Statewide Contest Spotlights Quality Journalism

Members of Montana Press Association reviewed 3,500 entries submitted by 106 Michigan newspapers/Individual members this year. The competition inspires all journalists to produce their best work, which in turn, nurtures stronger communities.

“We are pleased to present the best of the best from Michigan Press Association members from this year's Better Newspaper Contest. The outstanding quality of work shows that the press is strong in Michigan and we are proud of the accomplishments of all the winners. Based on the judge’s comments, many categories had several entries worthy of first place. The effort by these journalists and community newspapers show that excellence is the standard for newspapers in our state.” —Richard Lamb, president Michigan Press Association and publisher of the Presque Isle County Advance and Onaway Outlook.

The 2019 “Newspaper of the Year” award is presented to the top newspaper in eight circulation classes based on points accumulated (100 for first, 70 for second and 40 for third) in all Editorial contest categories. Winners of those awards are listed below.

### Daily Newspapers of the Year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Circulation Class</th>
<th>Total Points</th>
<th>Newspaper</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class A</td>
<td>1,090</td>
<td>Grand Rapids Press</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class B</td>
<td>670</td>
<td>Holland Sentinel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class C</td>
<td>940</td>
<td>Midland Daily News</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class D</td>
<td>840</td>
<td>Greenville Daily News</td>
</tr>
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</table>

### Weekly/News Media Publication Newspapers of the Year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Circulation Class</th>
<th>Total Points</th>
<th>Newspaper</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class A</td>
<td>990</td>
<td>Tri-County Times</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class B</td>
<td>1580</td>
<td>Leelanau Enterprise</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class C</td>
<td>900</td>
<td>Tri-City Times</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class D</td>
<td>950</td>
<td>The Advance</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Circulation Class Breakdown: Daily Class A – over 20,000; Daily Class B – 11,001-20,000; Daily Class C – 5,001-11,000; Daily Class D – 5,000 and under; Weekly Class A/Specialty Publications – over 15,000; Weekly Class B/Specialty Publications – 7,001-15,000; Weekly Class C/Specialty Publications – 3,001-7,000; Weekly Class D/Specialty Publications – 3,000 and under.

The 2019 Advertising Contest this year awarded the Excellence in Advertising Award to the overall winner in all the advertising categories. We based this award on points accumulated (100 for first, 70 for second and 40 for third) in all nine advertising categories. The three finalists are: Tri-County Times, Ludington Daily News and Tecumseh Herald, with the winner being the Tecumseh Herald.

The MPA Public Service Award recognizes a distinguished example of meritorious public service by a newspaper or newspaper individual that has made a significant contribution to the betterment of their community. The three finalists are: The Ann Arbor News for “How housing choice vouchers contribute to modern-day segregation”, Traverse City Record-Eagle for “Grand Traverse County Jail”, and Cadillac News for “PFAS”, with the award going to Traverse City Record-Eagle.

The MPA Rookie Writer Award recognizes exemplary efforts of new writers just breaking into journalism. The three finalists are: Kara Berg of The Lansing State Journal, Julie Goldberg of the Alpena News and Brandon Schreur of the Greenville Daily News, with the award going to Kara Berg.

The MPA Public Notice Journalism Award recognizes stories that exemplify the importance of public notice in newspapers. The three finalists are Iron Mountain Daily News for “DCHS sets hearing on $25M in borrowing”, Leelanau Enterprise for “Affordable Home” and Greenville Daily News for “Gov. Whitmer tells journalists she’ll strengthen transparency laws” with the award going to Leelanau Enterprise.

Best Coverage of the Suicide Epidemic and Awareness of the issue in Michigan will honor the best journalism covering the suicide epidemic in Michigan communities while following the World Health Organization’s & the American Association of Suicidology’s guidelines for safe reporting. Following these guidelines is shown to reduce the number of future deaths by suicide thus helping to save lives while not following them is shown to have the opposite
effect. The three finalists are Sturgis Journal for “Teen suicide series”, Bridge Magazine for “Suicide in Michigan” and Michigan Advance for “Study: Deaths of despair could drop with EITC, minimum wage boosts” with the award going to Sturgis Journal

The 2020 MPA Better Newspaper Contest opens August 1, 2020
Best Columnist

Daily A - Best Columnist
7 Entries.
First Place  
Lansing State Journal  
'I'm 87 years old for God's sake' says Lansing woman who killed rats with a hammer  
Judy Putnam
Second Place  
Detroit Free Press  
Brian Dickerson
Third Place  
Detroit Free Press  
Columns by Nancy Kaffer, Detroit Free Press  
Nancy Kaffer
Honorable Mention  
Grand Rapids Press  
Julie Mack for best columnist category for MLive/Grand Rapids Press  
Julie Mack

Daily B - Best Columnist
8 Entries
First Place  
Holland Sentinel  
Ray Buursma
Second Place  
Traverse City Record-Eagle  
Patti Brandt Burgess
Third Place  
Traverse City Record-Eagle  
Allison Batdorff
Honorable Mention  
The Monroe News  
Data shows women still handle bulk of housework  
Caitlin Taylor

Daily C - Best Columnist
12 Entries
First Place  
The Daily News, Iron Mountain  
Northwoods Notebook  
Betsy Bloom
Second Place  
Midland Daily News  
Every picture tells a story, don't it?  
Lori Qualls
Third Place  
Alpena News  
Justin A. Hinkley on journalism
Honorable Mention  
Midland Daily News  
Its time to leave behind the unique world of newspapers  
Dave Shane

Daily D - Best Columnist
16 Entries
First Place  
Niles Daily Star  
Ambrosia Neldon columns  
Ambrosia Neldon
Second Place  
Manistee News-Advocate  
Just when you thought you saw it all, something tops it  
Ken Grabowski
Third Place  
Huron Daily Tribune  
Follow your brain, not heart  
Seth Stapleton
Honorable Mention  
Sturgis Journal  
David T Farr columnist entry  
David Farr

Weekly/News Media A - Best Columnist
5 Entries
First Place  
Tri-County Times  
Vera Hogan
Second Place  
Tri-County Times  
What about the boys  
Vera Hogan
Third Place  
Tri-County Times  
The final point is well taken, well done.  
Vera Hogan
Honorable Mention  
Tri-County Times  
Our Life With Henry  
David Troppens

Weekly/News Media B - Best Columnist
10 Entries
First Place  
Grosse Pointe News  
The myth of participation trophies  
Mary Anne Brush
Second Place  
Grosse Pointe News  
Here's to the quiet people  
Laurel Kraus
Third Place  
Leelanau Enterprise  
Ironman Tips Scales  
Amy Hubbell
Honorable Mention  
Grosse Pointe News  
A telegram from the past  
Mary Anne Brush

Weekly/News Media C - Best Columnist
33 Entries
First Place  
Tecumseh Herald  
Jackie Koch - August 23 Column  
Jackie Koch
Second Place  
The Tri-City Times  
Pink cloud dissipating  
Tim Galbraith
Third Place  
Tecumseh Herald  
Jackie Koch - June 13 Column  
Jackie Koch
Honorable Mention  
Oceana's Herald-Journal  
A life too brief  
Mary Beth Crain

Weekly/News Media D - Best Columnist
16 Entries
First Place  
Michigan Advance  
I thought I was done with journalism. I was wrong. Heres why.  
Susan J. Demas
Second Place  
Flintside  
Right here in Flint  
Patrick Hayes
Third Place  
Michigan Advance  
John Engler, living embodiment of toxic masculinity  
Susan J. Demas
Honorable Mention  
Oscoda Press  
Coverage of the Oscoda PFAS contamination from the former Wurtsmith Air Force Base  
Jenny Haglund

Best Editorial

Daily A - Best Editorial
11 Entries
First Place  
Flint Journal  

2019 Better Newspaper Contest Editorial Results
2019 Better Newspaper Contest Editorial Results

Attorney general shouldn’t promise justice for Flint if she can’t deliver
John Counts

Second Place
Grand Rapids Press

Financial Transparency
MLive Editorial Board

Third Place
Grand Rapids Press
Kent County sheriff should be applauded and supported for standing up to ICE
Mickey Ciokajlo

Honorable Mention
Bridge Magazine
The miseducation of Michigan: How state fails kids in black history
Chastity Pratt

Daily B - Best Editorial
18 Entries
First Place
Jackson Citizen Patriot
Jackson City Council needs to wake up and rein in raises
Sara Scott

Second Place
Jackson Citizen Patriot
Its time for Whitmer, Nessel to step up and remove Sheriff Rand
Sara Scott

Third Place
Saginaw News
Church foot-dragging made matters worse in priest sex-abuse scandal
Eric English

Honorable Mention
The Ann Arbor News
Final exam: Time running out for Tecumseh school board
Khalil Al Hajal

Daily C - Best Editorial
13 Entries
First Place
Grand Haven Tribune
Democracy takes more than a Facebook post
Mark Brooky

Second Place
Grand Haven Tribune
AEDs needed in every public gathering place
Matt DeYoung

Third Place
Grand Haven Tribune
Plain language needed for ballot proposals
Mark Brooky

Daily D - Best Editorial
18 Entries
First Place
Huron Daily Tribune
Stand by Tuscola
Kate Hessling

Second Place
Niles Daily Star
Buchanan school board owes it to educators, community to listen
Ambrosia Neldon, Sarah Culton

Third Place
Huron Daily Tribune
Fighting the local opioid crisis
Kate Hessling

Honorable Mention
Manistee News-Advocate
OUR VIEW: Boos, Brews and Brats ... and the Elks
Michelle Graves, Ken Grabowski

Weekly/News Media B - Best Editorial
6 Entries
First Place
Leelanau Enterprise
Sunshine Week
John Elchert

Second Place
Leelanau Enterprise

Laws need not apply to enforcers
Alan Campbell

Third Place
Leelanau Enterprise
Township should follow its own ordinance
Alan Campbell

Honorable Mention
Leelanau Enterprise
Embrace Public Comment
Alan Campbell

Weekly/News Media C - Best Editorial
14 Entries
First Place
The Tri-City Times
Commitment to best local coverage in 2019
Catherine Minolli

Second Place
The Tri-City Times
Gift of literacy lasts a lifetime
Catherine Minolli

Third Place
The Tri-City Times
Diligent efforts bring lifesaving equipment to area
Catherine Minolli

Honorable Mention
Houghton Lake Resorder & Roscommon County Herald-News
Fresh perspective
Eric Hamp

Weekly/News Media D - Best Editorial
10 Entries
First Place
The Boyne City Gazette
No good reason not to vaccinate your children
Christopher Faulknor

Second Place
The Advance
School safety worthy of continued discussion
Marcia Loader

Third Place
Cass City Chronicle
Whitmer proposal too great a burden
Tom Montgomery

Honorable Mention
The Advance
Medicare for all not in the budget
Marcia Loader

Best Newspaper Design

Daily A - Best Newspaper Design
1 Entries
First Place
Grand Rapids Press
The Grand Rapids Press for Sunday, February 24, 2019
Grand Rapids Press staff

Daily B - Best Newspaper Design
2 Entries
First Place
Traverse City Record-Eagle
 Traverse City Record-Eagle: July 21, 2019
Record-Eagle staff

Second Place
Holland Sentinel
Holland Sentinel
Cassie Daszko

Daily C - Best Newspaper Design
5 Entries
First Place
Midland Daily News
May 25, 2019 edition
Midland Daily News

Second Place
Herald-Palladium
2019 Better Newspaper Contest Editorial Results

**Daily D - Best Newspaper Design**
- **3 Entries**
  - **First Place**
    - *Huron Daily Tribune*
    - Petoskey News-Review January 23, 2019
  - **Second Place**
    - *Sturgis Journal*
    - Spring plan
  - **Third Place**
    - *Hillsdale Daily News*
    - Hillsdale Daily News 11-21-18

**Weekly/News Media A - Best Newspaper Design**
- **2 Entries**
  - **First Place**
    - *Tri-County Times*
    - June 2, 2019
  - **Second Place**
    - *Huron County View*
    - Liz LaFave

**Weekly/News Media B - Best Newspaper Design**
- **1 Entries**
  - **First Place**
    - *Leelanau Enterprise*
    - The Final Frontier

**Weekly/News Media C - Best Newspaper Design**
- **8 Entries**
  - **First Place**
    - *The Tri-City Times*
    - 08-08-18, 09-12-18, 12-25-18
  - **Second Place**
    - *Frankenmuth News*
    - Frankenmuth News September 19, 2018
  - **Third Place**
    - *The Record*
    - The Record - July 24-30, 2019

**Weekly/News Media D - Best Newspaper Design**
- **4 Entries**
  - **First Place**
    - *Michigan Lawyers Weekly*
    - March 25, 2019 edition
  - **Second Place**
    - *The Boyne City Gazette*
    - December 26, 2018

**Weekly/News Media Design**
- **23 Entries**
  - **First Place**
    - *Daily Telegram*
    - All-County Football
  - **Second Place**
    - *Holland Sentinel*
    - Cassie Daszko Best Page
  - **Third Place**
    - *Holland Sentinel*
    - Claire Fisher Best Page

**Weekly/News Media Design**
- **12 Entries**
  - **First Place**
    - *Herald-Palladium*
    - HP Oscars Spread
  - **Second Place**
    - *Petoskey News-Review*
    - Petoskey News-Review April 25, 2019
  - **Third Place**
    - *Petoskey News-Review*
    - Petoskey News-Review sports front page

**Weekly/News Media Design**
- **26 Entries**
  - **First Place**
    - *Greenville Daily News*
    - Game of Throws
  - **Second Place**
    - *Niles Daily Star*
    - Pilling out
  - **Third Place**
    - *Huron Daily Tribune*
    - Dec. 22, 2018 front page
High spirits
Ambrosia Neldon

Weekly/News Media A - Best Page or Pages Design
5 Entries
First Place St. Clair Shores Sentinel
Remembering Gil Demers
Jason Clancy
Second Place West Bloomfield Beacon
Spring break trip sparks St. Mary's
Jason Clancy
Third Place Troy Times
Troy Times News & Notes
Jason Clancy
Honorable Mention Tri-County Times
Experience nature this summer
Jennifer Ward

Weekly/News Media B - Best Page or Pages Design
7 Entries
First Place Leelanau Enterprise
High Times
Eric Carlson, Amy Hubbell, Mike Anderson
Second Place Spinal Column Newsweekly
Front page design
Matt Danielson
Third Place Spinal Column Newsweekly
Front page design
Chris Wall
Honorable Mention Spinal Column Newsweekly
Front page design
Ali Armstrong

Weekly/News Media C - Best Page or Pages Design
18 Entries
First Place Gaylord Herald Times
Alpenfest sweeps into town
Wendy Wolfsen
Second Place The Record
2018 Armada Fair pages
Lyn Baxter
Third Place The County Press, Lapeer
Blueberries
Cynthia Alvado

Weekly/News Media D - Best Page or Pages Design
7 Entries
First Place Michigan Lawyers Weekly
September 24, 2018 front page
Matt Foster
Second Place Cassopolis Vigilant
'Paws'itive appreciation
Emily Sobecki
Third Place Cassopolis Vigilant
Operation Thanksgiving
Ambrosia Neldon

Best Sports Column
Daily A - Best Sports Column
10 Entries
First Place Grand Rapids Press
Holy smokes, Detroit's Kerryon Johnson is good

Second Place Grand Rapids Press
The Lions dont care what you or anyone else thinks of the Jahlani Tavai pick
Kyle Meinke

Third Place Lansing State Journal
3 former MSU players accused of rape. He's what Izzo can do
Graham Couch

Honorable Mention Grand Rapids Press
Swapping the ivory tower for cheap seats taught me something about what its like for Detroit Tigers fans
Evan Woodbery

Daily B - Best Sports Column
10 Entries
First Place Holland Sentinel
D'Addona: 50 years after iconic protest, how will history view anthem protests?
Dan D'Addona
Second Place Holland Sentinel
D'Addona: Sexism still hurting Womens World Cup
Dan D'Addona
Third Place Bay City Times
Bay City Western shows 18-game losing streak was a plight worth a fight
Lee Thompson

Honorable Mention Saginaw News
Why are girls still getting more concussions than boys in some sports?
Hugh Bernreuter

Daily C - Best Sports Column
9 Entries
First Place Midland Daily News
Kelly: Fave things about a memorable Little League summer
Fred Kelly
Second Place The Daily Press
Believe it: Sports are far more than just a game
Austin Hemmingson
Third Place Midland Daily News
Kelly: No one more deserving of a trophy than Gladwins Brokoff
Fred Kelly

Honorable Mention Midland Daily News
Kelly: Gladwin epitomized class when rival Beavers came calling
Fred Kelly

Daily D - Best Sports Column
7 Entries
First Place Manistee News-Advocate
Portagers muddy celebration captures essence of the game
Dylan Savela

Second Place The Pioneer
They'll be back
John Raffel

Third Place Greenville Daily News
I do it for the kids
Ryan Schlehuber

Honorable Mention Oceana's Herald-Journal
Pirates were right to stick with WMC
Amanda Roberts
Weekly/News Media C - Best Sports Column
6 Entries
First Place The County Press, Lapeer
Fallout continues for decades-old Title IX lawsuit
Lisa Paine
Second Place Presque Isle County Advance/Onaway Outlook
Senior Jared Sharpe
Peter Jakey
Third Place White Lake Beacon
‘Chicago double’ makes for a memorable day
Andy Roberts

Business/Agriculture News

Daily A - Business/Agriculture News
24 Entries
First Place Detroit Free Press
Out of Gear
Phoebe Wall Howard
Second Place Bridge Magazine
Michigan's child care crisis
Ron French, Mike Wilkinson
Third Place Detroit Free Press
PFAS contamination is Michigan's biggest environmental crisis in 40 years
Keith Matheny
Honorable Mention Lansing State Journal
How Lansing learned to love craft coffee shops
Haley Hansen

Daily B - Business/Agriculture News
25 Entries
First Place Daily Telegram
"The farmer's gamble: Wet and cool spring sets up more risks as farmers mull late planting"
Spencer Durham
Second Place Traverse City Record-Eagle
Pilot pollinator project takes flight locally
Shen McWhirter
Third Place Holland Sentinel
Holland discusses benefits, drawbacks to Sunday business in downtown
Cassandra Bondie
Honorable Mention Jackson Citizen Patriot
European Bakery bids tearful farewell to Jackson after 105 years
Taylor DesOrmeau

Daily C - Business/Agriculture News
20 Entries
First Place Herald-Palladium
The pain of the Great Recession
Tony Wittkowski
Second Place Cadillac News
Contractors so busy they’re turning down jobs this summer
Chris Lamphere
Third Place Ludington Daily News
Asparagus dumping
David Bossick
Honorable Mention Herald-Palladium
Taking on the glass ceiling
Tony Wittkowski
2019 Better Newspaper Contest Editorial Results

Nick Manes, Michael Gerstein, Ken Coleman

Second Place  
**Michigan Advance**
Whitmer wants to close skills gap, but some experts call it a lie
Nick Manes

Third Place  
**Flintside**
Spectacular Spudz nabs Business of the Year award
Jake Carah

Honorable Mention  
**Michigan Advance**
As local governments lose millions from dark stores, legislators seek fix
Nick Manes

Feature Photo

Daily A - Feature Photo
16 Entries
First Place  
**Kalamazoo Gazette**
Ice Shards
Joel Bissell

Second Place  
**Grand Rapids Press**
Buoy deployed from South Haven to track weather and waves on Lake Michigan
Cory Morse

Third Place  
**Grand Rapids Press**
Tulip Time parade
Cory Morse

Honorable Mention  
**Flint Journal**
Through the looking glass
Jake May

Daily B - Feature Photo
34 Entries
First Place  
**Saginaw News**
Strike a Pose
Rachel Ellis

Second Place  
**Jackson Citizen Patriot**
Prom Queen
Mary Lewandowski

Honorable Mention  
**Jackson Citizen Patriot**
Pigs as a Blanket
Nikos Frazier

Third Place  
**Traverse City Record-Eagle**
State Park
Jan-Michael Stump

Daily C - Feature Photo
27 Entries
First Place  
**Midland Daily News**
Goat Farm
Katy Kildee

Second Place  
**Midland Daily News**
Cornfest Victory
Katy Kildee

Honorable Mention  
**Midland Daily News**
Santa Dance
Katy Kildee

Third Place  
**The Daily Press**
Reaching new heights
Ilisa Matthes

Daily D - Feature Photo
12 Entries
First Place  
**The Daily Globe**

Lightning on the Lake
Jason Juno

Second Place  
**Greenville Daily News**
Belding 'boogaloo'
Cory Smith

Third Place  
**Huron Daily Tribune**
What a shot!
Tyler Leipprandt

Honorable Mention  
**Greenville Daily News**
The best of the fair
Cory Smith

Weekly/News Media A - Feature Photo
3 Entries
First Place  
**Tri-County Citizen**
Graduation sunflower
Jeanne Marcello

Second Place  
**Tri-County Citizen**
Pumpkins & Cat
Jeanne Marcello

Third Place  
**Tri-County Citizen**
Walk to school
Jeanne Marcello

Weekly/News Media B - Feature Photo
13 Entries
First Place  
**Leelanau Enterprise**
Peaceful Paddleboarding
Daniel Fortune

Second Place  
**The Citizen, Ortonville**
Summer Shower
Patrick McAbee

Third Place  
**The Citizen, Ortonville**
Ride on
Patrick McAbee

Honorable Mention  
**Gaylord Herald Times**
Fifth annual 5K Color Tour supports T.A.C.K.L.E.
Matt Wenzel

Weekly/News Media C - Feature Photo
20 Entries
First Place  
**The Record**
Best Friends
Mike Nicley

Second Place  
**The County Press, Lapeer**
Cat & Chipmunk
Lisa Paine

Third Place  
**Houghton Lake Resorter & Roscommon County Herald-News**
THANKING MR. BOB
Krista Tacey-Cater

Weekly/News Media D - Feature Photo
14 Entries
First Place  
**Cass City Chronicle**
Bloody amazing! Moon picture
Tom Montgomery

Second Place  
**The Advance**
The rides on the River Raisin Festival midway
Ashleigh Bruneau

Third Place  
**Michigan Advance**
Cobo Center new name game: Detroiters suggest Louis, Parks, Franklin
Ken Coleman
Honorable Mention  
Michigan Advance
Bill aims to end racial discrimination based on hairstyle
Ken Coleman

Feature Story

Daily A - Feature Story
27 Entries
First Place  
Bridge Magazine
One woman’s Facebook post leads to Michigan vote against gerrymandering
Riley Beggin
Second Place  
Lansing State Journal
From foster care to Sexton valedictorian to MSU med school: Robert Ray Jr.’s success story
Ray Jr.
Third Place  
Kalamazoo Gazette
Why I’m homeless: 7 stories from members of Kalamazoo’s community
Malachi Barrett
Honorable Mention  
Bridge Magazine
She was born to fight - and she did for three years without water
Joel Kurth

Daily B - Feature Story
38 Entries
First Place  
The Ann Arbor News
Man killed biking from Belle Isle took road less traveled
Gus Burns
Second Place  
Traverse City Record-Eagle
Dangerous Waters
Brooke Kansier
Third Place  
Muskegon Chronicle
A press pass gave Michigan teen front-row seat to Apollo 11
Ben Solis
Honorable Mention  
Battle Creek Enquirer
‘We’ve lost except what we can remember’: How a black neighborhood grew and died in Battle Creek
Nick Buckley

Daily C - Feature Story
48 Entries
First Place  
Alpena News
‘The job affects you’
Julie Riddle
Second Place  
Alpena News
Challenging, to say the least
Julie Riddle
Third Place  
Midland Daily News
No fanfare
Dave Shane
Honorable Mention  
Herald-Palladium
‘This is me’
Kate Genellie Kohs

Daily D - Feature Story
36 Entries
First Place  
Manistee News-Advocate
Giving the gift of life
Ken Grabowski
Second Place  
The Pioneer
FROM HOMELESS TO HOPEFUL: Ferris State student starts nonprofit dedicated to helping less fortunate
Tim Rath
Third Place  
The Pioneer
WELL DESERVED RETIREMENT: Smalla leaving Meceola Central Dispatch after 24 years
Tim Rath
Honorable Mention  
Niles Daily Star
Finding family
Sarah Culton
Weekly/News Media A - Feature Story
26 Entries
First Place  
Grosse Pointe Times
Retiring Grosse Pointe Farms detective reflects on his memorable cases and career
K. Michelle Moran
Second Place  
Chalkbeat
"The view from room 117: How one Detroit teacher is helping her fifth-graders read like fifth-graders"
Koby Levin
Third Place  
Huron County View
He was not my Rick
Ben Muir
Honorable Mention  
Grosse Pointe Times
Retiring veteran barber prepares for the final cut
K. Michelle Moran
Weekly/News Media B - Feature Story
22 Entries
First Place  
Livonia Observer
Once a Hawk, always a Hawk
Shelby Tankersley
Second Place  
Leelanau Enterprise
Historic Grist Mill Gets Second Chance
Jen Murphy
Third Place  
Livonia Observer
Couple bikes 4,500 miles in wild cross-country ride into the unknown
Susan Bromley
Honorable Mention  
Grosse Pointe Times
Challenge Day: North students take on challenge of building empathy
Mary Anne Brush
Weekly/News Media C - Feature Story
36 Entries
First Place  
Presque Isle County Advance/Onaway Outlook
Former Green Beret visits Vietnam
Peter Jakey
Second Place  
The Tri-City Times
From the heart
Catherine Minolli
Third Place  
The Tri-City Times
Finding forgiveness
Catherine Minolli
Honorable Mention  
Sanilac County News
Croswell company to the rescue!
Margaret Whitmer
Weekly/News Media D - Feature Story
22 Entries
First Place  
Flintside
Working 2 jobs, graduating valedictorian, and never giving up -- this Flint kid is headed to Stanford
Alexandria Brown

Second Place Michigan Advance
Barnes-storming: Veteran Democratic organizer is frontrunner to lead party in 19
Susan J. Demas

Third Place Glen Arbor Sun Newspaper
Migrants go silent in the fields during Fall Harvest
Jacob Wheeler
Honorable Mention Glen Arbor Sun Newspaper
High waters, shrinking beaches up ante over road end lake access
Linda Dewey

Government/Education News

Daily A - Government/Education News
25 Entries
First Place Kalamazoo Gazette
Kalamazoo school board ends dinner meetings that violate spirit of Open Meetings Act
Kayla Miller
Second Place Bridge Magazine
School hopping brings chaos to Detroit classrooms
Erin Einhorn, Chastity Pratt
Third Place Detroit Free Press
5 Michigan women lifers want clemency. Will Gov. Rick Snyder grant it?
Kristen Jordan Shamus
Honorable Mention Grand Rapids Press
Property owner pushes controversial river project
Brian McVicar

Daily B - Government/Education News
31 Entries
First Place Jackson Citizen Patriot
City of Jackson doles out big raises with little transparency/City vows to start doing evaluations of officials again
Taylor DesOrmeau
Second Place Jackson Citizen Patriot
Superintendent knew about alleged sexual relationship between former student, teacher for months
Marie Weidmayer
Third Place The Ann Arbor News
The Tecumseh School Board wanted to make its district great again. What it got was a ’meltdown’
Martin Slagter
Honorable Mention Jackson Citizen Patriot
A township in turmoil: How Leoni Township went from quirky to toxic
Taylor DesOrmeau

Daily C - Government/Education News
25 Entries
First Place Ludington Daily News
Grain bin home
Kelly Van FrankenHuyzen, Sarah Clinkscales, David Bossick
Second Place Petoskey News-Review
Classroom design
Jillian Fellows
Third Place Ludington Daily News
Emily FOIA
Riley Kelley, David Bossick

Honorable Mention Grand Haven Tribune
Adoption Day
Becky Vargo

Daily D - Government/Education News
27 Entries
First Place Hillsdale Daily News
Aquifer
Sam Fry
Second Place Dowagiac Daily News
Balancing act
Kelsey Hammon
Third Place Sentinel-Standard
Ionia County schools have a lot to consider with so many days lost to bad weather
Mitchell Boatman
Honorable Mention Sentinel-Standard
Ionia misses filing deadline, Nov. election will be all write-in candidates
Arpan Lobo, Nick Griffhorst

Weekly/News Media A - Government/Education News
6 Entries.
First Place Chalkbeat
Inside a turbulent year in Detroit’s charter schools
Koby Levin
Second Place Birmingham-Bloomfield Eagle
County Clerk investigated for ballot shortages
Tiffany Esshaki
Third Place Township View
Students release over 230 salmon in Tittabawassee River
Mandilee Hecht

Weekly/News Media B - Government/Education News
9 Entries
First Place Leelanau Enterprise
Glen Lake Schools
Amy Hubbell
Second Place Livonia Observer
Birmingham parents criticize African American history class as disrespectful
Susan Bromley
Third Place Leelanau Enterprise
Abortion Debate
Eric Carlson
Honorable Mention Leelanau Enterprise
Northport Sewer
Daniel Fortune

Weekly/News Media C - Government/Education News
18 Entries
First Place The Record
Recall campaign ignited
Stacy Sobotka, Larry Sobczak
Second Place Gaylord Herald Times
Vanderbilt school board struggles to keep members
Arielle Breen
Third Place Houghton Lake Resoriter & Roscommon County Herald-News
Before making a bang, know the rules
Eric Hamp, Cheryl Holladay, Krista Tacey-Cater
Honorable Mention Gaylord Herald Times
Vanderbilt school still in deficit, board surprised by audit
Arielle Breen

Weekly/News Media D - Government/Education News
15 Entries
First Place Michigan Advance
Whitmer wants to fix the damn roads. Citizens wonder why the last tax hike wasn’t enough.
Nick Manes, Susan J. Demas

Second Place Edwardsburg Argus
Paws of justice
Sarah Culton

Third Place Flintside
Genesee County grads nab more than $30 million in scholarships
Alexandria Brown

Honorable Mention Flintside
See inside the $1 million investment cleaning up Flint’s northside block by block
Jake Carah

News Enterprise Reporting
Daily A - News Enterprise Reporting
23 Entries
First Place Bridge Magazine
Anxious teachers. Flying staplers. Michigan schools prepare for active shooters
Ron French

Second Place Bridge Magazine
Detroit water crisis
Joel Kurth

Third Place Grand Rapids Press
Range of enterprise stories shows depth of PFAS contamination in Michigan
Paula Gardner, Garret Ellison

Honorable Mention Grand Rapids Press
Transparency project
Lauren Gibbons, Taylor DesOrmeau

Daily B - News Enterprise Reporting
35 Entries
First Place Saginaw News
Sex abuse scandal hits Catholic Church in Michigan
Cole Waterman, Heather Jordan

Second Place The Ann Arbor News
How housing choice vouchers contribute to modern-day segregation
Lauren Slagter

Third Place Jackson Citizen Patriot
Shootings on the rise as feuds fuel gun violence in Jackson
Nathan Clark

Honorable Mention The Ann Arbor News
Hazing, secrecy leave University of Michigan fraternities in turmoil
Martin Slagter

Daily C - News Enterprise Reporting
39 Entries
First Place Alpena News
Caring for Northeast Michigan
Staff

Second Place Alpena News
This is Us
Staff

Third Place Ludington Daily News

Opioid series
Colton Mokofsky

Honorable Mention Herald-Palladium
Being transgender in Southwest Michigan
Alexandra Newman

Daily D - News Enterprise Reporting
24 Entries
First Place Sturgis Journal
Marijuana series
Jef Rietsma, Elena Meadows, Michelle Patrick

Second Place Sturgis Journal
Teen anxiety series
Rosalie Currier, Michelle Patrick, Corky Emrick, Elena Meadows

Third Place Huron Daily Tribune
State stuns Tuscola
Mary Drier

Honorable Mention The Pioneer
Wrangle over water
Brandon Fountain

Weekly/News Media A - News Enterprise Reporting
19 Entries
First Place Chalkbeat
Inside Detroit’s efforts to address one of the biggest obstacles to better schools: sky-high absenteeism
Erin Einhorn, Lori Higgins

Second Place Birmingham-Bloomfield Eagle
Getting the 'hole' story
Tiffany Esshaki

Third Place Chalkbeat
In Detroit, a push to use African-American history and culture to help students succeed
Lori Higgins

Honorable Mention Birmingham-Bloomfield Eagle
PFAS: Exploring the impact on metro Detroit
Tiffany Esshaki

Weekly/News Media B - News Enterprise Reporting
11 Entries
First Place Livonia Observer
Teen’s murder case in mom’s death in limbo as appeals court meets this week
Susan Vela

Second Place Grosse Pointe News
Provencal properties petition to be annexed
Laurel Kraus

Third Place Livonia Observer
Mill Run project
David Veselenak

Honorable Mention Leelanau Enterprise
Volunteers Needed
Daniel Fortune

Weekly/News Media C - News Enterprise Reporting
19 Entries
First Place Gaylord Herald Times
Adult survivor shares experiences of child abuse by former teacher
Arielle Breen

Second Place Gaylord Herald Times
Handcuffed series
Brian Bliss
Third Place  
*The Tri-City Times*

- **Breaking the Cycle**
  Catherine Minolli

**Honorable Mention**  
*Tecumseh Herald*

- **Jackie Koch - Donation Bins**
  Jackie Koch

**Weekly/News Media D - News Enterprise Reporting**

15 Entries

**First Place**  
*Michigan Advance*

- **Oscoda residents vent to Air Force brass about PFAS worries**
  Michael Gerstein

**Second Place**  
*Michigan Advance*

- **Michigan State Police is a long way from true diversity, critics say**
  Ken Coleman

**Third Place**  
*Michigan Advance*

- **How to build a better Michigan House map**
  Nick Manes

**Honorable Mention**  
*Michigan Advance*

- **Pro-LGBTQ officials running Michigan is a sea change**
  Derek Robertson, Susan J. Demas

**News Photo**

**Daily A - News Photo**

22 Entries

**First Place**  
*Flint Journal*

- **Eight hospitalized after truck smashes into Flint protest**
  Jake May

**Second Place**  
*Flint Journal*

- **Like a good neighbor**
  Jake May

**Third Place**  
*Kalamazoo Gazette*

- **Sentencing**
  Emil Lippe

**Honorable Mention**  
*Detroit Free Press*

- **Justice for James**
  Junfu Han

**Daily B - News Photo**

24 Entries

**First Place**  
*Jackson Citizen Patriot*

- **Court tears**
  Mary Lewandowski

**Second Place**  
*Bay City Times*

- **This was Supposed to be Our Forever Home**
  Jake May

**Third Place**  
*The Ann Arbor News*

- **Murdered mom**
  Jacob Hamilton

**Honorable Mention**  
*Muskegon Chronicle*

- **Car in pool after police pursuit**
  Mike Krebs

**Daily C - News Photo**

15 Entries

**First Place**  
*Midland Daily News*

- **Veterans Day at MHS**
  Katy Kildee

**Second Place**  
*Midland Daily News*

- **Before the Auction**
  Katy Kildee

**Third Place**  
*Midland Daily News*

- **House fire silhouette**
  Katy Kildee

**Honorable Mention**  
*Midland Daily News*

- **Firefighter pause**
  Katy Kildee

**Daily D - News Photo**

12 Entries

**First Place**  
*Huron Daily Tribune*

- **Broken turbine**
  Renee Willis

**Second Place**  
*Greenville Daily News*

- **9 fire departments respond to Main Farms storage unit blaze**
  Cory Smith

**Third Place**  
*Greenville Daily News*

- **Party for Peyton**
  Cory Smith

**Honorable Mention**  
*The Daily Globe*

- **Burn baby burn: Norrie tree burn carries on in winter weather**
  Richard Jenkins

**Weekly/News Media A - News Photo**

5 Entries

**First Place**  
*Tri-County Times*

- **Derek Watson waits in court with family for his criminal sexual conduct case verdict**
  Tim Jagielo

**Second Place**  
*Chalkbeat*

- **The children of 8B: One classroom, 31 journeys, and the reason its so hard to fix Detroits schools**
  Anthony Lanzilote

**Third Place**  
*Huron County View*

- **Harbor Beach house fire**
  Ben Muir

**Weekly/News Media B - News Photo**

1 Entries

**First Place**  
*Grosse Pointe News*

- **House fire**
  Renee Landuyt

**Weekly/News Media C - News Photo**

5 Entries

**First Place**  
*Oceana's Herald-Journal*

- **Fire destroys Hart Lake home**
  John Cavanagh

**Second Place**  
*Houghton Lake Ressorter & Roscommon County Herald-News*

- **NO SERIOUS INJURIES REPORTED**
  Krista Tacey-Cater

**Third Place**  
*Belleville-Area Independent*

- **Toxic Algae**
  James Otzman

**Honorable Mention**  
*Houghton Lake Ressorter & Roscommon County Herald-News*

- **Spring Cleaning & Flower Prep**
  Krista Tacey-Cater

**Weekly/News Media D - News Photo**

15 Entries

**First Place**  
*The Advance*

- **Movie night fun**
  Brad Heineman
Second Place  
*Michigan Advance*

*The MSU campus after interim President John Engler’s resignation*

Michael Gerstein

Third Place  
*The Advance*

*Helicopter lands in soybean field*

Melissa Burnor

Honorable Mention  
*Michigan Advance*

*State police officer rides bike in the snow near the Capitol even during a state weather emergency*

Michael Gerstein

### Photo Story

#### Daily A - Photo Story

20 Entries

First Place  
*Grand Rapids Press*

*Quinn James convicted of murder in killing of East Kentwood student*

Mujey Dumbuya

Cory Morse

Second Place  
*Flint Journal*

*Five years too long*

Jake May

Third Place  
*Detroit Free Press*

*Goodbye to the Queen*

Staff

Honorable Mention  
*Flint Journal*

*Scouting for life*

Kaiti Sullivan

#### Daily B - Photo Story

23 Entries

First Place  
*Saginaw News*

*Officer Down*

Kaytie Boomer

Second Place  
*The Ann Arbor News*

*Detroit remembers Aretha Franklin*

Tanya Moutzalias

Third Place  
*Holland Sentinel*

*Polar vortex blasts Holland*

Brian Vernellis

Honorable Mention  
*Traverse City Record-Eagle*

*Cpl. Charles Lawler*

Jan-Michael Stump

#### Daily C - Photo Story

7 Entries

First Place  
*Midland Daily News*

*We Are Midland County*

Katy Kildee

Second Place  
*Midland Daily News*

*More Than Firefighters*

Katy Kildee

Third Place  
*Midland Daily News*

*A Family, A Fair*

Katy Kildee

Honorable Mention  
*The Daily News, Iron Mountain*

*Returning birds make for a rainbow at the feeders*

Betsy Bloom

#### Daily D - Photo Story

6 Entries

First Place  
*Greenville Daily News*

*Party for Peyton*

Cory Smith

Second Place  
*Greenville Daily News*

*Awaiting an 'awesome' future*

Cory Smith

Third Place  
*Manistee News-Advocate*

*MUDDY MEMORIES*

Dylan Savela

Weekly/News Media B - Photo Story

1 Entries

First Place  
*Leelanau Enterprise*

*Suttons Bay Graduation*

Daniel Fortune

Weekly/News Media C - Photo Story

13 Entries

First Place  
*Houghton Lake Resorter & Roscommon County Herald-News*

*RHS Steel Syndicate rocks the airwaves*

Krista Tacey-Cater

Second Place  
*Presque Isle County Advance/Onaway Outlook*

*Posen Potato Festival*

Peter Jakey

Third Place  
*Houghton Lake Resorter & Roscommon County Herald-News*

*Yo-Yo*

Krista Tacey-Cater

Honorable Mention  
*The Record*

*Birds say spring is around the corner*

Andrea Rose Meldrum

Weekly/News Media D - Photo Story

8 Entries

First Place  
*Flintside*

*A look back at Alley Fest 2019*

Mike Naddeo

Second Place  
*The Advance*

*Memorial Day celebrated locally*

Ashliegh Bruneau, Melissa Burnor

Third Place  
*The Boyne City Gazette*

*Girl Scouts Investiture Ceremony*

Christopher Faulknor

Honorable Mention  
*The Advance*

*Blissfield Class of 2019 Graduation*

Ashliegh Bruneau

### Special Section

#### Daily A - Special Section

7 Entries

First Place  
*Detroit Free Press*

*Corktown: Seven stories about Detroit's oldest neighborhood*

John Carlisle, Ryan Garza

Second Place  
*Lansing State Journal*

*Forward Momentum*

LSJ Staff

Third Place  
*Bridge Magazine*

*Fixing Michigan’s road mess*

Bridge Staff

Honorable Mention  
*Detroit Free Press*

*Aretha Louise Franklin: Eternal respect*

Detroit Free Press Staff
2019 Better Newspaper Contest Editorial Results

Daily B - Special Section
5 Entries
First Place  
Daily Telegram
Football Preview  
Scott McNeish
Second Place  
Traverse City Record-Eagle
Grand Traverse Scene  
Record-Eagle staff
Third Place  
The Monroe News
Monroe Magazine  
Staff
Honorable Mention  
Traverse City Record-Eagle
The Playbook  
Record-Eagle staff
First Place  
Leelanau Enterprise
Leelanau Color Tour 2019  
Enterprise Staff
Second Place  
Davison Index
Best of the Best  
Jenny Johnson
Third Place  
Grosse Pointe News
Fall Sports Preview  
Bob St. John
Honorable Mention  
Leelanau Enterprise
The Final Frontier  
Staff
Weekly/News Media A - Special Section
6 Entries
First Place  
Tri-County Times
Lake Living  
Jeff Seidel
Second Place  
Huron County View
Women in Agriculture  
Kyle Meinke
Third Place  
Lapeer Area View
Welcome Summer  
Matt Wenzel
Honorable Mention  
Lansing State Journal
Madden is more than a game, it’s a six-figure income  
Phil Friend
Weekly/News Media B - Special Section
5 Entries
First Place  
Detroit Free Press
Finding Joe Murphy  
Jeff Seidel
Second Place  
Grand Rapids Press
Almost murdered: The harrowing tale of one Lions player’s trip to Haiti  
Kyle Meinke
Third Place  
Grand Rapids Press
Khari Willis, the Indianapolis Colts and the realization of an NFL dream  
Matt Wenzel
Honorable Mention  
Lansing State Journal
Madden is more than a game, it’s a six-figure income  
Phil Friend
Weekly/News Media C - Special Section
18 Entries
First Place  
Tecumseh Herald
Homefront - Winter 18-19  
Nanci Heiney, Suzanne Hayes
Second Place  
Tecumseh Herald
Homefront - Fall 2018  
Nanci Heiney, Suzanne Hayes
Third Place  
Tecumseh Herald
Homefront - Summer 2019  
Nanci Heiney, Suzanne Hayes
Honorable Mention  
The Record
2018 Autumn/Winter Events and Adventures Guide  
Lyn Baxter
Weekly/News Media D - Special Section
5 Entries
First Place  
Michigan Lawyers Weekly
Hall of Fame 2019  
Lee Dryden, Heather Heater
Second Place  
Newberry News
Voices From The Past: A Collection of WWI Soldiers’ Letters  
Staff
Third Place  
Edwardsburg Argus
Edwardsburg State Championship Magazine  
Scott Novak, Ambrosia Neldon, Emily Sobecki
Honorable Mention  
The Advance
Destination Detroit  
Melissa Burnor, Brad Heineman, Marcia Loader, Eric May, Ashliegh Bruneau
Sports Feature
Daily A - Sports Feature
16 Entries
First Place  
Detroit Free Press
Finding Joe Murphy  
Jeff Seidel
Second Place  
Grand Rapids Press
Almost murdered: The harrowing tale of one Lions player’s trip to Haiti  
Kyle Meinke
Third Place  
Grand Rapids Press
Khari Willis, the Indianapolis Colts and the realization of an NFL dream  
Matt Wenzel
Honorable Mention  
Lansing State Journal
Madden is more than a game, it’s a six-figure income  
Phil Friend
2019 Better Newspaper Contest Editorial Results

Daily B - Sports Feature
28 Entries
First Place  Bay City Times
Gymnast-turned-lineman Grant Toutant is flippin impressive for DeLaSalle, Ohio State
Lee Thompson
Second Place  Battle Creek Enquirer
When their coach didn’t show, Battle Creek basketball team got an assist from Mason coach Nick Buckley
Third Place  Bay City Times
From ‘life sucks’ to lifesaver: Softball star’s extraordinary ride home
Lee Thompson
Honorable Mention  Traverse City Record-Eagle
New program increases coach involvement in sex abuse prevention
Jake Atnip

Daily C - Sports Feature
17 Entries
First Place  Livingston County Daily Press & Argus
Injured Howell football standout: ‘I’m happy it’s me and none of them’
Bill Khan
Second Place  Petoskey News-Review
In awe of Inanna
Drew Kochanny
Third Place  Cadillac News
This is my school
Marc Vieau
Honorable Mention  Herald-Palladium
Beyond basketball
Ben Sanders

Daily D - Sports Feature
28 Entries
First Place  Greenville Daily News
Back on track
Ryan Schlehuber
Second Place  Greenville Daily News
One thumb up
Alex Freeman
Third Place  Hillsdale Daily News
End of an Era
James Gensterblum
Honorable Mention  Greenville Daily News
Honoring a Ram
Ryan Schlehuber

Weekly/News Media A - Sports Feature
4 Entries
First Place  Tri-County Times
Phoebe, 7, makes her Draft Day decision
David Troppens
Second Place  Tri-County Times
The Face of Holly wrestling, Don Pluta, retiring after state meet
David Troppens
Third Place  Huron County View
For Mom: Heidi Bogan to run in Chicago Marathon for cancer awareness
Paul P. Adams
Honorable Mention  Huron County View
Homecoming: USA Host basketball game
Paul P. Adams

Weekly/News Media B - Sports Feature
7 Entries
Good variety of entries. Something for everyone.
First Place  Leelanau Enterprise
Suttons Bay Football Celebrates 50 Years
Grant McPherson
Second Place  Leelanau Enterprise
Schaub makes her mark on record book
Amy Hubbell
Third Place  Leelanau Enterprise
Siddall, Comets highlight Dream Team
Grant McPherson

Weekly/News Media C - Sports Feature
18 Entries
First Place  Tecumseh Herald
Kerry Hamilton Smith - Kanton Wrestling
Kerry Hamilton Smith
Second Place  White Lake Beacon
‘The missing piece we didn’t know we were missing’
Andy Roberts
Third Place  Houghton Lake Resorter & Roscommon County Herald-News
Bobcat in a Bulldog World
Erick Simons

Weekly/News Media D - Sports Feature
8 Entries
First Place  Flintside
Flintstones carving a new path to NBA -- as writers
Patrick Hayes
Second Place  The Advance
Local blind golf official cited by PGA for aiding people with disabilities
Brad Heineman
Third Place  Flintside
They’re scrappy, determined, and kicking butt: Flint City Bucks to host final four match
Patrick Hayes
Honorable Mention  The Advance
Cable returns to gridiron after second cancer
Melissa Burnor

Sports Photo

Daily A - Sports Photo
20 Entries
First Place  Flint Journal
Off the deep end
Jake May
Second Place  Detroit Free Press
Up and away
Junfu Han
Third Place  Lansing State Journal
Haslett celebrates
Nick King
Honorable Mention  Grand Rapids Press
Southfield A&T advances to D1 state championship with win over Muskegon
Cory Morse

Daily B - Sports Photo
29 Entries
First Place  Saginaw News
2019 Better Newspaper Contest Editorial Results

**A Hard Loss**
Rachel Ellis
Second Place  Muskegon Chronicle
Students compete in track and field meet
Kayla Renie

**Third Place**  The Ann Arbor News
Mudbowl
Jacob Hamilton
Honorable Mention  Jackson Citizen Patriot
State Champs
J. Scott Park

**Daily C - Sports Photo**
19 Entries
First Place  Herald-Palladium
Safe at home
Don Campbell
Second Place  The Daily News, Iron Mountain
Mountaineers fall in state finals
Adam Nemi
Third Place  Herald-Palladium
Smoky start
Don Campbell
Honorable Mention  Midland Daily News
Regionals Win
Katy Kildee

**Daily D - Sports Photo**
13 Entries
First Place  Niles Daily Star
Bobcats hold of late Niles rally for a victory
Scott Novak
Second Place  Niles Daily Star
'Distracted' Niles still routs Wildcats
Scott Novak
Third Place  Manistee News-Advocate
How sweet it is - top photo
Dylan Savela
Honorable Mention  Greenville Daily News
Better than expected
Ryan Schlehuber

**Weekly/News Media A - Sports Photo**
5 Entries
First Place  Township View
Katherine Felton collides with the Bad Axe goalie
Lamont Lenar
Second Place  Township View
Mallory McCartney runs past the Powers defenders
Lamont Lenar
Third Place  Huron County View
Liam Anderson bunker shot
Paul P. Adams
Honorable Mention  Tri-County Times
(Above) Fenton's Lauren Murphy taps a ball into the net for the only goal in the Tigers' 1-0 victory against Goodrich on Wednesday. David Troppens

**Weekly/News Media B - Sports Photo**
11 Entries
First Place  Leelanau Enterprise
Leland Advances To Final Four

**Weekly/News Media C - Sports Photo**
33 Entries
First Place  The Tri-City Times
Capacs Jordan Hellmuth (R) looks to make a
Kevin Kissane
Second Place  White Lake Beacon
Lumen Christi wears down Cats
Andy Roberts
Third Place  The County Press, Lapeer
Bindeschatel sets up for the forehand return
Lisa Paine
Honorable Mention  Houghton Lake Resorter & Roscommon
County Herald-News

**STRETCHING OUT FOR THE SCORE**
Eric Hamp

**Sports Writing**

**Daily A - Sports Writing**
12 Entries
First Place  Grand Rapids Press
Ill punch your eyes shut: Inside the Griffins wild playoff win
Peter Wallner
Second Place  Kalamazoo Gazette
A special goal at Portage Central: ‘Sometimes life is bigger than game’
Patrick Nothaft
Third Place  Grand Rapids Press
As stands were cleared, the Tigers played on: Heres what happened at Comerica Park
Evan Woodbery
Honorable Mention  Detroit Free Press
Kid Rock was nice, but Dylan Larkin stole show in one heart-melting moment
Jeff Seidel

Daily B - Sports Writing
2019 Better Newspaper Contest Editorial Results

**Daily C - Sports Writing**
16 Entries
First Place  *Livingston County Daily Press & Argus*
Inspired by 2014 team, Howell wins regional basketball championship
Bill Khan
Second Place  *Cadillac News*
Deja vu all over again
Marc Vieau
Third Place  *Cadillac News*
Tough to take
Marc Vieau
Honorable Mention  *Midland Daily News*
Still soaring: Freeland advances to state final
Fred Kelly

**Daily D - Sports Writing**
19 Entries
First Place  *Greenville Daily News*
On-the-edge victory
Ryan Schlehuber
Second Place  *Hillsdale Daily News*
A Fresh Start
James Gensterblum
Third Place  *Greenville Daily News*
Double redemption
Ryan Schlehuber
Honorable Mention  *Huron Daily Tribune*
Game-ending triple play gains national attention for USA
Mike Gallagher

**Weekly/News Media A - Sports Writing**
1 Entries
First Place  *Huron County View*
Run Until You Fly
Paul P. Adams

**Weekly/News Media B - Sports Writing**
4 Entries
First Place  *Spinal Column Newsweekly*
Lakeland HS track athlete Stark aims for another state title
Terry Foster
Second Place  *The Citizen, Ortonville*
56 hours on the Mac
David Fleet
Third Place  *Grosse Pointe News*
Theros picks to be serious student
Bob St. John
Honorable Mention  *Grosse Pointe News*
South mauls North, 54-0
Bob St. John

**Weekly/News Media C - Sports Writing**
18 Entries
First Place  *Crawford County Avalanche*
A Challenge Like No Other (AuSable River Canoe Marathon Preview)
Caleb Casey
Second Place  *White Lake Beacon*
Wildcats walk off winners at Oakridge
Andy Roberts
Third Place  *Crawford County Avalanche*
AuSable Marathon to feature record number of Womens Division teams
Caleb Casey
Honorable Mention  *Oceana’s Herald-Journal*
Tigers outlast Pirates in classic battle
Andy Roberts

**Weekly/News Media D - Sports Writing**
4 Entries
First Place  *The Advance*
Royals win second straight district championship
Marcia Loader
Second Place  *The Advance*
Whiteford the last team standing in local softball
Melissa Burnor
Third Place  *The Advance*
Tuttle “it’s starting to come together now’
Melissa Burnor
Honorable Mention  *The Advance*
District 81: MHS women champs
Melissa Burnor

**Spot News Story**

**Daily A - Spot News Story**
13 Entries
First Place  *Bridge Magazine*
Election coverage
Bridge Staff
Second Place  *Detroit Free Press*
The death of Aretha Franklin
Detroit Free Press Staff
Third Place  *Bridge Magazine*
Lawsuits, ballot reform and sterile deer: a recap of lame duck’s longest day
Riley Beggin, Mike Wilkinson
Honorable Mention  *Grand Rapids Press*
Michigan lawmaker indicted
John Agar, Lauren Gibbons, Malachi Barrett

**Daily B - Spot News Story**
29 Entries
First Place  *Saginaw News*
Officer shot during traffic stop in Saginaw County, police search for suspect
Saginaw News staff
Second Place  *The Ann Arbor News*
Students dismissed after girl stabbed at suburban Detroit high school  
Dana Afana, Gus Burns

**Third Place**  
Holland Sentinel
Police search Holland home connected to body mutilation suspect  
Audra Gamble

**Honorable Mention**  
Saginaw News
Truck carrying Christmas tree crashes, giving unexpected gift  
Bob Johnson

**Daily C - Spot News Story**  
25 Entries
First Place  
Cadillac News
Storm leaves wide swath of damage, downed trees and power lines  
Staff

**Second Place**  
Herald-Palladium
Benton Harbor Area Schools fight to stay open  
Louise Wrege

**Third Place**  
Grand Haven Tribune
Tragic day at Grand Haven State Park  
Becky Vargo

**Honorable Mention**  
Alpena News
Suspicious mom lands man behind bars  
Julie Riddle

**Daily D - Spot News Story**  
27 Entries
First Place  
Manistee News-Advocate
Mann remembered as 'passionate, caring'  
Ashlyn Korienek

**Second Place**  
Niles Daily Star
Murderer Robert Leamon III has resentencing hearing  
Beau Brocket Jr.

**Third Place**  
Sturgis Journal
Fire brings fatalities  
Corky Emrick

**Honorable Mention**  
Hillsdale Daily News
Beckhusen  
Sam Fry

**Weekly/News Media A - Spot News Story**  
12 Entries
First Place  
Troy Times
Barbs fly at Troy City Council meeting  
Terry Oparka

**Second Place**  
Troy Times
Former Troy city manager pleads to federal bribery charge  
Terry Oparka

**Third Place**  
Grosse Pointe Times
Fire claims Yorkshire Road home in Grosse Pointe Park  
K. Michelle Moran

**Honorable Mention**  
Huron County View
Former trooper accused of assault taken into custody after issuing threat  
Ben Muir

**Weekly/News Media B - Spot News Story**  
12 Entries
First Place  
Leelanau Enterprise
Cedar Reeling After Bloody Attack  
Amy Hubbell

**Second Place**  
Spinal Column Newsweekly
Milford Rental Ordinance story

2019 Better Newspaper Contest Editorial Results

**Third Place**  
Leelanau Enterprise
Ambulance Totaled  
Eric Carlson

**Honorable Mention**  
Livonia Observer
Alligator owner speaks on Puff's magic Milford escape  
Susan Bromley

**Weekly/News Media C - Spot News Story**  
12 Entries
First Place  
The Tri-City Times
Community Stunned double tragedy  
Tom Wearing

**Second Place**  
Houghton Lake Resor & Roscommon County Herald-News
Back to Back Blasts  
Cheryl Holladay, Krista Tacey-Cater, Thomas Reznich, Erick Simons, Eric Hamp

**Third Place**  
Belleville-Area Independent
Teacher on porn site pulled from Edgemont class  
Rosemary Otzman

**Honorable Mention**  
The County Press, Lapeer
Cleanup of gasoline leak continues  
Jeff Hogan

**Weekly/News Media D - Spot News Story**  
12 Entries
First Place  
The Boyne City Gazette
Epithets, Shouting, Disorder Top VOBF Meeting  
Christopher Faulknor, Benjamin Gohs

**Second Place**  
The Advance
Firefighters response heroic  
Melissa Burnor

**Third Place**  
Michigan Advance
AG to open hate crime unit amid surge in Michigan extremist groups  
Michael Gerstein

**Honorable Mention**  
Oscoda Press
OAS transitions to municipal water system  
Patricia Alvord

**Best Coverage of the Suicide Epidemic and Awareness of the issue in Michigan**

**Open Class - Best Coverage of the Suicide Epidemic and Awareness of the issue in Michigan**
7 Entries
First Place  
Sturgis Journal
Teen suicide series  
Rosalie Currier, Michelle Patrick, Corky Emrick

**Second Place**  
Michigan Advance
Study: Deaths of despair could drop with EITC, minimum wage boosts  
Derek Robertson

**Third Place**  
Bridge Magazine
suicide in Michigan  
Ted Roelofs

**Best FOIA Story**

**Open Class - Best FOIA Story**
32 Entries
Lots of great use of FOIA to report facts and data to local communities.
First Place  
Detroit Free Press
Mayor Mike Duggan set her up to succeed. That raises questions.
Kat Stafford, Joe Guillen

Second Place  Grand Rapids Press
Businesses discharging PFAS into Michigan’s waterways
Paula Gardner, Garret Ellison

Third Place  Traverse City Record-Eagle
Grand Traverse County jail captain
Mark Johnson, Alexa Zoellner

Honorable Mention  Bridge Magazine
Michigan lobbyist for polluter wrote law easing toxic cleanups, emails show
Craig Mauger, Jim Malewitz

Best Headline

Open Class - Best Headline
47 Entries
First Place  Battle Creek Enquirer
Under ex-CEO, Summit Pointe misspent millions (and bought an $838 bobcat suit), audit says
Matthew Miller

Second Place  The Ann Arbor News
Pending pot cases might be puffed and passed in Washtenaw County
Darcie Moran

Third Place  Detroit Free Press
BRIDGES TOO FAR .... GONE
Janet Graham

Honorable Mention  The Daily News, Iron Mountain
No Cain Do: Brewers OF saves HR to preserve Opening Day win
Adam Niemi

Best Photo

Open Class - Best Photo
17 Entries
First Place  Grand Rapids Press
"Duck dispute"
Cory Morse

Second Place  Flint Journal
He couldn’t live his life
Jake May

Third Place  Saginaw News
Mourning at the Mosque
Rachel Ellis

Honorable Mention  The Ann Arbor News
Mudbowl
Jacob Hamilton

Best Podcast

Open Class - Best Podcast
10 Entries
First Place  Holland Sentinel
Sentinel discusses charges against Jared Chance
Audra Gamble, Sarah Leach, Brian Vernellis

Second Place  The Ann Arbor News
When a killer calls
Darcie Moran, Gus Burns, Tanya Moutzalas, Bob Johnson

Third Place  Holland Sentinel
Shakeup in Hope College Music Department
Sarah Leach, Brian Vernellis

Honorable Mention  Holland Sentinel

The latest on shooting death of Troy "TJ" Wells
Audra Gamble, Sarah Leach, Brian Vernellis

Best Video Presentation

Open Class - Best Video Presentation
35 Entries
First Place  Detroit Free Press
This is Corktown
Ryan Garza, Brian Kaufman, John Carlisle

Second Place  Lansing State Journal
90-year-old Santa meant forever when he said forever
Matthew Dae Smith

Third Place  GreatLakesNow.org
You’ve Got Mail
Rob Green, Jordan Wingrove, Ward Dettwiler, Matt Ilas

Honorable Mention  Saginaw News
Sex abuse scandal hits Catholic Church in Michigan
Kaytie Boomer

Best Website

Open Class - Best Website
18 Entries
First Place  Flintside
Flintside
Flintside staff

Second Place  Grand Haven Tribune
Grand Haven Tribune
Staff

Third Place  Bridge Magazine
Bridge Magazine
AJ Jones

Honorable Mention  The Daily News, Iron Mountain
The Daily News, Iron Mountain www.ironmountaindailynews.com
Staff

Best Writing

Open Class - Best Writing
43 Entries
First Place  Detroit Free Press
Good writing coming from Michigan
Oakland County woman describes torture, abuse from husband and the day she killed him
Kristen Jordan Shamus

Second Place  Chalkbeat
If we dont learn from this one, shame on us: Lessons from a Detroit charter school that was set up to fail
Koby Levin

Third Place  The Ann Arbor News
A 16-year-old got life in prison. At 44, learning to live on the outside.
Darcie Afana

Honorable Mention  Grand Rapids Press
How an 800-mile canoe trip became a turning point in Michigan history
Emily Bingham

Most Innovative Story Telling

Open Class - Most Innovative Story Telling
20 Entries
First Place  Saginaw News
Saginaw Catholic diocese stonewalled investigators in sex abuse case
Saginaw News staff

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Place</th>
<th>Publication</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Second Place</td>
<td>Detroit Free Press</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Obama administration debated if GM, Chrysler should stay in Detroit</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staff</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Place</th>
<th>Publication</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Third Place</td>
<td>Lansing State Journal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tear gas, shattered windows and burning cars: How the 1999 riot went down in East Lansing</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eric Lacy, RJ Wolcott</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Honorable Mention</td>
<td>Holland Sentinel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>They loved unconditionally: Parents memorialize newlywed couple killed just weeks after wedding</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Audra Gamble</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Public Notice Journalism Award**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Publication</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Open Class</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Place</td>
<td>Leelanau Enterprise</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Affordable Home</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eric Carlson</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Second Place   | The Daily News, Iron Mountain |
| DCHS sets hearing on $25M in borrowing |
| Jim Anderson   |                             |

| Third Place    | Greenville Daily News       |
| Gov. Whitmer tells journalists she’ll strengthen transparency laws |
| Elisabeth Waldon |

**Public Service Award**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Open Class</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Place</td>
<td>Traverse City Record-Eagle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Traverse County jail</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Record-Eagle staff</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Second Place   | The Ann Arbor News           |
| How housing choice vouchers contribute to modern-day segregation |
| Lauren Slagter |

| Third Place    | Cadillac News  |
| PFAS           |
| Karen Hopper Usher |

| Honorable Mention | Holland Sentinel          |
| Close to Home series |
| Kate Carlson, Erin Dietzer, Audra Gamble, Sarah Heth, Lori Timmer |

**Rookie Writer**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Publication</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Open Class</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Place</td>
<td>Lansing State Journal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Portfolio of Kara Berg, Lansing State Journal</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kara Berg</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Second Place   | Greenville Daily News       |
| Brandon Schreur |

| Third Place    | Alpena News                 |
| Julie Goldberg |

| Honorable Mention | Kalamazoo Gazette          |
| Kayla Miller      |

**Best Digital Ad**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Publication</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Open Class</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Place</td>
<td>Cadillac News</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Real Estate One - Michelle - Online ad</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kevin Mist</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Second Place   | Cadillac News  |
| Ebels Hardware - online ad |
| Kevin Mist     |

**Community Business Promotions**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Publication</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Open Class</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Place</td>
<td>Ludington Daily News</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brirrewfest</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Judy Lytle</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Second Place   | Cadillac News  |
| Campground & Summer Fun Directory 2019 |
| Sales Team , Graphics |

| Third Place    | Tecumseh Herald |
| A Clinton Christmas Story |
| Nanci Heiney   |

| Honorable Mention | Leelanau Enterprise |
| Boater Safety    |
| Mike Anderson    |

**Entertaining Services**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Publication</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Open Class</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Place</td>
<td>Tecumseh Herald</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TCA - Season Preview</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nanci Heiney</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Second Place   | Ludington Daily News        |
| Bridal Show    |
| Judy Lytle     |

| Third Place    | Cadillac News  |
| Whitefish Lodge |
| Kevin Mist     |

| Honorable Mention | Cadillac News |
| Pilgrim Village Fishing Shop - Spring Fishing Ad |
| Katheryn Kidder , Graphics |

**General Retail**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Open Class</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Place</td>
<td>Tecumseh Herald</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kapnick Orchards - Summer Fruit</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nanci Heiney</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Second Place   | Ludington Daily News        |
| Ice Box Brand  |
| Julie Eilers   |

| Third Place    | Ludington Daily News        |
| We have the solutions - Catchmark Technology |
| Judy Lytle     |

| Honorable Mention | Cadillac News |
| CAPS Enrollment Ad |
| Mark Featherston , Graphics |
# 2019 Better Newspaper Contest Editorial Results

## Home Furnishings

**Open Class - Home Furnishings**  
17 Entries  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Place</th>
<th>Newspaper</th>
<th>Entry</th>
<th>Authors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First</td>
<td>Tri-County Times</td>
<td>Lil House of Carpet</td>
<td>Terese Allen, Lorie Gavulic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second</td>
<td>Ludington Daily News</td>
<td>Cooper's Floor Covering</td>
<td>Julie Eilers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Third</td>
<td>White Lake Beacon</td>
<td>Founder's Day Sale</td>
<td>Julie Eilers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Honorable Mention</td>
<td>Birmingham-Bloomfield Eagle</td>
<td>Preferred Marble &amp; Granite</td>
<td>Anna Brylkowski</td>
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</table>

## Home Services

**Open Class - Home Services**  
18 Entries  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Place</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First</td>
<td>Tri-County Times</td>
<td>Atlas Outdoor</td>
<td>Tiffany Marchand, Rebecca Andreski</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second</td>
<td>Tri-County Times</td>
<td>McNeill Construction</td>
<td>Kathleen Smith, Lorie Gavulic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Third</td>
<td>Tri-County Times</td>
<td>Patrick Widing</td>
<td>Terese Allen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Honorable Mention</td>
<td>White Lake Beacon</td>
<td>Martech</td>
<td>Julie Eilers</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## New and Used Vehicles

**Open Class - New and Used Vehicles**  
17 Entries  

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Place</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First</td>
<td>Tecumseh Herald</td>
<td>Suburban - Summer Homefront</td>
<td>Nanci Heiney</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second</td>
<td>Cadillac News</td>
<td>Classic Chevrolet - Reindeer Ad</td>
<td>Katheryn Kidder, Graphics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Third</td>
<td>Lapeer Area View</td>
<td>Jeep Gladiator</td>
<td>Nancy Mitchell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Honorable Mention</td>
<td>Lapeer Area View</td>
<td>Ray C's Open House</td>
<td>Nancy Mitchell</td>
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</table>

## Real Estate

**Open Class - Real Estate**  
15 Entries  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Place</th>
<th>Newspaper</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First</td>
<td>Tecumseh Herald</td>
<td>Jenn Kerstetter - Family</td>
<td>Cory Mathis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second</td>
<td>Tri-County Times</td>
<td>Jeffrey Glover</td>
<td>Tiffany Marchand</td>
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<tr>
<td>Third</td>
<td>Leelanau Enterprise</td>
<td>Schaub Team</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

## Restaurants

**Open Class - Restaurants**  
27 Entries  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Place</th>
<th>Newspaper</th>
<th>Entry</th>
<th>Authors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First</td>
<td>Tecumseh Herald</td>
<td>Meckley's - Excellence on Tap</td>
<td>Koda Woodward</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second</td>
<td>Ludington Daily News</td>
<td>Breakfast with Benefits</td>
<td>Judy Lyle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Third</td>
<td>Ludington Daily News</td>
<td>Mug Club</td>
<td>Judy Lyle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Honorable Mention</td>
<td>Birmingham-Bloomfield Eagle</td>
<td>La Mia Lebanese Cuisine</td>
<td>Brooke Wagenknecht</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Small Ads Work

**Open Class - Small Ads Work**  
20 Entries  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Place</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First</td>
<td>Tecumseh Herald</td>
<td>The Dog House - Energy Saving Mode</td>
<td>Nanci Heiney</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second</td>
<td>Spinal Column Newsweekly</td>
<td>American Legion Bingo</td>
<td>Lynn Donohue, Matt Danielson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Third</td>
<td>Tecumseh Herald</td>
<td>Handler Funeral Homes - Cherish the Memories</td>
<td>Cory Mathis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Honorable Mention</td>
<td>Leelanau Enterprise</td>
<td>Williams and Bay Pumping</td>
<td>Creative Dept</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>