune Gazette*: “Chief estimates nearly \$175,000 in arson damage; Local homeowner displaced by arson” – Scott Bellile.

Honorable Mention: *Oconomowoc Focus*: “Van Wagner homicide” – Donna Frake, Steven Martinez.

Local Column

Division A

First Place: *Leader-Telegram*, Eau Claire: “A deadly lesson; All hell broke loose; Gone not forgotten” – Dan Lyksett. “Three excellent choices. Riveting stories. Depth interviews. Clear, clean writing. Just a good storyteller.”

Second Place: *La Crosse Tribune*: “Cunningham columns” – Rusty Cunningham. “Good storyteller. Clean, simple prose. Good subject choices.”

Third Place: *Wisconsin State Journal*, Madison: “On Wisconsin” – Barry Adams, John Hart, Amber Arnold, Michael King. “Some nice touches to the writing. Good stories. Solid.”

Honorable Mention: *La Crosse Tribune*: “Jourdan Vian Column” – Jourdan Vian. “Brave writer taking on some controversial

issues and exposing her personal story as part of her work.”

Division B

First Place: *Wausau Daily Herald*: “A selection of Robert Mentzer columns” – Robert Mentzer.

Second Place: *Wausau Daily Herald*: “Selection of Peter Wasson columns” – Peter Wasson.

Third Place: *Daily News*, West Bend: “Local Column” – Christopher Becker.

Division C

First Place: *Baraboo News Republic*: “It's a Funny Thing” – Ben Bromley. “Great analyses, both on self and on society ... just as any good column – local or national – should be.”

Second Place: *Daily Citizen*, Beaver Dam: “My View by Ken Thomas” – Kenneth Thomas. “Great analyses.”

Third Place: *Daily Citizen*, Beaver Dam: “Make a reading resolution; Five years gone by; Great educators inspire students” – Amanda Lutey. “Good subject matter, but at times focuses a little too much on self. Few seasoned columnists include the word ‘I’ in their work. A slightly different perspective or approach can easily remove that and still produce strong columns.”

Honorable Mention: *Daily Jefferson County Union*, Fort Atkinson: “Living Rich on Less” – Pam Chickering Wilson. “These are great, valuable pieces, but their length, content and additional photos really make for lifestyle features.”

Division D

First Place: *Germantown-Menomonee Falls Now*: “The Falls Guy” – Larry Hanson. “Creative, humorous and original. Life experiences can really connect with readers. Everyone probably has a fast food nightmare, but it wasn't as elegantly written as this piece.”

Second Place: *Lake Country Reporter*, Hartland: “Scott Free” – Scott Peterson. “Unique, very down to earth. Experiences many can relate to. The focus piece ... A procrastinator's dream column.”

Third Place: *Price County Review*, Phillips: “Editor's Desk, Price County Review” – Seth Carlson. “Deeper meaning, important messages. The lesson of spending quality time with his daughter vs. getting another weekly column finished resonates.”

Honorable Mention: *North Shore Now*: “Rumage Around” – Jeff Rumage. “Persuasive. Community-focused. Made the story of a treehouse very compelling.”

Division E

First Place: *Amery Free Press*: “Columns by Tom Stangl” – Tom Stangl.

Second Place: *New Richmond News*: “1/7/16; 6/23/16; 8/18/16 - Raymond Rivard” – Raymond Rivard.

Third Place: *Lake Geneva Regional News*: “Lake Geneva Regional News - Local Column - John Halverson” – John Halverson.

Division F

First Place: *Oconomowoc Focus*: “Pardon My Punditry” – Floss Whalen.

Second Place: *Crawford County Independent & The Kickapoo Scout*, Gays Mills: “Meeting the Haugruds; Mr. Busy seems to have had the last laugh; Camping with Dad” – Jane Schmidt.

Third Place: *Crawford County Independent & The Kickapoo Scout*, Gays Mills: “Fido is a foodie; On newspapers; Cussing-light – gosh darn it!” – John Gibbs.

Honorable Mention: *Columbus Journal*: “Coming Home to Columbus; Spotlight on Columbus; Building a Better Community” – Lisa Cestkowski.

Sports News Story

Division A

First Place: *Green Bay Press-Gazette*: “Raji stepping away from the game” – Ryan Wood. “A complete story with exclusivity and telling detail that help paint a fuller picture of the athlete and his decision. Supportive graphics on his career would have complemented this fine report.”

Second Place: *The Journal Times*, Racine: “Letsch was truly an icon for the ages” – Peter Jackel. “Well told with emotion and historical perspective that other outlets likely couldn’t match. The writing was comfortable, informative and heartfelt.”

Third Place: *The Post-Crescent*, Appleton: “Tweet about WIAA earns suspension for athlete” – Ricardo Arguello. “A timely report that tried to answer all of the questions. The follow up to the national outcry was well done and provided greater perspective.”

Honorable Mention: *Wisconsin State Journal*, Madison: “UW builds big lead, holds off UW-Green Bay” – Jim Polzin. “More than a game story, these reports cut to the heart of the emotions tied to the moment and offered a perspective that made each report unique.”

Division B

First Place: *The Gazette*, Janesville: “The spirit of the ‘Klaw’” – Eric Schmoltdt, John Barry, Nick Crow. “Excellent incorporation of public records, explanation of school policies, vivid telling of state sports history.”

Second Place: *Wausau Daily Herald*: “Petitioning for change” – Tim Johnson. “Great use of sidebar to drive home main data points.”

Third Place: *Daily News*, West Bend: “WIAA to student crowds: Play nice” – Nicholas Dettmann. “Comprehensive look at local reaction and national following.”

Honorable Mention: *Beloit Daily News*: “Brewers choose Roegner” – Josh Flickinger.

Division C

First Place: *Stevens Point Journal*: “UWSP basketball violated NCAA practice rules” – Scott Williams. “Well-measured story about a sports program that violated NCAA rules. Paper sought out information for the public – no cover-up.”

Second Place: *Watertown Daily Times*: “Two to Loo: Pirates edge LCL in 5, repeat as D3 state champions” – Dave Radcliffe. “Not only a rally to remember but a story to remember. The retelling of a 31-30 score grabs the reader.”

Third Place: *Daily Citizen*, Beaver Dam: “WARRIORS WIN GOLD” – Dan Larson. “The volleyball team takes a state title two years running with the coach’s comments bringing out the excitement and accomplishment of that feat.”

Honorable Mention: *Baraboo News Republic*: “Runnels advances to state tourney on vault” – Chris Flores. “Gymnastics star makes state and didn’t even realize it – story makes for good reading.”

Division D

First Place: *News Graphic*, Cedarburg: “Just call them champions” – Aaron Carlson. “The underdog angle was well used and had great quotes to support it. Overall, the personality of the team came through, which is a credit to the writer.”

Second Place: *Lake Country Reporter*, Hartland: “The Unstoppable Force and the Immovable Object” – Evan Frank. “Great quotes give life to the story and help connect the reader to the athletes.”

Third Place: *Vilas County News-Review*, Eagle River: “Area schools struggle through shortage of licensed officials” – Douglas Etten. “An uncommon sports story, but one that was well written and well told. I placed this third because it didn’t answer

the question of why an official shortage is a problem outside the lines.”

Honorable Mention: *Door County Advocate*, Sturgeon Bay: “Cordier delivers a changeup” – Korey Mallien. “Interesting insight into a player about to embark on a stint in Japan. Well-written.”

Division E

First Place: *The Verona Press*: “Mourning the loss of Ebony” – Anthony Iozzo. “A sad story which likely was a difficult one to complete. A loss for the community”

Second Place: *Burlington Standard Press*: “Player avoids major injury, Horlick coach suspended” – Mike Ramczyk. “It’s not difficult to see why this story generated so much interest to the paper’s website. Was good to see the player and father not hold a grudge. The reporter did a thorough job.”

Third Place: *The Ripon Commonwealth Press*: “RHS basketball program impacted amid ‘inaccurate statistics’ flap” – Ian Stepleton. “Not your typical results-oriented sports story. Though the coaches and administration wasn’t saying much, this is still a story that needed told.”

Honorable Mention: *The Star*, Sun Prairie: “The Contender” – Karl Raymond. “An interesting look at the hard work needed to make it in a very unique sport.”

Division F

First Place: *Clintonville Tribune Gazette*: “Lamberies finds success at IMCA Super Nationals” – Bert Lehman.

Second Place: *Fennimore Times*: “State Champions” – Robert Callahan.

Third Place: *The Brillion News*: “The Tweet” – Ed Byrne.

Honorable Mention: *Oconomowoc Focus*: “Schlundt describes view to a thrill” – JR Radcliffe.

Sports Feature

Division A

First Place: *The Journal Times*, Racine: “Busting The Bottle” – Peter Jackel. “A harrowing tale of squandered opportunity, hitting bottom and recovery. Plus a happy ending.”

Second Place: *Wisconsin State Journal*, Madison: “Nigel Hayes carries hunger for world knowledge, dream of reaching the NBA” – Jim Polzin. “Lengthy, interesting look that explores the often overlooked student side of who the NCAA likes to refer to as ‘student-athletes.’”

Third Place: *Green Bay Press-Gazette*: “Still waiting” – Ryan Wood. “A well-

researched look at why a Packer legend has been overlooked. Kramer’s book – cited late in story – could arguably have had a greater influence on the Hall rejection. But that’s just one opinion.”

Honorable Mention: *Leader-Telegram*, Eau Claire: “Tight Bond” – Nick Erickson. “A feel-good feature on a team’s embrace of a special needs kid. Story is good enough to be considered in best overall feature category.”

Division B

First Place: *The Freeman*, Waukesha: “Rusch’s legacy felt in his 24 years” – Chris Bucher. “Good specifics and anecdotes convey the impact this coach has had; wide range of sources.”

Second Place: *Herald Times Reporter*, Manitowoc: “Bidding farewell (April 29, 2016); All about family (Aug. 22, 2016); Final laps (Aug. 23, 2016)” – Tom Dombeck, Julia Poe, Yi-Chin Lee. “Nice package that captures different aspects of a community landmark.”

Third Place: *The Reporter*, Fond du Lac: “Fond du Lac’s Tennesen battles cancer, returns to soccer field” – Samuel Oleson.

Division C

First Place: *Stevens Point Journal*: “How Amherst football makes champions” – Scott Williams. “Excellent analysis and good pay-off from following this intense team. Good photography adds action and at times leisure as we see in the one of the players chilling out. Not just another season recap piece, but one that digs deeper. Great feature; great sports journalism.”

Second Place: *Daily Citizen*, Beaver Dam: “COUNTERPUNCH” – Mark McMullen. “Great story on the rise out of mediocrity by an area youth. Shows determination and is a great boost of positivity to the reader; not just the subject. Good use of creative design and killer main photo choice.”

Third Place: *Daily Jefferson County Union*, Fort Atkinson: “Shatterproof” – Jacob Onak. “Great piece showcasing this impressive golfer. I like the inclusion of the scorecard. It ‘shows’ as opposed to just telling, which is too common in journalism. It helps to show and break down the stats. Good stuff.”

Honorable Mention: *The Chippewa Herald*, Chippewa Falls: “Mr. Jim Falls Baseball: Pitsch honored for 50 years in CRBL” – Brandon Berg. “Nice feature on a regional mainstay. Nice photos help set this piece off.”

Amery Free Press

First Place..... Local Column

The Post-Crescent, Appleton

First Place..... All-Around Newspaper Photography

First Place..... Best Online Advertising - Single Ad- Static

First Place..... Best Special Section

First Place..... Best Use of Color

First Place..... Editorial Award

First Place..... General News Photo

First Place..... Headlines

First Place..... Ongoing/Extended Coverage

First Place..... Overall Page Design

First Place..... Photo Essay

First Place..... Video

Second Place Best Ad Idea (Series)

Second Place Best Multiple Advertiser Spread

Second Place Best Online Advertising - Single Ad- Animated

Second Place Community Service Award

Second Place Environmental Reporting Award

Second Place Front Page

Second Place Graphics

Second Place Investigative Reporting

Second Place Lifestyle Page or Section

Second Place Ongoing/Extended Coverage

Second Place Page Design - Feature

Second Place Spot News Photo

Second Place Video

Third Place Headlines

Third Place Reporting on Local Education

Third Place Sports News Story

Third Place Sports Photo

Honorable Mention..... Breaking News Coverage

Honorable Mention..... Editorial Page or Section

Honorable Mention..... General News Story

Honorable Mention..... Local Sports Column

Honorable Mention..... Sports Photo

USA TODAY NETWORK-Wisconsin, Appleton

First Place..... Community Service Award

First Place..... Feature (Profile)

First Place..... Open Records/FOI Award

Second Place Enterprise/Interpretive Reporting

Third Place Investigative Reporting

The County Journal, Ashland

Third Place Feature (Profile)

The Daily Press, Ashland

Third Place Breaking News Coverage

Third Place Ongoing/Extended Coverage

Baraboo News Republic

First Place..... Breaking News Coverage

First Place..... Enterprise/Interpretive Reporting

First Place..... Local Column

First Place..... Ongoing/Extended Coverage

Third Place Best Niche Publication - In Paper

Third Place Best Niche Publication - Out of Paper

Third Place Enterprise/Interpretive Reporting

Third Place General Excellence

Third Place Investigative Reporting

Honorable Mention..... All-Around Newspaper Photography

Honorable Mention..... Community Service Award

Honorable Mention..... Sports News Story

Barron News-Shield

Second Place ... Reporting on Local Education

Honorable Mention..... Sports Page or Section

Daily Citizen, Beaver Dam

First Place..... Digital Project

Second Place Feature (Non-profile)

Second Place Lifestyle Page or Section

Second Place Local Column

Second Place Ongoing/Extended Coverage

Second Place Reporting on Local Government

Second Place Sports Feature

Third Place Local Column

Third Place Sports News Story

Honorable Mention..... Sports Photo

Beloit Daily News

First Place..... Best Niche Publication - In Paper

First Place..... Editorial Award

First Place..... Enterprise/Interpretive Reporting

First Place..... Environmental Reporting Award

Second Place Best Niche Publication - Out of Paper

Second Place Breaking News Coverage

Second Place Investigative Reporting

Second Place Local Sports Column

Second Place Special Section

Third Place Best Multiple Advertiser Spread

Third Place Feature Photo

Third Place Lifestyle Page or Section

Third Place Special Section

Third Place Sports Page or Section

Honorable Mention..... Local Sports Column

Honorable Mention..... Sports News Story

Hocak Worak, Black River Falls

Third Place Investigative Reporting

Honorable Mention.... Investigative Reporting

FYI Northwoods News, Boulder Junction

Third Place Best Newspaper Promotion

The Brilliance News

First Place..... Feature (Profile)

First Place..... Front Page

First Place..... Reporting on Local Government

Second Place Business Coverage

Third Place Environmental Reporting Award

Third Place Sports News Story

Honorable Mention..... Page Design - Feature

Honorable Mention..... Sports Photo

Brookfield-Elm Grove Now

Second Place Lifestyle Page or Section

Third Place General News Story

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

First Place..... Lifestyle Page or Section

Second Place Sports News Story

Honorable Mention..... Local Sports Column

Honorable Mention..... Overall Page Design

The Cambridge News and Deerfield Independent

Third Place Sports Photo

Honorable Mention..... General News Story

Campbellsport News

First Place..... Best Restaurant Ad

First Place..... Best Use of Art Service

First Place..... Special Section

Third Place Bill Payne Award

News Graphic, Cedarburg

First Place..... Sports News Story

Second Place Feature (Non-profile)

Second Place Overall Page Design

Honorable Mention..... Local Sports Column

Honorable Mention..... Open Records/FOI Award

Chilton Times-Journal, Chilton

Third Place Best Restaurant Ad

Honorable Mention..... Best Advertising Sales Tool

Honorable Mention..... Best Real Estate Ad

The Chippewa Herald, Chippewa Falls

First Place..... Feature (Profile)

First Place..... Local Sports Column

First Place..... Reporting on Local Education

Second Place Local Sports Column

Second Place Sports Page or Section

Second Place Sports Photo

Honorable Mention..... Sports Feature

Clintonville Chronicle

First Place..... Investigative Reporting

First Place..... Ongoing/Extended Coverage

Second Place Best Newspaper Promotion

Second Place Investigative Reporting

Third Place Best Use of Local Photography

Third Place Feature Photo

Third Place General News Photo

Third Place Investigative Reporting

Third Place Portrait or Artistic Photo

Third Place Special Section

Third Place Sports Feature

Clintonville Tribune Gazette

First Place..... Sports News Story

Second Place Front Page

Second Place General News Story

Second Place Ongoing/Extended Coverage

Second Place Portrait or Artistic Photo

Second Place Reporting on Local Education

Second Place Spot News Photo

Third Place Best Niche Publication - Out of Paper

Third Place Ongoing/Extended Coverage

Honorable Mention..... All-Around Newspaper Photography

Honorable Mention..... Best Special Section

Honorable Mention..... General Excellence

Honorable Mention..... Open Records/FOI Award

Honorable Mention..... Spot News Photo

Columbus Journal

First Place..... Business Coverage

First Place..... Digital Project

Second Place Feature (Non-profile)

Third Place Front Page

Third Place Reporting on Local Education

Honorable Mention..... Local Column

Honorable Mention..... Reporting on Local Government

Honorable Mention..... Video

Courier Sentinel

First Place..... Spot News Photo

DeForest Times-Tribune

Second Place Breaking News Coverage

Kettle Moraine Index, Dousman

First Place..... Sports Photo

Honorable Mention..... Feature (Non-profile)

Honorable Mention..... Feature (Profile)

Vilas County News-Review, Eagle River

First Place..... Best Real Estate Ad

First Place..... Best Use of Color

First Place..... Bill Payne Award

First Place..... Community Service Award

First Place..... Editorial Page or Section

First Place..... Local Outdoor Column

First Place..... Special Section

Second Place Best Advertising Sales Tool

Second Place Best Multiple Advertiser Spread

Second Place Best Restaurant Ad

Second Place General News Photo

Second Place Portrait or Artistic Photo

Second Place Spot News Photo

Third Place All-Around Newspaper Photography

Third Place Best Multiple Advertiser Spread

Third Place Best Special Section

Third Place General News Photo

Third Place Sports News Story

Honorable Mention..... Best Newspaper Promotion

Honorable Mention..... Best Use of Art Service

Honorable Mention..... Best Use of Color

Honorable Mention..... Special Section

Honorable Mention..... Sports Photo

Honorable Mention..... Spot News Photo

Leader-Telegram, Eau Claire

First Place..... Best Ad Idea (Series)

First Place..... Best Advertising Sales Tool

First Place..... Best Grocery Ad

First Place..... Best Use of Art Service

First Place..... Local Column

First Place..... Reporting on Local Education

Second Place Best Newspaper Promotion

Second Place Best Online Advertising
- Single Ad- Static

Second Place Breaking News Coverage

Second Place Feature (Profile)

Second Place Innovative Online
Advertising

Second Place Overall Page Design

Third Place Best Restaurant Ad

Third Place Feature (Non-profile)

Third Place Ongoing/Extended Coverage

Third Place Open Records/FOI Award

Third Place Page Design - Sports

Third Place Spot News Photo

Third Place Video

Honorable Mention Best Niche
Publication - Out of Paper

Honorable Mention Best Online
Advertising - Single Ad- Animated

Honorable Mention Best Use of Color

Honorable Mention Feature (Profile)

Honorable Mention Special Section

Honorable Mention Sports Feature

Honorable Mention Sports Page or Section

The Country Today, Eau Claire

First Place Business Coverage

First Place Environmental
Reporting Award

Second Place Headlines

Third Place Editorial Award

Honorable Mention Feature (Non-profile)

Honorable Mention Page Design - Feature

The Record-Review, Edgar

First Place Editorial Award

Second Place Breaking News Coverage

Second Place Reporting on Local
Government

Honorable Mention Feature (Profile)

Pierce County Herald, Ellsworth

First Place Investigative Reporting

First Place Ongoing/Extended Coverage

Second Place Best Multiple
Advertiser Spread

Third Place Breaking News Coverage

Honorable Mention Feature Photo

Fennimore Times

First Place Photo Essay

First Place Spot News Photo

Second Place Best Ad Idea (Series)

Second Place Sports News Story

Honorable Mention Breaking
News Coverage

The Reporter, Fond du Lac

First Place Best Online Advertising
- Single Ad- Animated

First Place Feature Photo

First Place Ongoing/Extended Coverage

Second Place Best Use of Color

Second Place Reporting on
Local Education

Second Place Video

Third Place Photo Essay

Third Place Sports Feature

Honorable Mention Best Ad Idea (Series)

Honorable Mention Feature (Non-profile)

Honorable Mention Sports Photo

Honorable Mention Video

Daily Jefferson County Union, Fort Atkinson

First Place Investigative Reporting

First Place Spot News Photo

Second Place Spot News Photo

Third Place General News Story

Third Place Local Sports Column

Third Place Sports Feature

Honorable Mention Front Page

Honorable Mention Local Column

Honorable Mention Local Sports Column

Honorable Mention Special Section

Franklin-Greendale-Hales Corners-Oak Creek Now

Second Place "Rookie" Reporter of the Year

Second Place Digital Project

Second Place General Excellence

Third Place Feature Photo

Third Place Video

Inter-County Leader, Frederic

Second Place Enterprise/Interpretive
Reporting

Second Place Local Outdoor Column

Third Place Sports Page or Section

Honorable Mention Editorial Award

Crawford County Independent & The Kickapoo Scout, Gays Mills

First Place Environmental Reporting
Award

First Place General News Story

First Place Portrait or Artistic Photo

First Place Sports Feature

Second Place Feature Photo

Second Place General News Photo

Second Place Local Column

Second Place Photo Essay

Third Place Feature (Non-profile)

Third Place General News Story

Third Place Local Column

Honorable Mention Environmental
Reporting Award

Honorable Mention Headlines

Honorable Mention Investigative Reporting

Honorable Mention Photo Essay

Honorable Mention Reporting on Local
Education

Germantown-Menomonee Falls Now

First Place Front Page

First Place Local Column

First Place Local Sports Column

Third Place Page Design - Feature

Third Place Photo Essay

Burnett County Sentinel, Grantsburg

Second Place Special Section

Green Bay Press-Gazette

First Place Best Multiple Advertiser Spread

First Place Best Niche Publication
- In Paper

First Place Best Niche Publication - Out of
Paper

First Place Best Online Advertising - Single

Ad- Animated

First Place Best Restaurant Ad

First Place Best Use of Local Photography

First Place Business Coverage

First Place Editorial Page or Section

First Place Feature (Non-profile)

First Place Front Page

First Place Innovative Online Advertising

First Place Lifestyle Page or Section

First Place Reporting on Local
Government

First Place Social Media Journalism

First Place Sports News Story

First Place Sports Page or Section

Second Place Best Advertising Sales Tool
Second Place Best Niche Publication
- In Paper

Second Place Best Niche Publication
- Out of Paper

Second Place Best Real Estate Ad

Second Place Best Restaurant Ad

Second Place Best Use of Color

Second Place Best Use of Local
Photography

Second Place Bill Payne Award

Second Place Digital Project

Second Place Reporting on
Local Education

Third Place Best Ad Idea (Series)

Third Place Best Advertising Sales Tool

Third Place Best Niche Publication
- In Paper

Third Place Best Niche Publication - Out of
Paper

Third Place Best Online Advertising
- Single Ad- Animated

Third Place Best Online Advertising
- Single Ad- Static

Third Place Best Special Section

Third Place Best Use of Art Service

Third Place Best Use of Color

Third Place Best Use of Local Photography

Third Place Bill Payne Award

Third Place Business Coverage

Third Place Community Service Award

Third Place Environmental Reporting
Award

Third Place Feature (Profile)

Third Place General Excellence

Third Place General News Story

Third Place Local Outdoor Column

Third Place Special Section

Third Place Sports Feature

Honorable Mention Best Advertising Sales
Tool

Honorable Mention Best Grocery Ad

Honorable Mention Best Real Estate Ad

Honorable Mention Best Restaurant Ad

Honorable Mention Best Special Section

Honorable Mention Best Use of Art Service

Honorable Mention Best Website

Honorable Mention Bill Payne Award

Honorable Mention Environmental
Reporting Award

Greenfield-West Allis Now

Third Place Enterprise/Interpretive
Reporting

Third Place Ongoing/Extended Coverage

Lake Country Reporter, Hartland

First Place Best Website

First Place Page Design - Sports

First Place Sports Photo

First Place Spot News Photo

Second Place All-Around Newspaper
Photography

Second Place Community Service Award

Second Place Feature Photo

Second Place Local Column

Second Place Open Records/FOI Award

Second Place Sports News Story

Third Place Digital Project

Third Place Feature (Profile)

Third Place Headlines

Third Place Open Records/FOI Award
Reporting on Local
Government

Honorable Mention Digital Project

Honorable Mention Enterprise/Interpretive
Reporting

Honorable Mention Ongoing/Extended
Coverage

Sawyer County Record, Hayward

First Place Investigative Reporting

Third Place Overall Page Design

Hudson Star-Observer

Second Place Investigative Reporting

Honorable Mention General Excellence

Daily Globe, Ironwood

First Place Environmental Reporting
Award

First Place Special Section

Second Place Breaking News Coverage

Second Place Front Page

Honorable Mention General News Photo

The Gazette, Janesville

First Place Best Advertising Sales Tool

First Place Best Circulation Promotion

First Place Best Newspaper Promotion

First Place Best Online Advertising
- Single Ad- Static

First Place Best Restaurant Ad

First Place Best Use of Color

First Place Best Use of Local Photography

First Place Best Website

First Place General News Photo

First Place General News Story

First Place Innovative Online Advertising

First Place Local Outdoor Column

First Place Local Sports Column

First Place Portrait or Artistic Photo
Reporting on Local
Government

First Place Sports News Story

First Place Sports Page or Section

First Place Spot News Photo

Second Place Best Ad Idea (Series)

Second Place Best Advertising Sales Tool

Second Place Best Circulation Promotion

Second Place Best Grocery Ad

Second Place Best Multiple Advertiser
Spread

Second Place Best Newspaper Promotion

Second Place Best Online Advertising - Single Ad- Animated
 Second Place Best Online Advertising - Single Ad- Static
 Second Place Best Restaurant Ad
 Second Place Best Special Section
 Second Place Best Use of Local Photography
 Second Place Bill Payne Award
 Second Place Environmental Reporting Award
 Second Place Feature Photo
 Second Place Innovative Online Advertising
 Second Place Local Outdoor Column
 Second Place Open Records/FOI Award
 Second Place Portrait or Artistic Photo
 Second Place Reporting on Local Government
 Second Place Sports Photo
 Third Place All-Around Newspaper Photography
 Third Place Best Advertising Sales Tool
 Third Place Best Niche Publication - Out of Paper
 Third Place Best Online Advertising - Single Ad- Animated
 Third Place Best Online Advertising - Single Ad- Static
 Third Place Best Special Section
 Third Place Best Use of Art Service
 Third Place Best Use of Local Photography
 Third Place Bill Payne Award
 Third Place Editorial Award
 Third Place Feature (Non-profile)
 Third Place General News Photo
 Third Place Innovative Online Advertising
 Third Place Local Sports Column
 Third Place Reporting on Local Education
 Third Place Spot News Photo
 Honorable Mention Best Advertising Sales Tool
 Honorable Mention Best Multiple Advertiser Spread
 Honorable Mention Best Niche Publication - In Paper
 Honorable Mention Best Niche Publication - Out of Paper
 Honorable Mention Best Restaurant Ad
 Honorable Mention Best Use of Art Service
 Honorable Mention Bill Payne Award
 Honorable Mention Business Coverage
 Honorable Mention Feature (Profile)
 Honorable Mention General News Photo
 Honorable Mention Innovative Online Advertising
 Honorable Mention Investigative Reporting
 Honorable Mention Ongoing/Extended Coverage
 Honorable Mention Portrait or Artistic Photo
 Honorable Mention Special Section

Kenosha News
 First Place Bill Payne Award
 First Place Breaking News Coverage
 First Place Local Sports Column
 First Place Page Design - Sports
 First Place Special Section
 Second Place Best Special Section

Second Place Best Use of Art Service
 Second Place General Excellence
 Second Place Headlines
 Third Place Best Newspaper Promotion
 Third Place Best Real Estate Ad
 Third Place Digital Project
 Third Place Page Design - Feature
 Third Place Sports Page or Section
 Honorable Mention Best Ad Idea (Series)
 Honorable Mention Feature Photo
 Honorable Mention General News Photo
 Honorable Mention Portrait or Artistic Photo

La Crosse Tribune
 Second Place Local Column
 Second Place Local Sports Column
 Second Place Reporting on Local Government
 Second Place Sports Page or Section
 Third Place "Rookie" Reporter of the Year
 Third Place Feature Photo
 Third Place General News Photo
 Third Place Reporting on Local Government
 Honorable Mention Local Column

Lake Geneva Regional News
 First Place Best Multiple Advertiser Spread
 First Place Best Niche Publication - In Paper
 First Place Best Niche Publication - Out of Paper
 First Place Best Use of Local Photography
 First Place Editorial Page or Section
 First Place Headlines
 First Place Innovative Online Advertising
 First Place Open Records/FOI Award
 First Place Sports Feature
 First Place Sports Page or Section
 Second Place All-Around Newspaper Photography
 Second Place Environmental Reporting Award
 Second Place Local Sports Column
 Second Place Page Design - Sports
 Third Place Editorial Award
 Third Place Enterprise/Interpretive Reporting
 Third Place Environmental Reporting Award
 Third Place Local Column
 Third Place Spot News Photo
 Honorable Mention Best Niche Publication - Out of Paper
 Honorable Mention Enterprise/Interpretive Reporting
 Honorable Mention Photo Essay

Grant County Herald Independent, Lancaster
 First Place Best Use of Color
 Second Place Bill Payne Award
 Third Place Best Ad Idea (Series)
 Honorable Mention Best Multiple Advertiser Spread
 Honorable Mention Best Use of Color

The Capital Times, Madison

First Place "Rookie" Reporter of the Year
 First Place Investigative Reporting
 Second Place Best Website
 Second Place Social Media Journalism
 Third Place Breaking News Coverage
 Third Place Editorial Page or Section
 Honorable Mention Editorial Award
 Honorable Mention Photo Essay

Wisconsin State Journal, Madison
 First Place Best Newspaper Promotion
 First Place Digital Project
 First Place Enterprise/Interpretive Reporting
 First Place Environmental Reporting Award
 First Place Feature Photo
 First Place General Excellence
 First Place General News Story
 First Place Graphics
 First Place Page Design - Feature
 First Place Portrait or Artistic Photo
 First Place Spot News Photo
 Second Place All-Around Newspaper Photography
 Second Place Business Coverage
 Second Place Editorial Page or Section
 Second Place Feature (Non-profile)
 Second Place Feature Photo
 Second Place General News Photo
 Second Place General News Story
 Second Place Open Records/FOI Award
 Second Place Photo Essay
 Second Place Portrait or Artistic Photo
 Second Place Sports Feature
 Second Place Sports Photo
 Third Place Editorial Award
 Third Place Enterprise/Interpretive Reporting
 Third Place Graphics
 Third Place Lifestyle Page or Section
 Third Place Local Column
 Third Place Photo Essay
 Honorable Mention Enterprise/Interpretive Reporting
 Honorable Mention Feature (Non-profile)
 Honorable Mention Graphics
 Honorable Mention Investigative Reporting
 Honorable Mention Open Records/FOI Award
 Honorable Mention Reporting on Local Education
 Honorable Mention Sports News Story
 Honorable Mention Video

Herald Times Reporter, Manitowoc
 First Place Lifestyle Page or Section
 Second Place Business Coverage
 Second Place Headlines
 Second Place Sports Feature
 Honorable Mention Editorial Award
 Honorable Mention Photo Essay

EagleHerald, Marinette
 Second Place Editorial Award

Marshfield News-Herald
 First Place Feature (Profile)
 First Place General Excellence

First Place Investigative Reporting
 First Place Photo Essay
 Second Place General News Story
 Third Place Reporting on Local Government
 Honorable Mention Open Records/FOI Award

Juneau County Star-Times, Mauston
 First Place Reporting on Local Education
 Second Place Investigative Reporting

Dodge County Pioneer, Mayville
 First Place "Rookie" Reporter of the Year
 First Place Special Section
 Second Place Best Niche Publication - In Paper
 Honorable Mention Special Section

The Star News, Medford
 First Place Best Restaurant Ad
 First Place Best Use of Art Service
 First Place Best Use of Local Photography
 First Place Breaking News Coverage
 First Place Reporting on Local Government
 Second Place Best Circulation Promotion
 Second Place Editorial Award
 Second Place Editorial Page or Section
 Second Place Feature (Profile)
 Second Place Sports Feature
 Second Place Sports Page or Section
 Third Place Best Newspaper Promotion
 Third Place Local Sports Column
 Third Place Special Section
 Honorable Mention Best Niche Publication - Out of Paper
 Honorable Mention Social Media Journalism

The Dunn County News, Menomonie
 First Place General News Story
 Second Place General Excellence
 Second Place Spot News Photo
 Third Place Local Outdoor Column
 Honorable Mention Front Page

Foto News, Merrill
 Third Place Best Niche Publication - Out of Paper

Merrill Courier
 Third Place Enterprise/Interpretive Reporting

Milton Courier
 First Place Sports Photo
 Honorable Mention Sports Feature
 Honorable Mention Sports Page or Section

The Daily Reporter, Milwaukee
 Second Place Digital Project
 Second Place Feature Photo
 Second Place General News Story
 Third Place Digital Project
 Honorable Mention General News Story

The Lakeland Times, Minocqua
 First Place Best Ad Idea (Series)
 First Place Best Advertising Sales Tool

First Place..... Best Newspaper Promotion
 First Place..... Best Niche Publication - In Paper
 First Place..... Best Niche Publication - Out of Paper
 First Place..... Best Special Section
 First Place..... Feature (Profile)
 First Place..... Feature Photo
 First Place..... General Excellence
 First Place..... Graphics
 First Place..... Open Records/FOI Award
 First Place..... Overall Page Design
 First Place..... Page Design - Feature
 First Place..... Photo Essay
 First Place..... Sports Feature
 Second Place..... Best Newspaper Promotion
 Second Place..... Best Niche Publication - In Paper
 Second Place..... Best Real Estate Ad
 Second Place..... Best Use of Local Photography
 Second Place..... Bill Payne Award
 Second Place..... Environmental Reporting Award
 Second Place..... Front Page
 Second Place..... Ongoing/Extended Coverage
 Second Place..... Page Design - Sports
 Third Place..... "Rookie" Reporter of the Year
 Third Place..... Best Advertising Sales Tool
 Third Place..... Best Use of Art Service
 Third Place..... Best Use of Color
 Third Place..... Lifestyle Page or Section
 Honorable Mention..... All-Around Newspaper Photography
 Honorable Mention..... Best Grocery Ad
 Honorable Mention..... Best Restaurant Ad
 Honorable Mention..... Community Service Award
 Honorable Mention..... Environmental Reporting Award
 Honorable Mention..... Feature Photo
 Honorable Mention..... Photo Essay
 Honorable Mention..... Portrait or Artistic Photo

The Monroe Times

First Place..... Best Niche Publication - Out of Paper
 First Place..... Bill Payne Award
 First Place..... Front Page
 First Place..... Sports Photo
 Second Place..... Page Design - Sports
 Third Place..... General News Photo
 Third Place..... Headlines
 Third Place..... Overall Page Design
 Third Place..... Photo Essay
 Third Place..... Reporting on Local Education
 Honorable Mention..... Environmental Reporting Award
 Honorable Mention..... Feature (Non-profile)
 Honorable Mention..... Feature (Profile)

Mukwonago Chief

Second Place..... Feature (Non-profile)
 Second Place..... Sports Photo
 Third Place..... Feature Photo
 Third Place..... Ongoing/Extended Coverage
 Third Place..... Sports Feature
 Honorable Mention..... Breaking News

Coverage
 Honorable Mention..... Sports Photo

Muskego-New Berlin Now

First Place..... Reporting on Local Education
 Third Place..... Environmental Reporting Award

New London Press Star

First Place..... General Excellence
 First Place..... Reporting on Local Education
 Second Place..... All-Around Newspaper Photography
 Third Place..... Breaking News Coverage
 Third Place..... Business Coverage
 Third Place..... Spot News Photo
 Honorable Mention..... Feature Photo
 Honorable Mention..... Sports Feature

New Richmond News

First Place..... Best Online Advertising - Single Ad - Animated
 First Place..... Feature Photo
 First Place..... Photo Essay
 Second Place..... Best Online Advertising - Single Ad - Static
 Second Place..... Local Column
 Second Place..... Open Records/FOI Award
 Third Place..... Best Use of Color
 Third Place..... Special Section
 Honorable Mention..... Lifestyle Page or Section

North Shore Now

Second Place..... Local Sports Column
 Second Place..... Page Design - Feature
 Honorable Mention..... Local Column
 Honorable Mention..... Overall Page Design

Oconomowoc Focus

First Place..... Breaking News Coverage
 First Place..... Local Column
 First Place..... Sports Page or Section
 Second Place..... Environmental Reporting Award
 Second Place..... Special Section
 Second Place..... Sports Feature
 Second Place..... Sports Photo
 Third Place..... Page Design - Sports
 Third Place..... Photo Essay
 Honorable Mention..... Ongoing/Extended Coverage
 Honorable Mention..... Portrait or Artistic Photo
 Honorable Mention..... Sports News Story

Oconto County Reporter, Oconto Falls

First Place..... Feature (Non-profile)
 First Place..... General News Story

The Oregon Observer

First Place..... General Excellence
 Second Place..... General News Photo
 Third Place..... All-Around Newspaper Photography
 Honorable Mention..... General News Story
 Honorable Mention..... Reporting on Local Education

The Sun, Osceola

First Place..... Enterprise/Interpretive Reporting
 First Place..... Feature (Non-profile)
 Second Place..... Best Website
 Third Place..... Best Real Estate Ad
 Third Place..... Reporting on Local Government
 Honorable Mention..... Business Coverage
 Honorable Mention..... Sports Page or Section

Oshkosh Northwestern

First Place..... Best Ad Idea (Series)
 First Place..... Open Records/FOI Award
 Third Place..... Feature (Profile)
 Third Place..... General Excellence
 Third Place..... Investigative Reporting

Price County Review, Phillips

First Place..... All-Around Newspaper Photography
 Third Place..... Local Column

The Platteville Journal

Second Place..... Best Use of Art Service
 Second Place..... Editorial Page or Section
 Third Place..... Best Multiple Advertiser Spread
 Third Place..... Overall Page Design
 Honorable Mention..... Best Ad Idea (Series)
 Honorable Mention..... Bill Payne Award

Portage Daily Register

Second Place..... Best Niche Publication - Out of Paper
 Second Place..... Feature (Profile)
 Third Place..... Business Coverage
 Third Place..... Environmental Reporting Award
 Third Place..... Reporting on Local Government
 Third Place..... Spot News Photo
 Honorable Mention..... General Excellence
 Honorable Mention..... Spot News Photo

Courier Press, Prairie du Chien

First Place..... Ongoing/Extended Coverage
 First Place..... Social Media Journalism
 Second Place..... Best Use of Art Service
 Third Place..... Bill Payne Award
 Third Place..... Spot News Photo
 Honorable Mention..... Best Special Section
 Honorable Mention..... Bill Payne Award

The Journal Times, Racine

First Place..... Sports Feature
 First Place..... Sports Photo
 Second Place..... "Rookie" Reporter of the Year
 Second Place..... Editorial Award
 Second Place..... Special Section
 Second Place..... Sports News Story
 Third Place..... Local Sports Column
 Third Place..... Portrait or Artistic Photo
 Honorable Mention..... Lifestyle Page or Section
 Honorable Mention..... Reporting on Local Government
 Honorable Mention..... Spot News Photo

Reedsburg Independent

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

Reedsburg Times Press

Second Place..... Enterprise/Interpretive Reporting
 Second Place..... Sports Page or Section
 Honorable Mention..... Enterprise/Interpretive Reporting

The Northwoods River News, Rhinelander

First Place..... Best Real Estate Ad
 First Place..... General News Photo
 First Place..... Overall Page Design
 First Place..... Page Design - Sports
 First Place..... Portrait or Artistic Photo
 Second Place..... Best Niche Publication - Out of Paper
 Second Place..... Headlines
 Second Place..... Page Design - Feature
 Third Place..... Best Niche Publication - In Paper
 Third Place..... General Excellence
 Third Place..... Local Sports Column
 Third Place..... Reporting on Local Government

Honorable Mention..... Best Niche Publication - In Paper

Honorable Mention..... General News Photo
 Honorable Mention..... Graphics
 Honorable Mention..... Ongoing/Extended Coverage

Honorable Mention..... Portrait or Artistic Photo

The Chronotype, Rice Lake

First Place..... Editorial Award
 First Place..... Headlines
 Second Place..... Sports Photo
 Third Place..... Editorial Page or Section
 Third Place..... Feature (Non-profile)
 Third Place..... Page Design - Sports
 Honorable Mention..... Best Multiple Advertiser Spread

The Ripon Commonwealth Press

First Place..... Best Ad Idea (Series)
 First Place..... Best Circulation Promotion
 First Place..... Best Grocery Ad
 First Place..... Best Newspaper Promotion
 First Place..... Best Online Advertising - Single Ad - Static
 First Place..... Bill Payne Award
 First Place..... Business Coverage
 First Place..... Environmental Reporting Award

First Place..... Page Design - Feature
 Second Place..... Best Grocery Ad
 Second Place..... Best Real Estate Ad
 Second Place..... Best Restaurant Ad
 Second Place..... Best Use of Color
 Second Place..... Editorial Award
 Second Place..... Enterprise/Interpretive Reporting
 Second Place..... Feature Photo
 Second Place..... Graphics
 Second Place..... Innovative Online Advertising

Third Place..... Best Circulation Promotion
 Third Place..... Best Online Advertising - Single Ad - Static

Third Place Best Use of Art Service
 Third Place Best Website
 Third Place Community Service Award
 Third Place Graphics
 Third Place Headlines
 Third Place Investigative Reporting
 Third Place Portrait or Artistic Photo
 Third Place Sports News Story
 Third Place Sports Photo
 Honorable Mention All-Around
 Newspaper Photography
 Honorable Mention Best Use of Local
 Photography
 Honorable Mention Page Design - Sports

River Falls Journal

First Place Best Special Section
 First Place Best Use of Art Service
 First Place Feature (Profile)
 First Place Front Page
 Second Place Best Use of Local
 Photography
 Second Place Reporting on Local Education
 Third Place Editorial Page or Section
 Third Place General News Story

Sauk Prairie Eagle, Sauk City

First Place.. All-Around Newspaper Photography
 Second Place..... General Excellence
 Third Place..... Best Special Section

The Sheboygan Press

First Place..... Business Coverage
 Second Place..... Feature (Non-profile)
 Third Place..... Breaking News Coverage
 Third Place..... General News Story
 Third Place..... Ongoing/Extended Coverage
 Honorable Mention “Rookie” Reporter
 of the Year

Washburn County Register, Shell Lake

First Place..... Feature Photo
 First Place..... General News Photo
 Third Place All-Around Newspaper Photography
 Third Place..... General Excellence
 Honorable Mention Front Page

Monroe County Herald, Sparta

First Place..... Best Multiple Advertiser Spread
 Second Place..... Breaking News Coverage
 Second Place..... Reporting on Local
 Government
 Third Place..... Best Grocery Ad
 Third Place..... Best Restaurant Ad
 Third Place..... Business Coverage
 Honorable Mention Headlines

Spooner Advocate

First Place..... Local Sports Column
 Second Place..... Overall Page Design
 Third Place..... General News Photo
 Third Place..... Page Design - Feature
 Third Place..... Sports Page or Section

Stevens Point Journal

First Place..... Feature (Non-profile)
 First Place..... General Excellence
 First Place..... General News Story
 First Place..... Reporting on Local

Government
 First Place..... Sports Feature
 First Place..... Sports News Story
 First Place..... Video
 Second Place... Enterprise/Interpretive Reporting
 Second Place..... Investigative Reporting
 Third Place..... Feature (Profile)
 Third Place..... Special Section
 Honorable Mention Digital Project
 Honorable Mention Reporting on Local
 Education

The Portage County Gazette, Stevens Point

First Place..... General News Photo
 Second Place..... Best Ad Idea (Series)
 Second Place..... Best Use of Color
 Third Place..... Best Use of Local Photography
 Honorable Mention Local Outdoor
 Column

The Stoughton Courier Hub

First Place..... Reporting on Local
 Government
 Second Place..... Front Page
 Second Place..... General News Story
 Second Place..... Photo Essay
 Honorable Mention General Excellence

Door County Advocate, Sturgeon Bay

First Place..... Enterprise/Interpretive
 Reporting
 First Place..... Sports Page or Section
 Second Place..... Special Section
 Third Place..... Front Page
 Third Place..... General Excellence
 Third Place..... Sports Photo
 Honorable Mention General News Story
 Honorable Mention Sports Feature
 Honorable Mention Sports News Story

The Star, Sun Prairie

Second Place..... Feature (Profile)
 Second Place..... Sports Page or Section
 Third Place..... Open Records/FOI Award
 Honorable Mention Sports News Story

Superior Telegram

First Place..... Portrait or Artistic Photo
 Third Place..... Portrait or Artistic Photo
 Third Place..... Reporting on Local Education

Sussex Sun

Third Place..... Sports Page or Section
 Honorable Mention General News Photo

The Valders Journal

First Place.. All-Around Newspaper Photography
 First Place..... Breaking News Coverage
 First Place..... Enterprise/Interpretive
 Reporting
 Second Place..... Best Special Section
 Second Place..... Sports Feature
 Third Place..... Business Coverage
 Third Place..... Photo Essay

The Verona Press

First Place..... Sports News Story
 Second Place..... Ongoing/Extended Coverage
 Second Place..... Portrait or Artistic Photo

Third Place..... Feature (Profile)
 Third Place..... Front Page
 Third Place..... Reporting on Local Education
 Honorable Mention Reporting on Local
 Government

Washington Island Observer

Second Place..... Reporting on Local
 Government

Watertown Daily Times

First Place.. All-Around Newspaper Photography
 First Place..... Feature Photo
 First Place..... General News Photo
 First Place..... Headlines
 First Place..... Photo Essay
 First Place..... Portrait or Artistic Photo
 Second Place..... Environmental Reporting
 Award

Second Place..... General Excellence
 Second Place..... General News Photo
 Second Place..... Photo Essay
 Second Place..... Portrait or Artistic Photo
 Second Place..... Reporting on Local Education
 Second Place..... Special Section
 Second Place..... Sports News Story
 Third Place..... Feature (Non-profile)
 Third Place..... Feature Photo
 Third Place..... Front Page
 Third Place..... Portrait or Artistic Photo
 Third Place..... Sports Photo
 Honorable Mention Breaking News
 Coverage
 Honorable Mention Enterprise/Interpretive
 Reporting
 Honorable Mention Feature Photo
 Honorable Mention Portrait or Artistic
 Photo
 Honorable Mention Sports Page or Section

The Freeman, Waukesha

First Place..... Best Multiple Advertiser Spread
 First Place..... Best Real Estate Ad
 First Place..... Best Special Section
 First Place..... Best Use of Art Service
 First Place..... Sports Feature
 Second Place..... Feature (Profile)
 Second Place..... General Excellence
 Third Place..... Best Restaurant Ad
 Honorable Mention Best Special Section
 Honorable Mention Enterprise/
 Interpretive Reporting

Waukesha Now

Second Place..... Business Coverage
 Second Place..... Social Media Journalism
 Third Place..... Sports Feature
 Honorable Mention Feature (Profile)

The Waunakee Tribune

Second Place..... Business Coverage
 Honorable Mention Feature (Non-profile)
 Honorable Mention Spot News Photo

Waupaca County Post, Waupaca

Second Place..... General News Story

Wausau Daily Herald

First Place Feature (Non-profile)

First Place Local Column
 First Place Reporting on Local Education
 First Place Special Section
 Second Place..... Local Column
 Second Place..... Ongoing/Extended Coverage
 Second Place..... Sports News Story
 Third Place Sports Photo
 Honorable Mention Spot News Photo

Wauwata Argus, Wautoma

Second Place..... Best Niche Publication
 - Out of Paper

Wauwatosa Now

First Place Video
 Second Place..... Photo Essay
 Second Place..... Video
 Third Place Breaking News Coverage
 Third Place Social Media Journalism
 Honorable Mention “Rookie” Reporter
 of the Year
 Honorable Mention ... Breaking News Coverage
 Honorable Mention General News Photo
 Honorable Mention Reporting on Local
 Education

Daily News, West Bend

First Place Best Niche Publication - Out of
 Paper
 First Place Sports Photo
 Second Place..... All-Around Newspaper
 Photography
 Second Place..... Best Niche Publication
 - In Paper
 Second Place..... Best Use of Art Service
 Second Place..... Enterprise/
 Interpretive Reporting
 Second Place..... General News Photo
 Second Place..... Photo Essay
 Second Place..... Spot News Photo
 Third Place Best Ad Idea (Series)
 Third Place Best Circulation Promotion
 Third Place Best Grocery Ad
 Third Place Best Newspaper Promotion
 Third Place Best Use of Color
 Third Place Front Page
 Third Place Local Column
 Third Place Portrait or Artistic Photo
 Third Place Sports News Story
 Honorable Mention Reporting on Local
 Government

The Coulee News, West Salem

Second Place..... Feature (Profile)

Trempealeau County Times, Whitehall

Second Place..... Best Special Section

Daily Tribune, Wisconsin Rapids

First Place Breaking News Coverage
 Third Place Best Website
 Third Place Enterprise/Interpretive
 Reporting
 Third Place Environmental Reporting
 Award
 Third Place Open Records/FOI Award
 Third Place Social Media Journalism
 Third Place Video
 Honorable Mention General News Story

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Division D

First Place: *The Lakeland Times*, Minocqua: "Counting on you" – Jeremy Mayo. "Excellent piece that really dug deep into an issue that could deeply affect the writer's coverage area. Good use of graphics and just a lot of good information. It made me care about this topic, even though it doesn't affect me personally."

Second Place: *The Star News*, Medford: "The Rise and Fall of Daily Fantasy Sports" – Bryan Wegter. "Stellar layout and packaging of this story. Sometimes that masks some weak writing, but not in this case. I liked that the writer included a separate section on his own experiences with DFS. Info-Graphics were well used and interesting as well. You can tell the writer put a lot of work into it."

Third Place: *Waukesha Now*: "Tri and Tri Again" – JR Radcliffe. "Interesting story and insight on an elite athlete. I really liked the use of the breakout boxes and the '3' theme."

Honorable Mention: *Door County Advocate*, Sturgeon Bay: "Destroyer's star down, but not out" – Mike Shaw. "I really liked both entries from the Door County Advocate, but I gave the edge to this one. The line 'the mixed bag of miseries' was one of my favorites in this category."

Division E

First Place: *Lake Geneva Regional News*: "Collision course" – David Michels. "Fantastic story of injury and recovery. This story was the clear winner of a VERY competitive field."

Second Place: *The Valders Journal*: "Kramer knew Starr's sneak would work in Ice Bowl" – Brian Thomsen. "Legendary Packer Jerry Kramer shares stories of his experiences with an eager audience. An excellent story!"

Third Place: *Mukwonago Chief*: "Behind Enemy Lines" – JR Radcliffe. "Quite good story on coaches who are fans of NFL teams other than the Packers. This is considered a sin in Wisconsin, but a sign of heroism in the rest of the country."

Honorable Mention: *Milton Courier*: "Saved by the (kettle)bell" – Michael Gouvion. "This story of a woman who lost 60 pounds in the sport of kettlebell hits all the right notes. Great!"

Division F

First Place: *Crawford County Independent* & *The Kickapoo Scout*, Gays Mills:

"Trapshooting becoming varsity sport" – Gillian Pomplun. "Good coverage of great sport. Good background material."

Second Place: *Oconomowoc Focus*: "Loving every minute of it" – Evan Frank. "He obviously enjoys these activities and good use of quotes to let him tell his own story."

Third Place: *Clintonville Chronicle*: "Reinke Receives National Award for Leadership, Values" – Emily Conroy. "Excellent piece about a person who is so much more than being an athlete."

Honorable Mention: *New London Press Star*: "Hortonville helmets monitor concussion signs" – Scott Bellile.

Local Sports Column

Division A

First Place: *Kenosha News*: "So what does the horse get?; But where will I get a Ferrari?; I can dream, can't I?" – Paul McKillip.

Second Place: *La Crosse Tribune*: "Todd Sommerfeldt for La Crosse Tribune" – Todd Sommerfeldt.

Third Place: *The Journal Times, Racine*: "WIAA must right a wrong; MU fans have seen the last of Ellenson; Butler Elite a real force" – Gery Woelfel.

Honorable Mention: *The Post-Crescent, Appleton*: "Ricardo Arguello columns" – Ricardo Arguello.

Division B

First Place: *The Gazette*, Janesville: "Eric Schmoltdt columns" – Eric Schmoltdt.

Second Place: *Beloit Daily News*: "Handy man will be missed this Christmas" – Jim Franz.

Third Place: *The Gazette*, Janesville: "Tom Miller columns" – Tom Miller.

Honorable Mention: *Beloit Daily News*: "Covering high school sports has special appeal; Cronin's comeback earns state trip; Pint-sized hoops can be challenge, but rewarding" – Josh Flickinger.

Division C

First Place: *The Chippewa Herald*, Chippewa Falls: "A lasting legacy; Area teams, fans not afraid to help; Steady hand" – Brandon Berg. "Excellent writing. I thought all three columns explored a finer detail of a bigger story and did so very well."

Second Place: *The Chippewa Herald*, Chippewa Falls: "Outrage over WIAA guidelines misplaced; Last year's Macks excited to watch state run; State title reunion

a showcase of baseball passion" – Ben Peterson. "Very well written. The column on the WIAA was my favorite of the three and of the contest. It took a stand (one that could be unpopular) but did so in a way that wasn't overly brash or condescending."

Third Place: *Daily Jefferson County Union*, Fort Atkinson: "Emotions ran high at State Wrestling; Keep up the fight, Chad; WIAA should set focus on other glaring matters" – Jeff Seisser.

Honorable Mention: *Daily Jefferson County Union*, Fort Atkinson: "Fort Generals took new reporter on a wild ride; Fort, its time to hire full-time Athletic Director; From Rose Bowl to Toilet Bowl: college postseason diluted" – Jacob Onak.

Division D

First Place: *Germantown-Menomonee Falls Now*: "From the Pressbox" – Steven L. Tietz. "You can tell the kind of relationships that he has with the individuals and coaches that he covers. The kind of 'behind the scenes' stories are the ones that I find the most interesting and he seems to have that down pretty well."

Second Place: *North Shore Now*: "From the Pressbox" – Steven L. Tietz. "Another good example of knowing the individuals he covers and developing relationships with those people. I found the column on race anxiety particularly interesting due to the stigma of mental health there seems to be these days."

Third Place: *The Star News*, Medford: "Matt's Bleacher Shots" – Matt Frey. "Nice columns, easy to read. I enjoyed the personal aspect of them."

Honorable Mention: *News Graphic*, Cedarburg: "Local Sports Column" – Aaron Carlson. "The columns were entertaining and fun. It seems like he has a good relationship with the people he covers."

Division E

First Place: *Spooner Advocate*: "Football is Back as Summer Days fade; In Ed Snell's Memory; WIAA attempt to muzzle cheers, chants off target" – Bill Thornley. "Really nice down-home writing style. Carries the reader through the story. Makes you understand where he is coming from. Strong entry. To the point. Easy to follow."

Second Place: *Lake Geneva Regional News*: "Lake Geneva Regional News Sports Columns" – David Michels. "Excellent writing style. Pulls you into the story and takes you all the way to the end with good storytelling technique."

Third Place: *The Northwoods River News*,

Rhineland: "Shoutouts & Callouts" – Jeremy Mayo. "Nicely stated opinion on WIAA issue about sportsmanship. Strong sentiments about stalling. Good column on becoming a sports parent."

Honorable Mention: *Burlington Standard Press*: "Sports Check column for 1/21/16; 2/18/16; 8/11/16" – Mike Ramczyk. "I like Mike Ramczyk's writing style. He's to the point and does not hold back on his opinion of the WIAA. I like the lessons he sends to his readers."

Local Outdoor Column

Daily

First Place: *The Gazette*, Janesville: "Outdoor columns for Anna Marie Lux" – Anna Marie Lux. "These stories focused on interesting, unusual subjects and featured good reporting as well as good writing."

Second Place: *The Gazette*, Janesville: "Ted Peck columns" – Ted Peck. "Description is often outstanding. Very vivid. But pieces tend to wander thematically and the reader is left to puzzle out the answers to lots of questions."

Third Place: *Green Bay Press-Gazette*: "Local Outdoor" – Patrick Durkin. "Some excellent research and sound persuasive writing. Most pieces about twice as long as they needed to be."

Weekly

First Place: *Vilas County News-Review*, Eagle River: "Youngster passes yet another hunting test, Sept. 23, 2015; Drumming grouse: one of nature's treasures, May 4, 2016; and Another year, more memories with Dad." – Kurt Krueger.

Second Place: *Inter-County Leader*, Frederic: "The Bottom Line" – Marty Seeger.

Third Place: *The Dunn County News*, Menomonie: "Chickadee Rex; It's not all black and white; True north" – Kenton Whitman.

Honorable Mention: *The Portage County Gazette*, Stevens Point: "Outdoor Central column" – Steve Hill.

All-Around Newspaper Photography

Division A

First Place: *The Post-Crescent*, Appleton: "Jan. 4, 2016; July 17, 2016; July 24, 2016" – Dan Powers, Wm. Glasheen, Danny

Damiani, Ron Page. “Photo selection is well rounded and quite powerful. The use of lighting really added to the overall entry in part 3. Usage of photos was remarkable, particularly the Packer’s cover in part 1.”

Second Place: *Wisconsin State Journal*, Madison: “09/13/2105; 06/26/2016; 07/17/2016” – Steve Apps, Amber Arnold, John Hart, M.P. King. “Excellent use of photos and great photo selection. Photographers worked closely with reporters to complete a meaningful report.”

Division B

First Place: *Watertown Daily Times*: “Nov. 9, 2015; Dec. 7, 2015; May 25, 2016” – Sarah Weihert, Heidi Schwoch, Tom Schultz, Becky Vosters, Hannah Becker, Michael Koller, Jake Batterman, Jenny Stapanik, Jenni Mickelson, Steve Sharp, Kevin Wilson, Dave Radcliffe. “The addition of solid breaking news coverage in the form of the train derailment significantly helped to demonstrate the Times photo department’s dedication to good photojournalism.”

Second Place: *Daily News*, West Bend: “All-Around Newspaper Photography” – John Ehlke. “Good solid individual entries, well played, helped define the Daily News’ effort to provide its reader’s good photography.”

Third Place: *The Gazette*, Janesville: “Gazette All Around Photography” – Angela Major, Anthony Wahl. “Solid election coverage earned the Gazette its third place overall standing.”

Honorable Mention: *Baraboo News Republic*: “All-Around Newspaper Photography” – Staff. “The Baraboo newspaper is striving for excellence with some solid photography in its pages.”

Division D

First Place: *Price County Review*, Phillips: “Price County Review - All-Around Newspaper Photography: 2015-11-19, 2016-07-07, 2016-08-11” – Seth Carlson, Anna Maria Hansen, Stephanie Daniels. “The plane shot is stellar: excellent composition, color and perspective. The other photos in this entry are technically fine but pretty tame. Still, the plane shot was enough to carry this entry to first.”

Second Place: *Lake Country Reporter*, Hartland: “All-Around Newspaper Photography: April 5, 2016; June 28, 2016; July 26, 2016” – Staff. “A solid selection of artistic shots without all the usual cliches. Shows technical mastery and a bit of daring.”

Third Place: *Vilas County News-Review*,

Eagle River: “Three complete two-section newspapers, from May 18, 2016; July 13, 2016; and Aug. 10, 2016.” – Staff. “The tubing shot leads this entry with an excellent capture of pure fun. You can almost hear them yelling. The other shots are less exciting, but solid nonetheless.”

Honorable Mention: *The Lakeland Times*, Minocqua: “All Around Newspaper Photography – Lakeland Times” – Staff. “Lots of potential here. Try filling the frame with the subject for more effect – particularly in the photo of the dancing Native men.”

Division E

First Place: *The Valdres Journal*: “The Valdres Journal” – Brian Thomsen. “Great photos. Each shows an intent to give the viewer something they haven’t seen a hundred times before. Several unique moments captured.”

Second Place: *Lake Geneva Regional News*: “Nov. 12, 2015; March 3, 2016; April 21, 2016” – John Halverson, Rob Ireland, David Michels, Chris Schultz, Jade Bolack, Steve Targo. “Engaging photos, each with obvious technical merit and a dose of artistry.”

Third Place: *The Oregon Observer*: “10/1/15; 2/25/16; 11/5/15” – Staff. “Despite some fairly commonplace subjects, the photog managed to find interesting angles and used daring compositions.”

Honorable Mention: *The Ripon Commonwealth Press*: “May 12, 2016; June 2, 2016; June 23, 2016” – Staff. “The crash photos are good, and they hold some shock value for the blood. I would have ranked this entry higher but for one problem: The inclusion of so many crash photos in the print version made it feel like a very long advertisement for the police and fire departments. Overall, good shots, but remember not to get carried away.”

Division F

First Place: *Sauk Prairie Eagle*, Sauk City: “All-Around Newspaper Photography” – Staff. “Very colorful photography. I love the dynamic shot of the buck for the CWD story. Great work.”

Second Place: *New London Press Star*: “Oct. 15, 2015; Jan. 7, 2016; Aug. 4, 2016” – Scott Bellile, John Faucher, Greg Seubert, Bert Lehman. “Very compelling photos. Plenty of children, smiling faces. Nice.”

Third Place: *Washburn County Register*, Shell Lake: “Sept. 30, 2015; July 6, 2016; July 13, 2016” – Staff. “Solid work. The red moon is fabulous.”

Honorable Mention: *Clintonville Tribune Gazette*: “Nov. 19, 2015; Aug. 4, 2016; & Aug. 18, 2016” – Bert Lehman, Scott Bellile, John Faucher, Jeff Hoffman. “Plenty of fantastic community photojournalism on display here.”

General News Photo

Division A

First Place: *The Post-Crescent*, Appleton: “Hard time coping” – Dan Powers. “Photographer’s access to this moment of grief took some time and trust building. Telling moment in which parent seems to be seeking solace and refuge in the child’s nearness.”

Second Place: *Wisconsin State Journal*, Madison: “Wisconsin Youth Symphony Orchestra” – Amber Arnold. “Whimsical moment. A little loose, but nice shot.”

Third Place: *La Crosse Tribune*: “High Rise” – Peter Thomson. “Well composed. Caught the right moment in this shot that feels abstract, almost like a Mondrian.”

Honorable Mention: *Kenosha News*: “Emotional hearing ends with 10-year term” – Kevin Poirier. “Moment of pain countered by the prosecutor’s dour face is painful to view. Makes me feel her hurt.”

Division B

First Place: *The Gazette*, Janesville: “Trump pumps ‘em up” – Anthony Wahl. “Great contrast between the candidate and crowd, showcasing him doing what he did best. Good use of selective focus.”

Second Place: *Daily News*, West Bend: “A memorable day in class” – John Ehlke. “Unique look at a unique situation. Good job capturing children in two different environments in one image.”

Third Place: *The Gazette*, Janesville: “Sneaking a Kiss at the Walworth County Fair” – Angela Major. “A very nice moment, cleanly composed.”

Honorable Mention: *The Gazette*, Janesville: “Digging out from season’s first snowstorm” – Anthony Wahl. “Very well composed, using the orange snowsuit to jump out to the viewer under snow-filled trees lining the street. Tells a nice story.”

Division C

First Place: *Watertown Daily Times*: “9/11 Silent Parade” – Emily Walsh. “Emotional, thought-provoking and very powerful. Congratulations.”

Second Place: *Watertown Daily Times*:

“Time to limbo” – Sarah Weihert. “Right place at the right time. Nice work and the patience shows.”

Third Place: *The Monroe Times*: “Marti Ordered to pay \$10K” – Marissa Weiher. “Powerful picture, sad story brought to life.”

Honorable Mention: *Daily Globe*, Ironwood: “Wisconsin 169 in Gurney was completely washed out.” – Jason Juno. “Excellent package showing the devastation.”

Division D

First Place: *The Portage County Gazette*, Stevens Point: “Archery girl” – Heather McDonald. “An amazing display of focus both the archer and photographer.”

Second Place: *Vilas County News-Review*, Eagle River: “Hold On” – Douglas Etten. “I wanted to be on this lake, too, having fun after viewing this photo”

Third Place: *Vilas County News-Review*, Eagle River: “Fire prevention week.” – Anthony Drew. “The eyes say it all. What a great capture of expressions.”

Honorable Mention: *Wauwatosa Now*: “Park opening” – Peter Zuzga. “Perfect timing!”

Division E

First Place: *The Northwoods River News*, Rhinelander: “Rainy bugler” – Jamie Taylor. “Nicely captures the bugler’s stoicism and sense of duty. Excellent resolution.”

Second Place: *The Oregon Observer*: “Crawly creatures” – Samantha Christian. “I am not sure what is funnier to me, the look on the girl’s face or that of the bearded dragon.”

Third Place: *Spooner Advocate*: “Swan” – Bill Thornley. “Brilliant!”

Honorable Mention: *The Northwoods River News*, Rhinelander: “Orlando victim prayer” – Kayla Breese. “Nice depth and color. Would have rated higher had face been more visible.”

Division F

First Place: *Washburn County Register*, Shell Lake: “Welcome back, Dad” – Larry Samson. “I cannot say enough about this photo, as I knew as soon as I saw this it was going to be the first place winner. This was the capturing of a priceless human moment. A great, great photo!”

Second Place: *Crawford County Independent & The Kickapoo Scout*, Gays Mills: “Fun in a wheelbarrow” – Charley Preusser. “When I saw this photo, I knew it was going to place, I just didn’t know how high as I had more to go through. I actually

found myself laughing out loud looking at the expressions and fun captured here. An extraordinary photo of an event which we, as photographers, shoot all the time! Excellent job!”

Third Place: *Clintonville Chronicle*: “Mouse in the House” – Greg Rose. “This photo was one of the final four that I had chosen for third place, and the competition was so good, it took me more than an hour to reach a decision over which ones I would choose, and which ones to eliminate. In the end, I chose this photo for third because of the look of wonder on Jett’s face. The photo was a really good capture, although I would have preferred it to be cropped in a lot more, with his face and the mouse taking up most of the space. Lots of deadspace around the edges, which I thought detracted from the great photo within the center. Great job!”

Honorable Mention: *Sussex Sun*: “Bubble boy” – Scott Ash. “This is one of the types of photos that I personally take on an annual basis – with a different subject. Love the water detail on this photo and the framing of it. Very, very tough choice for honorable mention!”

Spot News Photo

Division A

First Place: *Wisconsin State Journal*, Madison: “House Explosion” – John Hart. “The dramatic angle of the house explosion scene left no doubt in the reader’s mind just what happened. It takes a lot of initiative to make such photos. Sometimes they work out but better material is had by concentrating on faces of emergency workers. This one just works.”

Second Place: *The Post-Crescent*, Appleton: “Suspect in burglary of home jumps into river” – Dan Powers. “Great emotion was on display when the photographer managed to capture the foiled escape plans of the suspect. It’s hard to beat the old saying, f8 and be there.”

Third Place: *Leader-Telegram*, Eau Claire: “Displaced Memories” – Marisa Wojcik. “The photographer captured a unique moment in the aftermath of flood coverage. It takes a sharp eye to collectively tell the story of a family’s loss and little girl’s efforts to put it all back together again.”

Honorable Mention: *The Journal Times*, Racine: “Pedestrians struck” – Gregory Shaver. “The Keystone Cops moment captured in this investigation made the photo.”



Wisconsin State Journal, Madison, First Place, Division A, Spot News Photo

Division B

First Place: *The Gazette*, Janesville: “Highway 14 closed east of Emerald Grove on Wednesday afternoon” – Angela Major. “Wow. Lots going on, but the focus is clear. Excellent perspective and composition.”

Second Place: *Daily News*, West Bend: “Fatal crash in G’town” – John Ehlke. “Each of the large photos on the page works well, but the clear winner is the crash photo. It works on several levels. It’s technically strong, with the crash debris pointing like an arrow to the man. It’s also emotionally evocative, capturing a moment of utter grief.”

Third Place: *The Gazette*, Janesville: “House destroyed in town of Beloit fire” – Angela Major. “Wow. You can almost feel their disappointment. The photo has depth, both physically and emotionally.”

Honorable Mention: *Wausau Daily Herald*: “Ex-classmate: Antigo shooter was bullied” – Jacob Byk. “Good photos. It’s not easy to photograph tragedy like this. Would have ranked this entry higher, but the Dutch angle doesn’t really work in the lead shot. Save that for artsy shots and level the horizon for the serious stuff.”

Division C

First Place: *Daily Jefferson County Union*, Fort Atkinson: “On the nose” – Ryan

Whisner. “Took us right to the scene during the middle of a manhunt. Breaking news photography at its best.”

Second Place: *Daily Jefferson County Union*, Fort Atkinson: “Garage blaze” – Christine Spangler. “Good job of getting to the scene before the firefighters, right in the height of the fire.”

Third Place: *Portage Daily Register*: “Pardeeville Barn Fire” – Jonathan Stefonek. “A few steps to the left with a clearer view would have made this our favorite. Still a good photo that tells the story.”

Honorable Mention: *Portage Daily Register*: “Fallen Firefighter” – Lyn Jerde. “Very emotional, good photo.”

Division D

First Place: *Lake Country Reporter*, Hartland: “Condo fire” – Todd Ponath. “The massive flames coupled with a firefighter almost helpless atop the ladder truck is very compelling.”

Second Place: *Vilas County News-Review*, Eagle River: “House destroyed by gas vapor explosion.” – Gary Ridderbusch. “This photographer wouldn’t be stopped when authorities kept people away from a destroyed home. These shots from a boat tell do a great job of telling the story.”

Third Place: *Courier Press*, Prairie du Chien: “The Marquette ‘river’ road” – Correne Martin. “Floods and other natural

disasters can often be difficult to capture, though this shot works very well.”

Honorable Mention: *Vilas County News-Review*, Eagle River: “A motorcycle and car collided on Highway 70 East near Nobbes North gas station in the town of Washington last Thursday morning.” – Kurt Krueger. “This photo tells quite a bit ... and it was nice to see the story have a good ending.”

Division E

First Place: *Courier Sentinel*: “Fire” – Monique Westaby. “You can see the fear in the chickens’ eyes.”

Second Place: *The Dunn County News*, Menomonie: “Stop, thief!” – Barbara Lyon. “This could not have been timed any better, especially with the ‘bandit’s’ sly grin at the camera.”

Third Place: *Lake Geneva Regional News*: “Venetian Festival” – Phil Bonyata. “Stunning color!”

Honorable Mention: *The Waunakee Tribune*: “Shed fire in Dane” – Roger Hamilton. “Like a demon emerging from a portal to hell!”

Division F

First Place: *Fennimore Times*: “I knew it wasn’t just a trash fire” – Robert Callahan. “Even though the shot is dark, having one of the people from the Amish community in the foreground really draws the reader into the tragedy of this fire.”

Second Place: *Clintonville Tribune Gazette*: “Three injured in two vehicle crash” – Bert Lehman. “Good, tight focus on accident scene.”

Third Place: *New London Press Star*: “Fire destroys barn during thunderstorm” – Scott Bellile. “Good photo of a tragic fire. Might have had more impact on the page if it was slightly larger.”

Honorable Mention: *Clintonville Tribune Gazette*: “Driver hits gas pump, no injuries reported” – Jeff Hoffman. “Good grouping of subjects in shot.”

Sports Photo

Division A

First Place: *The Journal Times*, Racine: “Panthers put it together” – Gregory Shaver. “Capturing a great slide at home plate is tough – catching a botched tag with the ball and a little bit of player reaction is even better. Great timing and planning.”

Second Place: *Wisconsin State Journal*, Madison: “Goal Line Dive” – John Hart. “Great timing with the goal line snag. To

be fortunate to capture the opposing team's reaction is even better."

Third Place: *The Post-Crescent*, Appleton: "The big picture" – Wm. Glasheen. "Great peak action moment along with visible faces make a telling football photo."

Honorable Mention: *The Post-Crescent*, Appleton: "Zephyrs" – Wm. Glasheen. "Crazy spray from water sloshing about draws your eye into the victim."

Division B

First Place: *Daily News*, West Bend: "Head first" – John Ehlke. "Great action shot with something different that all photos strive for when shooting baseball."

Second Place: *The Gazette*, Janesville: "Quick start leads Verona past Craig on way to state" – Angela Major. "The emotion captured in this photo grabbed both my visual attention and heart. You can almost see and feel all that these players put into their entire season in one photo."

Third Place: *Wausau Daily Herald*: "Girls basketball collision" – T'xer Zhon Kha. "Attention-grabbing shot that is a tough one to capture in basketball."

Honorable Mention: *The Reporter*, Fond du Lac: "Waupun boys basketball defeats Ripon" – Douglas Raflik. "A photo that almost makes you hear the roar of the elated team and fans in the gym."

Division C

First Place: *The Monroe Times*: "Soccer tricks of the trade" – Marissa Weiher. "I wished I had taken that action shot. Very nice!"

Second Place: *The Chippewa Herald*, Chippewa Falls: "Stunned: Old Abes rally past Cardinals" – Brandon Berg. "This photo told the story chapter and verse."

Third Place: *Watertown Daily Times*: "Goslings come from behind to shock Union Grove" – Dave Radcliffe. "It's always magic when you can capture these moments."

Honorable Mention: *Daily Citizen*, Beaver Dam: "WHAT A THRILL" – Mark McMullen. "Very nice close up."

Division D

First Place: *Lake Country Reporter*, Hartland: "Lacrosse in the snow" – Scott Ash. "I love everything about this photo. The expression and concentration on the player's face is excellent. The photo is super sharp, to the point you can see the grass clippings in the air. Just an excellent photo."

Second Place: *The Chronotype*, Rice Lake: "Sprinter Adyara Hanaman" – Dave



Milton Courier, First Place, Division E, Sports Photo

Greschner. "The positioning and angle of the photo makes you feel like you're there with the runner at the finish line. Very sharp photo that conveys a lot of emotion."

Third Place: *Door County Advocate*, Sturgeon Bay: "Eating dust" – Tina M. Gohr. "Great positioning for this shot. I like that you can still see the player's face and her expression despite the dust."

Honorable Mention: *Vilas County News-Review*, Eagle River: "Three Lakes sophomore Eli Ribbe uses a high leg kick to keep the ball away from Cole Vyskocil of Phillips in the Regional tournament game." – Gary Ridderbusch. "Just a really solid action shot. It's a good capture of both players' expressions."

Division E

First Place: *Milton Courier*: "High flying at home" – Michael Gouvion. "There were a lot of good entries in this category. To stand out, we needed to see something that stands out. The angle of this shot is one that we don't see and turned a good photo opp into a compelling image."

Second Place: *Mukwonago Chief*: "Balance beam" – Scott Ash. "Perfect timing and an image that stood out from the crowd. A little tighter cropping might have moved it up a notch."

Third Place: *The Ripon Commonwealth Press*: "Girls show Powderpuff isn't for the weak at heart" – Sara Splittgaber. "The role reversal from what we typically see in a photo like this helped land this shot on the winner's list. A little wider aperture might have helped bring the girls into sharper

focus."

Honorable Mention: *Mukwonago Chief*: "High jump" – Scott Ash. "There were several shots in this category that were similar to this one. This was the sharpest. Just a really good, sharp image with great timing."

Division F

First Place: *Kettle Moraine Index*, Dousman: "Dusty" – Todd Ponath.

Second Place: *Oconomowoc Focus*: "Collision" – Todd Ponath.

Third Place: *The Cambridge News and Deerfield Independent*: "Blue Jays win border battle" – Mike Klawitter.

Honorable Mention: *The Brillion News*: "Buzzer Beater (top photo)" – Ed Byrne.

Feature Photo

Division A

First Place: *Wisconsin State Journal*, Madison: "Plane Sight" – John Hart. "Exquisite vision brought together the micro and macro views of the weather."

Second Place: *Wisconsin State Journal*, Madison: "Rainy Walk" – Michael P. King. "Hilarious moment of dog owner and dog captured the essence of their battle against the elements."

Third Place: *La Crosse Tribune*: "International Mud Day" – Erik Daily. "Great faces and lots of action made for a compelling photograph"

Honorable Mention: *Kenosha News*: "He won't be denied" – Bill Siel. "Great emotion

made for an uplifting moment for this paper's readers."

Division B

First Place: *The Reporter*, Fond du Lac: "Sturgeon Stampede" – Douglas Raflik. "Can't ignore the technical excellence of this image – it appears to have been manipulated very little in editing; looks like most of its quality happened in the camera and in the eye of the shooter."

Second Place: *The Gazette*, Janesville: "4-H Competitors Share Special Moments" – Anthony Wahl. "It was very close between first and second – technique vs. emotion. Apart from the moment, I love the detail of this photo – the sweat and dirt really put you there in the show ring. (Can't really see it as well in the paper, as small as the page editor ran it.) Also, good job at achieving a clean background – often hard to do in these situations."

Third Place: *Beloit Daily News*: "4-H Fair begins" – Erica Pennington. "Great moment and composition. I like the fact that the bunny is a bit out of focus – it's not distracting, and draws your eye to the child's face."

Division C

First Place: *Watertown Daily Times*: "Papa Panda's 'just desserts'" – Hannah Becker. "Very nice moment, though the child delivering the pie appears to be soft. Still, the nicest moment among the entries in this category."

Second Place: *The Daily Reporter*, Milwaukee: "Pipe Dreams" – Kevin Harnack. "Very nice composition turns an otherwise dull photo of someone walking into something interesting."

Third Place: *Watertown Daily Times*: "Andy Grammer at Dodge County fair" – Emily Walsh. "Great photo, though the security guard in the center of the images tends to grab my attention. Could have been the category's best if not for that."

Honorable Mention: *Watertown Daily Times*: "Douglas fun day" – Emily Walsh. "Great photo, has a great combination of life, moment and composition. Too bad it was played nonsensically small on the page. Should have dominated."

Division D

First Place: *The Lakeland Times*, Minocqua: "Phoenix Rising" – Dean Hall. "Breathtaking! Perfect focus and timing for such a difficult shot to get. Nature rarely cooperates in getting such a great photo."

Second Place: *Lake Country Reporter*,

Hartland: “Rodeo” – Scott Ash. “Worthy of first if not for the winner having a more difficult subject. Perfectly cropped image that is timed right, shows her fear and tells the story.”

Third Place: *Franklin-Greendale-Hales Corners-Oak Creek Now*: “Snowmaker” – Peter Zuzga. “We appreciate the time photographer took to get this right. Excellent lighting (fill in flash perfect) in a difficult setting. Good work.”

Honorable Mention: *The Lakeland Times*, Minocqua: “Happy trails” – Jessica Leighty. “Feature touching photo really made the subject pop off the page. Otherwise wouldn’t have had such impact.”

Division E

First Place: *New Richmond News*: “A ‘Moving’ Experience” – Tom Lindfors. “Interesting choice of technical work to show movement and to set a somber tone. This could have been an average photo if the photographer had not put the thought and effort into making it a great shot. This shot was elevated in the ranking because the photographer made the difference beyond being in the right place at the right time.”

Second Place: *The Ripon Commonwealth Press*: “Color me happy” – Ian Stepleton. “The color and smoke makes the viewer want to know more about this photo. The crop from the original photo helped this shot a lot. This was a close second.”

Third Place: *Mukwonago Chief*: “Feeling sheepish” – Scott Ash. “There were several cute animal/cute kid photos in this category. This one placed ahead of the others for its interest, it’s action and composition.”

Honorable Mention: *Pierce County Herald*, Ellsworth: “Ice Formation feature photo” – Sarah Young. “This photo looked great in the paper but only because the original photo was edited way beyond ethical professional standards. It’s OK to edit a photo that much but it should be labeled in the outline. The finished photo had great texture and perspective.”

Division F

First Place: *Washburn County Register*, Shell Lake: “Rodeo entertainer Rider Kiesner demonstrat” – Larry Samson.

Second Place: *Crawford County Independent & The Kickapoo Scout*, Gays Mills: “Elegant Great Egret” – Emily Schendel.

Third Place: *Clintonville Chronicle*: “Mouse in the House” – Greg Rose.

Honorable Mention: *New London Press Star*: “Dog days of summer” – Scott Bellile.

Portrait or Artistic Photo

Division A

First Place: *Wisconsin State Journal*, Madison: “Milwaukee Art Museum” – John Hart. “Spectacular use of lighting that accentuates the entire point of the photograph and story to begin with. Art should be used in newspapers to tell a story and this one achieves on a grand scale.”

Second Place: *Wisconsin State Journal*, Madison: “Weaver” – Michael P. King. “Great use of abstraction to tell a real story.”

Third Place: *The Journal Times*, Racine: “Raindrops keep falling” – Gregory Shaver. “A real grabber of moment – inspired to some degree by color field painting.”

Honorable Mention: *Kenosha News*: “Storm clouds swirl across the sky over Lake Michigan” – Bill Siel. “A wonderful moment on the seashore. Unusual clouds, light and atmosphere.”

Division B

First Place: *The Gazette*, Janesville: “Single mother mourns home lost to blaze” – Angela Major. “Just kept coming back to this one, and I’ll bet readers did, too. Perfect light, just enough of environment to help tell story without distracting from face. Compelling documentary photograph, period.”

Second Place: *The Gazette*, Janesville: “Ben’ there, done that” – Anthony Wahl. “Impressive technical achievement, but also a good photo eye and a good design eye.”

Third Place: *Daily News*, West Bend: “Honoring our veterans” – John Ehlke. “Out of probably hundreds of flag photos I’ve seen and dealt with, I don’t think I’ve seen this one – very good thinking in the time you had to capture it.”

Honorable Mention: *The Gazette*, Janesville: “From All Angles” – Anthony Wahl. “Good idea, obviously served the story well. Bothers me a little that this wasn’t labeled as a photo-illustration, but it’s in a gray area – not a found moment but not a straight portrait, either. Anyway, that’s an editing call apart from the shooter’s excellent work.”

Division C

First Place: *Watertown Daily Times*: “Summer sunset” – Emily Walsh. “Great photo. Nice composition showing multiple layers of interest. Good use of rule of thirds.”

Second Place: *Watertown Daily Times*:

“Glittering trees” – Becky Vosters. “Very intricate, interesting photo. Lots of detail.”

Third Place: *Watertown Daily Times*: “Darkness Risen” – Hannah Becker. “The striation in the sky is very nice. Nice bisection of the image by the main silo.”

Honorable Mention: *Watertown Daily Times*: “Ice of March” – Sarah Weihert. “Terrific detail, nice use of color.”

Division D

First Place: *Superior Telegram*: “Council honors ‘exemplary’” – Jed Carlson.

Second Place: *Vilas County News-Review*, Eagle River: “My dad, Leland Krueger of Marion, hoists a 30-inch northern that took a sucker minnow on a calm evening last Friday.” – Kurt Krueger.

Third Place: *Superior Telegram*: “Young boxer finds her rhythm” – Jed Carlson.

Honorable Mention: *The Lakeland Times*, Minocqua: “Family day at the lake” – Jessica Leighty.

Division E

First Place: *The Northwoods River News*, Rhinelander: “Fair weather” – Jamie Taylor. “Good use of shapes and contrast. This photo was elevated because the photographer had to make technical choices that enhanced the subject and took an OK photo and made it a great photo.”

Second Place: *The Verona Press*: “Finding her smile” – Scott Girard. “In many ways, this photo is not spectacular. What makes it great is the photographer captures a moment that appears as if the subjects do not know the photographer is there. Nice composition and depth. Good use of shadows.”

Third Place: *The Ripon Commonwealth Press*: “Memorial Day 2016” – Ian Stepleton. “Silhouettes can be dramatic but often all end up looking alike. The use of the bright flag in the background helped this photo.”

Honorable Mention: *The Northwoods River News*, Rhinelander: “Coyote Crossing” – Dean Hall. “This photo would have placed higher if it had run in color. The choice to run in black and white deprived the readers of its full beauty. While we have to judge the photo, we also judge it as the reader viewed it.”

Division F

First Place: *Crawford County Independent & The Kickapoo Scout*, Gays Mills: “Apple crop” – Emily Schendel.

Second Place: *Clintonville Tribune Gazette*: “May the Force be with you” –

Scott Bellile.

Third Place: *Clintonville Chronicle*: “Spectacular Sight” – Mike Johnson.

Honorable Mention: *Oconomowoc Focus*: “Snow cones” – Scott Ash.

Photo Essay

Division A

First Place: *The Post-Crescent*, Appleton: “Appleton teen makes heart-wrenching decision to die” – Danny Damiani. “What can you say. The story makes you laugh and cry at the same time. Great job taking the time to tell it.”

Second Place: *Wisconsin State Journal*, Madison: “Homeless in Madison – A City Challenged” – John Hart, Amber Arnold, Steve Apps, M.P. King. “A thorough look at homelessness, well photographed and thought out.”

Third Place: *Wisconsin State Journal*, Madison: “Ginseng Harvest” – John Hart. “Beautiful photographs of a moment in time that captures a look into another culture.”

Honorable Mention: *The Capital Times*, Madison: “‘We Have the Same Heart’ say Muslims in Madison” – Saiyna Bashir. “Somewhat monotonous approach to a really great subject. The courage and accomplishment here was to be willing to tell the story in the first place.”

Division B

First Place: *Marshfield News-Herald*: “Birthday Bears” – Jacob Byk. “Great job capturing human subjects and their reactions to bears. The only way I ever want to see the inside of a bear’s mouth.”

Second Place: *Daily News*, West Bend: “2015: Sports photos of the year” – John Ehlke. “Good balance of game action and feature photos that portray a range of emotions and moods.”

Third Place: *The Reporter*, Fond du Lac: “Marsh” – Douglas Raflik. “Some nice pics of wildlife here. Birdwatchers’ delight.”

Honorable Mention: *Herald Times Reporter*, Manitowoc: “Cozy Countryside (Jan. 24, 2016)” – Sarah Kloepping. “Good job giving readers look at the insular world of the Amish in winter. Would like to get a few more faces in there.”

Division C

First Place: *Watertown Daily Times*: “Jefferson girls win McFarland sectional, boys take 3rd” – Dave Radcliffe. “Great coverage of state track event. Obvious

photographer put in a full day of capturing emotion as well as athleticism.”

Second Place: *Watertown Daily Times*: “Dodge County Fair” – Sarah Weihert, Emily Walsh. “Faces at the fair. Good job of taking your readers there. Wanted tighter cropping and more up close photos.”

Third Place: *The Monroe Times*: “Ghoulis guests welcome” – Marissa Weiher. “Like the black layout for ghoulish touch. Don’t be afraid to zoom in on, say, the cat with a hand reaching down or a close up of his display with him adjusting.”

Division D

First Place: *The Lakeland Times*, Minocqua: “Northwoods Wildlife Sightings” – Dean Hall.

Second Place: *Wauwatosa Now*: “Park protest” – Peter Zuzga.

Third Place: *Germantown-Menomonee Falls Now*: “Menomonee Falls graduation day” – C.T. Kruger.

Honorable Mention: *The Lakeland Times*, Minocqua: “Veterans Day in the Northwoods” – Dean Hall, Heather Holmes, Jamie Taylor.

Division E

First Place: *New Richmond News*: “Honoring Those Who Made the Ultimate Sacrifice” – Tom Lindfors.

Second Place: *The Stoughton Courier Hub*: “Syttende Mai” – Kimberly Wethal, Kate Newton, Scott De Laruelle, Samantha Christian.

Third Place: *The Valdres Journal*: “Donkey ball puts up more laughs than points for FFA, firemen” – Brian Thomsen.

Honorable Mention: *Lake Geneva Regional News*: “Fall Sports Moments 2015” – David Michels.

Division F

First Place: *Fennimore Times*: “Fennimore Fun Fest 2016” – Robert Callahan. “This entry had the best variety of photos to show the full range of activities at the festival. It was also nicely displayed with a main image and smaller art. Also shows a good range of daytime and nighttime images.”

Second Place: *Crawford County Independent & The Kickapoo Scout*, Gays Mills: “Labor day in Readstown” – Emily Schendel. “Good variety of photos from the event.”

Third Place: *Oconomowoc Focus*: “Grease” – Scott Ash. “These photos were the most interesting and colorful and showed good emotion. But it lacks variety. Perhaps a shot of the tech crew, ticket

takers, crowd or such to add variety would have helped it.”

Honorable Mention: *Crawford County Independent & The Kickapoo Scout*, Gays Mills: “Gays Mills Apple Festival 2015” – Charley Preusser, Len Harris. “Good range of photos from the event. The large ‘eat your apples’ photo detracted from the action and color of the others. It could have been used smaller and still would have been effective.”

Overall Page Design

Division A

First Place: *The Post-Crescent*, Appleton: “Bill Wambeke overall page design” – Bill Wambeke. “First and second place very close, but the train-wreck package really put this one over the top. Strong visually, but also packed with information in a reader-friendly manner.”

Second Place: *Leader-Telegram*, Eau Claire: “Tom Gunderson pages” – Tom Gunderson. “Very good thinking went into these pages – not quite as technically clean as first place winner’s, but very close competition. Weakest is the homelessness package – not having a photo or art IS a design issue because design equals planning. Reporter, photographer, editor and designer needed to be discussing this from the time the story was assigned so that you would have had something meaningful to work with.”

Third Place: *The Monroe Times*: “Ghoulis guests/Elk ranch/Pokemon Go” – Shari Rampenthal. “Very clean designs, good use of white (or black) space.”

Division D

First Place: *The Lakeland Times*, Minocqua: “Overall Page Design” – Sasha Case. “Pages invite readers in. Photos are solid enough to warrant space and this paper gives it to them.”

Second Place: *News Graphic*, Cedarburg: “Singing like a blueburg, Grafton’s Young Guns, Has anyone seen Harvey?” – Kay Dahlke. “Sometimes art in print doesn’t always look as appealing as the original work. This layout works.”

Third Place: *Sawyer County Record*, Hayward: “Sawyer County Record, Hayward/Sports/On the Town” – Paul Mitchell. “Each page is well-balanced; effort is made here to highlight stories with good graphics.”

Honorable Mention: *North Shore Now*: “Bursting at the seams” – Matt Unrau. “Cover stories are grabbers. The photos lead you nicely into the story.”

Division E

First Place: *The Northwoods River News*, Rhinelander: “Jan. 23 1B; Feb. 27 1A; March 3 1A.” – Sasha Case. “Love the use of fonts and color. Photos are placed perfectly. If I had to give one note for improvement, it would be to slightly differ the subhead from the headline. Perhaps a shade or two lighter or italicized.”

Second Place: *Spooner Advocate*: “Front Page; Sports Page; Williamsburg” – Bill Thornley. “Like the mix of fonts. Good use of white space. Great placement of photos.”

Third Place: *The Platteville Journal*: “The Platteville Journal” – Steve Prestegard. “I like the crisp design of this publication, with the exception of the headline text running on to the photos. That just looks a bit messy. Good use of color, photos and fonts.”

Honorable Mention: *Burlington Standard Press*: “Page design entries for 6/23/16; 8/11/16; 8/18/16” – Ed Nadolski. “I like the large photos, but this lost points for creativity since all spreads showcased the same design style.”

Page Design - Feature

Division A

First Place: *Wisconsin State Journal*, Madison: “3 features special inserts (grilling, vacation and fresh)” – Jason Klein, Allison Garcia, Beth Williams. “These are great examples of finding different ways to tell stories – in fact, I can’t wait to share them with my students. I can see someone wondering if a reader is going to keep turning the page to read the info in the grill, but the page is so visually compelling – and offers plenty of white space to ease the reader’s task – that I think they will.”

Second Place: *The Post-Crescent*, Appleton: “Jen Pudenz features designs” – Jen Pudenz. “These are very simple, strong and – to steal a word from one of your headlines – elegant designs. They sacrifice content a little for the sake of visual impact, but still serve readers well.”

Third Place: *Kenosha News*: “Food Page; Life Page; Home Page” – Julie Vander Velden. “Fun’ is the common thread in these pages – if you can get a reader smiling, you’ve won more than half the battle. Well done, great use of color (frankly, some other entrants could learn a thing or two about use of color from seeing these pages next to theirs).”

Division D

First Place: *The Lakeland Times*, Minocqua: “Feature Page Design” – Sasha

Case.

Second Place: *North Shore Now*: “One last summer tilt” – Matt Unrau.

Third Place: *Germantown-Menomonee Falls Now*: “Back in Biz” – Matt Unrau.

Honorable Mention: *The Country Today*, Eau Claire: “Jenn Stirmel, Feature Page Designs” – Jenn Stirmel.

Division E

First Place: *The Ripon Commonwealth Press*: “Ripon Commonwealth Press” – Ian Stepleton.

Second Place: *The Northwoods River News*, Rhinelander: “Sept. 5 5B; March 5 4B; March 19 4B” – Sasha Case.

Third Place: *Spooner Advocate*: “Crex Meadows; Under Watchful Eyes; Williamsburg” – Bill Thornley.

Honorable Mention: *The Brilliance News*: “April 14, 2016; July 14, 2016; July 21, 2016” – Darcy Zander-Feinauer.

Page Design - Sports

Division A

First Place: *Kenosha News*: “Sports Page Design” – Paul McKillip. “Bold design, works with all of the space, and takes chances that usually work.”

Second Place: *The Monroe Times*: “Darlington football; Alex Erickson; triathlete” – Shari Rampenthal. “Design gives readers a different look and when it breaks the mold, it is with purpose.”

Third Place: *Leader-Telegram*, Eau Claire: “Joe Ziemer” – Joe Ziemer. “Good commitment to big art. Nice, cleanly designed pages that surely pleased readers.”

Division D

First Place: *Lake Country Reporter*, Highland: “Dominant Presence” – Matt Colby.

Second Place: *The Lakeland Times*, Minocqua: “Sports Page Design” – Sasha Case.

Third Place: *The Chronotype*, Rice Lake: “Rice Lake Chronotype - Sports” – Dave Greschner.

Division E

First Place: *The Northwoods River News*, Rhinelander: “Feb. 16 1B; Feb. 18 1B; March 3 1B” – Sasha Case. “Solid sports pages. Cutouts used smart. Headlines were just right, and sold the stories without being over designed. Clear winner in this category.”

Second Place: *Lake Geneva Regional News*: “Lake Geneva Regional News Sports Pages” – David Michels. “Liked the

Thunderstruck headline.”

Third Place: *Oconomowoc Focus*: “Chasing the shadow” – Matt Colby. “Some great writing here.”

Honorable Mention: *The Ripon Commonwealth Press*: “Ripon Commonwealth Press: Page Design – Sports” – Jonathan Bailey. “Good solid sports pages.”

Graphics

Daily

First Place: *Wisconsin State Journal*, Madison: “Your path to picking a vacation” – Jason Klein, Allison Garcia, Beth Williams. “By virtue of the most time I spent interacting with a graphic, this is the hands-down winner. There is a lot of information, thoughtfully delivered. Well done.”

Second Place: *The Post-Crescent*, Appleton: “A day they won’t forget” – Bill Wambeke. “Great information, putting a tragedy into perspective. Played very well on the page, too. Good work.”

Third Place: *Wisconsin State Journal*, Madison: “Dark money in Supreme Court elections” – Laura Sparks. “Very interesting approach, though I found myself wondering why there was such a drop in spending. That information could have helped elevate the graphic’s effectiveness.”

Honorable Mention: *Wisconsin State Journal*, Madison: “Beer 101” – Jason Klein, Chris Drosner. “Very well presented. An avid beer drinker, I still learned things reading this.”

Weekly

First Place: *The Lakeland Times*, Minocqua: “The real sunshine week story” – Sasha Case.

Second Place: *The Ripon Commonwealth Press*: “Flipping back through 2015” – Jonathan Bailey.

Third Place: *The Ripon Commonwealth Press*: “The good & the bad” – Aaron Becker.

Honorable Mention: *The Northwoods River News*, Rhinelander: “Bell Game Infograph” – Jeremy Mayo.

Best Website

Division A

First Place: *The Gazette*, Janesville: “GazetteXtra.com” – Dave von Falkenstein, Staff. “Good depth of content ... much of it local. A clear winner on that account. Local

art could be stronger and seems weak on advertising.”

Second Place: *The Capital Times*, Madison: “The Cap Times” – Katie Dean, Jason Joyce, Rob Thomas, Lynn Danielson. “Love the local focus. For the most part strong art. Try to write shorter headlines so they don’t obliterate the smaller photos. Wish the site had some kind of community calendar and curated stories better. Weak on advertising, too.”

Third Place: *Daily Tribune*, Wisconsin Rapids: “Wisconsin Rapids Daily Tribune website” – Staff. “A wealth of content but lines are really blurred between local and not. Frankly, there’s too much content on the home page and not a clear roadmap.”

Honorable Mention: *Green Bay Press-Gazette*: “Packers News” – Staff. “An interesting approach that I’m sure plays well in Wisconsin. What’s content like March-July?”

Division D

First Place: *Lake Country Reporter*, Hartland: “Lakecountrysnow.com” – Staff.

Second Place: *The Sun*, Osceola: “The Sun, Osceola” – Staff. “Glad to see the ‘Submit your news’ button so clean and visible high on the page. It makes the site very engaging, which I’m sure does wonders in a small community. Letter to the editor writers’ names perhaps should go under the headline like a reporter.”

Third Place: *The Ripon Commonwealth Press*: “www.RiponPress.com” – Staff. “Lots of content! Glad to see such engagement from the community, too, with people commenting about their uncle the Cubs fan and the like. Section organization makes sense, easy to navigate to what I want to find. ‘Report a news tip!’ should probably be somewhere more accessible than hidden in the different news sections. The subsections should be either all headline caps like ‘Area News’ or all sentence caps like ‘News videos.’ There aren’t any events on the calendar? Teasing online readers into the print edition may be a smart move. I consume all my news online and don’t have any print subscriptions, so I wonder if this has increased your print subscriptions.”

Digital Project

Division A

First Place: *Wisconsin State Journal*, Madison: “Your path to picking a vacation” – Laura Sparks, Allison Garcia, Jason Klein. “This interactive graphic seems incredibly

useful to everyone, and it’s done in a simple manner.”

Second Place: *Green Bay Press-Gazette*: “RosterBuilder 2.0” – Doug Schneider, Chad Burkholder, Chris Speckherd. “I’ve never seen this idea before. It’s a phenomenal idea and other papers in pro-sports markets should do something like it.”

Third Place: *Kenosha News*: “My View” – Steve Lund, Ben Counterman. “These videos are a great way to express opinions digitally. Love the B-roll and the voiceover.”

Division C

First Place: *Daily Citizen*, Beaver Dam: “Dodge County sales tax use” – Ben Rueter. “Lots of great information and great interactivity. I found myself spending quite a bit of time with this.”

Second Place: *The Daily Reporter*, Milwaukee: “Wisconsin Roundabouts” – Joe Yovino, Rick Benedict. “I particularly enjoyed the curation here. Great job chronicling the roundabouts.”

Third Place: *The Daily Reporter*, Milwaukee: “Construction Labor Shortage” – Joe Yovino, Rick Benedict. “Nice curation. It’s obvious this organization pays a lot of attention to its online presence. Not much interactivity here, though.”

Honorable Mention: *Stevens Point Journal*: “Portage County entrepreneurs share challenges, advice” – Sari Lesk. “The key to any successful online project is that it must have good content, displayed well. While the information here is good, it’s held back by small, subpar photos and a remedial presentation. Could have been so much better, even if just by making the photos bigger.”

Division D

First Place: *Columbus Journal*: “Spotlight on Columbus” – JT Cestkowski, Lisa Cestkowski.

Second Place: *Franklin-Greendale-Hales Corners-Oak Creek Now*: “Sink or Swim: One Franklin family’s fight with rare bone cancer” – Rachel Minske, Todd Ponath.

Third Place: *Lake Country Reporter*, Hartland: “68 Degrees of Separation” – JR Radcliffe, Dan Polley.

Honorable Mention: *Lake Country Reporter*, Hartland: “Initial Reaction Sports Podcast” – JR Radcliffe, JP Cadorin.

Video

Division A

First Place: *The Post-Crescent*, Appleton:

“Appleton teen making most of her remaining time” – Danny Damiani. “Amazing story. Fantastic storytelling. Great use of images and interview footage. Great access to the sources.”

Second Place: *The Post-Crescent*, Appleton: “Next chapter for Aline, Walt on Alzheimer’s journey” – Dan Powers. “Great story, great video on a husband and wife and their decision. Good editing. Video advances the story and shows how both are aware of her decline. So valuable to so many families that are dealing with Alzheimer’s disease.”

Third Place: *Leader-Telegram*, Eau Claire: “Braille Champion Caden Drier” – Marisa Wojcik. “Wow, what a cool story. Simply fantastic editing.”

Honorable Mention: *Wisconsin State Journal*, Madison: “We just couldn’t take it no more” – Amber Arnold. “Good job bringing the viewer into this couple’s world of tragedy, mixed emotions, struggle and hope. Great project by Madison on its homeless problem.”

Division B

First Place: *Stevens Point Journal*: “Loss of an American farmer” – Jacob Byk. “Good subject, very well edited. Grabs you and holds your attention. High production value. Diverse voices. Very nice B roll. Wow.”

Second Place: *The Reporter*, Fond du Lac: “Photographing the Packers” – Douglas Raflik. “Interesting topic. Very nice camera work and interesting point of view from his lens looking back. Well edited to get at essence of his day. Nice arc to the story line.”

Third Place: *Daily Tribune*, Wisconsin Rapids: “Dam making a splash in community relations” – Jacob Byk, Karen Madden. “Some very nice B roll. Decent interviews, but too long. Major flaw is no dam owner or indication as to why he isn’t part of video. There were stills of him, so why no video? Also, show me more impact of the lower water.”

Honorable Mention: *The Reporter*, Fond du Lac: “Oakfield teacher talks about donating kidney” – Douglas Raflik. “Well told, but needed the kid or her mom. Also needed to put a mic on the husband or cut him out. He just sat there for most of interview. Better to go tight on teacher and lose him.”

Division D

First Place: *Wauwatosa Now*: “Video: Wauwatosa girl’s curbside ice cream stand raises money for the hungry” – CT

Kruger. “Outstanding video. Nicely shot and great story. Loved that Lili told the story.”

Second Place: *Wauwatosa Now*: “Video: How a Pokémon Go newbie experienced the craze playing in Wauwatosa” – CT Kruger. “Nice video. Loved the participants told the story. Not sure the reporter added much to the story but understood what you were going for with it.”

Third Place: *Franklin-Greendale-Hales Corners-Oak Creek Now*: “A behind-the-scenes look at The Hills Has Eyes in Franklin” – CT Kruger. “Not really sure what the event is about, so a little background would’ve been nice – especially since you never know who is watching videos on the Internet!”

Honorable Mention: *Columbus Journal*: “Spotlight Series: Badger Motorcar Company” – JT Cestkowski. “Good idea.”

Social Media Journalism

Division A

First Place: *Green Bay Press-Gazette*: “Daily Dose” – Jeff Bollier, Shelby Le Duc. “Based on the number of views, this appears to be a well-received and successful collaboration.”

Second Place: *The Capital Times*, Madison: “Donald Trump Supporters in Green Bay” – Jessie Opoien. “We finally have the answer to how Trump won: as one of his supporters relates here, ‘He doesn’t give a f---.’”

Third Place: *Daily Tribune*, Wisconsin Rapids: “Readers share Halloween, Elf on the Shelf, storm photos” – Jamie Rokus. “Good use of public photos.”

Division D

First Place: *Courier Press*: “Courier Press Facebook” – Correne Martin. “Great responses from readers! Especially impressive numbers from a small coverage area.”

Second Place: *Waukesha Now*: “Live coverage: 2016 WIAA Summer Baseball Sectional Round” – Christopher Kuhagen. “Excellent use of ScribbleLive. Glad to see so many faves and RTs on many of those tweets, clearly demonstrating this was a good topic to cover live.”

Third Place: *Wauwatosa Now*: “Social media story on the storms rolling through Milwaukee area” – Christopher Kuhagen.

Honorable Mention: *The Star News*, Medford: “Bryan Wegter Twitter” – Bryan Wegter.

Advertising Bill Payne Award

Division A

First Place: *Kenosha News*: “Where the best minds meet” – Jeffrey Stevens, Francis Perdomo. “The use of Black and White photos in the color ad really draws your attention to the point being made. Very creative and effective.”

Second Place: *Green Bay Press-Gazette*: “YMCA AdScape” – Janessa Widzinski.

Third Place: *Green Bay Press-Gazette*: “Moraine Ridge” – Zac Dudzik.

Honorable Mention: *Green Bay Press-Gazette*: “Wine Cellar” – Russell Sommers.

Division B

First Place: *The Monroe Times*: “This April 1st, the Joke’s on Us!” – Jaimie Tran, Laura Hughes.

Second Place: *The Gazette*, Janesville: “Fagan Automotive: Restyled. Re-Energized. Ready to Go. Equinox” – Nina Perona, Donna Felland, Don Francis.

Third Place: *The Gazette*, Janesville: “Fagan Automotive: Live Life Wide Open!” – Nina Perona, Donna Felland, Don Francis.

Honorable Mention: *The Gazette*, Janesville: “Huntington Place: Making Transitions Easy” – Danielle Hackett.

Division D

First Place: *Vilas County News-Review*, Eagle River: “Derby 53 Years” – Betsy Boulden, Kurt Krueger, Gary Ridderbusch, Doug Etten. “Great balance and great use of photos and color. Just all around beautiful ad. Deserves first place.”

Second Place: *The Lakeland Times*, Minocqua: “Murphy’s Furniture” – Sasha Case, Laura Larson. “Lots of photos and well done in a large format ad. Headline could have had stronger emphasis – buried in color at top.”

Third Place: *Courier Press*: “Welcome To The Prairie du Chien Area” – Kim Corpian. “Nice looking well laid out ad. Love the road artwork.”

Honorable Mention: *Courier Press*: “Oktoberfest St. Feriole Island Gardens” – Kim Corpian. “Nice, colorful ad and well presented.”

Division E

First Place: *The Ripon Commonwealth Press*: “Baird 15%” – Brandon Jacobs, Tami Conlon, Todd Sharp. “It’s great to see an auto dealer this aggressive in print. Outside of that, the ad itself was very well done also.”

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Kenosha News, First Place, Division A, Bill Payne Award

Second Place: *Grant County Herald Independent*, Lancaster: “Get Your Game Face On” – Jessica Brownell, Kevin Kelly. “Great work on this ad. It is very EYE catching.”

Third Place: *Campbellsport News*: “Eden Meat Market – Holiday Party Packages” – Tracy Dieckman, Andrea Steger. “Very nice ad. Very clean and easy to follow. The ad directs you the readers eyes very well.”

Honorable Mention: *The Platteville Journal*: “October Women In Business” – Ann Rupp, Carol Tyson. “Great concept for a community publication. Well done.”

Best Grocery Ad

Division A

First Place: *Leader-Telegram*, Eau Claire: “Rump’s Butcher Shoppe” – Brigit Olson, Alisa Goetch. “Great photo. Ad makes you hungry.”

Second Place: *The Gazette*, Janesville: “Woodmans Markets: Remodel & Holiday

Spirits” – Mary Hamlin, Donna Felland.

Third Place: *Daily News*, West Bend: “Hook a Deal” – Kyle Ruplinger.

Honorable Mention: *Green Bay Press-Gazette*: “Austins” – Janessa Widzinski.

Division D

First Place: *The Ripon Commonwealth Press*: “Pick N Save” – Tami Conlon, Brandon Jacobs, Steve Wendt.

Second Place: *The Ripon Commonwealth Press*: “Market Fresh” – Tami Conlon, Todd Sharp.

Third Place: *Monroe County Herald*, Sparta: “Hansen’s IGA” – Kristi Schwartzel.

Honorable Mention: *The Lakeland Times*, Minocqua: “Save More Foods” – Sasha Case, Yvonne Immel, Cindy Olson.

Best Restaurant Ad

Division A

First Place: *Green Bay Press-Gazette*: “Cranky Pat’s” – Jason Zoch.

Second Place: *Green Bay Press-Gazette:* “Phin Sushi” – Jason Zoch.

Third Place: *Leader-Telegram,* Eau Claire: “Chicken Chasers Bar & Grill Weekend Specials” – Brigit Olson, Matt West.

Honorable Mention: *Green Bay Press-Gazette:* “English Inn” – Zac Dudzik.

Division B

First Place: *The Gazette,* Janesville: “Mac’s Pizza Shack: Countdown to 40 Years” – Sarah Shelton, Donna Felland. “Nicely done.”

Second Place: *The Gazette,* Janesville: “Culvers: Grand Opening Celebration – New Midland Road Location” – Jody Wisz, Donna Felland.

Third Place: *The Freeman,* Waukesha: “The Villa at Heaven City” – Helena Shoemaker.

Honorable Mention: *The Gazette,* Janesville: “O’Riley & Conway’s Irish Pub” – Jody Wisz, Donna Felland.

Division D

First Place: *The Star News,* Medford: “Eastbay Lodge” – Joy Cote. “Great use of photos, color, easy flow and easy read. Showed us some food and facility, enough to sell us.”

Second Place: *Vilas County News-Review,* Eagle River: “New Year’s Eve” – Betsy Boulden, Sandy Roelle. “For only black and white entry this one stood out for graphic choice, use of type and clean look. Made us want to attend. Nice job”

Third Place: *Monroe County Herald,* Sparta: “Jake’s Nortwoods” – Kristi Schwartzel. “Entire heading should have been filled with red to read a complete thought. Good use of photos, but ad left us wondering if catering only or actual restaurant too.”

Honorable Mention: *The Lakeland Times,* Minocqua: “Dominic’s Italian Beef” – Sasha Case, Cindy Olson. “Just too much going on. Lacked a focal point. Was it the photo, the award-winning chef or the open house downtown? You’re right on with color selection, background choice and font usage.”

Division E

First Place: *Campbellsport News:* “Woodland Creek” – Tracy Dieckman, Andrea Steger. “Nice campaign and well presented even in various sizes. Best of the lot for sure.”

Second Place: *The Ripon Commonwealth Press:* “J’s BBQ” – Tami Conlon, Brandon Jacobs, Steve Wendt. “Good, solid advertising, but nothing very creative except

for anniversary ad.”

Third Place: *Chilton Times-Journal:* “High Cliff Restaurant” – Brad Behnke. “Nice ad, but would have liked to have seen more from the same restaurant. Well presented.”

Best Real Estate Ad

Division A

First Place: *The Freeman,* Waukesha: “Pat Bolger” – Anna Loebach. “Eye catching ad that promotes the realtor.”

Second Place: *Green Bay Press-Gazette:* “TLC Advantage” – Beth Perdue. “This ad really focuses on the amenities of the property and would make anyone want to live there.”

Third Place: *Kenosha News:* “You will be home soon” – Jeffrey Stevens, Francis Perdomo. “Bright colors in this ad will grab a readers eye.”

Honorable Mention: *Green Bay Press-Gazette:* “Keller Williams” – Beth Perdue. “Bold colors and simple background made this ad stand out.”

Division D

First Place: *Vilas County News-Review,* Eagle River: “Eagle River Chain Log Home” – Betsy Boulden, Jo Daniel. “Outstanding use of photo and displaying information. Nice work. I’d ask about this home!”

Second Place: *The Lakeland Times,* Minocqua: “Redman Realty” – Sasha Case, Buzzy Mode, Yvonne Immel, Tony Loomis. “Well presented but didn’t like reverse type in ad. Hard to read. Great ad otherwise – I liked the way you presented each realtor.”

Division E

First Place: *The Northwoods River News,* Rhinelander: “Redman Realty” – Staff. “Really like the looks of this ad. Lots of properties but photos are good, typeface is easy to read. Very sharp and clean ad.”

Second Place: *The Ripon Commonwealth Press:* “Special Properties” – Tami Conlon. “This is just a very attractive ad. Really like the use of the curve and the font adds to the classy look of this ad.”

Third Place: *The Sun,* Osceola: “Seagren - Keller Williams” – Eric Buelow, Teresa Holmdahl. “Sharp – consistent – easy to read. Very nice work.”

Honorable Mention: *Chilton Times-Journal:* “Thiel Real Estate” – Brad Behnke. “Maybe too colorful – I think another font might work better in these small spaces. Overall, looks nice but needs some fine tuning.”

Best Ad Idea (Series)

Division A

First Place: *Leader-Telegram,* Eau Claire: “Lazy Monk Brewery” – Brigit Olson, Alisa Goetch.

Second Place: *The Post-Crescent,* Appleton: “Pathways Church” – Karley Musil.

Third Place: *Green Bay Press-Gazette:* “Nicolet National Bank - State of Opportunity” – Holly Schroeder.

Honorable Mention: *Kenosha News:* “Where the best minds meet” – Jeffrey Stevens, Francis Perdomo, Karen Rorek.

Division B

First Place: *Oshkosh Northwestern:* “Winnebago County Fair” – Ron Thompson, Marie Rayome. “Love the use of native content in a series of ads bringing attention to everything going on.”

Second Place: *The Gazette,* Janesville: “Fagan Automotive: Photo Contest / Picture Yourself In A Chevy” – Nina Perona, Terry Fleig, Donna Felland. “Great idea for image advertising for a dealership. This is an extremely close second.”

Third Place: *Daily News,* West Bend: “Maus Jewelers series” – Kyle Ruplinger, Paige Barger, Tamara Meloy, Scot Wiesner. “The simplicity works well!”

Honorable Mention: *The Reporter,* Fond du Lac: “Green Dragon” – Judy Groth, Kristin Magruder. “Great series of ads. Nice use of white space to draw attention to the featured beer.”

Division D

First Place: *The Lakeland Times,* Minocqua: “Featherstone Cabinetry and Design” – Tony Loomis, Sasha Case. “Love the use of photos in the ad. Really makes it jump off the page. Well presented and I like the fact there wasn’t a lot of wording – to the point.”

Second Place: *The Portage County Gazette,* Stevens Point: “Jay Mar Series” – Paula O’Kray. “Great ads. This was a tough choice for first place. Great use of photos to make the ad jump off the page.”

Division E

First Place: *The Ripon Commonwealth Press:* “Prairie Place” – Tami Conlon, Brandon Jacobs, Steve Wendt. “Delightful is a good word to describe this ad series. Nicely done.”

Second Place: *Fennimore Times:* “Fennimore Business Thank You” – Jessica Brownell, Brian Muldoon. “Great job. Love

the consistency of the ad and the idea of the chalkboard.”

Third Place: *Grant County Herald Independent,* Lancaster: “Hermensens Ad Series” – Jessica Brownell, Kevin Kelly. “This is a great series. Really like the layout and design. Great promotion for this customer.”

Honorable Mention: *The Platteville Journal:* “Adopt Us Pets” – Ann Rupp, Carol Tyson. “I really like the design of this ad. Pet pages can be difficult to be creative with and this ad series did a great job.”

Best Special Section

Division A

First Place: *The Post-Crescent,* Appleton: “Faces of the Fox Cities” – Mike Cruse, Carmen Haak, Jessica Janda, Karley Musil. “Great overall presentation.”

Second Place: *Kenosha News:* “Bride & Groom” – Abby Ferkin, Karen Rorek. “I liked the way the content focused on the local couples.”

Third Place: *Green Bay Press-Gazette:* “Best of the Bay” – Multiple Account Executives, Kristy Pigeon. “Great readers choice section!”

Honorable Mention: *Green Bay Press-Gazette:* “Howard Suamico” – Jacob Kinsman, Sara Reznichuk. “Great getaway section. Nicely done.”

Division B

First Place: *The Freeman,* Waukesha: “2015 Holiday Wish Book” – Pat Scheel, Helena Shoemaker, Colleen Miller, Anna Loebach. “Love the colors, the art and the overall concept ... delightful”

Second Place: *The Gazette,* Janesville: “Gazette Readers’ Choice” – Gazette Advertising Sales Staff, Terry Fleig, Donna Felland, Emily Rezin. “Bright and eye-catching”

Third Place: *The Gazette,* Janesville: “Cute Kids - Sponsored by Blain’s Farm & Fleet” – Tom Bradley, Jody Wisz, Terry Fleig. “Fun concept.”

Honorable Mention: *The Freeman,* Waukesha: “2016 Summer Fun Guide” – Pat Scheel, Helena Shoemaker, Colleen Miller, Anna Loebach. “Could use a little more fun and brightness. Ad seems subdued.”

Division D

First Place: *The Lakeland Times,* Minocqua: “Summer Times June-July” – Staff.

Second Place: *Trempealeau County Times,* Whitehall: “Hunting Guide” – Staff.

Third Place: *Vilas County News-*

Review, Eagle River: "Salute to Emergency Personnel" – Staff.

Honorable Mention: *Courier Press*, Prairie du Chien: "Spring Home and Garden 2016" – Staff.

Division E

First Place: *River Falls Journal*: "River Valley Weddings Magazine" – Meg O'Keefe Andrea. "Very well put together section with a great design, lots of ads and fantastic layout."

Second Place: *The Valders Journal*: "Children's Christmas Album" – Brian Thomsen, Mary Thomsen. "Unique idea to include local children's drawings and have each picture sponsored by a business."

Third Place: *Sauk Prairie Eagle*, Sauk City: "It's Your Business" – Dusty Drew. "Great use of advertorial in this special section."

Honorable Mention: *Clintonville Tribune Gazette*: "Firemen's Festival" – Staff. "Nice way to honor the community heroes by allowing businesses to sponsor the picture and bio of each firefighter."

Best Use of Color

Division A

First Place: *The Post-Crescent*, Appleton: "Refine MD" – Jessica Janda.

Second Place: *Green Bay Press-Gazette*: "Kimps Hardware" – Jacob Kinsman.

Third Place: *Green Bay Press-Gazette*: "Terry Naturally" – Jason Zoch.

Honorable Mention: *Leader-Telegram*, Eau Claire: "GET OUT AND PADDLE RIVERSIDE BIKE AND SKATE" – Shannon Riebe, Sara Bachand.

Division B

First Place: *The Gazette*, Janesville: "Polytek Midwest - Garage Floor Coatings" – Nina Perona, Donna Felland.

Second Place: *The Reporter*, Fond du Lac: "Fond du Lac Humane Society Cash Raffle" – Kristin Magruder.

Third Place: *Daily News*, West Bend: "Mother's Day chocolate" – Margaret Staudinger.

Division D

First Place: *Vilas County News-Review*, Eagle River: "Residential & Commercial Landscaping" – Betsy Boulden, Kurt Krueger. "Great impact by enlarging photo for background, it sells itself. Effective placement of type and color choice. Very nice."

Second Place: *The Portage County*

Gazette, Stevens Point: "Bottle Stop" – Paula O'Kray. "Knew right away what's being sold, good color balance and first time we've seen Santa drinking a beer."

Third Place: *The Lakeland Times*, Minocqua: "Lakeland Furniture" – Sasha Case, Tony Loomis. "Effective use of white space makes this ad. Mattress art in background would have helped."

Honorable Mention: *Vilas County News-Review*, Eagle River: "Derby 53 Years" – Betsy Boulden, Kurt Krueger, Gary Ridderbusch, Doug Etten. "Well coordinated colors, paired nicely within the header."

Division E

First Place: *Grant County Herald Independent*, Lancaster: "Great River Sportsman" – Jessica Brownell, Kevin Kelly. "Outstanding grand opening ad. Well presented. Very organized and easy to read. My guess is that they had a great grand opening! Very well done."

Second Place: *The Ripon Commonwealth Press*: "Paula's Custom Color July Ad" – Tami Conlon. "Can't go wrong with a paint ad in color. Great use of colors and photos. Got the message across in an organized format."

Third Place: *New Richmond News*: "Breakfast with Santa" – Roxanne Rhone, Nancy Long. "Well done ad. Lots of material that was presented very well. Nice layout."

Honorable Mention: *Grant County Herald Independent*, Lancaster: "Baby's First Christmas" – Jessica Brownell. "Can't go wrong with a baby ad. Everybody wants to look at babies. Well done and love the large photos in this. Good work."

Best Multiple Advertiser Spread

Division A

First Place: *Green Bay Press-Gazette*: "YOU Magazine - Bridal on Broadway" – Multiple Account Executives, Kristy Gnadt.

Second Place: *The Post-Crescent*, Appleton: "Curb Appeal" – Mike Cruse, Jen Braun, Karley Musil, Luke Larsen.

Division B

First Place: *The Freeman*, Waukesha: "March Mania" – Staff.

Second Place: *The Gazette*, Janesville: "What's On The Menu" – Gazette Advertising Sales Staff, Sarah Shelton, Deanna Lette.

Third Place: *Beloit Daily News*: "Design

an Ad" – Advertising Staff.

Honorable Mention: *The Gazette*, Janesville: "Christmas Worship – Group Advertisement" – Sarah Shelton.

Division D

First Place: *Monroe County Herald*, Sparta: "Leon Gaterfest" – Kristi Schwartzel, Amy Lewellen.

Second Place: *Vilas County News-Review*, Eagle River: "Festival of Lights" – Betsy Boulden, Sandy Roelle.

Third Place: *Vilas County News-Review*, Eagle River: "Hunt/Fish" – Betsy Boulden, Kurt Krueger, Steve Waier, Sandy Roelle.

Honorable Mention: *The Chronotype*, Rice Lake: "Barron County Honor Roll of Business" – Sandy Phillips.

Division E

First Place: *Lake Geneva Regional News*: "Downtown Centerspread" – Michael Reinsissel Jessica Franzene, Phil Bonyata, Duane Hove.

Second Place: *Pierce County Herald*, Ellsworth: "Santa Letters" – Staff.

Third Place: *The Platteville Journal*: "Family Pet Hospital Contractor Page" – Ann Rupp, Carol Tyson.

Honorable Mention: *Grant County Herald Independent*, Lancaster: "First Baby of 2016" – Jessica Brownell.

Best Use of Art Service

Division A

First Place: *Leader-Telegram*, Eau Claire: "HOLIDAY GIFT GUIDE / GNOME CONTEST" – Angela Rediess, Kathy Hayden.

Second Place: *Kenosha News*: "Subaru Spring Sales Event" – Julie Verbos-Morse, Kia Hauter.

Third Place: *Green Bay Press-Gazette*: "Allouez Rare Coin" – Jason Zoch.

Honorable Mention: *Green Bay Press-Gazette*: "Terry Naturally" – Jason Zoch.

Division B

First Place: *The Freeman*, Waukesha: "Pewaukee Veterinary Service" – Colleen Miller. "This ad would grab a readers attention with good use of colors and great layout."

Second Place: *Daily News*, West Bend: "Reach football fans" – Sandy Anderson, Kris Maas. "Less is more and this promotion is well laid out."

Third Place: *The Gazette*, Janesville: "Blain's Farm & Fleet: Kids Helping Kids – Holiday Toy Drive" – Terry Fleig. "Nicely

designed ad."

Honorable Mention: *The Gazette*, Janesville: "Rollin' Pin Bakery" – Trish Edwards. "Great use of a series of ads."

Division D

First Place: *The Star News*, Medford: "Nestle – Pizza on Earth" – Mandi Troiber, Todd Lundy.

Second Place: *Courier Press*: "Halloween Safety Tips" – Kim Corpian.

Third Place: *The Lakeland Times*, Minocqua: "Ahlborn Equipment" – Sasha Case, Gregg Walker.

Honorable Mention: *Vilas County News-Review*, Eagle River: "Festival of Lights" – Betsy Boulden, Sandy Roelle.

Division E

First Place: *River Falls Journal*: "Holiday guide" – Roxy Rhone.

Second Place: *The Platteville Journal*: "Midwest Restoration Carpet ad" – Ann Rupp, Carol Tyson.

Third Place: *The Ripon Commonwealth Press*: "Bonduelle" – Tami Conlon, Todd Sharp.

Division F

First Place: *Campbellsport News*: "It's Your Lucky Day" – Tracy Dieckman, Andrea Steger.

Best Use of Local Photography

Division A

First Place: *Green Bay Press-Gazette*: "Kimps Hardware" – Jacob Kinsman.

Second Place: *Green Bay Press-Gazette*: "YOU Fall Fashion Issue - ZuLou YOU Pick" – Jacob Kinsman.

Third Place: *Green Bay Press-Gazette*: "YOU Design Issue - Josephine's Attic" – Zac Dudzik.

Division B

First Place: *The Gazette*, Janesville: "Huntington Place: Making Transitions Easy" – Danielle Hackett, Donna Felland.

Second Place: *The Gazette*, Janesville: "Richards Construction Building & Design – Big or Small..." – Danielle Hackett.

Third Place: *The Gazette*, Janesville: "Rock County Honda: Happy Honda Days" – Trish Edwards, Donna Felland.

Division D

First Place: *The Star News*, Medford: "Rib Lake Baseball" – Mandi Troiber, Tresa

Blackburn, Todd Lundy, Kelly Schmidt.

Second Place: *The Lakeland Times*, Minocqua: “#1 News Source” – Sasha Case, Dean Hall.

Third Place: *The Portage County Gazette*, Stevens Point: “Flatoff” – Paula O’Kray.

Division E

First Place: *Lake Geneva Regional News*: “Baker House” – Michael Reinsissel. “Beautiful use of photos. This ad is about ambience and it does it well.”

Second Place: *River Falls Journal*: “Junior 3-Day Golf Clinic” – Meg O’Keefe Andrea. “The picture grabs your attention and does a good job of promoting this event.”

Third Place: *Clintonville Chronicle*: “Hard Core Strong Man Competition” – Tricia Rose, Greg Rose. “Very nice. The pictures say it all and makes you want to come watch this event.”

Honorable Mention: *The Ripon Commonwealth Press*: “Lester” – Tami Conlon. “This is a super ad. What a great use of colors and a delightful birthday ad.”

Best Advertising Sales Tool

Division A

First Place: *Leader-Telegram*, Eau Claire: “DIGITAL MEDIA KIT” – Angela Rediess, Kathy Hayden, Catie Carlson-Prueher.

Second Place: *Green Bay Press-Gazette*: “First Impression Dental Deck” – Jacob Kinsman.

Third Place: *Green Bay Press-Gazette*: “Terry Naturally Deck” – Jason Zoch.

Honorable Mention: *Green Bay Press-Gazette*: “YOU Magazine Media Kit” – Kristy Gnadt.

Division B

First Place: *The Gazette*, Janesville: “Tax Time: Tax Prep Resource Guide – Sales Sheet” – Sarah Shelton, Terry Fleig. “Having the calendar set this above the other rate sheets and marketing pieces. This more easily allows the customer to plan their placements. Very nice.”

Second Place: *The Gazette*, Janesville: “The Next Generation: The Evolution of South Central Wisconsin” – Matt Markham, Terry Fleig. “Very innovative project. Wish we’d do something like that at my paper.”

Third Place: *The Gazette*, Janesville: “Holiday Package 2015” – Matt Markham, Terry Fleig. “Straightforward holiday packages with the added value of a web presence. The Gazette does it right.”

Honorable Mention: *The Gazette*, Janesville: “SCWBA Parade of Homes” –

Tom Bradley, Terry Fleig. “Liked the modular sizing.”

Division D

First Place: *The Lakeland Times*, Minocqua: “Winter Special Promo” – Advertising Department. “Very simple idea, explained and executed well. Good promotion, especially in lean winter months. Everything I need to know is on the sheet.”

Second Place: *Vilas County News-Review*, Eagle River: “Traffic Jam” – Betsy Boulden, Kurt Krueger. “Nice house ad featuring cute ducklings.”

Third Place: *The Lakeland Times*, Minocqua: “Small Business Saturday promo” – Advertising Department. “Simple and smart. Good promotion for newspapers large and small.”

Honorable Mention: *Chilton Times-Journal*: “Chilton Times Journal Rate Card” – Brad Behnke. “Very solid rate card.”

Best Newspaper Promotion

Division A

First Place: *Wisconsin State Journal*, Madison: “Frothy Four” – Chris Drosner, Joe Allen, Shannon Ward, Carolina Sanchez.

Second Place: *Leader-Telegram*, Eau Claire: “HOLIDAY GIFT GUIDE / GNOME CONTEST” – Angela Rediess, Kathy Hayden.

Third Place: *Kenosha News*: “Stuffed Turkey Promo” – Bridget Holtz.

Division B

First Place: *The Gazette*, Janesville: “The Gazette/WCLO/WJVL: Quarter Century Club” – Sara Miller.

Second Place: *The Gazette*, Janesville: “GazetteXtra.com: All Devices. All Day. All Access.” – Sara Miller.

Third Place: *Daily News*, West Bend: “Back in My Day” – Sandy Anderson, Kris Maas.

Division D

First Place: *The Lakeland Times*, Minocqua: “#1 News Source” – Sasha Case, Dean Hall. “Lots of pop!”

Second Place: *The Lakeland Times*, Minocqua: “Integrity” – Lakeland Times Advertising Department. “Keeping it

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simple. Strong message.”

Third Place: *The Star News*, Medford: “Subscribe before it’s too late” – Sarah Komarek. “Nice holiday display.”

Honorable Mention: *Vilas County News-Review*, Eagle River: “Best Weekly” – Betsy Boulden, Kurt Krueger. “Lots going on but a nice way to remind readers of the successes of the newspaper.”

Division E

First Place: *The Ripon Commonwealth Press*: “Mother’s Day flowers” – Tami Conlon, Heather Shaver. “Mother’s Day is a holiday most papers have a challenge with. Well done on finding a way to promote!”

Second Place: *Clintonville Chronicle*: “BINGO Mania!” – Tricia Rose. “Great promotion and adds shelf life to advertisers. My only suggestion would be to hide this bingo numbers in sponsors ads. (just a thought).”

Third Place: *FYI Northwoods News*, Boulder Junction: “Advertising Works (but don’t take our word for it)” – Eric Johnson. “I think all newspapers battle hard against TV, radio, and online. This is a great way to add validity to print. Good job.”

Best Niche Publication - In Paper

Division A

First Place: *Green Bay Press-Gazette*: “199 Things” – Multiple Account Executives, Sara Reznick. “Fun and energetic. Great information for readership. Well done!”

Second Place: *Green Bay Press-Gazette*: “Back to School” – Multiple Account Executives, James Hoslet. “Great information for parents regardless what age group.”

Third Place: *Green Bay Press-Gazette*: “Senior Living Guide” – Multiple Account Executives, James Hoslet. “Very informative.”

Division B

First Place: *Beloit Daily News*: “Bridal Guide” – Advertising Staff. “Great presentation for this first time event. Informative and easy to follow for the reader.”

Second Place: *Daily News*, West Bend: “Discover Port” – Kris Maas. “Great presentation. Included a schedule of events, a map, directory of shops. Nice edit. Supported nicely with ads from advertisers. Interesting content.”

Third Place: *Baraboo News Republic*: “4th Annual Baraboo’s Big Top Parade” – Dusty Drew. “Great, colorful cover! Section was informative, organized and well presented.”

Honorable Mention: *The Gazette*, Janesville: “Real Estate for Today” – Tom Bradley, Gazette Advertising Sales Staff, Donna Felland, Emily Rezin. “Nice layout, clean, easy to follow. Table of contents good for a section like this.”

Division D

First Place: *The Lakeland Times*, Minocqua: “60th Annual Musky Jamboree” – Staff.

Second Place: *The Lakeland Times*, Minocqua: “Waterfront” – Staff.

Division E

First Place: *Lake Geneva Regional News*: “ILYA Regatta Guide” – Staff. “Beautiful niche publication that sets the bar in design, ad sales, layout and content. Very well done.”

Second Place: *Dodge County Pioneer*, Mayville: “Horicon Marsh Visitor” –

Heather Kopsi, Danielle Wiedmeyer, Gayle Rydstrom, Kathy Dobbratz. "Unique topic to focus on in a niche publication."

Third Place: *The Northwoods River News*, Rhinelander: "Hodag Country Festival Preview" – Staff. "Very well put together section."

Honorable Mention: *The Northwoods River News*, Rhinelander: "Holiday Songbook" – Staff. "Unique idea that a reader would keep for years."

Best Niche Publication - Out of Paper

Division A

First Place: *Green Bay Press-Gazette:* "YOU Magazine - Holiday Issue" – Multiple Account Executives, Kristy Pigeon. "Nice cover. Good content and a nice presentation. Good advertiser support."

Second Place: *Green Bay Press-Gazette:* "Recycle Guide" – Multiple Account Executives, Kristy Pigeon. "Good content, very informative. Nice layout."

Third Place: *Green Bay Press-Gazette:* "Spring Showcase of Homes" – Multiple Account Executives, James Hoslet. "Great section for promoting the event. Easy to follow and read. Table of contents and map on the center spread. Well done."

Honorable Mention: *Leader-Telegram*, Eau Claire: "Smartys" – Angela Rediess, Kathy Hayden. "Great way to promote the concept for kids. Educational."

Division B

First Place: *Daily News*, West Bend: "Visit Washington County" – Sandy Anderson. "Beautiful cover. The art is so vivid and clear."

Second Place: *Beloit Daily News:* "Tourism" – Advertising Staff. "Nice ad, but the color scheme isn't very eye-catching."

Third Place: *The Gazette*, Janesville: "SCWBA Parade of Homes – Ticket Holder Publication" – Tom Bradley, Gazette Advertising Sales Staff, Donna Felland, Laura Widner. "It looks nice. Could use a little more flair."

Honorable Mention: *The Gazette*, Janesville: "5ive For Women - November/December 2015 Issue" – Jenny Revels, Sara Miller. "I think this is a great looking cover, however both covers I reviewed had a very similar look with no diversity."

Division C

First Place: *The Monroe Times:* "Monroe

Parks and Recreation" – Jaimie Tran, Laura Hughes. "Superb information and outstanding photos."

Second Place: *Portage Daily Register:* "Columbia County 2016 Travel Guide" – Dusty Drew. "What great information about travelling and what to do in Columbia County!!!"

Third Place: *Baraboo News Republic:* "Sauk County Visitor's Guide" – Dusty Drew. "Love the cover! Great information!"

Division D

First Place: *The Lakeland Times*, Minocqua: "Northern Highland American Legion State Forest guide 2016" – Staff. "Beautifully designed section with plenty of attractive ads that would make this niche publication profitable!"

Second Place: *Waushara Argus*, Wautoma: "Waushara County Guide" – Marge Williams, Katie Schaefer, Karla Perkins, Dan Maglior. "Nicely put together niche publication."

Third Place: *Foto News*, Merrill: "2016 Area Guide" – Staff. "Great little guide with plenty of pictures that will catch your eye."

Honorable Mention: *The Star News*, Medford: "Beyond Expectations Taylor County Winter" – Staff. "A niche publication that every snowmobiler that lives or visits the area would want to read."

Division E

First Place: *Lake Geneva Regional News:* "Taste of the Lakes" – Staff.

Second Place: *The Northwoods River News*, Rhinelander: "Winter & Snowmobile Times" – Staff.

Third Place: *Clintonville Tribune Gazette:* "Discover Clintonville 2016" – Staff.

Honorable Mention: *Lake Geneva Regional News:* "Port of Call" – Staff.

Best Circulation Promotion

Division B

First Place: *The Gazette*, Janesville: "Gazette: Biggest Edition" – Sara Miller.

Second Place: *The Gazette*, Janesville: "GazetteXtra.com: Digital Sale" – Sara Miller.

Third Place: *Daily News*, West Bend: "Knock Knock" – Sandy Anderson, Tom Badger.

Division D

First Place: *The Ripon Commonwealth Press:* "College Sub" – Tami Conlon, Heather Shaver.

Second Place: *The Star News*, Medford:

"Buy One Get 1/2 One Free" – Sarah Komarek, Ann Kuehling, Kelly Schmidt.
Third Place: *The Ripon Commonwealth Press:* "2 for 1 Sub" – Tami Conlon.

Innovative Online Advertising

Division A

First Place: *Green Bay Press-Gazette:* "Seniors EBlast" – Multiple Account Executives. "Great photos, captions and way to catch the reader's eye."

Second Place: *Leader-Telegram*, Eau Claire: "GUESS THE GROCERIES CONTEST" – Angela Rediess, Alisa Goetch. "Color overload ... great concept though. Some of the text is hard to read due to the color."

Division B

First Place: *The Gazette*, Janesville: "Wisconsin Faces Memorial - Sponsored By BCCU" – Nina Perona, Terry Fleig.

Second Place: *The Gazette*, Janesville: "5ive For Women – Banner Ad" – Emily Rezin, Terry Fleig.

Third Place: *The Gazette*, Janesville: "The Big Sale – Click & Save / www.GazetteClickandSave.com" – Terry Fleig.

Honorable Mention: *The Gazette*, Janesville: "Walworth County Fair – Skillet Concert" – Kristina Veltri, Alejandra Chapel-Herrera.

Division E

First Place: *Lake Geneva Regional News:* "Reel Life TV" – Staff.

Second Place: *The Ripon Commonwealth Press:* "Surf Green Lake" – Tami Conlon.

Best Online Advertising - Single Ad - Static

Division A

First Place: *The Post-Crescent*, Appleton: "Are You Smarter than a Brain Surgeon" – Jessica Janda.

Second Place: *Leader-Telegram*, Eau Claire: "MEET THE AUTHOR" – Angela Rediess, Sara Bachand.

Third Place: *Green Bay Press-Gazette:* "First Impression Dental" – Jacob Kinsman.

Division B

First Place: *The Gazette*, Janesville: "Walworth County Fair – Largest County Fair in Wisconsin" – Kristina Veltri,

Alejandra Chapel-Herrera. "Awesome layout! Great color, art and very easy to read the message! Great Job!"

Second Place: *The Gazette*, Janesville: "Blain's Farm & Fleet: Kids Helping Kids – Holiday Toy Drive" – Tom Bradley, Terry Fleig. "Fun, colorful and eye appealing."

Third Place: *The Gazette*, Janesville: "Forward Janesville Business Expo – Banner Ad" – Tom Bradley, Terry Fleig. "Other than the word EXPO, very good layout and easy to read"

Division E

First Place: *The Ripon Commonwealth Press:* "Mascoutin" – Tami Conlon. "Very nice ad. Eye catching and great call to action."

Second Place: *New Richmond News:* "See you at Hammond Heartland Days" – Nancy Long.

Third Place: *The Ripon Commonwealth Press:* "Homan Ford" – Tami Conlon.

Best Online Advertising - Single Ad- Animated

Division A

First Place: *Green Bay Press-Gazette:* "Terry Naturally" – Jason Zoch. "This ad was eye-catching and made me want to see all frames."

Second Place: *The Post-Crescent*, Appleton: "Tree Ripe" – Melanie Briet, Mike Loader. "Nice ad. However, I thought lady in box detracted from overall ad."

Third Place: *Green Bay Press-Gazette:* "Kimps Hardware" – Jacob Kinsman.

Honorable Mention: *Leader-Telegram*, Eau Claire: "Sparkle Wash" – Sara Bachand, Shannon Riebe.

Division B

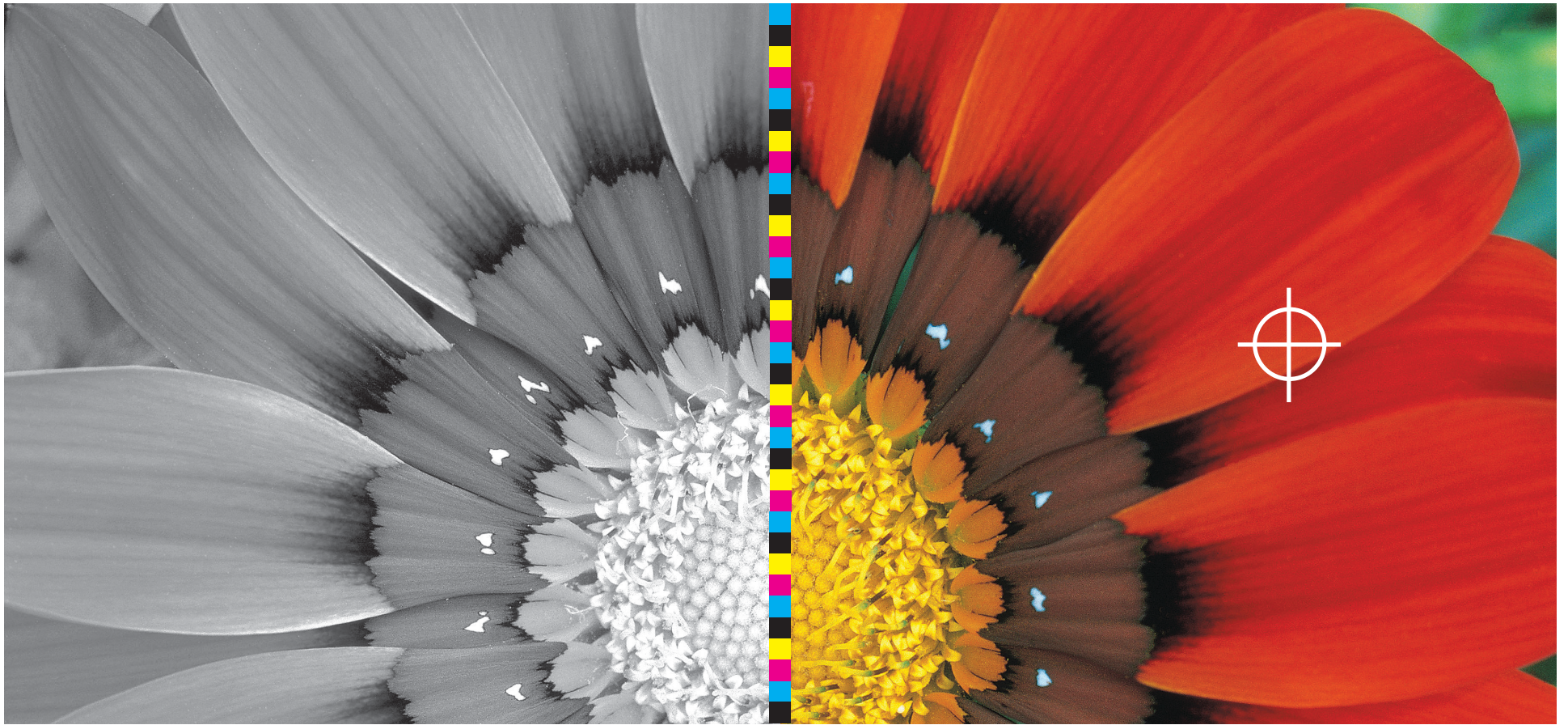
First Place: *The Reporter*, Fond du Lac: "Green Lake Wisconsin The Good Life" – Kristin Magruder. "Nice looking ad. Not flashy – more classy."

Second Place: *The Gazette*, Janesville: "Elkhorn Ribfest" – Kristina Veltri. "Fun ad – tied to the event and section well."

Third Place: *The Gazette*, Janesville: "Verlo Mattress: Verlo vs. Them – Sleep Better, Pay Less" – Mary Hamlin. "Good flow of content. Nice looking ad."

Division E

First Place: *New Richmond News:* "Computerized Color Matching Now at ACE" – Nancy Long. "Very nice ad. Great job."



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