

# 2021 MPA Better Newspaper Contest



*Embargo: Do not release before 3:00 p.m., Thursday, March 17, 2022*

## Statewide Contest Spotlights Quality Journalism

Members of Arkansas Press Association reviewed 2,909 entries submitted by 96 Michigan newspapers/Individual members this year. The competition inspires all journalists to produce their best work, which in turn, nurtures stronger communities.

"It's clear the huge amount of work our collective newsrooms are doing all over the state to serve their communities. Covering our beats is crucial work that supports the democratic process in each community in Michigan; it's work that supports the spirit of each community we serve. We have wonderful examples here of the tremendous talent we have in our state. These recent years have been difficult, but we will look back on these times with pride for all the positive impact we're having on our readers". Paul J. Heidbreder, Michigan Press Association President and Publisher of the Traverse City Record-Eagle

**The 2021 "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			Weekly Publication Newspapers of the Year		
Circulation Class	Total Points	Newspaper	Circulation Class	Total Points	Newspaper
Class A	1,010	Detroit Free Press	Class A	1980	Huron County View
Class B	770	The Ann Arbor News	Class B	2160	Leelanau Enterprise
Class C	560	Ludington Daily News	Class C	850	Grosse Pointe News
Class D	1320	Greenville Daily News	Class D	1990	The Advance

**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 – over 15,000; Weekly Class B – 7,001-15,000; Weekly Class C – 3,001-7,000; Weekly Class D – 3,000 and under.

**The 2021 Advertising Contest-Daily** this year we broke the Excellence in Advertising award into 2 different categories. We have the Daily and Non-Daily (Weekly/News Media publications). We based this award on points accumulated (100 for first, 70 for second and 40 for third) in all seventeen advertising categories. The three finalists for the Excellence in Advertising Daily class are: Greenville Daily News, Ludington Daily News, and Cadillac News, with the winner being the **Ludington Daily News**.

**The 2021 Advertising Contest-Non-Daily** this year we broke the Excellence in Advertising award into 2 different categories. We have the Daily and Non-Daily (Weekly/News Media publications). We based this award on points accumulated (100 for first, 70 for second and 40 for third) in all seventeen advertising categories. The three finalists for the Excellence in Advertising Non-Daily class are: Leelanau Enterprise, Grosse Pointe News, and Tecumseh Herald, with the winner being the **Tecumseh Herald**.

**The MPA Rookie Writer Award** recognizes exemplary efforts of new writers just breaking into journalism. The three finalists are: Sam Dodge of The Ann Arbor News, Amy Diaz of the Flint Beat and Sierra Clark of the Traverse City Record-Eagle, with the award going to **Amy Diaz**.

**The MPA Public Notice Journalism Award** recognizes stories that exemplify the importance of public notice in newspapers. The finalists are Greenville Daily News for "Pierson Township switches to the Daily News for public notice," The Daily News, Iron Mountain for "Proposed Verso permit would allow some air pollutants to rise," and Traverse City Record-Eagle for "PFAS" with the award going to **The Daily News, Iron Mountain**.

**Excellence in Policing and Social Justice Reporting** recognizes high-profile use-of-force incidents led to days of protests; civil unrest; and, tragically, further violence, destruction, and death. Unfortunately, these protests have, in far too many communities, further widened the gap between police agencies and their communities. Local journalism

reporting on this topic is crucial to communities in Michigan. Entries in this category will be judged on not only real time reporting on community events, but also the underlying. The three finalists are Bridge Michigan for “Struggles with Racism in Northern Michigan”, BridgeDetroit & NBC News for “Built to keep Black from White” and Michigan Advance for “The history and politics of police reform efforts in Michigan” with the award going to **BridgeDetroit & NBC News**.

**The Best FOIA Story Award** recognizes the best story using FOIA as the main tool to gain information. This award will shine a spotlight on the importance of FOIA in getting information about what is going on in government. The best story using FOIA as the main tool to gain information. The three finalists are: Grand Rapids Press for “Whitmer said Separation agreements like Robert Gordon’s are used often in State Government”, Bridge Michigan for “Emails: Michigan sheriff sought to seize voting machines amid Trump claims”, and Kalamazoo Gazette for “Kalamazoo closed-door meetings exposed”, with the award going to **Bridge Michigan**.

**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. Winners of those awards are listed below based on their circulation Class:

- Daily A: Traverse City Record-Eagle for “Antrim County Election Lawsuit”
- Daily B: Battle Creek Enquirer for “What happened to Battle Creek’s Econo Lodge”
- Daily C: Midland Daily News for “101: Voting absentee in City of Midland”
- Daily D: Greenville Daily News for “Wind Energy”
- Weekly B: Leelanau Enterprise for “Employment Section”
- Weekly C: Grosse Pointe News for “Matouk Romain Series”
- Weekly D: Charlevoix Courier for “Norwood Township hopes to reduce ambulance service costs”

***The 2022 MPA Better Newspaper Contest opens August 1, 2022.***

**Best Columnist**

**Daily A - Best Columnist**

15 Entries

**First Place**

**Traverse City Record-Eagle**

*Mardi Link*

**Second Place**

**Detroit Free Press**

*Columns (non-Sports) by Mitch Albom*

Mitch Albom

**Third Place**

**Grand Rapids Press**

*David L. DeBruyn of The Grand Rapids Press for best columnist category*

David DeBruyn

**Daily C - Best Columnist**

13 Entries

**First Place**

**The Daily News, Iron Mountain**

*Northwoods Notebook*

Betsy Bloom

**Second Place**

**The Argus-Press**

*Board shows contempt for public, employees - again*

Daniel Basso

**Third Place**

**The Daily News, Iron Mountain**

*Suzanne Killian*

**Daily D - Best Columnist**

19 Entries

**First Place**

**Petoskey News-Review**

*OPINION: Jeremy McBain*

Jeremy McBain

**Second Place**

**Hillsdale Daily News**

*Nancy Hastings*

**Third Place**

**Manistee News-Advocate**

*In honor of Lorene Parshall*

Arielle Breen

**Honorable Mention**

**Sturgis Journal**

*Laura Kurella columnist*

**Individual - Best Columnist**

1 Entries

**First Place**

**Craig Farrand**

*7 columns by Craig Farrand*

**Weekly A - Best Columnist**

2 Entries

**First Place**

**Huron County View**

*Another go-round with teaching A virtual tale*

Seth Stapleton

**Second Place**

**Huron County View**

*Thank you Dad for shaping me into the man I am today*

Paul Adams

**Weekly B - Best Columnist**

7 Entries

**First Place**

**Leelanau Enterprise**

*No fences*

Amy Hubbell

**Second Place**

**Leelanau Enterprise**

*County to regulate prayer*

Eric Carlson

**Third Place**

**Leelanau Enterprise**

*Opioids are not your friend*

Alan Campbell

**Honorable Mention**

**Tuscola County Advertiser**

*Building code problems have one common root*

Mark Haney

**Weekly C - Best Columnist**

14 Entries

**First Place**

**Oceana's Herald-Journal**

*Multiple columns*

Mary Beth Crain

**Second Place**

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

*Krista Tacey-Cater*

**Third Place**

**Grosse Pointe News**

*Michigan summers: A perspective from an outsider*

Kate Vanderstelt

**Weekly D - Best Columnist**

9 Entries

**First Place**

**The Advance**

*Debate issues, but avoid personal attacks in the process*

Marcia Loader

**Second Place**

**The Advance**

*A different view of police from a unique perspective*

Melissa Burnor

**Third Place**

**Michigan Lawyers Weekly**

*Three columns by Paul Fletcher*

Paul Fletcher

**Honorable Mention**

**Oscoda Press**

*Sunrise Reflections Column by Jason Ogden*

Jason Ogden

**Digital Presentation**

**Daily A - Best Digital Presentation**

5 Entries

**First Place**

**Grand Rapids Press**

*MLive/The Grand Rapids Press for the best digital presentation category*

Grand Rapids Press staff

**Second Place**

**Detroit Free Press**

*The Detroit Free Press/www.freep.com*

Free Press Staff

**Third Place**

**Traverse City Record-Eagle**

*Traverse City Record-Eagle*

Record-Eagle staff

**Daily B - Best Digital Presentation**

2 Entries

**First Place**

**Jackson Citizen Patriot**

*Jackson Citizen Patriot*

Staff

**Second Place**

**The Ann Arbor News**

*Ann Arbor News*

Staff

**Daily C - Best Digital Presentation**

4 Entries

**First Place**

**Midland Daily News**

*COVID-19 Vaccine Tracker*

Midland Daily News

**Second Place**

**Holland Sentinel**

*Holland Sentinel*

**Third Place**

**Herald-Palladium**

*The Herald-Palladium*  
HP Staff

**Daily D - Best Digital Presentation**

2 Entries

**First Place**

*Greenville Daily News*  
Staff

**Greenville Daily News**

**Second Place**

*Petoskey News-Review*  
Staff

**Petoskey News-Review**

**Weekly C - Best Digital Presentation**

2 Entries

**First Place**

*Website, Instagram, Facebook*  
John Pigott, GPN Staff

**Grosse Pointe News**

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

*Houghton Lake Resorter*  
Staff

**Best Editorial**

**Daily A - Best Editorial**

13 Entries

**First Place**

*When 'the market' toes the sand*  
Allison Batdorff

**Traverse City Record-Eagle**

**Second Place**

*End the reign of secrecy in state government*  
Ingrid Jacques

**Detroit News**

**Third Place**

*Clous' behavior was an affront to our democratic process*  
Nathan Payne

**Traverse City Record-Eagle**

**Daily C - Best Editorial**

5 Entries

**First Place**

*Respectfully, difference of opinion with city*  
David Bossick

**Ludington Daily News**

**Second Place**

*Make viewing ballots in recounts on screen permanent*  
David Bossick

**Ludington Daily News**

**Third Place**

*Time for region to get serious about virus precautions*  
Betsy Bloom, Jim Anderson

**The Daily News, Iron Mountain**

**Honorable Mention**

*The hidden danger of shelf ice*  
Mark Brooky

**Grand Haven Tribune**

**Daily D - Best Editorial**

1 Entries

**First Place**

*Insider section brimming with Huron County spirit*  
Scott Nunn

**Huron Daily Tribune**

**Weekly B - Best Editorial**

5 Entries

**First Place**

*We expect more*  
John Elchert

**Leelanau Enterprise**

**Second Place**

*Do as we say*

**Leelanau Enterprise**

John Elchert

**Third Place**

*Hopes high*  
John Elchert

**Leelanau Enterprise**

**Weekly C - Best Editorial**

17 Entries

**First Place**

*Redo superintendent search*  
Barb Arrigo

**Grosse Pointe News**

**Second Place**

*2020: Through a year remotely, reporting through a glass darkly*  
Rebecca Pierce

**Hastings Banner**

**Third Place**

*Votes, naysayers certifiable*  
Barb Arrigo

**Grosse Pointe News**

**Honorable Mention**

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

*Let them play*  
Eric Hamp

**Weekly D - Best Editorial**

9 Entries

**First Place**

*Applause may hurt village in the future*  
Marcia Loader

**The Advance**

**Second Place**

*Defend, but don't divide*  
Carol Stiffler

**Newberry News**

**Third Place**

*EDITORIAL: Oscoda's vacant buildings an issue officials should tackle*  
Jason Ogden

**Oscoda Press**

**Best Newspaper Design**

**Daily A - Best Newspaper Design**

3 Entries

**First Place**

*Grand Rapids Press for best newspaper design category*  
Grand Rapids Press staff

**Grand Rapids Press**

**Second Place**

*Traverse City Record-Eagle*  
Record-Eagle staff

**Traverse City Record-Eagle**

**Third Place**

*Anderson: Broken trust*  
James Hollar

**Detroit News**

**Daily C - Best Newspaper Design**

3 Entries

**First Place**

*Aug. 1-2 weekend edition*  
Midland Daily News

**Midland Daily News**

**Second Place**

*Ludington Daily News*  
Daily News staff

**Ludington Daily News**

**Third Place**

*The Daily News Iron Mountain*  
Staff

**The Daily News, Iron Mountain**

**Daily D - Best Newspaper Design**

3 Entries

**First Place**

**Manistee News-Advocate**

Sept. 29, 2020 edition  
 News Advocate Staff  
**Second Place** **Greenville Daily News**  
 Oct. 24, 2020 Daily News design  
 Darrin Clark  
**Third Place** **Niles Daily Star**  
 Several  
 Ambrosia Neldon

**Weekly A - Best Newspaper Design**  
 1 Entries  
**First Place** **Tri-County Times**  
 Best Design  
 Jennifer Ward

**Weekly B - Best Newspaper Design**  
 1 Entries  
**First Place** **Tuscola County Advertiser**  
 June 23, 2001 edition  
 Eric Warsinskey

**Weekly C - Best Newspaper Design**  
 5 Entries  
**First Place** **Tecumseh Herald**  
 Tecumseh Herald - June 3, 2021  
 Herald Staff

**Second Place** **Oceana's Herald-Journal**  
 March 4, 2021 edition of the OHJ  
 Andy Roberts, John Cavanagh, Amanda Dodge  
**Third Place** **White Lake Beacon**  
 June 20, 2021 edition of the White Lake Beacon  
 Amanda Dodge, Andy Roberts, Natalie Holmstrom

**Honorable Mention** **Houghton Lake Resorter & Roscommon County Herald-News**  
 Issue 39\_2020  
 Staff

**Weekly D - Best Newspaper Design**  
 1 Entries  
**First Place** **The Advance**  
 The Advance  
 Marcia Loader

**Best Page or Pages Design**

**Daily A - Best Page or Pages Design**  
 17 Entries  
**First Place** **Detroit Free Press**  
 A brewing storm: America faces growing dangers from armed groups  
 Bill Campling

**Second Place** **Detroit News**  
 Food for your love  
 Antone Amye  
**Third Place** **Detroit News**  
 Out of Luck?  
 James Hollar

**Honorable Mention** **Grand Rapids Press**  
 Wiping the slate clean - Criminal records will be set aside for some in Michigan  
 Grand Rapids Press staff

**Daily C - Best Page or Pages Design**  
 12 Entries  
**First Place** **Ludington Daily News**

What's the disconnect?  
 David Bossick  
**Second Place** **Herald-Palladium**  
 C1 and 2 Nov. 28, 2020

Andy Steinke  
**Third Place** **Midland Daily News**  
 Rallier in chief front page  
 Midland Daily News  
**Honorable Mention** **Ludington Daily News**  
 Life with COVID-19  
 David Bossick

**Daily D - Best Page or Pages Design**  
 4 Entries  
**First Place** **Greenville Daily News**  
 Dec. 30, 2020 front page  
 Darrin Clark

**Second Place** **Manistee News-Advocate**  
 Sept. 30, 2020 front page  
 News Advocate Staff  
**Third Place** **Manistee News-Advocate**  
 Sept. 24, 2020 sports front page  
 News Advocate Staff

**Honorable Mention** **Manistee News-Advocate**  
 Sept. 8, 2020  
 News Advocate Staff

**Weekly A - Best Page or Pages Design**  
 1 Entries  
**First Place** **Tri-County Times**  
 Best Page Design  
 Jennifer Ward

**Weekly B - Best Page or Pages Design**  
 8 Entries  
**First Place** **Leelanau Enterprise**  
 Sleeping Bear Dunes Timeline  
 Amy Hubbell, Mike Anderson

**Second Place** **Leelanau Enterprise**  
 Just Peachy  
 Amy Hubbell, Mike Anderson  
**Third Place** **Tuscola County Advertiser**  
 Clash of the Titans  
 Eric Warsinskey

**Honorable Mention** **Tuscola County Advertiser**  
 Splash pad makes a super soaked debut

**Weekly C - Best Page or Pages Design**  
 18 Entries  
**First Place** **Grosse Pointe News**  
 Tackling a Challenge - Fishing Contest Pages  
 Anne Gryzenia, Donna Zetterlund

**Second Place** **Grosse Pointe News**  
 Up North Report! Michigan Skiing Wonderland  
 Anne Gryzenia, Donna Zetterlund, Kelley Muzingo  
**Third Place** **Grosse Pointe News**  
 Valentine's Day  
 Anne Gryzenia, Renee Landuyt, Donna Zetterlund

**Honorable Mention** **White Lake Beacon**  
 Back on Top - Montague Football Commemorative Section centerfold  
 Amanda Dodge

**Weekly D - Best Page or Pages Design**

**4 Entries****First Place***Halloween in the Covid-19 era*

Marcia Loader

**The Advance****Second Place***Goodbye, Fred*

Carol Stiffler

**Newberry News****Third Place***Help Wanted*

Carol Stiffler

**Newberry News****Honorable Mention***This is it*

Carol Stiffler

**Newberry News****Best Sports Column****Daily A - Best Sports Column**

15 Entries

**First Place***How a new rule could save small-school football in Michigan*

Patrick Nothaft

**Kalamazoo Gazette****Second Place***PGA Tour Champions returning to Michigan is reason to be thankful despite many changes*

Brendan Savage

**Flint Journal****Third Place***Not knowing why is the worst part*

James Cook

**Traverse City Record-Eagle****Honorable Mention***Matt Patricia's reign of error was unraveling before it even began*

Kyle Meinke

**Grand Rapids Press****Daily B - Best Sports Column**

14 Entries

**First Place***Baseball coach misses biggest fan 'every day,' now that father's seat is empty*

Lee Thompson

**Bay City Times****Second Place***Huh? You aren't alone if you think some of these coronavirus rules for athletes don't make sense*

Hugh Bernreuter

**Saginaw News****Third Place***Hopeful despite heartbreak, soccer team brings game jerseys to practice, just in case*

Lee Thompson

**Bay City Times****Honorable Mention***Take a bow, Brady Rose: You're everything that's right about high school sports*

Scott DeCamp

**Muskegon Chronicle****Daily C - Best Sports Column**

18 Entries

**First Place***More than just a letterman*

Niles Kruger

**The Monroe News****Second Place***The statue must come down*

Ryan Weiss

**The Argus-Press****Third Place***Chastain: Welcome back to baseball, Loons fans!*

Austin Chastain

**Midland Daily News****Honorable Mention***It's (Bobby) Miller time at Dow Diamond*

Austin Chastain

**Midland Daily News****Daily D - Best Sports Column**

10 Entries

**First Place***Cass City softball team deserved better*

Mark Birdsall

**Huron Daily Tribune****Second Place***Here's why Cleveland was right to change his name*

Mark Birdsall

**Huron Daily Tribune****Third Place***Let's be happy some athletes can get things started*

Drew Kochanny

**Petoskey News-Review****Honorable Mention***You cannot have your cake and eat it too!*

Scott Novak

**Niles Daily Star****Weekly A - Best Sports Column**

3 Entries

**First Place***Blaming prep athletes for the rise in COVID cases is wrong*

Paul Adams

**Huron County View****Second Place***Despite the sadness, there's plenty to be thankful for*

Paul Adams

**Huron County View****Third Place***Down, but not out*

Paul Adams

**Huron County View****Weekly C - Best Sports Column**

6 Entries

**First Place***More consolidation is bad for college football and its fans*

Andy Roberts

**Oceana's Herald-Journal****Second Place***Sports activity should be allowed to resume*

Andy Roberts

**White Lake Beacon****Third Place***Thank You, Fall 2020*

Mike Gallagher

**Sanilac County News****Honorable Mention***To everyone who made 2020-21 in sports possible, thank you*

Andy Roberts

**Oceana's Herald-Journal****Weekly D - Best Sports Column**

4 Entries

**First Place***Sports Preview: Honoring those student athletes who want to play*

Marcia Loader

**The Advance****Second Place***From the pressbox: Our kids continue to amaze me*

Dan Hardenbrook

**Newberry News****Third Place***PREV Previous PREVIOUS Sunrise Reflections: Thankful that local groups have Adopted-A-Highway I was cruising back to Oscoda from a trip to Tawas City on Saturday and noticed ... NEXT Next Up**NEXT UP Frankly Speaking: Dirt track days: Frank's memories*

Jason Ogden

**Oscoda Press****Honorable Mention***From the pressbox: Magnusson pitches a perfect game***Newberry News**

Dan Hardenbrook

**Best Video Presentation**

**Daily A - Best Video Presentation**

18 Entries

**First Place** **Detroit Free Press**

*Heartbreaking deaths of Michigan's earliest COVID-19 victims: Stories reveal the true toll*

Brian Kaufman, Gina Kaufman, Elisha Anderson, Kristi Tanner

**Second Place** **Grand Rapids Press**

*The Deadliest Great Lake*

Jeremy Marble, Lori Chapman, Neil Blake, Gillian Van Stratt

**Third Place** **Detroit News**

*Michigan Marvels*

David Guralnick, Andy Morrison

**Honorable Mention** **Grand Rapids Press**

*The Fight for Environmental Justice in Michigan*

Staff

**Daily B - Best Video Presentation**

10 Entries

**First Place** **Bay City Times**

*College and high school swimmers utilize Saginaw Bay to continue practicing during pandemic*

Kaytie Boomer

**Second Place** **The Ann Arbor News**

*Michigan Ladder Company closes after 120 years in Ypsilanti*

Jacob Hamilton

**Third Place** **Saginaw News**

*Sanford Dam debris cleanup kicks off during last week of October 2020*

Kaytie Boomer

**Honorable Mention** **Jackson Citizen Patriot**

*Vigil brings hundreds to Michigan Center after Easter Horses tragedy: 'A reflection of their legacy'*

J. Scott Park

**Daily C - Best Video Presentation**

7 Entries

**First Place** **Holland Sentinel**

*Volunteer helps keep DeZwaan windmill running*

Brian Vernellis

**Second Place** **Livingston County Daily Press & Argus**

*Highlights, interviews from Brighton-Howell OT hockey game*

Bill Khan

**Third Place** **Holland Sentinel**

*Signing with Santa*

Brian Vernellis

**Honorable Mention** **Midland Daily News**

*Sneak peek video: New Loons organist*

Austin Chastain

**Daily D - Best Video Presentation**

1 Entries

**First Place** **Greenville Daily News**

*Kate Hansen's 100th Birthday Celebration*

Cory Smith

**Business/Agriculture News**

**Daily A - Business/Agriculture News**

21 Entries

**First Place** **Detroit News**

*Chip woes: How a tiny part upended the global auto industry*

Jordyn Grzelewski, Kalea Hall, Riley Beggin, Breana Noble

**Second Place** **Grand Rapids Press**

*'They don't care': Blue Cross bashed for making union employees work in person, skirting COVID-19 rules*

Taylor DesOrmeau

**Third Place** **Detroit Free Press**

*How discontinued Maverick sedan evolved into Ford's newest thing in little pickups*

Phoebe Wall Howard

**Honorable Mention** **Detroit News**

*Line 5 becomes 'grenade' of controversy in Michigan*

Leonard N. Fleming

**Daily B - Business/Agriculture News**

17 Entries

**First Place** **The Ann Arbor News**

*Briarwood Mall keeps losing stores. What does that mean for the future?*

Dana Afana

**Second Place** **The Ann Arbor News**

*Ann Arbor housing development*

Ryan Stanton

**Third Place** **Jackson Citizen Patriot**

*When COVID hit, he quit his job and put on a kilt to chase his homestead dreams*

McKenna Ross

**Honorable Mention** **Saginaw News**

*Thousands of good jobs are available in mid-Michigan and here's how to get one*

Heather Jordan

**Daily C - Business/Agriculture News**

17 Entries

**First Place** **Midland Daily News**

*In struggle for hospital PPE supplies, Midland businesses are unsung heroes*

Lori Qualls

**Second Place** **Ludington Daily News**

*Funeral home owners concerned with limits*

Jeff Kiessel

**Third Place** **Cadillac News**

*Local officials say EMS service on life support, funding change needed*

Chris Lamphere

**Honorable Mention** **Midland Daily News**

*A boom industry: Nearby Bay County is cashing in on recreational marijuana. Is Midland missing out?*

Ashley Schafer

**Daily D - Business/Agriculture News**

23 Entries

**First Place** **Greenville Daily News**

*Local wind/solar energy coverage*

Elisabeth Waldon

**Second Place** **Niles Daily Star**

*Love no bounds*

Christina Clark, Emily Sobecki

**Third Place** **The Pioneer**

*Group to tackle deteriorating dams in Mecosta County*

Olivia Fellows

**Honorable Mention** **Manistee News-Advocate**

Report: Non-gaming tribal impact in region totals about \$13.8M  
Arielle Breen

**Weekly A - Business/Agriculture News**

5 Entries

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

*SERIES: Agriculture Today*

Sharon Stone

**Second Place** *Tri-County Times*

*Fenton Community Garden helps families in need*

Hannah Ball

**Third Place** *Huron County View*

*Local businesses struggling to find employees*

Seth Stapleton

**Honorable Mention** *Huron County View*

*State commercial fisheries in lawsuit with DNR*

Seth Stapleton

**Weekly B - Business/Agriculture News**

11 Entries

**First Place** *Tuscola County Advertiser*

*New kind of plant: Vassar sows economic seeds with promise of marijuana revenue*

Tom Gilchrist

**Second Place** *Tuscola County Advertiser*

*Owner discusses Starbrite closure, community impact*

Alex Szwarc

**Third Place** *Tuscola County Advertiser*

*\$10 MILLION CANNABIS 'CAMPUS' PLANNED FOR EX-FOUNDRY*

Tom Gilchrist

**Honorable Mention** *Leelanau Enterprise*

*Tribal fisherman*

Alan Campbell

**Weekly C - Business/Agriculture News**

21 Entries

**First Place** *Tecumseh Herald*

*Solar Farm Proposal Divies township*

Mary Kay McPartlin

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

*Robbins Nest brood takes flight*

Barbara Gosselar

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

*Schaner's fruit stand has long and interesting history*

Sharon Hallack

**Weekly D - Business/Agriculture News**

3 Entries

**First Place** *The Advance*

*Not what you may think: Farmer says it's lime byproduct of water processing*

Melissa Burnor

**Second Place** *The Advance*

*Field Day features high-tech ag*

Amy Campbell

**Third Place** *Michigan Lawyers Weekly*

*Zoom hearings in Michigan*

Kelly Caplan

**Feature Photo**

**Daily A - Feature Photo**

22 Entries

**First Place** *Grand Rapids Press*

*Grand Rapids clears out homeless encampment*

Cory Morse

**Second Place** *Lansing State Journal*

*Social distance Santa*

Nick King

**Third Place** *Grand Rapids Press*

*New beginning*

Cory Morse

**Honorable Mention** *Kalamazoo Gazette*

*Frozen Lighthouse*

Joel Bissell

**Daily B - Feature Photo**

15 Entries

**First Place** *Battle Creek Enquirer*

*24-hour look at day center*

Alyssa Keown

**Second Place** *Saginaw News*

*Power of Dad*

Kaytie Boomer

**Third Place** *Bay City Times*

*Endlessly Giving Barber*

Kaytie Boomer

**Daily C - Feature Photo**

22 Entries

**First Place** *Herald-Palladium*

*Shadow mural*

Don Campbell

**Second Place** *Herald-Palladium*

*Snowy walk*

Don Campbell

**Third Place** *Midland Daily News*

*Caramel Apple Dip*

Katy Kildee

**Honorable Mention** *Ludington Daily News*

*Remember the journey*

Jeff Kiessel

**Daily D - Feature Photo**

21 Entries

**First Place** *Greenville Daily News*

*'Lights Out' carries on*

Cory Smith

**Second Place** *Huron Daily Tribune*

*Storm clouds brew off Port Austin*

Teresa Homs

**Third Place** *Greenville Daily News*

*Rake 'n' Run*

Cory Smith

**Honorable Mention** *Greenville Daily News*

*Prom-inent party*

Cory Smith

**Weekly A - Feature Photo**

4 Entries

**First Place** *Huron County View*

*A colorful sky*

Paul Adams

**Second Place** *Huron County View*

*Dragon Horse*



Seth Stapleton  
**Third Place** *Huron County View*  
*A celebration of lights*  
 Seth Stapleton

**Weekly B - Feature Photo**  
 13 Entries  
**First Place** *The Citizen, Ortonville*  
*Flippin' over spring*  
 Patrick McAbee

**Second Place** *Leelanau Enterprise*  
*Sledding*  
 Eric Carlson

**Third Place** *The Citizen, Ortonville*  
*Water works*  
 Patrick McAbee

**Honorable Mention** *Leelanau Enterprise*  
*Paraglider*  
 Pat Varley

**Weekly C - Feature Photo**  
 14 Entries  
**First Place** *Presque Isle County Advance/Onaway Outlook*  
*Purple Sunrise*  
 Richard Lamb

**Second Place** *Houghton Lake Resorter & Roscommon County Herald-News*  
*THE SINGLE QUINTS DRUMMER*  
 Krista Tacey-Cater

**Third Place** *The Record*  
*Summer's end*  
 Larry Sobczak

**Honorable Mention** *Houghton Lake Resorter & Roscommon County Herald-News*  
*Flawless Reflection*  
 Cheryl Holladay

**Weekly D - Feature Photo**  
 3 Entries  
**First Place** *The Advance*  
*Fun at the Fest - Dinosaur photo only*  
 Ashliegh Bruneau

**Second Place** *The Advance*  
*The children enjoyed seeing real reindeer.*  
 Ashliegh Bruneau

**Third Place** *The Advance*  
*Yuletide Ride*  
 Ashliegh Bruneau

**Feature Story**

**Daily A - Feature Story**  
 28 Entries  
**First Place** *Detroit News*  
*West Michigan young killer saved by love, including from victim's grandma*  
 Francis Donnelly

**Second Place** *Detroit Free Press*  
*In darkness of pandemic, Wyandotte man's drug addiction got worse - and then deadly*  
 Georgea Kovanis

**Third Place** *Traverse City Record-Eagle*

*Learning to fly: Blessing Ovie's dreams came true after refugee came to Traverse City*  
 Brendan Quealy

**Honorable Mention** *Detroit Free Press*  
*At Detroit's oldest barbershop, one man has kept people coming back for decades*  
 John Carlisle

**Daily B - Feature Story**  
 25 Entries  
**First Place** *Jackson Citizen Patriot*  
*Captain Jackson, caped crime-fighter familiar to downtown streets, dies at 64*  
 McKenna Ross

**Second Place** *Times Herald*  
*98-year-old WWII veteran returns to Port Huron*  
 Laura Fitzgerald

**Third Place** *Saginaw News*  
*One of Saginaw's oldest Black female barbers, 72, reflects on 'a beautiful career'*  
 Heather Jordan

**Honorable Mention** *Battle Creek Enquirer*  
*The Owosso Pulse: Michigan's 'Back to the Future' autocycle*  
 Nick Buckley

**Daily C - Feature Story**  
 33 Entries  
**First Place** *Midland Daily News*  
*The education of Oswald Anders*  
 Dave Shane

**Second Place** *Alpena News*  
*Adult autism: Relief upon diagnosis, which can be hard to come by*  
 Darby Hinkley

**Third Place** *Holland Sentinel*  
*Holland CRC pastor leaves church amid political tensions*  
 Mitchell Boatman

**Honorable Mention** *Alpena News*  
*Keith Titus talks about his late wife Ginny and her upcoming celebration of life*  
 Darby Hinkley

**Daily D - Feature Story**  
 51 Entries  
**First Place** *Niles Daily Star*  
*Road to recovery*  
 Ambrosia Neldon

**Second Place** *Greenville Daily News*  
*Declining decorum: Judges strive to maintain order in the courtroom in the age of Zoom*  
 Elisabeth Waldon

**Third Place** *Manistee News-Advocate*  
*'I'm never going to forget Manistee'*  
 Kyle Kotecki

**Honorable Mention** *Huron Daily Tribune*  
*Running low*  
 Scott Nunn

**Weekly A - Feature Story**  
 25 Entries  
**First Place** *Huron County View*  
*HOLY COW!*  
 Seth Stapleton

**Second Place** **Tri-County Times**

*Linden grad donates kidney to another Linden grad*

Hannah Ball

**Third Place** **Tri-County Times**

*Three dozen dogs now have path to better life*

Sharon Stone

**Honorable Mention** **Huron County View**

*Local woman in unique trade as a blacksmith*

Seth Stapleton

**Weekly B - Feature Story**

18 Entries

**First Place** **Leelanau Enterprise**

*Mishe Mokwa*

Alan Campbell

**Second Place** **Livonia Observer**

*Here's where you can find the season's hottest item: the hot cocoa bomb*

David Veselenak

**Third Place** **The Citizen, Ortonville**

*Remembering D-Day*

David Fleet

**Weekly C - Feature Story**

43 Entries

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

*William Field Hart-Montague Trail State Park*

David Barber

**Second Place** **Grosse Pointe News**

*Run, Walk and Roll 5K helps those living with complex illnesses*

Meg Blondin Leonard

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

*Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist swamped out in VBT fire*

Rosemary Otzman

**Honorable Mention** **South Lyon Herald**

*He lived in his car for five months. Then came a knock on the window and an unexpected answer.*

Susan Bromley

**Weekly D - Feature Story**

9 Entries

**First Place** **The Advance**

*Was that a film crew in Deerfield? Yes!*

Melissa Burnor

**Second Place** **Sentinel-Standard**

*Lake Odessa dog finds forever home after 10 years in shelter system*

Evan Sasiela

**Third Place** **Sentinel-Standard**

*Portland woman advocating, educating as stage four breast cancer patient*

Evan Sasiela

**Honorable Mention** **Oscoda Press**

*Kids' tiny boat arrives in Port Austin*

Patricia Alvord

**Government/Education News**

**Daily A - Government/Education News**

26 Entries

**First Place** **Traverse City Record-Eagle**

*Families worry they'll fall through the cracks of no-fault insurance reform*

Mardi Link

**Second Place** **Kalamazoo Gazette**

*Reporter's investigation reveals 'retired' police chief was actually fired*

Brad Devereaux

**Third Place** **Detroit Free Press**

*What did Bo Schembechler know about sexual abuse at University of Michigan?*

David Jesse, Mitch Albom

**Honorable Mention** **Detroit Free Press**

*Michigan renters face eviction despite pandemic safety net: 'I don't want to be homeless'*

Christine MacDonald, Joe Guillen

**Daily B - Government/Education News**

15 Entries

**First Place** **Muskegon Chronicle**

*Coverage of Muskegon County commissioners' political feud*

Lynn Moore

**Second Place** **Jackson Citizen Patriot**

*Former health officer had tense relationship with Jackson County commissioners, emails show*

McKenna Ross

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

*Ann Arbor parts ways with embattled city administrator*

Ryan Stanton

**Honorable Mention** **Jackson Citizen Patriot**

*How the first week of school went inside a Michigan elementary*

Martin Slagter

**Daily C - Government/Education News**

21 Entries

**First Place** **Midland Daily News**

*Fight to save Midland's infrastructure*

Ashley Schafer

**Second Place** **The Argus-Press**

*Webster levels allegations*

Greyson Steele, Josh Champlin

**Third Place** **Ludington Daily News**

*Investigation into Scottville city manager*

Riley Kelley

**Honorable Mention** **Ludington Daily News**

*Different first day*

Riley Kelley, Hannah Hubbard, Jeff Kiessel

**Daily D - Government/Education News**

20 Entries

**First Place** **Greenville Daily News**

*Wind energy*

Elisabeth Waldon

**Second Place** **Petoskey News-Review**

*Charlevoix business owner named as plaintiff in lawsuit contesting election*

William Perkins

**Third Place** **The Pioneer**

*Big Rapids planners nix gas station proposal, again*

Cathie Crew

**Honorable Mention** **Niles Daily Star**

*Lewis Cass ISD seeks new name*

Sarah Culton

**Weekly A - Government/Education News**

9 Entries

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

*Historical society proves Linden's 150th birthday*

Hannah Ball

**Second Place**

**Huron County View**

*Increased voter turnout seen across the county*

Seth Stapleton

**Third Place**

**Royal Oak Review**

*Clawson mayor returns to position after resignation*

Sarah Wojcik

**Honorable Mention**

**Grosse Pointe Times**

*Grosse Pointe staff, parents sound off on board's COVID-19 resolution revision*

Maria Allard

**Weekly B - Government/Education News**

12 Entries

**First Place**

**The Citizen, Ortonville**

*Surrogacy in Michigan: The Human Element*

Shelby Stewart

**Second Place**

**Leelanau Enterprise**

*County Board*

Eric Carlson

**Third Place**

**Livonia Observer**

*How long could it take to mail back a metro Detroit ballot? We experimented to find out.*

David Veselenak

**Honorable Mention**

**The Citizen, Ortonville**

*Same boat, different storm*

David Fleet

**Weekly C - Government/Education News**

31 Entries

**First Place**

**The Tri-City Times**

*Ed Tech students help build future*

Tom Wearing

**Second Place**

**Oceana's Herald-Journal**

*Hart election worker claims 1st Amendment rights violated*

Sharon Hallack

**Third Place**

**Grosse Pointe News**

*Pushback on advancing drop box deadlines*

Brad Lindberg

**Honorable Mention**

**Grosse Pointe News**

*A virtual future for GP courts?*

Laurel Kraus

**Weekly D - Government/Education News**

4 Entries

**First Place**

**Michigan Lawyers Weekly**

*First responders for democracy*

Kelly Caplan

**Second Place**

**The Advance**

*Frey firing sets meeting ablaze*

Melissa Burnor

**Third Place**

**Sentinel-Standard**

*Ionia roads audit shows missing equipment, payroll discrepancies*

Evan Sasiela

**Honorable Mention**

**The Advance**

*Back to school plans - top three stories on schools*

Amy Campbell, Melissa Burnor

**News Enterprise Reporting**

**Daily A - News Enterprise Reporting**

29 Entries

**First Place**

**Detroit News**

*How UM failed for decades to heed warnings about doctor's alleged sex abuse*

Kim Kozlowski

**Second Place**

**Detroit Free Press**

*He called 2 Eastern Michigan University men rapists. He was arrested before them.*

Darcie Moran

**Third Place**

**Grand Rapids Press**

*Kalamazoo River ecological crisis*

Garret Ellison

**Honorable Mention**

**Traverse City Record-Eagle**

*Homelessness in northern Michigan*

Mardi Link

**Daily B - News Enterprise Reporting**

16 Entries

**First Place**

**Saginaw News**

*State recommends revoking operating license for Wolverine juvenile facility in Saginaw County*

Riley Murdock

**Second Place**

**The Ann Arbor News**

*Long history of crashes on M-14 bridge prompt Ann Arbor officials to take action*

Nathan Clark

**Third Place**

**Muskegon Chronicle**

*Why most Lake Michigan beaches don't have lifeguards*

Lynn Moore

**Honorable Mention**

**The Ann Arbor News**

*New University of Michigan sexual misconduct policies*

Sam Dodge

**Daily C - News Enterprise Reporting**

31 Entries

**First Place**

**Midland Daily News**

*One year later (a special edition)*

Staff

**Second Place**

**Midland Daily News**

*Hope after a year of shutdowns (special edition)*

Mitchell Kukulka, Ashley Schafer, Dan Chalk, Victoria Ritter

**Third Place**

**The Monroe News**

*Orchard East Series*

Blake Bacho

**Honorable Mention**

**Grand Haven Tribune**

*BLP Coverage*

Dylan Goetz, Jared Leatzow

**Daily D - News Enterprise Reporting**

23 Entries

**First Place**

**Huron Daily Tribune**

*Establishing The Base*

Scott Nunn

**Second Place**

**Greenville Daily News**

*Wind turbines dispute*

Elisabeth Waldon

**Third Place**

**Manistee News-Advocate**

*M-55 Bridge: What goes into replacing a structure*

News Advocate Staff

**Honorable Mention**

**The Pioneer**

*Police reports: Attorney trafficked meth in Mecosta County*

Bradley Massman

**Weekly A - News Enterprise Reporting**

7 Entries

**First Place**

*Derek's Pain4Purpose*  
Casey Johnson, Paul Adams

**Huron County View**

**Second Place**

*Local impact on pandemic labor shortage*  
Alex Szwarc

**Macomb Chronicle**

**Third Place**

*Musicians band together for the Pope Francis Center*  
Maria Allard

**Warren Weekly**

**Weekly B - News Enterprise Reporting**

8 Entries

**First Place**

*Timber Shores*  
Joseph Gilroy

**Leelanau Enterprise**

**Second Place**

*Racism*  
Eric Carlson

**Leelanau Enterprise**

**Third Place**

*Grist Mill*  
Joseph Gilroy

**Leelanau Enterprise**

**Honorable Mention**

*Ultimate fitness earns gold*  
Shelby Stewart

**The Citizen, Ortonville**

**Weekly C - News Enterprise Reporting**

19 Entries

**First Place**

*Disband Police Department*  
Tom Wearing

**The Tri-City Times**

**Second Place**

*Gift of Life, organ donors helped 1,000+ Michiganders last year with second chance at life*

**South Lyon Herald**

**Third Place**

*Historic district series*  
Laurel Kraus

**Grosse Pointe News**

**Honorable Mention**

*Covid Conversation - three part series*  
Mary Beth Crain, Andy Roberts, Amanda Dodge, John Cavanagh

**Oceana's Herald-Journal**

**Weekly D - News Enterprise Reporting**

5 Entries

**First Place**

*Proposed Solar Farms Ongoing Coverage*  
Melissa Burnor

**The Advance**

**Second Place**

*Oscoda Area Schools responds to COVID-19 crisis*  
Patricia Alvord

**Oscoda Press**

**Third Place**

*With health and wellbeing at stake, public consensus can be hard to find*  
William Perkins

**Gaylord Herald Times**

**Honorable Mention**

*Charlevoix 'bomb' victims want answers*  
Annie Doyle

**Charlevoix Courier**

**News Photo**

**Daily A - News Photo**

26 Entries

**First Place**

**Detroit Free Press**

*Mourning two brothers*

Mandi Wright

**Second Place**

*Shelby Township Protest*  
Daniel Mears

**Detroit News**

**Third Place**

*Absentee ballot counting problems*  
Kimberly P. Mitchell

**Detroit Free Press**

**Honorable Mention**

*Tipsy Daisy*  
Jan-Michael Stump

**Traverse City Record-Eagle**

**Daily B - News Photo**

17 Entries

**First Place**

*Stained Sidewalk*  
Kaytie Boomer

**Saginaw News**

**Second Place**

*Construction Zone Loss*  
Kaytie Boomer

**Bay City Times**

**Third Place**

*Long Live Obb*  
J. Scott Park

**Jackson Citizen Patriot**

**Honorable Mention**

*Remembering Brayden*  
J. Scott Park

**Jackson Citizen Patriot**

**Daily C - News Photo**

15 Entries

**First Place**

*Trooper rescues kids amid back-to-back crashes in Alpena*  
Julie Riddle

**Alpena News**

**Second Place**

*Taking to the Streets*  
Katy Kildee

**Midland Daily News**

**Third Place**

*Lost Everything*  
Tom Hawley

**The Monroe News**

**Honorable Mention**

*For the w-i-n*  
Jeff Kiessel

**Ludington Daily News**

**Daily D - News Photo**

9 Entries

**First Place**

*Eureka Township Board approves liquor licenses for 2 new taverns*  
Cory Smith

**Greenville Daily News**

**Second Place**

*A homecoming for the 'Aha'*  
Jillian Fellows

**Petoskey News-Review**

**Third Place**

*Holiday tree burn lights up night*  
Tom LaVenture

**The Daily Globe**

**Honorable Mention**

*Surf's up at Little Girl's Point*  
Tom LaVenture

**The Daily Globe**

**Weekly A - News Photo**

4 Entries

**First Place**

*This is what reform looks like*  
Hannah Ball

**Tri-County Times**

**Second Place**  
*Broom Brawl!*  
 Seth Stapleton  
**Third Place**  
*RIGHT ON TARGET*  
 Paul Adams  
**Honorable Mention**  
*Hundreds attend Trump rally in Bad Axe*  
 Paul Adams

**Huron County View**  
**Huron County View**  
**Huron County View**

**Weekly B - News Photo**  
 6 Entries  
**First Place**  
*Fire claims home*  
 John Cook  
**Second Place**  
*Tractor fire startles Munger dwellers*  
 Tom Gilchrist  
**Third Place**  
*Kindergarten Round-up*  
 Brian Freiberger  
**Honorable Mention**  
*Cherry harvest*  
 Eric Carlson

**Tuscola County Advertiser**  
**Tuscola County Advertiser**  
**Leelanau Enterprise**  
**Leelanau Enterprise**

**Weekly C - News Photo**  
 11 Entries  
**First Place**  
*Houghton Lake Resorter & Roscommon County Herald-News*  
**INTENSE FLAMES**  
 Cheryl Holladay  
**Second Place**  
*Presque Isle County Advance/Onaway Outlook*  
 Waiting for the festival  
 Richard Lamb  
**Third Place**  
*Gravel mine protest*  
 Scott Harmsen  
**Honorable Mention**  
*Houghton Lake Resorter & Roscommon County Herald-News*  
**A CLEAN ELECTION**  
 Krista Tacey-Cater

**Houghton Lake Resorter & Roscommon County Herald-News**  
**Presque Isle County Advance/Onaway Outlook**  
**Hastings Banner**

**Weekly D - News Photo**  
 4 Entries  
**First Place**  
*A scene from the Brittle Road fire, in Iosco County's Huron-Manistee National Forest*  
 Patricia Alvord  
**Second Place**  
*PHOTOS: Fire at Auction Addict's Attic in Ionia*  
 Evan Sasiela  
**Third Place**  
*Water for Texans*  
 Amy Campbell  
**Honorable Mention**  
*Working on the line*  
 Amy Campbell

**Oscoda Press**  
**Sentinel-Standard**  
**The Advance**  
**The Advance**

**Photo Story**

**Daily A - Photo Story**  
 12 Entries  
**First Place**

**Detroit Free Press**

*Why We March*  
 Ryan Garza  
**Second Place**  
*A vacant lot becomes a neighborhood ice rink*  
 Ryan Garza  
**Third Place**  
*"Furloughed" Ronda Garmon was furloughed from her job at Experience Grand Rapids in March and has been told she can return to work in October.*  
 Cory Morse  
**Honorable Mention**  
*Search for missing man*  
 Jake May

**Detroit Free Press**  
**Grand Rapids Press**  
**Flint Journal**

**Daily B - Photo Story**  
 8 Entries  
**First Place**  
*Burmese-American grad's path crossed 6 states, 2 cultures*  
 Alyssa Keown  
**Second Place**  
*Lithuanian-Americans gather in Washtenaw County for a historic midsummer festival*  
 Alyte Katilius  
**Third Place**  
*How a love for basketball brought a Michigan family closer together*  
 Alie Skowronski  
**Honorable Mention**  
*Tragedy strikes Michigan Center community*  
 J. Scott Park

**Battle Creek Enquirer**  
**The Ann Arbor News**  
**The Ann Arbor News**  
**Jackson Citizen Patriot**

**Photo Story**

14 Entries  
**First Place**  
*RIDES FOR HER SISTER*  
 Tom Hawley  
**Second Place**  
*Remember the journey*  
 Jeff Kiessel  
**Third Place**  
*Rough start to day*  
 Jeff Kiessel  
**Honorable Mention**  
*November and December: A Second Look*  
 Don Campbell

**The Monroe News**  
**Ludington Daily News**  
**Ludington Daily News**  
**Herald-Palladium**

**Daily D - Photo Story**  
 5 Entries  
**First Place**  
*Prom-inent party*  
 Cory Smith  
**Second Place**  
*Special delivery*  
 Cory Smith  
**Third Place**  
*Sewer main upgrades begin on U.S. 31*  
 Erin Glynn

**Greenville Daily News**  
**Greenville Daily News**  
**Manistee News-Advocate**

**Weekly A - Photo Story**  
 6 Entries  
**First Place**  
*Sheriff's office continues dive team efforts*  
 Seth Stapleton

**Huron County View**

**Second Place**  
*PLAY BALL! FINALLY*  
 Seth Stapleton  
**Third Place**  
*Memorial Day observed in Montrose*  
 Jeanne Marcello

**Huron County View**  
  
**Tri-County Citizen**

**Weekly B - Photo Story**

4 Entries  
**First Place**  
*Firefighters*  
 Eric Carlson  
**Second Place**  
*Scouts*  
 Eric Carlson  
**Third Place**  
*Nachazel Tourney*  
 Eric Carlson

**Leelanau Enterprise**  
  
**Leelanau Enterprise**  
  
**Leelanau Enterprise**

**Weekly C - Photo Story**

12 Entries  
**First Place**  
**Houghton Lake Resorter & Roscommon County Herald-News**  
*Pheasant hunt becomes form of therapy, recognition for veterans*  
 Krista Tacey-Cater  
**Second Place**  
**Houghton Lake Resorter & Roscommon County Herald-News**

*Beauty in motion*  
 Krista Tacey-Cater  
**Third Place**  
**Grosse Pointe News**  
*It's a girl! Detroit Zoo welcomes first lion cub in 40 years*  
 Renee Landuyt  
**Honorable Mention**  
**Hastings Banner**  
*Dawn Patrol draws crowd from far and near*  
 Brett Bremer

**Weekly D - Photo Story**

2 Entries  
**First Place**  
*Art on the Feed*  
 Amy Campbell  
**Second Place**  
*Festival rides at night*

**The Advance**  
  
**The Advance**

**Public Service Award**

**Daily A - Public Service Award**

17 Entries  
**First Place**  
**Traverse City Record-Eagle**  
*Antrim County election lawsuit*  
 Mardi Link  
**Second Place**  
**Flint Journal**  
*Michigan could spend more than \$1B over time to finance Flint water crisis settlement*  
 Flint Journal staff  
**Third Place**  
**Grand Rapids Press**  
*Michigan Schools: Education in the COVID era*  
 Grand Rapids Press staff  
**Honorable Mention**  
**Detroit News**  
*Secret separation deals uncovered in Michigan's government*  
 Craig Mauger

**Daily B - Public Service Award**

2 Entries  
**First Place**  
**Battle Creek Enquirer**  
*What happened to Battle Creek's Econo Lodge?*  
 Nick Buckley, Elena Durnbaugh  
**Second Place**  
**The Ann Arbor News**  
*Failed vaccine strategies in Detroit and Ford Field*  
 Sam Dodge

**Daily C - Public Service Award**

6 Entries  
**First Place**  
**Midland Daily News**  
*101: Voting absentee in City of Midland*  
 Ashley Schafer  
**Second Place**  
**Midland Daily News**  
*Defeating depression together*  
 Ashley Schafer, Mitchell Kukulka  
**Third Place**  
**Holland Sentinel**  
*Coping with COVID*  
 Cassandra Lybrink, Carolyn Muyskens, Arpan Lobo, Mitchell Boatman  
**Honorable Mention**  
**Midland Daily News**  
*Just trying to get by in Midland*  
 Ashley Schafer

**Daily D - Public Service Award**

2 Entries  
**First Place**  
**Greenville Daily News**  
*Wind Energy*  
 Elisabeth Waldon  
**Second Place**  
**Petoskey News-Review**  
*PFAS released at Pellston Airport during routine firefighting test*  
 William Perkins

**Weekly B - Public Service Award**

3 Entries  
**First Place**  
**Leelanau Enterprise**  
*Employment Section*  
 Editorial Department, Creative Department, Advertising Department  
**Second Place**  
**Leelanau Enterprise**  
*League of Woman Voters*  
 Editorial Department, Creative Department, Advertising Department  
**Third Place**  
**Leelanau Enterprise**  
*Status of Local Restaurants*  
 John Elchert, Mike Anderson

**Weekly C - Public Service Award**

1 Entries  
**First Place**  
**Grosse Pointe News**  
*Matouk Romain series*  
 John Minnis

**Weekly D - Public Service Award**

1 Entries  
**First Place**  
**Charlevoix Courier**  
*Norwood Township hopes to reduce ambulance service costs*  
 Annie Doyle

**Special Section**

**Daily A - Special Section**

9 Entries  
**First Place**  
**Detroit Free Press**  
*Who we lost: A Free Press investigation*  
 Free Press Staff

**Second Place** *Detroit News*

*Cabrera's 500th home run*  
James Hollar, Richard Epps

**Third Place** *Grand Rapids Press*

*Spring - Ready to spring into a new season? Use our tips to help organize inside and outside your home, exercise a little self-care, freshen up your finances and, hey, have a little fun.*

Grand Rapids Press staff

**Honorable Mention** *Detroit News*

*Biden Inauguration*  
James Hollar, Antone Amye

**Daily C - Special Section**

7 Entries

**First Place** *Herald-Palladium*

*Spotlight 2021*  
HP Staff

**Second Place** *The Daily News, Iron Mountain*

*Progress 2021*  
Staff

**Third Place** *Midland Daily News*

*20 Under 40*  
Midland Daily News

**Honorable Mention** *The Daily News, Iron Mountain*

*100 Years of News*  
Staff

**Daily D - Special Section**

9 Entries

**First Place** *Niles Daily Star*

*Horizons*  
Staff

**Second Place** *Manistee News-Advocate*

*Venture Northwest 2021*  
News Advocate Staff

**Third Place** *Manistee News-Advocate*

*Family & Farm Magazine*  
News Advocate Staff

**Honorable Mention** *Manistee News-Advocate*

*Celebrating 150 Years*  
News Advocate Staff

**Weekly A - Special Section**

6 Entries

**First Place** *Huron County View*

*Fall Ag Quarterly*  
Seth Stapleton, Jane Vanderpoel, HCV Sales Team, View Graphics Team

**Second Place** *Huron County View*

*Ugly Football 2020 A Season to Remember*  
Paul Adams, Jane Vanderpoel, HCV Sales Team, View Graphics Team

**Third Place** *Tri-County Times*

*Graduation*  
Editorial Department, Graphics Department, Sales Department

**Honorable Mention** *Tri-County Times*

*Year In Review*  
Editorial Department, Graphics Department, Sales Department

**Weekly B - Special Section**

3 Entries

**First Place** *Leelanau Enterprise*

*Salute to Cherries*

Editorial Department, Creative Department, Advertising Department

**Second Place** *Leelanau Enterprise*

*Wedding Guide*

Editorial Department, Creative Department, Advertising Department

**Third Place** *Leelanau Enterprise*

*Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore*

Editorial Department, Creative Department, Advertising Department

**Weekly C - Special Section**

18 Entries

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

*LakeStyle Magazine - Spring 2021*

Amanda Dodge, Andy Roberts, Caleb Jackson, Steve Begnoche, David Barber, Jeanne Barber

**Second Place** *Grosse Pointe News*

*Grosse Pointe News Wedding Guide - features, how-to's, vintage photos, fashion and more!*

GPN Staff

**Third Place** *Iosco County News-Herald*

*Salute to our Essential Workers*

Jenny Haglund, Jason Ogden, Patricia Alvord, Christen Kelley

**Honorable Mention** *Grosse Pointe News*

*Father's Day Special Section*

Donna Zetterlund, Anne Gryzenia, Renee Landuyt, Kelley Muzingo

**Weekly D - Special Section**

3 Entries

**First Place** *Oscoda Press*

*Salute to Our Essential Workers Special Section*

Jason Ogden, Patricia Alvord, Jenny Haglund, Christen Kelley

**Second Place** *The Advance*

*Blissfield 2021 spring/Summer Visitor's Guide*

Ashleigh Bruneau, Marcia Loader, Eric May

**Third Place** *The Advance*

*Spring Sports 2021*

The Advance

**Sports Feature**

**Daily A - Sports Feature**

21 Entries

**First Place** *Kalamazoo Gazette*

*Record-setting prep soccer player's goal-scoring ability matched only by heroism off the field*

Patrick Nothaft

**Second Place** *Detroit News*

*Pistons' superstar mother beats cancer, builds amazing family, career*

Rod Beard

**Third Place** *Kalamazoo Gazette*

*Eight overtimes, 18 total points: Revisiting Michigan's longest high school basketball game*

Patrick Nothaft

**Honorable Mention** *Flint Journal*

*Blind since birth, 'remarkable' Davison senior has become successful pole vaulter*

Brendan Savage

**Daily B - Sports Feature**

19 Entries

**First Place** *Bay City Times*

*Forget the ceremonial at-bat, injured senior dashes to first for final moment of glory*  
 Lee Thompson  
**Second Place** **Bay City Times**  
*After boy's tragic death, high school football team plays 'This one for Jeff'*  
 Lee Thompson  
**Third Place** **Jackson Citizen Patriot**  
*The triumphant return of a Michigan ref after near-death experience with COVID*  
 Josh VanDyke  
**Honorable Mention** **Battle Creek Enquirer**  
*Coaching for 55 years, with 600 wins, the numbers are just amazing for Harper Creek's Studer*  
 Bill Broderick

**Daily C - Sports Feature**  
 25 Entries  
**First Place** **Holland Sentinel**  
*West Ottawa's Lani Salinas plays with a full heart*  
 Will Kennedy  
**Second Place** **Grand Haven Tribune**  
*Lakers invested in each other*  
 Matthew Ehler  
**Third Place** **Holland Sentinel**  
*Ian Miskelley, a life remembered after tragic suicide*  
 Dan D'Addona  
**Honorable Mention** **Herald-Palladium**  
*Lakeshore's Bushu eager to get back to basketball*  
 Ben Sanders

**Daily D - Sports Feature**  
 23 Entries  
**First Place** **Niles Daily Star**  
*More than a game*  
 Max Harden, Emily Sobbecki  
**Second Place** **Manistee News-Advocate**  
*Ball in the Family: Daughters follow in Erickson's coaching footsteps*  
 Dylan Savela  
**Third Place** **Manistee News-Advocate**  
*Forever a coach: Gielczyk leaves lasting impact on local sports*  
 Dylan Savela  
**Honorable Mention** **Huron Daily Tribune**  
*USA's Polega driven by loss of 2020 season, last year's seniors*  
 Mark Birdsall

**Weekly A - Sports Feature**  
 4 Entries  
**First Place** **Huron County View**  
*From the stands to the field*  
 Paul Adams  
**Second Place** **Huron County View**  
*Amazing Grace*  
 Paul Adams  
**Third Place** **Huron County View**  
*Just keep running*  
 Paul Adams  
**Honorable Mention** **Huron County View**  
*ReMARKable*  
 Paul Adams

**Weekly B - Sports Feature**

**10 Entries**  
**First Place** **Livonia Observer**  
*Larger than life: South Lyon East football prepares for season without Trevon Tyler*  
 Colin Gay  
**Second Place** **Tuscola County Advertiser**  
*Amazing Grace: USA senior battles through injuries to play in state title game*  
 Scott Bolsby  
**Third Place** **Livonia Observer**  
*Plymouth lacrosse's Zoe Weber sets aside lymphoma fight for normal senior night*  
 Colin Gay  
**Honorable Mention** **Leelanau Enterprise**  
*Brothers excel*  
 Chris Olson

**Weekly C - Sports Feature**  
 23 Entries  
**First Place** **Houghton Lake Resorter & Roscommon County Herald-News**  
*A mutton-busting, bull-riding spitting image of his father*  
 Krista Tacey-Cater  
**Second Place** **Presque Isle County Advance/Onaway Outlook**  
*Coach Joe engineers big upset*  
 Peter Jakey  
**Third Place** **Houghton Lake Resorter & Roscommon County Herald-News**  
*Running with Change*  
 Krista Tacey-Cater  
**Honorable Mention** **Iosco County News-Herald**  
*Brett Stockton, 9-time champ Brett Stockton back in 2021 Marathon*  
 Ben Murphy

**Weekly D - Sports Feature**  
 6 Entries  
**First Place** **Oscoda Press**  
*Drew Hess ready to shine in debut hoops season with Oscoda*  
 Ben Murphy  
**Second Place** **The Advance**  
*In pandemic year, Shiels had a good year on track*  
 Melissa Burnor  
**Third Place** **Sentinel-Standard**  
*Community honors outgoing Pewamo Little League commissioner*  
 Evan Sasiela

**Sports Photo**

**Daily A - Sports Photo**  
 20 Entries  
**First Place** **Grand Rapids Press**  
*Touchdown!*  
 Cory Morse  
**Second Place** **Lansing State Journal**  
*Winning a state title*  
 Nick King  
**Third Place** **Kalamazoo Gazette**  
*Long Jump*  
 Joel Bissell  
**Honorable Mention** **Flint Journal**  
*Batter up*  
 Jake May



**Daily B - Sports Photo**

17 Entries

**First Place**

*Triumph Tears*

Kaytie Boomer

**Second Place**

*Finish Line Crawl*

J. Scott Park

**Third Place**

*Injured*

J. Scott Park

**Honorable Mention**

*Bond by Softball*

Kaytie Boomer

**Saginaw News**

**Jackson Citizen Patriot**

**Jackson Citizen Patriot**

**Bay City Times**

**Daily C - Sports Photo**

21 Entries

**First Place**

*Leap of faith*

Don Campbell

**Second Place**

*Spring Lake soccer celebration*

Matthew Ehler

**Third Place**

*Zeeland West baseball moves on after 12-inning thriller*

Lenny Padilla

**Honorable Mention**

*Sending Prayers*

Katy Kildee

**Herald-Palladium**

**Grand Haven Tribune**

**Holland Sentinel**

**Midland Daily News**

**Daily D - Sports Photo**

11 Entries

**First Place**

*Bronc busting in the mud*

Cory Smith

**Second Place**

*21 outs later: Charlevoix keeps magic going with regional championship*

Drew Kochanny

**Third Place**

*Speedboys stun No. 1 E-TC*

Jason Juno

**Honorable Mention**

*'Revenge Tour'*

Cory Smith

**Greenville Daily News**

**Petoskey News-Review**

**The Daily Globe**

**Greenville Daily News**

**Weekly A - Sports Photo**

3 Entries

**First Place**

*Bad Axe softball ends district title drought*

Paul Adams

**Second Place**

*UBLY TAKES HOME TITLE*

Paul Adams

**Third Place**

*Unionville-Sebewaing Area student Joshua Eurich shows his support*

Paul Adams

**Huron County View**

**Huron County View**

**Huron County View**

**Weekly B - Sports Photo**

8 Entries

**First Place**

*USA photo\_0619*

**Tuscola County Advertiser**

John Cook

**Second Place**

*Stolen base*

Joseph Gilroy

**Third Place**

*USA photo\_0612*

John Cook

**Honorable Mention**

*Rockets in Fligh'*

John Cook

**Leelanau Enterprise**

**Tuscola County Advertiser**

**Tuscola County Advertiser**

**Weekly C - Sports Photo**

25 Entries

**First Place**

*Brayden Randolph at Ford Field*

Jeff Steers

**Second Place**

*Marlette holds off Sandusky for title*

Mike Gallagher

**Third Place**

*Rockets' 2nd-half surge secures win over Union*

Andy Roberts

**Honorable Mention**

*Historic Sandusky season comes to a close*

Mike Gallagher

**Tecumseh Herald**

**Sanilac County News**

**White Lake Beacon**

**Sanilac County News**

**Weekly D - Sports Photo**

6 Entries

**First Place**

*Baseball winners*

Ben Murphy

**Second Place**

*Julia White with the tip against Onsted in the volleyball district semi finals.*

Michelle Sullivan

**Third Place**

*Drew Hess*

Ben Murphy

**Honorable Mention**

*Royal Zack Horky goes up for an easy two of his 33 points.*

Michelle Sullivan

**Oscoda Press**

**The Advance**

**Oscoda Press**

**The Advance**

**Sports Writing**

**Daily A - Sports Writing**

21 Entries

**First Place**

*'Just keep swinging:' Michigan softball team honors fallen teammate*

Patrick Nothaft

**Second Place**

*The amazing story of 'blessed' Grand Blanc football player Elijah*

*Jackson-Anderson*

Brendan Savage

**Third Place**

*5 months after mother's death, Tyler Swanwick leads Centreville*

*football to state championship*

Patrick Nothaft

**Honorable Mention**

*Inside the Penei Sewell pick and Brad Holmes' tone-setting first draft as Detroit Lions GM*

Dave Birkett

**Kalamazoo Gazette**

**Flint Journal**

**Kalamazoo Gazette**

**Detroit Free Press**

**Daily B - Sports Writing**

**17 Entries**

**First Place** **The Ann Arbor News**  
*Out of The Muck, former rabbit chaser Joe Milton ascends to Michigan's starting QB*  
 Andrew Kahn

**Second Place** **Saginaw News**  
*Freeland senior Jonas Welles provides goosebumps with homer for grandmother*  
 Hugh Bernreuter

**Third Place** **Muskegon Chronicle**  
*110 points and 1,000-plus yards of offense? Yep, that happened in Reed City*  
 Scott DeCamp

**Honorable Mention** **Bay City Times**  
*Little brother 'plays for two' as inspired effort gives BCC reason to cheer*  
 Lee Thompson

**Daily C - Sports Writing**

**26 Entries**

**First Place** **Midland Daily News**  
*Incredible finish: Dow wins district opener in thrilling shootout*  
 Fred Kelly

**Second Place** **Midland Daily News**  
*Down the stretch: How the Jutanugarns sealed the win at Dow GLBI*  
 Austin Chastain

**Third Place** **Herald-Palladium**  
*The biggest swing*  
 Ben Sanders

**Honorable Mention** **Midland Daily News**  
*Fly, Falcons, Fly: Freeland wins third straight district crown over Garber*  
 Austin Chastain

**Daily D - Sports Writing**

**15 Entries**

**First Place** **Petoskey News-Review**  
*Rambler seniors leave soccer program forever changed*  
 Drew Kochanny

**Second Place** **The Daily Globe**  
*E-TC wins thriller*  
 Jason Juno

**Third Place** **Petoskey News-Review**  
*21 outs later: Charlevoix keeps magic going with regional championship*  
 Drew Kochanny

**Honorable Mention** **Petoskey News-Review**  
*Petoskey Juniors claim town's first-ever Little League State Championship*  
 Drew Kochanny

**Weekly A - Sports Writing**

**5 Entries**

**First Place** **Huron County View**  
*HISTORY MAKING HATCHETS*  
 Paul Adams

**Second Place** **Huron County View**  
*USA REPEATS AT STATE CHAMPION*  
 Paul Adams

**Third Place** **Tri-County Times**  
*Linden Softball soars to a regional championship*  
 David Troppens

**Honorable Mention**

**Huron County View**

*Maze runner: Gusa finds redemption at regional, leads Uby to championship*  
 Paul Adams

**Weekly B - Sports Writing**

**8 Entries**

**First Place** **Leelanau Enterprise**  
*Sophomores bond*  
 Joseph Gilroy

**Second Place** **Leelanau Enterprise**  
*Coach Periard*  
 Joseph Gilroy

**Third Place** **Leelanau Enterprise**  
*Ref shortage*  
 Joseph Gilroy

**Honorable Mention** **Leelanau Enterprise**  
*Comets learn lesson*  
 Joseph Gilroy

**Weekly C - Sports Writing**

**16 Entries**

**First Place** **White Lake Beacon**  
*Wildcats retain Bell in double-OT epic*  
 Andy Roberts

**Second Place** **Tecumseh Herald**  
*Randolph Wins Wrestling Championship*  
 Jeff Steers

**Third Place** **White Lake Beacon**  
*Wildcats host first all-girls quad meet*  
 Andy Roberts

**Honorable Mention** **Oceana's Herald-Journal**  
*With district fight looming, Hart tops rival Shelby*  
 Andy Roberts

**Weekly D - Sports Writing**

**4 Entries**

**First Place** **The Advance**  
*Royals win big in District opener, 63-0*  
 Marcia Loader

**Second Place** **Oscoda Press**  
*Oscoda Varisty football tops Beaverton in playoff thriller*  
 Ben Murphy

**Third Place** **The Advance**  
*BD athletes among those at state rally: #letthemplay*  
 Melissa Burnor

**Honorable Mention** **Oscoda Press**  
*Owls baseball tops Roscommon, to claim first ever district title win*  
 Ben Murphy

**Spot News Story**

**Daily A - Spot News Story**

**Daily A Entries**

**First Place** **Detroit News**  
*The alleged plan to kidnap Michigan's governor*  
 Staff

**Second Place** **Detroit News**  
*CAPITOL STORMED*  
 Staff

**Third Place** **Detroit Free Press**  
*Free Press breaking coverage of the Jan. 6 Capitol riot*  
 Detroit Free Press Staff

**Honorable Mention** **Detroit Free Press**

*'Get to TCF': What really happened inside Detroit's ballot counting center*  
Staff

**Daily B - Spot News Story**

9 Entries

**First Place** **Saginaw News**

*Could passenger trains return to Saginaw's Potter Street Station? With a congressman asking, an idea gains steam.*

Justin Engel

**Second Place** **The Ann Arbor News**

*Gunman killed during standoff*

Nathan Clark

**Third Place** **Jackson Citizen Patriot**

*Residents flee as fire rips through apartment building near Jackson*

Marie Weidmayer

**Daily C - Spot News Story**

19 Entries

**First Place** **Alpena News**

*Atlanta woman recalls the days her dog saved her life*

Julie Riddle

**Second Place** **Alpena News**

*Vintage wedding dress*

Steve Schulwitz

**Third Place** **Grand Haven Tribune**

*GH's Paul McMullen, youth track coach and former Olympian, dies*

Matt DeYoung

**Honorable Mention** **Ludington Daily News**

*Mount Pleasant man sought*

Cheryl Higginson, Justin Cooper, David Bossick, Patrick Bouman, Tess Ware

**Daily D - Spot News Story**

13 Entries

**First Place** **Huron Daily Tribune**

*Tornadoes hit Port Austin*

Scott Nunn, Robert Creenan, Mark Birdsall

**Second Place** **The Daily Globe**

*Ironwood flight loses tire over Chicago*

Tom LaVenture

**Third Place** **Manistee News-Advocate**

*Police search for vehicle with occupant in Manistee River channel*

Arielle Breen

**Honorable Mention** **Petoskey News-Review**

*Trump account shares private Northern Michigan number, mistaken for Chatfield's*

William Perkins

**Weekly A - Spot News Story**

6 Entries

**First Place** **Grosse Pointe Times**

*School board votes to censure trustee*

Maria Allard

**Second Place** **Royal Oak Review**

*Royal Oak's Main Art Theatre shuts permanently after 80 years*

Sarah Wojcik

**Third Place** **Huron County View**

*Tornado wreaks havoc through Port Austin area*

Seth Stapleton

**Weekly B - Spot News Story**

**8 Entries**

**First Place** **Leelanau Enterprise**

*Guards posted*

Eric Carlson

**Second Place** **Leelanau Enterprise**

*Access dispute*

Joseph Gilroy

**Third Place** **The Citizen, Ortonville**

*COVID halts face to face for now*

Shelby Stewart

**Honorable Mention** **Tuscola County Advertiser**

*California Dreamin': Angels select Cass City grad in MLB draft*

Scott Bolsby

**Weekly C - Spot News Story**

10 Entries

**First Place** **Sanilac County News**

*Eyewitness to house fire rescue*

Glenn Olds

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

*Fire rips through Penney's Lumber, Lakeview Trailer Park*

Eric Hamp, Cheryl Holladay

**Third Place** **South Lyon Herald**

*South Lyon teen killed, dad in hospital in Wednesday night fatal shooting*

Susan Vela

**Honorable Mention** **Grosse Pointe News**

*Pointes swept up in flood*

Kate Vanderstelt

**Weekly D - Spot News Story**

7 Entries

**First Place** **The Advance**

*TORNADO??? Suspected twister rips through Riga area; no injuries*

Melissa Burnor

**Second Place** **The Advance**

*Final call for Captain Joseph Gallo*

Marcia Loader

**Third Place** **Oscoda Press**

*Crews continue battling blaze after failed controlled burn*

Jenny Haglund, Patricia Alvord

**Honorable Mention** **Newberry News**

*Cougar Spotted near Dollarville Dam*

Carol Stiffler

**Best FOIA Story**

**Open Class - Best FOIA Story**

20 Entries

**First Place** **Bridge Michigan**

*Emails: Michigan sheriff sought to seize voting machines amid Trump claims*

Jonathan Oosting

**Second Place** **Kalamazoo Gazette**

*Kalamazoo closed-door meetings exposed*

Brad Devereaux

**Third Place** **Grand Rapids Press**

*Whitmer said separation agreements like Robert Gordon's are used often in state government.*

Emily Lawler

**Honorable Mention** **Kalamazoo Gazette**

Reporter's investigation reveals 'retired' police chief was actually fired  
Brad Devereaux

**Best Headline**

**Open Class - Best Headline**  
45 Entries

**First Place** **Detroit Free Press**

*Mask confusion*  
Janet Graham

**Second Place** **Detroit News**

*The greatest hits Deck: A look back at Cabrera's milestone and memorable home runs*  
Andreas Supanich

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

*Lexicon amelioration equals osculation*  
Cheryl Holladay, Eric Hamp

**Honorable Mention** **Michigan Lawyers Weekly**

*Appeals court needles judge over tattoo case*  
Kelly Caplan, Paul Fletcher

**Best Photo**

**Open Class - Best Photo**  
29 Entries

**First Place** **Grand Rapids Press**

*Grand Rapids clears out homeless encampment*  
Cory Morse

**Second Place** **Flint Journal**

*One final goodbye*  
Jake May

**Third Place** **Flint Journal**

*#Gottagetit*  
Jake May

**Best Podcast**

**Open Class - Best Podcast**  
8 Entries

**First Place** **Detroit Free Press**

*"On the Line"*  
Staff

**Honorable Mention** **Traverse City Record-Eagle**

*The Get Around*  
Record-Eagle sports staff

**Second Place** **Grand Rapids Press**

*The Grand Rapids Press for best podcast category*  
Emily Lawler, Jessica Shepherd

**Third Place** **Michigan Information and Research Services, Inc.**

*MIRS Monday*  
Kyle Melinn

**Best Writing**

**Open Class - Best Writing**  
40 Entries

**First Place** **Bridge Michigan**

*He had dementia and COVID. She wanted to hold him when he died.*  
Robin Erb

**Second Place** **Traverse City Record-Eagle**

*Seawind Saga: Pilot who crashed in Lake Michigan had 7 crashes in 7 days*

Mardi Link

**Third Place** **Kalamazoo Gazette**

*Unlikely relationships forge in battle to end gun violence in Kalamazoo*

Ryan Boldrey

**Honorable Mention** **Grand Rapids Press**

*Michigan's most famous weed strain, Pinconning Paralyzer, eyes comeback after two-decade hibernation*  
Gus Burns

**Excellence in Policing and Social Justice Reporting**

**Open Class - Excellence in Policing and Social Justice Reporting**

18 Entries

**First Place** **BridgeDetroit/NBC News**

*Built to Keep Black from White*  
Staff & Erin Einhorn with NBC News

**Second Place** **Bridge Michigan**

*Struggles with racism in northern Michigan*  
Kelly House, Jonathan Oosting

**Third Place** **Michigan Advance**

*The history and politics of police reform efforts in Michigan*  
Staff

**Honorable Mention** **Grand Rapids Press**

*Reporting on police and social justice in Michigan*  
Staff

**Most Innovative Story Telling**

**Open Class - Most Innovative Story Telling**  
19 Entries

**First Place** **Detroit News**

*Proposed I-375 project will elevate a Detroit roadway above its racist past*

Tom Gromak, Neal Rubin

**Second Place** **Detroit Free Press**

*Heartbreaking deaths of Michigan's earliest COVID-19 victims: Stories reveal the true toll*

Gina Kaufman, Elisha Anderson, Kristi Tanner, Brian Kaufman

**Third Place** **Detroit Free Press**

*How 6 metro Detroit moms are coping more than a year into COVID-19 pandemic*

Staff

**Honorable Mention** **Detroit News**

*The News' Jerry Green recounts 54 years of Super Bowls: A video timeline*

Tom Gromak

Ashliegh Bruneau

**Public Notice Journalism Award**

**Open Class - Public Notice Journalism Award**  
4 Entries

**First Place** **The Daily News, Iron Mountain**

*Proposed Verso permit would allow some air pollutants to rise*  
Jim Anderson

**Second Place** **Greenville Daily News**

*Pierson Township switches to the Daily News for public notices*  
Elisabeth Waldon

**Third Place** **Traverse City Record-Eagle**

PFAS

Sheri McWhirter

**Honorable Mention** *Holland Sentinel*  
*Life after COVID: 'Can you hear me?' Local government forced to evolve in pandemic era*  
 Carolyn Muyskens

**Rookie Writer**

**Open Class - Rookie Writer**  
 11 Entries  
**First Place** *Flint Beat*  
*Amy Diaz*  
**Second Place** *Traverse City Record-Eagle*  
*Sierra Clark*  
**Third Place** *The Ann Arbor News*  
*Sam Dodge*  
**Honorable Mention** *Holland Sentinel*  
*Arpan Lobo*

**Best Ad Grouping**

**Daily - Best Ad Grouping**  
 6 Entries  
**First Place** *Ludington Daily News*  
*Manistee National Forest Festival*  
 Judy Lytle  
**Second Place** *Cadillac News*  
*March Bracket Challenge*  
 Sale Team, Graphics Team  
**Third Place** *Ludington Daily News*  
*Troutarama is Back!*  
 Judy Lytle  
**Honorable Mention** *The Daily Globe*  
*Holiday Gift Guide*  
 Daily Globe Advertising

**Non-Daily - Best Ad Grouping**  
 6 Entries  
**First Place** *Leelanau Enterprise*  
*Turkey*  
 Advertising Department, Creative Department  
**Second Place** *Houghton Lake Resorter & Roscommon County Herald-News*  
*Hometown Shopping*  
 Alycia Nielsen, Patty Tribelhorn  
**Third Place** *Tecumseh Herald*  
*Veterans Day Page - 11.05.2020*  
 Cory Mathis  
**Honorable Mention** *Leelanau Enterprise*  
*Featured Realtor*  
 Advertising Department, Creative Department

**Best Community Cause Marketing**

**Daily - Best Community Cause Marketing**  
 6 Entries  
**First Place** *Ludington Daily News*  
*Congratulations Whitehall Softball*  
 Judy Lytle  
**Second Place** *Ludington Daily News*  
*Home of the Free*  
 Judy Lytle  
**Third Place** *Ludington Daily News*  
*Halloween Safety*

Judy Lytle  
**Honorable Mention** *Cadillac News*  
*Honoring Our Hero's - Veterans Day*  
 Inside Sales Team, Advertising Sales Team, Graphics

**Non-Daily - Best Community Cause Marketing**  
 12 Entries  
**First Place** *Tecumseh Herald*  
*Neighbors of Hope Fundraiser - 06.10.2021*  
 Cory Mathis  
**Second Place** *Tri-County Times*  
*State Bank*  
 Sales Department, Lorie Gavulic  
**Third Place** *The Advance*  
*Funding for Frontline Responders*  
 Marcia Loader, Ashliegh Bruneau

**Best Digital Ad**

**Daily - Best Digital Ad**  
 1 Entries  
**First Place** *Cadillac News*  
*Ebels General Store - BEEF Shortlones*  
 Pat Sorger, Graphics

**Non-Daily - Best Digital Ad**  
 1 Entries  
**First Place** *Grosse Pointe News*  
*Instagram - We Want You Back!*  
 Anne Gryzenia, Olivia Monette

**Best Health/Fitness Ad**

**Daily - Best Health/Fitness Ad**  
 4 Entries  
**First Place** *Ludington Daily News*  
*Together. Living Better.*  
 Robin Moline  
**Second Place** *Greenville Daily News*  
*Rackham Chiropractic - Do you have these symptoms?*  
 Design Team  
**Third Place** *Greenville Daily News*  
*Perennial Wellness LLC Front Page Banner*  
 Design Team  
**Honorable Mention** *Cadillac News*  
*Cadillac Urgent Care - On the Go Ad*  
 Katheryn Kidder, Graphics

**Non-Daily - Best Health/Fitness Ad**  
 9 Entries  
**First Place** *Tecumseh Herald*  
*ProMedica - HF Summer 21*  
 Nanci Heiney  
**Second Place** *Tecumseh Herald*  
*Gillin Eye Care - HF Winter 20*  
 Nanci Heiney  
**Third Place** *Grosse Pointe News*  
*Skye Salon Bridal Services*  
 Olivia Monette  
**Honorable Mention** *Grosse Pointe News*  
*Beauty Culture - Bridal Beauty Countdown*  
 Olivia Monette

**Best in House Circulation Ad**

**Daily - Best in House Circulation Ad**

6 Entries

**First Place**

*Black Friday Special*

Judy Lytle

**Ludington Daily News**

**Second Place**

*Gift Subscription Specials*

Judy Lytle

**Ludington Daily News**

**Third Place**

*Free Cadillac News with Coffee Purchase*

Josh Bailey, Mark Featherston, Graphics

**Cadillac News**

**Honorable Mention**

*Save a stamp and a check! Promo*

Design Team

**Greenville Daily News**

**Non-Daily - Best in House Circulation Ad**

6 Entries

**First Place**

*Knowledge is Power Promo*

Editorial Department, Graphics Department, Sales Department

**Tri-County Times**

**Second Place**

*Now's the time - there are a dozen new reasons to subscribe*

Amanda Dodge

**Oceana's Herald-Journal**

**Third Place**

*It's morning in your kitchen*

Lyn Baxter, Larry Sobczak

**The Record**

**Honorable Mention**

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

*Resorter Circulation*

Alycia Nielsen

**Best in House Content Promotion**

**Daily - Best in House Content Promotion**

9 Entries

**First Place**

*Cadillac News HAPPY NEW YEAR*

Jody Graff

**Cadillac News**

**Second Place**

*Spelling Bee Finalists*

Judy Lytle

**Ludington Daily News**

**Third Place**

*CN Promotional Products - Golf Guide Ad*

Scott Lepine, Jody Graff

**Cadillac News**

**Honorable Mention**

*Community Spelling Bee*

Judy Lytle

**Ludington Daily News**

**Non-Daily - Best in House Content Promotion**

12 Entries

**First Place**

*Wedding Guide Promo - Instagram/Facebook*

Olivia Monette, Anne Gryzenia

**Grosse Pointe News**

**Second Place**

*Helping Businesses Grow - 2021 Spring Home and Garden Tab -*

03.18.2021

Cory Mathis

**Tecumseh Herald**

**Third Place**

*Artichoke recipe comes to life!*

Olivia Monette

**Grosse Pointe News**

**Honorable Mention**

*Contest*

Olivia Monette

**Grosse Pointe News**

**Best Special Section**

**Daily - Best Special Section**

4 Entries

**First Place**

*Our Community 2021*

Graphics Team, Advertising Sales Team, Inside Sale Team, Newsroom Team

**Cadillac News**

**Second Place**

*Elections Preview Special Section*

**Greenville Daily News**

**Third Place**

*NIE Creative Kids*

Daily Globe Advertising

**The Daily Globe**

**Non-Daily - Best Special Section**

16 Entries

**First Place**

*Bottles Brews News*

Editorial Department, Graphics Department, Sales Department

**Tri-County Times**

**Second Place**

*Leelanau Visitors Guide*

Editorial Department, Creative Department, Advertising Department

**Leelanau Enterprise**

**Third Place**

*Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore*

Advertising Department, Creative Department, Editorial Department

**Leelanau Enterprise**

**Honorable Mention**

*2021 Health and Fitness Tab - 07.22.2021*

Cory Mathis

**Tecumseh Herald**

**Best use of color**

**Daily - Best use of color**

7 Entries

**First Place**

*Pilgrim Village - Real Big Selection*

Katheryn Kidder, Graphics

**Cadillac News**

**Second Place**

*American Legion Post 101*

Design Team

**Greenville Daily News**

**Third Place**

*Fire Prevention Week*

Judy Lytle

**Ludington Daily News**

**Honorable Mention**

*Aili Custom Concrete*

Daily Globe Advertising

**The Daily Globe**

**Non-Daily - Best use of color**

13 Entries

**First Place**

*Marker 88 - The Keys Are Open!*

Anne Gryzenia

**Grosse Pointe News**

**Second Place**

*Suttons Bay Chamber*

Advertising Department, Creative Department

**Leelanau Enterprise**

**Third Place**

*Mawby*

Advertising Department, Creative Department

**Leelanau Enterprise**

**Community Business Promotions**

**Daily - Community Business Promotions**

**6 Entries**  
**First Place** *Cadillac News*  
*Grill Time Directory*  
 Scott LePine, Graphics  
**Second Place** *Ludington Daily News*  
*Happy Thanksgiving*  
 Judy Lytle  
**Third Place** *Greenville Daily News*  
*Sports Playoffs*  
 Sales, Design & Editorial Teams  
**Honorable Mention** *Greenville Daily News*  
*Halloween Safety*  
 Sales & Design Teams

**Non-Daily - Community Business Promotions**

**5 Entries**  
**First Place** *Tecumseh Herald*  
*Shop Downtown Tecumseh - 12.17.2020*  
 Cory Mathis  
**Second Place** *Tecumseh Herald*  
*Eat and Drink - HF Winter 20*  
 Nanci Heiney  
**Third Place** *Grosse Pointe News*  
*Community Restaurants Come Together!*  
 Anne Gryzenia, Donna Zetterlund, Shelley Owens  
**Honorable Mention** *The Advance*  
*Show Your Valentine the Love! Shop Blissfield!*  
 Eric May, Ashliegh Bruneau

**Entertaining Services**

**Daily - Entertaining Services**

**3 Entries**  
**First Place** *Greenville Daily News*  
*Rhythm on the River Concert Series*  
 Design Team  
**Second Place** *Ludington Daily News*  
*Good Old Days*  
 Julie Eilers  
**Third Place** *Ludington Daily News*  
*Luther Logging Days*  
 Judy Lytle

**Non-Daily - Entertaining Services**

**5 Entries**  
**First Place** *Grosse Pointe News*  
*Detroit Academy of Etiquette*  
 Olivia Monette  
**Second Place** *Grosse Pointe News*  
*Dirty Dog Jazz Cafe*  
 Ken Schopp, Julie Sutton  
**Third Place** *Grosse Pointe News*  
*Kuhl & The Gang*  
 Olivia Monette  
**Honorable Mention** *Tri-County Times*  
*Muellers Orchard*  
 Coreena Storms, Lorie Gavulic

**General Retail**

**Daily - General Retail**

**9 Entries**  
**First Place** *Greenville Daily News*  
*Wayside Gardens Pumpkin ad*  
 Design Team  
**Second Place** *Ludington Daily News*  
*Autumn is Coming*  
 Robin Moline  
**Third Place** *Cadillac News*  
*Pilgrim Village - Reptile Food*  
 Katheryn Kidder, Graphics  
**Honorable Mention** *Ludington Daily News*  
*Pentwater's Newest*  
 Robin Moline

**Non-Daily - General Retail**

**15 Entries**  
**First Place** *Leelanau Enterprise*  
*Front Porch*  
 Advertising Department, Creative Department  
**Second Place** *Tecumseh Herald*  
*Tecumseh Bread and Pastry - HF Winter 20*  
 Nanci Heiney  
**Third Place** *Tri-County Times*  
*Branching Out*  
 Coreena Storms, Lorie Gavulic  
**Honorable Mention** *Grosse Pointe News*  
*JHouse Juice*  
 Olivia Monette, Julie Sutton

**Home Furnishings**

**Daily - Home Furnishings**

**4 Entries**  
**First Place** *Greenville Daily News*  
*Millards Lucky Picks Home Furnishings*  
 Design Team  
**Second Place** *The Daily Globe*  
*Hitts Fine Furniture*  
 Daily Globe Advertising  
**Third Place** *Greenville Daily News*  
*Larry's Hurry in and Save*  
 Design Team

**Non-Daily - Home Furnishings**

**6 Entries**  
**First Place** *Houghton Lake Resorter & Roscommon County Herald-News*  
*K2 Stoneworks*  
 Patty Tribelhorn  
**Second Place** *Leelanau Enterprise*  
*Comfort Center*  
 Advertising Department, Creative Department  
**Third Place** *Grosse Pointe News*  
*Sargent Appliance - King of the Grill*  
 Anne Gryzenia, Paul Biondi  
**Honorable Mention** *Grosse Pointe News*  
*Sargent Appliance - Feeding an army?*  
 Anne Gryzenia, Paul Biondi

**Home Services**

**Daily - Home Services**

**4 Entries**

**First Place**

*American Classic Home Services  
Design Team*

**Greenville Daily News**

**Second Place**

*Driveway Doctor  
Linda Ziska , Graphics*

**Cadillac News**

**Third Place**

*Time to Get Charged Up!  
Design Team*

**Greenville Daily News**

**Non-Daily - Home Services**

**10 Entries**

**First Place**

*Abstract Builders - HF Winter 20  
Nanci Heiney*

**Tecumseh Herald**

**Second Place**

*Patrick Widing  
Coreena Storms, Lorie Gavulic*

**Tri-County Times**

**Third Place**

*Viktor & Sons - Brick Envy  
Olivia Monette*

**Grosse Pointe News**

**Honorable Mention**

*Dust Busters  
Coreena Storms, Lorie Gavulic*

**Tri-County Times**

**New and Used Autos- Recreational Vehicles and Boats**

**Daily - New and Used Autos- Recreational Vehicles and Boats**

**6 Entries**

**First Place**

*Save the Date! Boat, RV & Home Show  
Judy Lytle*

**Ludington Daily News**

**Second Place**

*Test Drive for a Turkey  
Design Team*

**Greenville Daily News**

**Third Place**

*37th Anniversary Sale  
Julie Eilers*

**Ludington Daily News**

**Honorable Mention**

*Classic Chevy - Open Road - Blazer  
Katheryn Kidder, Graphics*

**Cadillac News**

**Non-Daily - New and Used Autos- Recreational Vehicles and Boats**

**6 Entries**

**First Place**

*Suburban - HF Summer 21  
Nanci Heiney*

**Tecumseh Herald**

**Second Place**

*Suburban - HF Winter 20  
Nanci Heiney*

**Tecumseh Herald**

**Third Place**

*Freeway Sports  
Coreena Storms, Lorie Gavulic*

**Tri-County Times**

**Honorable Mention**

*Suburban Chevrolet - 09.24.2020  
Cory Mathis*

**Tecumseh Herald**

**Real Estate**

**Daily - Real Estate**

**4 Entries**

**First Place**

*Remax Action North  
Daily Globe Advertising*

**The Daily Globe**

**Second Place**

*Five Star Real Estate - Business Card Directory  
Scott Lepine, Graphics*

**Cadillac News**

**Third Place**

*Coolman-Anderson  
Julie Eilers*

**Ludington Daily News**

**Honorable Mention**

*Just Listed!  
Julie Eilers*

**Ludington Daily News**

**Non-Daily - Real Estate**

**8 Entries**

**First Place**

*Finer Pointes - House & Home - Lewiston  
Donna Zetterlund, Alexis Bohlinger, Anne Gryzenia, Julie Sutton*

**Grosse Pointe News**

**Second Place**

*Jenn Kerstetter - Tecumseh Community Guide - 03.18.2021  
Cory Mathis*

**Tecumseh Herald**

**Third Place**

*Bob Fox - HF Spring 21  
Nanci Heiney*

**Tecumseh Herald**

**Honorable Mention**

*Featured Realtor  
Advertising Department, Creative Department*

**Leelanau Enterprise**

**Restaurants**

**Daily - Restaurants**

**6 Entries**

**First Place**

*Dine-In Sportsman's & The Mitten  
Judy Lytle*

**Ludington Daily News**

**Second Place**

*Big John's 50th Anniversary  
Candy Bryant*

**Ludington Daily News**

**Third Place**

*Sharon's Coffee Company  
Daily Globe Advertising*

**The Daily Globe**

**Honorable Mention**

*Battle of the Pizzas - Various Restaurants  
DESIGN TEAM*

**Greenville Daily News**

**Non-Daily - Restaurants**

**5 Entries**

**First Place**

*The Bricks Restaurant  
Anne Gryzenia*

**Grosse Pointe News**

**Second Place**

*Salsarias Member of the - 06.03.2021  
Cory Mathis*

**Tecumseh Herald**

**Third Place**

*Cinnamon Roll Sunday - Emmy's Kitchen  
Ashliegh Bruneau, Eric May*

**The Advance**

**Honorable Mention**

*Fenton VFW Fish Fry  
Coreena Storms, Lorie Gavulic*

**Tri-County Times**

**Small Ads Work**



**Daily - Small Ads Work**

5 Entries

**First Place**

**The Daily Globe**

*Abelman Clothing & Footwear*

Daily Globe Advertising

**Small Ads Work**

**Daily - Small Ads Work**

Entries

**Second Place**

**Greenville Daily News**

*Furniture Gallery*

Design Team

**Third Place**

**Ludington Daily News**

*Why Count Sheep?*

Candy Bryant

**Honorable Mention**

**Cadillac News**

*McBain Auto - side mirror ad*

Shelly Mueller, Graphics

**Non-Daily - Small Ads Work**

5 Entries

**First Place**

**Tecumseh Herald**

*Levs Bakery - HF Summer 21*

Nanci Heiney

**Second Place**

**Tecumseh Herald**

*Billy White Roofing - 12.10.2020*

Cory Mathis

**Third Place**

**Houghton Lake Resorter & Roscommon County**

**Herald-News**

*Lakeside Bar and Grille*

Patty Tribelhorn, Alycia Nielsen

**Honorable Mention**

**Grosse Pointe News**

*Atelier - Small ad integrated with weekly recipe*

Anne Gryzenia, Julie Sutton, Olivia Monette