

2025 MPA Better Newspaper Contest



Statewide Contest Spotlights Quality Journalism

Members of Arkansas Press Association reviewed 2,643 entries submitted by 89 Michigan newspapers/Individual members this year. The competition inspires all journalists to produce their best work, which in turn nurtures stronger communities.

“The annual Michigan Press Association Better Newspaper Contest gives our members a chance each year to assess and put forth their team’s best work in journalism, photojournalism, column writing, graphic design, and advertising. After the judges have reviewed the thousands of submissions and made their decisions, awards will be given, bragging rights established and perhaps a few toasts made to the winners. It is a rare moment in our profession where we allow ourselves to reflect on and experience something akin to satisfaction of a job well done. Anyone in this business today is in it, not for kudos, but because of a passion and desire to serve our readers, our advertisers, and our communities. For us, the work is the reward. But on the occasion of MPA BNC contest awards, let us take a moment to say to all our coworkers and all our colleagues, good job! And to the winners — Congratulations!”

— Wes Smith, Michigan Press Association Past-President and Group Publisher of View Newspaper Group

The 2025 “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	Newspaper	Circulation Class	Newspaper
Class A	Detroit News	Class A	Huron County View
Class B	Traverse City Record-Eagle	Class B	Oxford Leader
Class C	Kalamazoo Gazette	Class C	Grosse Pointe News
Class D	Ludington Daily News	Class D	Newberry News

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 2025 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 winner being the **Ludington Daily News**.

The 2025 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: Grant Schwab of Detroit News, Leah Craig of Michigan Advance, and Cassidey Kavathas of Holland Sentinel, with the award going to **Cassidey Kavathas**.

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 three finalists are: Kalamazoo Gazette for “Michigan city threatens to sue residents over ‘statements that have caused harm’”, Detroit News for “Michigan school districts pack kids into classrooms as reading scores falter,” and Holland Sentinel for “Property owners in Ganges Township have had enough of campit. But what can they do?” with the award going to **Detroit News**.

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: Grand Rapids Press for “Nursing Homes”

Daily B: Traverse City Record-Eagle for “U.S. 31 pedestrian bridge”

Daily D: The Daily News, Iron Mountain for “Dickinson board cuts Extension funding from budget”

Weekly C: Grosse Pointe News for “Roll Call: Project seeks community input”

The 2026 MPA Better Newspaper Contest opens August 1, 2026.

Class 37 - Spot News Story

Daily A - Class 37 - Spot News Story

9 Entries

1st Place

Paul Whelan comes home
Melissa Nann Burke, Grant Schwab

Detroit News

2nd Place

Traverse City stabbing attack
Detroit News staff

Detroit News

3rd Place

He tried to help as West Bloomfield Twp. home burned — now he grapples with deaths
Darcie Moran

Detroit Free Press

Honorable Mention

Runner dies during Grand Rapids Marathon. Strangers bring him back to life.
Brad Massman

Grand Rapids Press

Daily B - Class 37 - Spot News Story

1 Entries

1st Place

Mass stabbing at Walmart
Staff

Traverse City Record-Eagle

Daily C - Class 37 - Spot News Story

15 Entries

1st Place

Stabbing spree across downtown Kalamazoo puts people on edge
Brad Devereaux

Kalamazoo Gazette

2nd Place

“Completely unlivable”: Kalamazoo County homes damaged as storm uproots trees”
Ryan Boldrey

Kalamazoo Gazette

3rd Place

FBI raids against pro-Palestine protesters
Sophia Kalakailo, Jordyn Pair, Makayla Coffee

The Ann Arbor News

Daily D - Class 37 - Spot News Story

17 Entries

1st Place

Police from multiple agencies gather for hostage situation outside Saginaw Township bank branch
Saginaw News staff

Saginaw News

2nd Place

Loved ones mourn missing Holland woman after remains found in shark
Mitchell Boatman

Holland Sentinel

3rd Place

Pets kept warm through local community efforts
Reagan Voetberg

Alpena News

Honorable Mention

Power restoration in progress following ice storm
Steve Schulwitz

Alpena News

Weekly A - Class 37 - Spot News Story

7 Entries

1st Place

District 4 commissioner tie resolved with blind draw
Seth Stapleton

Huron County View

2nd Place

Trump announces new Selfridge fighter mission
Dean Vaglia

The Journal

3rd Place

Police chief refutes councilman's claims
Gary Gould

Grand Blanc View

Honorable Mention

Burton dog hoarding arrest
Gary Gould

Grand Blanc View

Weekly B - Class 37 - Spot News Story

5 Entries

1st Place

Two people taken to the hospital after Orion Twp. condo explosion, many left homeless
Jim Newell

The Lake Orion Review

2nd Place

'You never know when you're going to be able to help someone live another 20 years'
Shelby Stewart-Soldan

The Citizen, Ortonville

3rd Place

Firefighters, deputies save two horses from pond
Shelby Stewart-Soldan

The Citizen, Ortonville

Honorable Mention

Truck crashes through Oxford American legion leaving passenger dead
Joseph Goral

Oxford Leader

Weekly C - Class 37 - Spot News Story

18 Entries

1st Place

Munson hiring 170 foreign nurses
Brian Freiberger

Leelanau Enterprise

2nd Place

Housing shortage impacts hirings
Amy Hubbell

Leelanau Enterprise

3rd Place

North student helps save woman from Lake St. Clair
Ted O'Neil

Grosse Pointe News

Honorable Mention

Colter Gone too soon
Brad Lindberg

Grosse Pointe News

Weekly D - Class 37 - Spot News Story

12 Entries

1st Place

Duo charged with homicide, conspiracy to appear for preliminary exams on Aug. 5
Jenny Haglund

Oscoda Press

2nd Place

Lakeside solar project moving to next step...
Larry Launstein Jr.

White Lake Beacon

3rd Place

2025.02.26 Local Tragedy Authorities Investigate
Alexis Rankin, Kaleb Boyer

St. Ignace News

Class 38 - News Enterprise Reporting

Daily A - Class 38 - News Enterprise Reporting

10 Entries

1st Place

Oxford survivor takes recovery one wave at a time
Jennifer Chambers

Detroit News

2nd Place **Grand Rapids Press**

Toddler dies hours after being returned to alleged abuser, revealing cracks in Michigan system.

Justin Hicks

3rd Place **Detroit Free Press**

She told Michigan cops she was attacked. Now she faces deportation by the feds

Dave Boucher

Honorable Mention **Detroit News**

Grim Reapers teamed up to kill a Monroe woman after a wedding

Francis X. Donnelly

Daily B - Class 38 - News Enterprise Reporting

5 Entries

1st Place **Lansing State Journal**

Will full scope of LPD lieutenant's moonlighting ever be known?

Matt Mencarini

2nd Place **Lansing State Journal**

UM-Sparrow, McLaren health systems are worth billions. Is bigger better for patients?

Matt Mencarini

3rd Place **Traverse City Record-Eagle**

Tackling chronic homelessness

Staff, and current contributor/former intern Michael J. Breazeale

Honorable Mention **Traverse City Record-Eagle**

Financial crisis at Northern Lakes

Peter Kobs, Aly Kleidon

Daily C - Class 38 - News Enterprise Reporting

14 Entries

1st Place **Kalamazoo Gazette**

Homeless couple leaves town after chaotic 2 weeks: 'Kalamazoo is not a goldmine'

Brad Devereaux

2nd Place **Flint Journal**

Flint City Council in crisis

Gus Burns, Ron Fonger, Fuad Shalhout

3rd Place **Midland Daily News**

Aging Midland: A look at the changing demographics of Midland County

Dan Chalk, Isabelle Pasciolla

Honorable Mention **Muskegon Chronicle**

Shaw-Walker's 90-year legacy before one of Muskegon's biggest waterfront transformations.

Kayla Tucker

Daily D - Class 38 - News Enterprise Reporting

13 Entries

1st Place **Greenville Daily News**

Eye of the hurricane: Montcalm County prosecutor

Elisabeth Waldon

2nd Place **Holland Sentinel**

Homelessness in Holland

Cassidey Kavathas, Adam Vander Kooy

3rd Place **Cheboygan Daily Tribune**

Blue Cross Blue Shield writes off debt for employees affected by

Tissue Depot nonpayment

Paul Welitzkin

Honorable Mention **Ludington Daily News**

Custer community rallies to lower speed limit in school zone

Lois Tomaszewski

Weekly A - Class 38 - News Enterprise Reporting

6 Entries

1st Place **The Journal**

Students raise money for at-risk STARBASE program

Dean Vaglia

2nd Place **Huron County View**

Unbreakable spirit leads to unlikely second chance

Casey Johnson, Paul P. Adams

3rd Place **Sterling Heights Sentry**

Help urgently needed as situation in Haiti worsens

Andy Kozlowski

Honorable Mention **Roseville-Eastpointe Eastsider**

Child care centers in Eastpointe and beyond struggle to overcome challenges, expand

Brian Wells

Weekly B - Class 38 - News Enterprise Reporting

8 Entries

1st Place **The Citizen, Ortonville**

BGYA Mental Health and Wellness Series

Shelby Stewart-Soldan

2nd Place **Oxford Leader**

NOTA driver's swift response helps save a woman experiencing a stroke

Jim Newell

3rd Place **The Lake Orion Review**

Orion Twp. residents swindled out of \$49,400 in online scams

Jim Newell

Honorable Mention **Oxford Leader**

Free Meals program seeks assistance to continue providing for the community

Jim Newell

Weekly C - Class 38 - News Enterprise Reporting

16 Entries

1st Place **Leelanau Enterprise**

Cell Phone Dead Zones Challenge residents

Alan Campbell

2nd Place **Grosse Pointe News**

Park resident wants you to be gutless

Ted O'Neil

3rd Place **Grosse Pointe News**

Staying strong and Cancer free!

Jody McVeigh

Honorable Mention **Tri-County Times**

Ex-fiancée of convicted attempted murderer tells her story

Hannah Ball

Weekly D - Class 38 - News Enterprise Reporting

15 Entries

1st Place **South Lyon Herald**

Elderly driving laws in Michigan reexamined after fatal crash

Susan Bromley

2nd Place **Newberry News**

Census work sparks fast-moving rumor

Carol Stiffler

3rd Place **Oscoda Press**

PKL coverage

Gaylynn Brenoel

Honorable Mention **Munising Beacon**

Navigating the waters

Jennifer Champagne

Class 39 - Government/Political News

Daily A - Class 39 - Government/Political News

10 Entries

1st Place **Grand Rapids Press**

A \$2M grant was supposed to revive a mobile home park. Then residents got 4 days to get out.

Rose White

2nd Place **Detroit Free Press**

Community violence intervention funding is in limbo across Michigan
Andrea May Sahouri and Clara Hendrickson

3rd Place **Grand Rapids Press**

A broken system.' Mental health patient complaints go nowhere in Michigan

Gus Burns

Honorable Mention **Detroit News**

Dead, but not buried on Michigan's voter rolls. Their names scrutinized

Craig Mauger, Julia Cardi

Daily B - Class 39 - Government/Political News

6 Entries

1st Place **Lansing State Journal**

Residents pressure police to get speeding, racing under control in Lansing

Mike Ellis

2nd Place **Lansing State Journal**

Small town dispute blows up big over Electric Light Parade

Susan Vela

3rd Place **Lansing State Journal**

Township clerks run elections for half of Michigan residents. But what if no one wants the job?

Matt Mencarini

Honorable Mention **Lansing State Journal**

'What is clean water worth?' Long-awaited Montgomery Drain project nears \$50M, completion

Ken Palmer

Daily C - Class 39 - Government/Political News

18 Entries

1st Place **Kalamazoo Gazette**

He died from a tooth infection, fearing medical debt. His legacy is inspiring change

Brad Devereaux

2nd Place **The Ann Arbor News**

'Eaten alive.' Bedbugs plague Ann Arbor low-income housing despite thousands spent

Ryan Stanton

3rd Place **Kalamazoo Gazette**

Kalamazoo County board raised their salaries 80% — here's how it compares

Brad Devereaux

Honorable Mention **The Ann Arbor News**

Ann Arbor's Black neighborhood was once targeted for demolition. Now it's home to \$1M condos.

Ryan Stanton

Daily D - Class 39 - Government/Political News

18 Entries

1st Place **The Argus-Press**

Owosso water crisis: how we got here and what's next

Ashlee Buhler

2nd Place

Petoskey News-Review

Resort Twp. supervisor/assessor may face discipline by State Tax Commission

Karly Graham

3rd Place **Ludington Daily News**

Hamlin's Zoning Board of Appeals rulings upheld

Lois Tomaszewski

Honorable Mention **Holland Sentinel**

After reaching for seconds, Laketown Township has lost both manager candidates

Mitchell Boatman

Weekly A - Class 39 - Government/Political News

5 Entries

1st Place **Grosse Pointe Times**

Late forester established a legacy that will keep growing

K. Michelle Moran

2nd Place **Huron County View**

Harbor Beach to receive \$3.6 million for water infrastructure improvements

Seth Stapleton

3rd Place **Tri-County Citizen**

Kayak launch quotes exceed funding

Jeanne Marcello

Honorable Mention **Huron County View**

General Election Day finally complete

Seth Stapleton

Weekly B - Class 39 - Government/Political News

7 Entries

1st Place **The Citizen, Ortonville**

'On frozen ground,' the Battle of Chosin Reservoir

David Fleet

2nd Place **Clarkston News**

Residents take on township over proposed rezoning

Megan Kelley

3rd Place **The Lake Orion Review**

Fire safety concerns postpone Lions Club Jubilee approval

Joseph Goral

Honorable Mention **The Lake Orion Review**

Village council adopts water, sewer rate hikes

Joseph Goral

Weekly C - Class 39 - Government/Political News

16 Entries

1st Place **Grosse Pointe News**

Theft ring brought to light with aid from GP

Laurel Kraus

2nd Place **Leelanau Enterprise**

Island Deer Hunt will be more expensive

Alan Campbell

3rd Place **Leelanau Enterprise**

GTB Heritage Library affected by fed cuts

Meakalia Previch-Liu

Honorable Mention **Grosse Pointe News**

Harper Woods K-9 officer retires from service

Laurel Kraus

Weekly D - Class 39 - Government/Political News

14 Entries

1st Place

St. Ignace News

Dafter Residents Raise Concern over Bitcoin Mining

Kalab Boyer

2nd Place

St. Ignace News

Facing Cuts Rural Healthcare Medicaid At Risk

Erich Doerr

3rd Place

White Lake Beacon

Whitehall establishes commercial rehab district

Cristina Juska

Class 40 - Education/School News

Daily A - Class 40 - Education/School News

7 Entries

1st Place

Detroit News

Class sizes under scrutiny

Craig Mauger

2nd Place

Grand Rapids Press

A Michigan college president commuted from Virginia. The college and taxpayers paid the bill.

Matt Miller

3rd Place

Detroit Free Press

Calls to cops show specialized schools in Michigan are falling students,

Lily Altavena

Honorable Mention

Grand Rapids Press

Schools shuttered 5 years ago. Students say the classroom culture went with it.

Danielle James

Daily C - Class 40 - Education/School News

12 Entries

1st Place

Jackson Citizen Patriot

Siena Heights to close

Jackie Smith

2nd Place

The Ann Arbor News

School superintendent exodus: What's behind leadership changes in Washtenaw County

Jackie Smith

2nd Place

Kalamazoo Gazette

Neighborhood residents fear fallout as they prepare to lose their school

Aya Miller

Honorable Mention

Kalamazoo Gazette

'Like a triage room': Most third grade classes in Kalamazoo area exceed proposed cap

Aya Miller

Daily D - Class 40 - Education/School News

15 Entries

1st Place

Cheboygan Daily Tribune

Parents air concerns about carbon dioxide levels at Cheboygan's East Elementary School

Karly Graham

2nd Place

Alpena News

Candidate Gordon Snow sent 'problematic' emails to school staff, attorney says

Steve Schulwitz

3rd Place

Greenville Daily News

Greenville Public Schools records drop in enrollment of 158 students

Cory Smith

Honorable Mention

Greenville Daily News

Kindness still matters

Tim McAllister

Weekly A - Class 40 - Education/School News

9 Entries

1st Place

Grosse Pointe Times

Language teacher brings the world to her students

K. Michelle Moran

2nd Place

Grosse Pointe Times

Students serve diners while raising funds for Autism Alliance of Michigan

K. Michelle Moran

3rd Place

Huron County View

A global educational experience

Seth Stapleton

Honorable Mention

Grosse Pointe Times

CEO dishes about school food service during visit to North

K. Michelle Moran

Weekly B - Class 40 - Education/School News

5 Entries

1st Place

The Lake Orion Review

Many protest LOCS school board support of closing special needs program at Pine Tree Center

Joseph Goral

2nd Place

The Lake Orion Review

LOCS Board of Education discusses future bond plans

Joseph Goral

3rd Place

Clarkston News

Clarkston schools discusses school resource officer partnership and funding

Megan Kelley

Honorable Mention

The Citizen, Ortonville

GHS scholarship recipient champion of achievements

David Fleet

Weekly C - Class 40 - Education/School News

13 Entries

1st Place

Grosse Pointe News

GPPSS looks to implement parental rights policy

Ted O'Neil

2nd Place

Grosse Pointe News

Making a statement

Ted O'Neil

3rd Place

Houghton Lake Resorter & Roscommon County Herald-News

Setting Goals and Working Toward Independence

Krista Tacey-Cater

Honorable Mention

Leelanau Enterprise

Northport graduates gifted hand-painted portraits

Meakalia Previch-Liu

Class 40 - Education/School News

Weekly D - Class 40 - Education/School News

11 Entries

1st Place

Munising Beacon

Spotlight on schools series

Jennifer Champagne

2nd Place Crawford County Avalanche

'Radium Girls' illuminates historical subject

Cheryl Holladay

3rd Place Newberry News

Where the wild thigs are made: Second grade drawings come to 'life'

Carol Stiffler

Honorable Mention Newberry News

Tiktok video empties school

Carol Stiffler

Class 41 - Business News

Daily A - Class 41 - Business News

9 Entries

1st Place Detroit News

\$600M in tax incentives paid before jobs were created

Beth LeBlanc

2nd Place Grand Rapids Press

Michiganders' 'free gas' under threat

Lucas Smolcic Larson

3rd Place Detroit News

Detroit is overserved with liquor stores for its size

Louis Aguilar

Honorable Mention Detroit News

Future of RenCen

Breana Noble, Kalea Hall, Candice Williams, Beth LeBlanc, Chad

Livengood, Carol Thompson

Daily B - Class 41 - Business News

3 Entries

1st Place Lansing State Journal

Rite Aid closures left vacancies in Greater Lansing. Filling them will be challenging, experts say

Rachel Greco

2nd Place Lansing State Journal

Business owners say metered parking is hurting Lansing businesses.

Rachel Greco

3rd Place Lansing State Journal

New owners have big plans for Owasso Speedway, investing 'millions' in Michigan's oldest track

Rachel Greco

Daily C - Class 41 - Business News

12 Entries

1st Place Kalamazoo Gazette

He poured his life savings into a party store. A proposed Dollar General threatens it.

Aya Miller

2nd Place Flint Journal

Family-owned Michigan hardware store closing after 150 years

Nick Taylor

3rd Place Kalamazoo Gazette

Hot 'n Now is back: How a nostalgic Michigan burger chain will rise from the grease trap

Brad Devereaux

Honorable Mention Flint Journal

Meet the Grand Blanc restaurant owner who puts customers before profits

Fuad Shalhout

Daily D - Class 41 - Business News

19 Entries

1st Place Bay City Times

From Titanic wreck to presidential yacht, Bay City shipbuilder left mark on history

Joey Oliver

2nd Place Greenville Daily News

Trufant restaurant rises from the ashes

Cory Smith

3rd Place Petoskey News-Review

Digging into 'The Archives': McLean & Eakin to open used bookstore in downtown Petoskey

Karly Graham

Honorable Mention Holland Sentinel

Have you seen ads for Shipwreck Saloon in Holland? Why some locals are thinking twice

Austin Metz

Weekly A - Class 41 - Business News

8 Entries

1st Place Grosse Pointe Times

Grosse Pointe Woods man in running for national business award

K. Michelle Moran

2nd Place Tri-County Citizen

General business license to be revised

Jeanne Marcello

3rd Place Tri-County Citizen

City council explores DDA proposal

Jeanne Marcello

Honorable Mention Grosse Pointe Times

Beloved longtime Italian restaurant to say 'ciao'

K. Michelle Moran

Weekly B - Class 41 - Business News

1 Entries

1st Place Oxford Leader

New McLaren facility opens in Oxford

Jim Newell

Weekly C - Class 41 - Business News

19 Entries

1st Place Grosse Pointe News

The Campus Shop to close next week

Laurel Kraus

2nd Place Iosco County News-Herald

Tawas Bay Marine & Cycle gifts Can-Am to sheriff's office, in support of SOM Unit

Jenny Haglund

3rd Place Grosse Pointe News

Couple creating culinary dream with Pangea Global Kitchen

Jody McVeigh

Honorable Mention Grosse Pointe News

Pointer founds, grows local food rescue nonprofit

Laurel Kraus

Weekly D - Class 41 - Business News

11 Entries

1st Place Zeeland Record

Howard Miller Announces Shutdown of its Business

Greg Chandler

2nd Place *Munising Beacon*
U.P. roots, global reach
 Jennifer Champagne

3rd Place *Crawford County Avalanche*
Bacon and eggs and family
 Krista Tacey-Cater

Honorable Mention *St. Ignace News*
EJ Mertaugh Boat Works Celebrate a Century in Business
 Kalab Boyer

Class 42 - Agriculture News

Daily A - Class 42 - Agriculture News
 7 Entries

1st Place *Detroit Free Press*
Bird flu in Michigan
 Kristen Jordan Shamus

2nd Place *Grand Rapids Press*
Migrant worker death
 Rose White

3rd Place *Detroit Free Press*
As Detroit sees a future in urban agriculture, some pushback harkens to a dark past
 Lyndsay C. Green

Honorable Mention *Grand Rapids Press*
Conservation districts and Delta County
 Gus Burns

Daily C - Class 42 - Agriculture News
 4 Entries

1st Place *Kalamazoo Gazette*
From gross to gas: A Kalamazoo-area farm's new plan for its 350K pounds of poop a day
 Audrey Whitaker

2nd Place *Kalamazoo Gazette*
Toxins in a Michigan town may be making residents sick. Researchers will investigate.
 Brad Devereaux

3rd Place *Midland Daily News*
Midland County marijuana sales boost local funds for public projects
 Tereasa Nims

Honorable Mention *Muskegon Chronicle*
Big chunk of farmland auctioned off
 Ehren Wynder

Daily D - Class 42 - Agriculture News
 7 Entries

1st Place *Ludington Daily News*
Preserving special places in people's lives
 Shanna Avery

2nd Place *Ludington Daily News*
Two USDA cuts impacting local needs
 Shanna Avery

3rd Place *Greenville Daily News*
Safer silos
 Tim McAllister

Class 42 - Agriculture News

Weekly A - Class 42 - Agriculture News
 7 Entries

1st Place *Huron County View*
Local businesses, consumers feeling the pinch with rising cost of eggs
 Seth Stapleton

2nd Place *Huron County View*
Volunteer leader catalyst for youth livestock program growth
 Seth Stapleton

3rd Place *Huron County View*
A Labor of Love
 John Bonke

Honorable Mention *Tri-County Citizen*
Planning commission delays decision
 Jeanne Marcello

Weekly C - Class 42 - Agriculture News
 11 Entries

1st Place *Leelanau Enterprise*
Centerville residents concerned about septage
 Kate Ward

2nd Place *Tri-County Times*
Our beloved butterfly
 Hannah Young

3rd Place *Leelanau Enterprise*
Fruit Growers may benefit from exports
 Alan Campbell

Honorable Mention *Tri-County Times*
domestic ducks rescued in Linden
 Hannah Ball

Weekly D - Class 42 - Agriculture News
 7 Entries

1st Place *Oceanas Herald-Journal*
Tariffs may impact Oceana Agriculture
 Cristina Juska

2nd Place *White Lake Beacon*
How to keep chickens for eggs (and fun)
 Cristina Juska

3rd Place *Oceanas Herald-Journal*
Oceana honey production declining drastically
 Cristina Juska

Honorable Mention *Newberry News*
Make way for harvesters
 Carol Stiffler

Class 43 - Feature Story

Daily A - Class 43 - Feature Story
 10 Entries

1st Place *Detroit Free Press*
In Michigan's deep freeze, even the dead struggle to find respite
 Frank Witsil

2nd Place *Detroit Free Press*
'Mo' on Netflix breaks stereotypes, resonates with Michigan's Arab and Muslim communities
 Nour Rahal

3rd Place *Detroit News*
Ford CEO opens up about relationship with Chris Farley
 Adam Graham

Honorable Mention

Truck-eating bridge
Matt Miller

Grand Rapids Press

Honorable Mention

Hockey player befriends boy with same name
Gary Gould

Grand Blanc View

Daily B - Class 43 - Feature Story

3 Entries

1st Place

Family of faith-healing parents convicted of murder still reeling from 8-year ordeal

Ken Palmer

Lansing State Journal

Weekly B - Class 43 - Feature Story

17 Entries

1st Place

Hana St. Juliana Memorial Garden opens at Seymour Lake Twp. Park

Jim Newell

Oxford Leader

2nd Place

Kit homes were ordered from store catalogs before 1950. How many are still in Lansing?

Rachel Greco

Lansing State Journal

2nd Place

Orion first responders share the Christmas spirit during Shop with a Hero

Jim Newell

The Lake Orion Review

3rd Place

How a Lansing area nonprofit is changing lives by training service dogs

Rachel Greco

Lansing State Journal

3rd Place

Community rallies to help local family in need

Megan Kelley

Clarkston News

Daily C - Class 43 - Feature Story

22 Entries

1st Place

Muskegon's own 'Rosie the Riveter' returns to plant she worked at during WWII.

Kayla Tucker

Muskegon Chronicle

Weekly C - Class 43 - Feature Story

32 Entries

1st Place

True grit

Jody McVeigh

Grosse Pointe News

2nd Place

Unearthing buried cemetery near Ann Arbor reveals early settlers, Revolutionary War soldier

Jennifer Eberbach

The Ann Arbor News

2nd Place

Priest's 'last best friend' publishes book honoring longtime church leader

Jody McVeigh

Grosse Pointe News

3rd Place

Midland man discovers brother through DNA test after 30 years

Max Milne

Midland Daily News

3rd Place

North student helps save woman from Lake St. Clair

Ted O'Neil

Grosse Pointe News

Daily D - Class 43 - Feature Story

22 Entries

1st Place

So many emotions

David Barber

Ludington Daily News

Honorable Mention

Local artist creates pet memorial portraits

Hannah Ball

Tri-County Times

2nd Place

A writer grew in Belding

Tim McAllister

Greenville Daily News

Weekly D - Class 43 - Feature Story

31 Entries

1st Place

Rediscovering true north

Melissa Wentarmini

Munising Beacon

3rd Place

The Detroit-style, four-count dance step that's becoming 'a lifestyle' in Saginaw

Justin Engel

Saginaw News

2nd Place

Remembering a quiet hero

Jennifer Champagne

Munising Beacon

Honorable Mention

8 seconds at a time

Cory Smith

Greenville Daily News

3rd Place

Bamboo Bend builds cama- 'rod'-erie among veterans

Ashley Patti

Crawford County Avalanche

Weekly A - Class 43 - Feature Story

9 Entries

1st Place

From one runway to another

Seth Stapleton

Huron County View

Daily A - Class 44 - Best Opinion

3 Entries

1st Place

Letter from the Editor

John Hiner

Grand Rapids Press

2nd Place

WWII vet recalls time served in the Pacific Theater

Seth Stapleton

Huron County View

2nd Place

Columns by Darren A. Nichols

Darren A. Nichols

Detroit Free Press

3rd Place

"I'm just like every other kid"

K. Michelle Moran

Grosse Pointe Times

3rd Place

24 years of Detroit election data shows not enough people vote. Can we fix it?

Nancy Kaffer, Khalil AlHajal, Kristi Tanner

Detroit Free Press

Daily C - Class 44 - Best Opinion

1 Entries

1st Place *The Ann Arbor News*
Yes, Ann Arbor's pain over vandalized peonies is real. Here's why.
 Sam Dodge

Daily D - Class 44 - Best Opinion

3 Entries

1st Place *Ludington Daily News*
Responders/Five Words/Superhero
 David Barber

2nd Place *Ludington Daily News*
AP Reports/Holiday/Values
 Steve Begnoche

3rd Place *The Daily News, Iron Mountain*
When misinformation starts at the very top
 Jim Anderson and Betsy Bloom

Weekly A - Class 44 - Best Opinion

3 Entries

1st Place *Huron County View*
Proud Dad
 Seth Stapleton

2nd Place *Huron County View*
A possible bragging experience my friends are going to make fun of me for
 Seth Stapleton

3rd Place *Huron County View*
Do difficult things, but don't take dumb risks
 Seth Stapleton

Weekly C - Class 44 - Best Opinion

7 Entries

1st Place *Grosse Pointe News*
What is their end game?
 Ted O'Neil

2nd Place *Grosse Pointe News*
Wait a minute, a clinic?
 Ted O'Neil

3rd Place *Grosse Pointe News*
Tete-a-tete
 Brad Lindberg

Honorable Mention *Grosse Pointe News*
Stay vigilant
 Ted O'Neil

Weekly D - Class 44 - Best Opinion

2 Entries

1st Place *Newberry News*
Farewell to the Toonerville Trolley and Riverboat Tour
 Sterling McGinn

2nd Place *Newberry News*
Why the U.P. needs good readers
 Bill Diem

Class 45 - Best Editorial

Daily A - Class 45 - Best Editorial

3 Entries

1st Place *Detroit News*
News editorials on Trump, Democrats and education reform
 Nolan Finley, Kaitlyn Buss, Nicole Cook

2nd Place

Detroit Free Press

Editorial: Who the Free Press isn't endorsing
 Staff

3rd Place

Detroit Free Press

Editorial: Trump wins. Harris concedes. Turns out you can go back
 Nancy Kaffer

Daily B - Class 45 - Best Editorial

3 Entries

1st Place *Traverse City Record-Eagle*
Students cool with OK2SAY, adults need to match energy
 Allison Batdorff

2nd Place *Traverse City Record-Eagle*
Enthusiasm, oversight aren't at odds in event-hosting
 Allison Batdorff

3rd Place *Traverse City Record-Eagle*
Michigan winning a losing game
 Allison Batdorff

Daily D - Class 45 - Best Editorial

5 Entries

1st Place *Livingston County Daily Press & Argus*
This isn't who we are — right? 10 years later, I'm still writing about racism in Howell
 Cassandra Lybrink

2nd Place *The Daily News, Iron Mountain*
Disagreeing is understandable
 Betsy Bloom

3rd Place *Holland Sentinel*
Kavathas: Here's why I chose housing for my first series at The Sentinel
 Cassidey Kavathas

Cassidey Kavathas

Weekly B - Class 45 - Best Editorial

1 Entries

1st Place *The Citizen, Ortonville*
Making a difference one student at a time
 Shelby Stewart-Soldan

Weekly C - Class 45 - Best Editorial

12 Entries

1st Place *Grosse Pointe News*
Stay vigilant
 Ted O'Neil

2nd Place *Grosse Pointe News*
What is their end game?
 Ted O'Neil

3rd Place *Leelanau Enterprise*
Stay unique Leelanau
 Amy Hubbell

Honorable Mention *Leelanau Enterprise*
Tools available to press/public
 Amy Hubbell

Weekly D - Class 45 - Best Editorial

2 Entries

1st Place *Newberry News*
What so proudly we hailed
 Carol Stiffler

2nd Place *Newberry News*
Trying new things in 2025
 Carol Stiffler

Class 46 - Best Columnist

Daily A - Class 46 - Best Columnist

8 Entries
1st Place *Detroit News*
 Daniel Howes
2nd Place *Detroit Free Press*
 Neal Rubin
3rd Place *Detroit Free Press*
 Susan Tompor
Honorable Mention *Detroit News*
 Nolan Finley

Daily B - Class 46 - Best Columnist

2 Entries
1st Place *Traverse City Record-Eagle*
 Allison Batdorff
2nd Place *Traverse City Record-Eagle*
 Susan Odgers

Daily C - Class 46 - Best Columnist

3 Entries
1st Place *Midland Daily News*
 Dave Clark
2nd Place *Midland Daily News*
 Dan Chalk
3rd Place *Midland Daily News*
 Tereasa Nims

Daily D - Class 46 - Best Columnist

4 Entries
1st Place *Ludington Daily News*
 Brian Mulherin
2nd Place *Alpena News*
 Darby Hinkley
3rd Place *The Daily News, Iron Mountain*
 Betsy Bloom

Weekly A - Class 46 - Best Columnist

3 Entries
1st Place *Grand Blanc View*
 Gary Gould

Weekly B - Class 46 - Best Columnist

3 Entries
1st Place *The Citizen, Ortonville*
 Shelby Stewart-Soldan

Weekly C - Class 46 - Best Columnist

11 Entries
1st Place *Grosse Pointe News*
 Jody McVeigh
2nd Place *Tri-County Times*
 Bridget Koledo
3rd Place *Grosse Pointe News*
 Karen Ferguson

Weekly D - Class 46 - Best Columnist

6 Entries
1st Place *Newberry News*
 Susie Zag
2nd Place *Oceanas Herald-Journal*
 Mary Beth Crain

3rd Place *Munising Beacon*

Ana-Marija Dolaskie
Honorable Mention *Newberry News*
 Tim Callahan

Class 47 - Best Newspaper/Publication Design

Daily B - Class 47 - Best Newspaper/Publication Design

1 Entries
1st Place *Traverse City Record-Eagle*
Traverse City Record-Eagle: April 13, 2025
 Staff

Daily D - Class 47 - Best Newspaper/Publication Design

2 Entries
1st Place *Greenville Daily News*
Daily News design
 Darrin Clark
2nd Place *Ludington Daily News*
Ludington Daily News - January 25, 2025
 Staff

Weekly C - Class 47 - Best Newspaper/Publication Design

4 Entries
1st Place *Grosse Pointe News*
July 17, 2025, issue of the Grosse Pointe News
 GPN Staff
2nd Place *Tri-County Times*
July 27, 2025 issue
 TCT Staff
3rd Place *The Globe*
Best Newspaper/Publication Design 061925
 Globe staff
Honorable Mention *Houghton Lake Resorter & Roscommon County Herald-News*

Issue 21
 Staff

Weekly D - Class 47 - Best Newspaper/Publication Design

5 Entries
1st Place *White Lake Beacon*
White Lake Beacon Sept 9, 2024
 Staff
2nd Place *Newberry News*
The Newberry News September 11, 2024
 Carol Stiffler, Lauren Burton
3rd Place *Crawford County Avalanche*
Issue 31, 2024
 Staff
Honorable Mention *Oceanas Herald-Journal*
Oceanas Herald-Journal - 02-06-2025
 Staff

Class 48 - Best Page or Pages Design

Daily A - Class 48 - Best Page or Pages Design

6 Entries
1st Place *Detroit News*
Designing the Lions
 James Hollar
2nd Place *Detroit News*
Trump returns
 Rick Epps, James Hollar

3rd Place *Detroit News*
Towering task
 Genna Barner
Honorable Mention *Detroit Free Press*
Tarik Skubal pages
 Ryan Ford

Daily B - Class 48 - Best Page or Pages Design
1 Entries
1st Place *Traverse City Record-Eagle*
July 27, 2025: Extra
 Brian Steele

Daily D - Class 48 - Best Page or Pages Design
9 Entries
1st Place *Monroe News*
Monroe News celebrates 200 years
 Holly Mahaffey
2nd Place *Greenville Daily News*
Daily News front page
 Darrin Clark
3rd Place *Coldwater Daily Reporter*
Planes, pancakes and purpose
 Karri Tarsha
Honorable Mention *Petoskey News-Review*
Front page 3-20-25
 Karri Tarsha and Robin Ferguson

Weekly A - Class 48 - Best Page or Pages Design
5 Entries
1st Place *Huron County View*
Milestone Moment
 Cynthia Alvado
2nd Place *Huron County View*
Shanty Days
 Cynthia Alvado
3rd Place *Huron County View*
Bearcat Building Blocks
 Cynthia Alvado

Weekly C - Class 48 - Best Page or Pages Design
19 Entries
1st Place *Sanilac County News*
Unbreakable spirit leads to unlikely second chance
 Marina Leonard
2nd Place *The County Press, Lapeer*
Staycation
 Cynthia Alvado
3rd Place *Grosse Pointe News*
Easter 2025
 Donna Zetterlund, Anne Gryzenia, Olivia Monette
Honorable Mention *Tri-County Times*
Street Talk - Where did you get married?
 Katie Wiley

Weekly D - Class 48 - Best Page or Pages Design
8 Entries
1st Place *St. Ignace News*
2025.03.12 Page Design 223984
 Staff
2nd Place *Newberry News*
Page 9 from January 1, 2025
 Lauren Burton

3rd Place *Munising Beacon*
Feb. 7 front page design
 Michael Murray
Honorable Mention *Crawford County Avalanche*
Letters from Fred Bear
 Krista Tacey-Cater

Class 49 - Special Section

Daily A - Class 49 - Special Section
1 Entries
1st Place *Detroit News*
Pope Francis laid to rest
 James Hollar

Daily B - Class 49 - Special Section
2 Entries
1st Place *Traverse City Record-Eagle*
Momentum '25
 Staff and contributors
2nd Place *Traverse City Record-Eagle*
2024 Economic Outlook
 Staff and contributors

Daily C - Class 49 - Special Section
4 Entries
1st Place *Midland Daily News*
30 Under 40
 Midland Daily News
2nd Place *Midland Daily News*
Midland Daily News Reader's Choice
 Midland Daily News

Daily D - Class 49 - Special Section
8 Entries
1st Place *Ludington Daily News*
Ludington State Park Visitor
 Staff
2nd Place *Ludington Daily News*
Senior Perspectives May/June
 Staff
3rd Place *The Daily News, Iron Mountain*
Hunting Season 2024
 Staff
Honorable Mention *The Daily News, Iron Mountain*
2025 Continental Cup Ski Jumping
 Staff

Weekly A - Class 49 - Special Section
3 Entries
1st Place *Huron County View*
Cheeseburger Festival
 Huron County View Staff
2nd Place *Huron County View*
The Fair
 Huron County View Staff
3rd Place *Huron County View*
Veterans Salute
 Huron County View Staff

Weekly C - Class 49 - Special Section

16 Entries

1st Place

2024 Fall Style Guide

GPN Staff

Grosse Pointe News

2nd Place

Houghton Lake Resorter & Roscommon County Herald-News

Summer Seasons

Staff

3rd Place

Welcome Summer

Lorie Gavulic, Editorial & Sales

Tri-County Times

Honorable Mention

Your Neighborhood

Katie Wiley, Editorial & Sales

Tri-County Times

Weekly D - Class 49 - Special Section

5 Entries

1st Place

City and Sand Community Guide

Staff

Oceanas Herald-Journal

2nd Place

Asparagus Advocate

Staff

Oceanas Herald-Journal

3rd Place

Grayling High School Fall Sports Preview

Staff

Crawford County Avalanche

Honorable Mention

Grayling High School Graduation Salute to the Class of 2025

Staff

Crawford County Avalanche

Class 50 - News Photo

Daily A - Class 50 - News Photo

9 Entries

1st Place

Demonstration at the University of Michigan

Ryan Garza

Detroit Free Press

2nd Place

A mother says goodbye to her babies

Eric Seals

Detroit Free Press

3rd Place

Vigil for slain child

Katy Kildee

Detroit News

Honorable Mention

Tractor rally

Joel Bissell

Grand Rapids Press

Daily B - Class 50 - News Photo

2 Entries

1st Place

Hannah Park Homeless

Jan-Michael Stump

Traverse City Record-Eagle

2nd Place

Sgt. Swartz Comes Home by Robert Killips

Robert Killips

Lansing State Journal

Daily C - Class 50 - News Photo

12 Entries

1st Place

Engulfed

J. Scott Park

Jackson Citizen Patriot

2nd Place

Arrests and chaos amidst Flint city council's divide

Ayrton Breckenridge

Flint Journal

3rd Place

Grieving parents

Devin Anderson-Torrez

Kalamazoo Gazette

Honorable Mention

Remember me

Ayrton Breckenridge

Flint Journal

Daily D - Class 50 - News Photo

10 Entries

1st Place

Fight

Kaytie Boomer

Saginaw News

2nd Place

Cold day, warm hearts

Cory Smith

Greenville Daily News

3rd Place

Weight of ice

Kaytie Boomer

Bay City Times

Honorable Mention

Coal Plant Fire

Kaytie Boomer

Bay City Times

Class 50 - News Photo

Weekly A - Class 50 - News Photo

4 Entries

1st Place

Vigil held in Roseville for Ashley Elkins

Brian Wells

Roseville-Eastpointe Eastsider

2nd Place

Dive for former Lake Huron airplane crash unsuccessful

Seth Stapleton

Huron County View

3rd Place

Voter opens door

Seth Stapleton

Huron County View

Honorable Mention

Protesters gather at Huron County Building

Seth Stapleton

Huron County View

Weekly C - Class 50 - News Photo

6 Entries

1st Place

Burn, baby, burn

Renee Landuyt

Grosse Pointe News

2nd Place

Beautiful reunion

Renee Landuyt

Grosse Pointe News

3rd Place

No Kings

Meakalia Previch-Liu

Leelanau Enterprise

Weekly D - Class 50 - News Photo

3 Entries

1st Place

Hay Bales

Alexis Rankin

St. Ignace News

2nd Place

No Kings

Erich Doerr

St. Ignace News

3rd Place

Lt. Gov. Gilchrist visits Michigan Ice Fest
Rachael Gurski

Munising Beacon

Class 51 - Feature Photo

Daily A - Class 51 - Feature Photo

12 Entries

1st Place

Lollipop Tree
David Guralnick

Detroit News

2nd Place

Foamy
Charlie Nick

Grand Rapids Press

3rd Place

Robot greets school children
David Guralnick

Detroit News

Honorable Mention

Shop with a Hero
Isaac Ritchey

Grand Rapids Press

Daily B - Class 51 - Feature Photo

4 Entries

1st Place

Marching Expo
Jan-Michael Stump

Traverse City Record-Eagle

2nd Place

Northern Lights delight by Matthew Dae Smith
Matthew Dae Smith

Lansing State Journal

3rd Place

Heritage Parade
Jan-Michael Stump

Traverse City Record-Eagle

Daily C - Class 51 - Feature Photo

15 Entries

1st Place

Midland High School Commencement
Doug Julian

Midland Daily News

2nd Place

Goat yoga
Devin Anderson-Torrez

Kalamazoo Gazette

3rd Place

Therapy dog
Jacob Hamilton

The Ann Arbor News

Honorable Mention

Boot shop
Jacob Hamilton

The Ann Arbor News

Daily D - Class 51 - Feature Photo

14 Entries

1st Place

Wisdom
Kaytie Boomer

Bay City Times

2nd Place

Really great-grandparents
Cory Smith

Greenville Daily News

3rd Place

Lantern and moon alignment
Steve Begnoche

Ludington Daily News

Honorable Mention

Pure joy
Kaytie Boomer

Bay City Times

Weekly A - Class 51 - Feature Photo

4 Entries

1st Place

Light Show
Paul P. Adams

Huron County View

2nd Place

Red Sky
Seth Stapleton

Huron County View

3rd Place

Pumpkin Bowling
Jeanne Marcello

Tri-County Citizen

Weekly B - Class 51 - Feature Photo

10 Entries

1st Place

Back to where it started
Patrick McAbee

The Citizen, Ortonville

2nd Place

Farewell, Wildcats!
Jim Newell

Oxford Leader

3rd Place

Sundown
Patrick McAbee

The Citizen, Ortonville

Honorable Mention

Ash Wednesday
Patrick McAbee

The Citizen, Ortonville

Weekly C - Class 51 - Feature Photo

19 Entries

1st Place

Mother nature's cold shoulder
Renee Landuyt

Grosse Pointe News

2nd Place

Pure Grosse Pointe
Renee Landuyt

Grosse Pointe News

3rd Place

No Turning Back
Jenny Haglund

Iosco County News-Herald

Honorable Mention

From His Latest Collection
Cheryl Holladay

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

Weekly D - Class 51 - Feature Photo

8 Entries

1st Place

Steady on, America
Carol Stiffler

Newberry News

2nd Place

SUMMER ON THE AUSABLE RIVER
Krista Tacey-Cater

Crawford County Avalanche

3rd Place

GLITZ AND GLAM ROCK
Ashley Patti

Crawford County Avalanche

Honorable Mention

Taking it to the Streets
Jenny Haglund

Oscoda Press

Class 52 - Photo Story

Daily A - Class 52 - Photo Story

8 Entries

1st Place

A hero never forgotten

Chloe Trofatter

Grand Rapids Press

2nd Place

Photos of Hamtramck

Ryan Garza

Detroit Free Press

3rd Place

Electric Forest

Joel Bissell

Grand Rapids Press

Honorable Mention

Wakeboarding eases pain of Oxford Shooting

Katy Kildee

Detroit News

Daily C - Class 52 - Photo Story

8 Entries

1st Place

NASCAR weekend

Ayrton Breckenridge

Jackson Citizen Patriot

2nd Place

Flint Powers falters after state champ year

Ayrton Breckenridge

Flint Journal

3rd Place

Abandoned. Not forgotten

Jake May

Flint Journal

Honorable Mention

Central Michigan University's "Celebrating Life" Pow wow

Doug Julian

Midland Daily News

Daily D - Class 52 - Photo Story

10 Entries

1st Place

PHOTOS: Popular PBS series 'Antiques Roadshow' visits Charlevoix for filming

Jillian Fellows

Petoskey News-Review

2nd Place

One Day Back Home

Kaytie Boomer

Bay City Times

3rd Place

Leap of Faith

Staff

Ludington Daily News

Weekly A - Class 52 - Photo Story

4 Entries

1st Place

Fair is back!

John Bonke, Paul P. Adams, Seth Stapleton

Huron County View

2nd Place

Impressive Display

Paul P. Adams

Huron County View

3rd Place

Chesaning Snow Day

Jeanne Marcello

Tri-County Citizen

Honorable Mention

Celebrating a Century

Seth Stapleton

Huron County View

Weekly B - Class 52 - Photo Story

7 Entries

1st Place

PEAS provides a forever home to farm animals

Jim Newell

Oxford Leader

2nd Place

Final

Wendi Reardon Price

Clarkston News

3rd Place

Oxford slides into summer with the Seymour Celebration

Joseph Goral

Oxford Leader

Weekly C - Class 52 - Photo Story

17 Entries

1st Place

Holly Academy Veterans Day Celebration

Hannah Ball

Tri-County Times

2nd Place

Roberts Drive Fire February 5

Hannah Ball

Tri-County Times

3rd Place

Women's Flight

Brenda Moseley

The Globe

Honorable Mention

GTB Powwow celebrates culture

Meakalia Previch-Liu

Leelanau Enterprise

Weekly D - Class 52 - Photo Story

8 Entries

1st Place

Scenes from Saturday's Bump-N-Run

Evan Deutsch

Newberry News

2nd Place

Munising Middle School basketball

Rachael Gurski

Munising Beacon

3rd Place

GAAF supports Blue Angels testing

Krista Tacey-Cater

Crawford County Avalanche

Honorable Mention

A look Back at the Oceana County Fair

Cristina Juska, Lois Tomaszewski

Oceanas Herald-Journal

Class 53 - Sports Writing

Daily A - Class 53 - Sports Writing

6 Entries

1st Place

Lions' dream season comes to crushing halt with playoff loss: 'It just ... sucks'

Dave Birkett

Detroit Free Press

2nd Place

For Lions' Kalif Raymond, a life's work finds a home in Detroit

John Niyo

Detroit News

3rd Place

Back from Hollywood, Michigan State's Jase Richardson stars in his own dream

Matt Wenzel

Grand Rapids Press

Honorable Mention

Sonic Boom

Nolan Bianchi

Detroit News

Daily B - Class 53 - Sports Writing

1 Entries

1st Place *Traverse City Record-Eagle*

Kings: TC St. Francis wins baseball state title

James Cook

Daily C - Class 53 - Sports Writing

18 Entries

1st Place *Muskegon Chronicle*

Senior's big moment lifts Rockford boys hoops over Muskegon in D1 district finals

Josh VanDyke

2nd Place *Kalamazoo Gazette*

National champs! Western Michigan hockey's dream season ends with first title

Matthew Ehler

3rd Place *Midland Daily News*

Bay City Western's Luke LaCourse named Michigan's Mr. Baseball

Fred Kelly

Honorable Mention *Kalamazoo Gazette*

'No bar like this': Hockey bar hosts crowd of die-hards as Broncos make history

Devin Anderson-Torrez

Daily D - Class 53 - Sports Writing

22 Entries

1st Place *Bay City Times*

As mom nervously waits, cross country finalist finds courage to finish last

Lee Thompson

2nd Place *Saginaw News*

Paralyzed Caro athlete Austin Bennett never gives up, fulfills basketball dream

Hugh Bernreuter

3rd Place *The Argus-Press*

Crump holds off Harvick's son for Masters of the Pros 200 win

Matthew Scheidel

Honorable Mention *Saginaw News*

500 wins, 13 points, 1 ejection: Mitch Bohn's unbelievable game

Hugh Bernreuter

Weekly A - Class 53 - Sports Writing

3 Entries

1st Place *Huron County View*

Small but mighty: Patriot girls repeat as regional champs

Paul P. Adams

2nd Place *Huron County View*

Hatchet girls make history

Paul P. Adams

3rd Place *Huron County View*

Golden Moment: Bad Axe softball celebrates 50 years

Paul P. Adams

Weekly B - Class 53 - Sports Writing

4 Entries

1st Place *The Lake Orion Review*

Oxford boys basketball outlasts Lake Orion in epic double overtime win

Jim Newell

2nd Place *Oxford Leader*

Oxford holds off Lake Orion to claim the Double-O Trophy

Jim Newell

3rd Place

Oxford Leader

District Champs! Oxford soccer defeats Lake Orion

Jim Newell

Weekly C - Class 53 - Sports Writing

23 Entries

1st Place *Tri-County Times*

Joey earns fifth-round KO, captures Intercontinental Belt

David Troppens

2nd Place *The Globe*

Caron Comes

Jason Juno

3rd Place *The Globe*

Panthers Bring

Jason Juno

Honorable Mention *Leelanau Enterprise*

GL's Houtteman putts his way into the history book

Brian Freiburger

Weekly D - Class 53 - Sports Writing

21 Entries

1st Place *Munising Beacon*

U.P. Finals: 'I'm proud of both teams'

Michael Murray

2nd Place *Tecumseh Herald*

Tecumseh shows close bond in state semifinal win

Jeff Papworth

3rd Place *Oscoda Press*

Travis Mecklenburg, Weston Willoughby claim steady Canoe

Marathon victory

Ben Murphy

Honorable Mention *Oscoda Press*

Oscoda wrestling wins district championship

Ben Murphy

Class 54 - Sports Photograph

Daily A - Class 54 - Sports Photograph

12 Entries

1st Place *Detroit News*

Flying Touchdown

Daniel Mears

2nd Place *Grand Rapids Press*

State champ

Isaac Ritchey

3rd Place *Detroit Free Press*

Detroit Free Press Marathon kiss

Junfu Han

Honorable Mention *Detroit News*

St. Brown Headstand

Daniel Mears

Daily B - Class 54 - Sports Photograph

4 Entries

1st Place *Lansing State Journal*

Snowy upending by Nick King

Nick King

2nd Place *Lansing State Journal*

East Lansing basketball celebration, by Nick King

Nick King

3rd Place *Traverse City Record-Eagle*

Down and Dirty

James Cook

Honorable Mention *Lansing State Journal*
MSU's Tre Holloman pushes away rivals by Nick King
 Nick King

Daily C - Class 54 - Sports Photograph
 24 Entries
1st Place *Kalamazoo Gazette*
Up Your Nose

Devin Anderson-Torrez
2nd Place *Flint Journal*
Finally, a first-ever state title

Jake May
3rd Place *The Ann Arbor News*
Celebration stands collapse

Jackson Ranger
Honorable Mention *The Ann Arbor News*
Mud bowl

Jacob Hamilton

Daily D - Class 54 - Sports Photograph
 15 Entries
1st Place *Bay City Times*
Floating

Kaytie Boomer
2nd Place *Bay City Times*
The take down

Kaytie Boomer
3rd Place *Bay City Times*
Tip toe

Kaytie Boomer
Honorable Mention *Saginaw News*
High kick

Kaytie Boomer

Weekly A - Class 54 - Sports Photograph
 3 Entries
1st Place *Huron County View*
USA softball

Paul P. Adams
2nd Place *Huron County View*
Ubly basketball

Paul P. Adams
3rd Place *Huron County View*
Laker Soccer

Paul P. Adams

Weekly B - Class 54 - Sports Photograph
 10 Entries
1st Place *Oxford Leader*
Oxford football routs Harper Woods, 38-0, in home opener

Joseph Goral
2nd Place *Oxford Leader*
Oxford boys soccer shuts out W. Bloomfield

Jim Newell
3rd Place *The Lake Orion Review*
Girls soccer

Jim Newell
Honorable Mention *Oxford Leader*
Oxford girls soccer battles Goodrich

Jim Newell

Weekly C - Class 54 - Sports Photograph
 21 Entries
1st Place *The Globe*
State Final

Jason Juno
2nd Place *Tri-County Times*
Joey Spencer

Mark Bolen
3rd Place *Houghton Lake Resorter & Roscommon County Herald-News*
FINAL FRENZY

Eric Hamp
Honorable Mention *The Globe*
Upside down

Jason Juno

Weekly D - Class 54 - Sports Photograph
 12 Entries
1st Place *Gaylord Herald Times*
Charlevoix volleyball celebration

Dylan Jespersen
2nd Place *Munising Beacon*
Lindquist scrambles for the ball

Rachael Gurski
3rd Place *Munising Beacon*
Kienitz's headlock

Rachael Gurski
Honorable Mention *Oscoda Press*
Marathon winners

Ben Murphy

Class 55 - Best Sports Column

Daily A - Class 55 - Best Sports Column
 3 Entries
1st Place *Detroit Free Press*
Celebrating Detroit Tiger Chet Lemon

Jeff Seidel
2nd Place *Detroit Free Press*
'Nobody U.?' Give me a break, Michigan Tech is killing this viral moment

Jeff Seidel
3rd Place *Detroit News*
Lions, Tigers and Wings

John Niyo

Daily B - Class 55 - Best Sports Column
 1 Entries
1st Place *Traverse City Record-Eagle*
Harbor Springs coaching saga just looks bad

James Cook

Daily C - Class 55 - Best Sports Column
 7 Entries
1st Place *Midland Daily News*
KELLY: Grateful for kindness of Freeland sports parents

Fred Kelly
2nd Place *Muskegon Chronicle*
Legendary Muskegon-area football coach remembered as humble champion

Josh VanDyke

3rd Place **Midland Daily News**
Goodbye to the grittiest Lion: Banged up Ragnow calls it a career
 Dave Clark

Honorable Mention **Midland Daily News**
Is Detroit Lions head coach Dan Campbell a great leader but a bad coach?
 Dave Clark

Daily D - Class 55 - Best Sports Column
 7 Entries

1st Place **Bay City Times**
Bob Arsenault oozed old-school boxing as Bay City's face of the fight game
 Lee Thompson

2nd Place **Petoskey News-Review**
Kochanny: News of Charlevoix boys golf team's crash one of my biggest fears
 Drew Kochanny

3rd Place **Petoskey News-Review**
Kochanny: Petoskey superfan Richard McDonald will forever have a seat at the game
 Drew Kochanny

Honorable Mention **Cheboygan Daily Tribune**
Ability to deliver big moments, lead admirably defined Inland Lakes star Fenstermaker
 Jared Greenleaf

Weekly A - Class 55 - Best Sports Column
 3 Entries

1st Place **Huron County View**
Tua could have been a trailblazer
 Paul P. Adams

2nd Place **Huron County View**
High school football finals get sold out again
 Paul P. Adams

3rd Place **Huron County View**
The streak is over, but the legacy will live on
 Paul P. Adams

Weekly C - Class 55 - Best Sports Column
 3 Entries

1st Place **Grosse Pointe News**
Softball is better than baseball
 Brad Lindberg

2nd Place **Tri-County Times**
David's Dabblings - My childhood Detroit sports homes are all gone
 David Troppens

3rd Place **Grosse Pointe News**
Guest Pickers
 GPN Staff

Weekly D - Class 55 - Best Sports Column
 3 Entries

1st Place **Gaylord Herald Times**
Jespersen: Grief, grace and goodbye; my final message to the Class of 2025
 Dylan Jespersen

2nd Place **Gaylord Herald Times**
Jespersen: The best moments of the 2024-25 sports season around Gaylord
 Dylan Jespersen

Dylan Jespersen

3rd Place **Newberry News**
From the press box: Get excited about these Lady Eagles
 Dan Hardenbrook

Class 56 - Sports Feature

Daily A - Class 56 - Sports Feature

10 Entries

1st Place **Detroit Free Press**
Michigan basketball's Vlad Goldin last saw his family as a boy; he's all grown up now
 Tony Garcia

2nd Place **Detroit News**
The UM star his kids never really knew
 Angelique S. Chengelis

3rd Place **Detroit News**
Kirk Gibson keeps on swinging
 Tony Paul

Honorable Mention **Detroit News**
How Ahmed Hassenein landed with Lions
 Nolan Bianchi

Daily B - Class 56 - Sports Feature

1 Entries

1st Place **Traverse City Record-Eagle**
Champ Camp
 James Cook

Daily C - Class 56 - Sports Feature

18 Entries

1st Place **Kalamazoo Gazette**
Deaf Michigan high school football player leads by example: 'Don't give up on yourself'
 Devin Anderson-Torrez

2nd Place **The Ann Arbor News**
The Lone Wolf: How Michigan's 7-foot guard became college basketball's most unique player
 Andrew Kahn

3rd Place **Kalamazoo Gazette**
Raider replicas: 4 sets of twins takes Decatur football's 'brotherhood' to new level
 Matthew Ehler

Honorable Mention **Jackson Citizen Patriot**
Leslie's Tanner Craft remembers fallen friend with state title
 Eric Ingles

Daily D - Class 56 - Sports Feature

18 Entries

1st Place **Saginaw News**
Dodgers' prospect Patrick Copen loses eye, finds new perspective on mound
 Hugh Bernreuter

2nd Place **Bay City Times**
After mother's death, volleyball becomes 'Silver lining' for sisters in mourning
 Lee Thompson

3rd Place **Saginaw News**
Michigan skater compared to hockey legends ahead of NHL Draft
 Hugh Bernreuter

Hugh Bernreuter

Weekly A - Class 56 - Sports Feature

3 Entries

1st Place *Huron County View*

Heart & Sowles: Bad Axe junior doesn't let leg condition slow him down

Paul P. Adams

2nd Place *Huron County View*

From the Heart: Hatchets provide unforgettable moment for injured Ubyly player

Paul P. Adams

3rd Place *Huron County View*

WLEW Sports broadcasts brings big time feel to small town football

Paul P. Adams

Weekly B - Class 56 - Sports Feature

9 Entries

1st Place *Oxford Leader*

Cheyenne Frank becomes Oxford High School's first girls wrestling state champion

Joseph Goral

2nd Place *Clarkston News*

Clarkston native is a national champion

Wendi Reardon Price

3rd Place *The Lake Orion Review*

Local cyclist races for world championship this October

Joseph Goral

Honorable Mention *Oxford Leader*

Maverick MMA coach becomes state's top-ranked flyweight after winning WXC championship

Joseph Goral

Weekly C - Class 56 - Sports Feature

15 Entries

1st Place *The County Press, Lapeer*

Girls Rule

Lisa Paine, Kylee Rankin

2nd Place *Sanilac County News*

Big Game Garza

Mike Gallagher

3rd Place *The County Press, Lapeer*

Years of Coaching

Kylee Rankin

Honorable Mention *Grosse Pointe News*

Grosse Pointe Playmakers

Meg Kelly, Mike Adzima

Weekly D - Class 56 - Sports Feature

17 Entries

1st Place *Gaylord Herald Times*

After multiple ACL tears, Gaylord's Kylee Hopp finishing her athletic career her own way

Dylan Jespersen

2nd Place *Munising Beacon*

Tracks through the wilderness

Melissa Wentarmini

3rd Place *Crawford County Avalanche*

Medina, Bugge form paddling powerhouse

Krista Tacey-Cater

Honorable Mention *Newberry News*

Jace Suriano makes the team

Dan Hardenbrook

Class 57 - Best Video Presentation

Daily A - Class 57 - Best Video Presentation

11 Entries

1st Place *Grand Rapids Press*

Divers and scientists relocate 9,000 endangered mussels from Grand River

Joel Bissell

2nd Place *Grand Rapids Press*

Gen Z Michiganders weigh in on Kamala Harris, Donald Trump and important issues this election

Lori Chapman, Neil Blake, Santino Mattioli

3rd Place *Grand Rapids Press*

Cardboard sledding

Joel Bissell

Honorable Mention *Detroit Free Press*

Video: A weekend at grief camp

Mandi Wright, Brian Kaufman

Daily B - Class 57 - Best Video Presentation

2 Entries

1st Place *Lansing State Journal*

Guitars for Vets builds confidence, camaraderie through music

Matthew Dae Smith

2nd Place *Lansing State Journal*

Scenes from the Bump-and-Run Derby at the Eaton County Fair

Matthew Dae Smith

Daily C - Class 57 - Best Video Presentation

7 Entries

1st Place *Flint Journal*

Chaos at Flint City Council

Ron Fonger, Lori Chapman and Santino Mattioli

2nd Place *Flint Journal*

How DNA evidence cleared a Louisiana man wrongfully accused of rape in Michigan

Jake May

3rd Place *Flint Journal*

Michigan man freed after 52 years of maintaining innocence

Jake May

Daily D - Class 57 - Best Video Presentation

8 Entries

1st Place *Saginaw News*

This Is Me' celebrates second year in Saginaw

Kaytie Boomer

2nd Place *Saginaw News*

Dangerous and devastating Michigan storm leaves communities covered in ice

Kaytie Boomer

3rd Place *Petoskey News-Review*

VIDEO: View Petoskey from a hot air balloon

Jillian Fellows

Honorable Mention *Bay City Times*

5 years after massive flood, "Sanford Strong" still rings true throughout community

Kaytie Boomer

Weekly C - Class 57 - Best Video Presentation

3 Entries

1st Place *Grosse Pointe News*

The NOSH

Meg Kelly & Aaron Ihrie

2nd Place **Grosse Pointe News**
2025 Wedding Guide
 Olivia Monette

3rd Place **Grosse Pointe News**
2024 Holiday Gift Guide
 Olivia Monette

Weekly D - Class 57 - Best Video Presentation
1 Entries
1st Place **Charlevoix Courier**
VIDEO: Watch Teddy the hamster's post-cuddle routine at the Charlevoix Public Library
 Annie Doyle

Class 58 - Best Digital Presentation

Daily A - Class 58 - Best Digital Presentation
2 Entries
1st Place **Detroit News**
Towering task: Astronomy buffs fight to save shuttered observatory
 Tom Gromak

2nd Place **Detroit Free Press**
Freep.com Digital Presentation
 Detroit Free Press Staff

Daily C - Class 58 - Best Digital Presentation
1 Entries
1st Place **The Ann Arbor News**
Best digital
 Staff

Daily D - Class 58 - Best Digital Presentation
3 Entries
1st Place **The Daily News, Iron Mountain**
The Daily News, Iron Mountain
 Staff

2nd Place **Greenville Daily News**
Daily News digital
 Staff

3rd Place **Petoskey News-Review**
Petoskey News-Review
 Staff

Weekly C - Class 58 - Best Digital Presentation
2 Entries
1st Place **Grosse Pointe News**
GPN Website and Social Media
 GPN Staff

2nd Place **Houghton Lake Resorter & Roscommon County Herald-News**
Online Entries
 Staff

Weekly D - Class 58 - Best Digital Presentation
1 Entries
1st Place **Newberry News**
Newberry News digital presentation
 Steve Stiffler

Class 59 - Public Service Award

Daily A - Class 59 - Public Service Award
4 Entries
1st Place **Grand Rapids Press**
Nursing homes
 Matt Miller

2nd Place **Detroit News**
Beydoun scandal unfolds
 Beth LeBlanc

3rd Place **Grand Rapids Press**
"Ottawa Impact"
 Grand Rapids Press staff

Daily B - Class 59 - Public Service Award
1 Entries
1st Place **Traverse City Record-Eagle**
U.S. 31 pedestrian bridge
 Staff

Daily D - Class 59 - Public Service Award
4 Entries
1st Place **The Daily News, Iron Mountain**
Dickinson board cuts Extension funding from budget
 Jim Anderson and Jim Paul

2nd Place **Petoskey News-Review**
Northern Michigan ice storm
 Staff

3rd Place **Holland Sentinel**
Ottawa County Coverage
 Mitchell Boatman, Cassidey Kavathas

Honorable Mention **Livingston County Daily Press & Argus**
Agenda Previews
 Evan Sasiela

Weekly C - Class 59 - Public Service Award
1 Entries
1st Place **Grosse Pointe News**
Roll call: Project seeks community input
 Laurel Kraus

Class 60-Environmental/Climate Change/Weather News

Daily A - Class 60-Environmental/Climate Change/Weather News
7 Entries
1st Place **Detroit News**
Researchers seek secrets of Great Lakes microplastics
 Carol Thompson

2nd Place **Detroit News**
Mobile home residents grapple with water issues
 Anne Snabes

3rd Place **Detroit Free Press**
Radioactive waste in metro Detroit
 Keith Matheny

Honorable Mention **Grand Rapids Press**
Hydrogen could be a new gold rush
 Lucas Smolcic Larson

Daily B - Class 60-Environmental/Climate Change/Weather News

2 Entries

1st Place *Traverse City Record-Eagle*

Ice storm slaps region

Staff, and contributor Joanie Moore

2nd Place *Traverse City Record-Eagle*

Aging hydroelectric dams

Jordan Travis

Daily C - Class 60-Environmental/Climate Change/Weather News

8 Entries

1st Place *Kalamazoo Gazette*

'War zone': 1 year after Portage tornado, full cleanup could take 'generations'

Aya Miller

2nd Place *Kalamazoo Gazette*

Coyotes move into neighborhood hit by tornado, residents fear for pets

Audrey Whitaker

3rd Place *The Ann Arbor News*

Water, noise, dust among worries as gravel mine seeks new permit near Ann Arbor

Jennifer Eberbach

Honorable Mention *The Ann Arbor News*

New detections of Gelman plume reported in drinking water wells near Ann Arbor

Jennifer Eberbach

Daily D - Class 60-Environmental/Climate Change/Weather News

8 Entries

1st Place *Saginaw News*

Michigan's 'Great Fire of 1881': A warning from the past for a warming future

Justin Engel

2nd Place *Ludington Daily News*

Movement of Sand

Steve Begnoche

3rd Place *Petoskey News-Review*

'I didn't do this to myself': Pellston residents hear PFAS update at town hall meeting

Karly Graham

Honorable Mention *The Daily News, Iron Mountain*

Region has 2nd-warmest year in 2024, 4.3 degrees over average

Jim Anderson

Weekly A - Class 60-Environmental/Climate Change/Weather News

4 Entries

1st Place *Sterling Heights Sentry*

Centuries-old tree endangered by new development

Andy Kozlowski

2nd Place *Huron County View*

Over \$400,000 awarded to local schools for clean drinking water

Seth Stapleton

3rd Place *Tri-County Citizen*

Community comes together in May 16 tornado aftermath

Jeanne Marcello

Honorable Mention *Huron County View*

Two Colfax Township projects awarded over \$1.5 million for renewable energy

Seth Stapleton

Weekly B - Class 60-Environmental/Climate Change/Weather News

1 Entries

1st Place *The Citizen, Ortonville*

Eyes of hurricanes: Area residents share brushes of deadly storms

David Fleet

Weekly C - Class 60-Environmental/Climate Change/Weather News

4 Entries

1st Place *Tri-County Times*

Local man cleans up one piece of litter at a time

Hannah Young

2nd Place *Grosse Pointe News*

Raccoon distemper spreads in Pointes

Laurel Kraus

3rd Place *Tri-County Times*

Village of Holly injunction fails to stop dam draw down

Hannah Young

Honorable Mention *Leelanau Enterprise*

Evasive EWM found at GL

Alan Campbell

Weekly D - Class 60-Environmental/Climate Change/Weather News

7 Entries

1st Place *Oscoda Press*

PFAS coverage on former WAFB

Jenny Haglund

2nd Place *St. Ignace News*

2025.04.23 Cheboygan, Bois Blanc Return to Normal After Storm

Erich Doerr

3rd Place *St. Ignace News*

2025.05.21 Michigan DNR Manages Double-Crested Cormorants

Kalab Boyer

Honorable Mention *Oscoda Press*

First responders face back-to-back calls during recent high wind event

Jenny Haglund

Class 61-Crime/Justice News

Daily A - Class 61-Crime/Justice News

12 Entries

1st Place *Detroit Free Press*

Judicial accountability

Dave Boucher, Darcie Moran

2nd Place *Grand Rapids Press*

Retired cop, 80, shot wife in 'merciful' end to her Alzheimer's disease, 911 call shows

John Agar

3rd Place *Detroit Free Press*

These metro Detroiters owe taxpayers millions — but some refuse to pay it back

Dave Boucher, Christine MacDonald

Honorable Mention *Grand Rapids Press*

Drugged driving enforcement

Gus Burns

Daily B - Class 61-Crime/Justice News

4 Entries

1st Place *Lansing State Journal*

Faith-healing parents go on trial in Michigan

Ken Palmer

2nd Place *Traverse City Record-Eagle*

Grand Traverse County chairman investigated

Peter Kobs

3rd Place *Traverse City Record-Eagle*

Linda Meteer case

Staff

Honorable Mention *Traverse City Record-Eagle*

'Parasitic' embezzler case concludes

Ex-staff member/current contributor Mardi Link, staff member

Kathryn DePauw

Daily C - Class 61-Crime/Justice News

21 Entries

1st Place *Flint Journal*

'This nightmare has ended.' After 52 years in prison, Horace

Peterson is home

Dylan Goetz

2nd Place *Midland Daily News*

Coverage of Jan. 6 insurrectionist Jeremy Rodgers

Dave Clark, Isabelle Pasciolla

3rd Place *Flint Journal*

How DNA evidence cleared a Louisiana man wrongfully accused of rape in Michigan

Dylan Goetz

Honorable Mention *Kalamazoo Gazette*

'People overdosed,' drug dealer texts friend who had already died in mass poisoning

Brad Devereaux

Daily D - Class 61-Crime/Justice News

12 Entries

1st Place *Bay City Times*

Bay County Sheriff's deputy's forgotten killing in 1928 finally being remembered

Cole Waterman

2nd Place *Bay City Times*

Justie Stilwell murder

Cole Waterman

3rd Place *Holland Sentinel*

Jerell Lindsey Murder Trial

Cassidey Kavathas

Honorable Mention *Greenville Daily News*

Issues within the Montcalm County legal system

Elisabeth Waldon

Weekly A - Class 61-Crime/Justice News

5 Entries

1st Place *Grosse Pointe Times*

Beloved K-9 retires after 8 years on the force

K. Michelle Moran

2nd Place *Roseville-Eastpointe Eastsider*

Vigil held for missing Warren mother

Brian Wells

3rd Place *Huron County View*

Caseville man found guilty of sexually abusing his daughter

Seth Stapleton

Weekly C - Class 61-Crime/Justice News

6 Entries

1st Place *Leelanau Enterprise*

A-G announces Twin Flames investigation

Meakalia Previch-Liu

2nd Place *Grosse Pointe News*

Chilean national sentenced for Provencal home invasion

Laurel Kraus

3rd Place *Grosse Pointe News*

Two found dead in Woods home

Ted O'Neil

Honorable Mention *Grosse Pointe News*

Settlement encouraged ahead of Ridge Rd. trial

Laurel Kraus

Weekly D - Class 61-Crime/Justice News

4 Entries

1st Place *Oscoda Press*

Jayden Hunter Steeves case coverage

Jenny Haglund

2nd Place *Crawford County Avalanche*

Responders take part in mass casualty training

Krista Tacey-Cater

3rd Place *St. Ignace News*

2025.07.30 Prosecutors Request Rahilly Removal

Erich Doerr

Class 62 - Best Podcast

Open - Class 62 - Best Podcast

6 Entries

1st Place *Gongwer News Service*

MichMash: County clerks on security, early voting in the 2024 general election

Zach Gorchow, Alethia Kasben, Cheyna Roth

2nd Place *Bridge Michigan*

Listen: Who's buried atop Michigan's tallest mountain?

Laura Herberg

3rd Place *BridgeDetroit*

Bridge Detroit's Detroit Next podcast

Bryce Huffman, Malachi Barrett, Khary Frazier

Honorable Mention *Grand Rapids Press*

Patrick Shea, Gillian Van Stratt

Yes Michigan! - Start listening with The Feeling's Forever and hear a mystery solved.

Class 63 - Best Writing

Open - Class 63 - Best Writing

33 Entries

1st Place *Bridge Michigan*

The 'day of death': How a mystery drug, spate of ODs changed west Michigan

Robin Erb

2nd Place *Detroit News*

Grim Reapers' teamed up to kill a Monroe woman after a wedding

Francis X. Donnelly

3rd Place *Bridge Michigan*

Iconic whitefish on edge of collapse as Great Lakes biodiversity crisis deepens

Kelly House

Honorable Mention

Detroit News

For Lions' Kalif Raymond, a life's work finds a home in Detroit
John Niyo

Class 64 - Best Headline

Open - Class 64 - Best Headline

39 Entries

1st Place

Grosse Pointe News

Ambulance beef lacks meat
Brad Lindberg

2nd Place

Bridge Michigan

AWWHELL no: See which license plates are 2DAMFUN for Michigan
Staff

3rd Place

Gander Newsroom

Protecting what's under the hard hat: MI's construction workers are talking about mental health
Lucas Henkel

Honorable Mention

Flint Journal

Good gourd, almighty! Michigan man surprised after pumpkin picture lands on soda label
Jake May

Class 65 - Best Photo

Open - Class 65 - Best Photo

19 Entries

1st Place

Michigan Advance

Harris vows to end war in Gaza during final Michigan rally at MSU
Andrew Roth

2nd Place

Detroit News

St. Brown Headstand
Daniel Mears

3rd Place

Flint Journal

Boxers fly out of ring,
Jake May

Honorable Mention

Livingston County Daily Press & Argus

White Supremacists in Livingston County
Adam Vander Kooy

Class 66 - Most Innovative Story Telling

Open - Class 66 - Most Innovative Story Telling

10 Entries

1st Place

Detroit Free Press

We asked 100 Michiganders about Trump's first 100 days: Here's what they said
Detroit Free Press Staff

2nd Place

The Ann Arbor News

How will Ann Arbor's family-owned restaurants survive? Eyes are on the next generation.
Makayla Coffee. Jacob Hamilton

3rd Place

Detroit Free Press

Detroit Lions fandom
Detroit Free Press Staff

Honorable Mention

Gander Newsroom

Series: So What, Michigan?
Kyle Kaminski

Class 67 - Best Education Beat

Open - Class 67 - Best Education Beat

12 Entries

1st Place

Holland Sentinel

Holland Education Coverage
Mitchell Boatman

2nd Place

Livingston County Daily Press & Argus

Livingston County Education Coverage
Evan Sasiela

3rd Place

Petoskey News-Review

Karly Graham

Honorable Mention

BridgeDetroit

Micah Walker

Class 68 - Best Newsletter

Open - Class 68 - Best Newsletter

13 Entries

1st Place

Detroit Free Press

Detroit Free Press Daily Briefing Newsletter
Leah Olajide, Elissa Robinson

2nd Place

BridgeDetroit

City Council Notebook
Malachi Barrett

3rd Place

Grand Rapids Press

Lovable Michigan

Tanda Gmitter, Jamie Rewerts, Cara Hackett

Honorable Mention

Gander Newsroom

That One Time In Michigan
Karel Vega

Class 69- Best FOIA Story

Open - Class 69- Best FOIA Story

13 Entries

1st Place

Detroit News

Michigan school districts pack kids into classrooms as reading scores falter
Craig Mauger

2nd Place

Kalamazoo Gazette

Michigan city threatens to sue residents over 'statements that have caused harm'

Brad Devereaux

3rd Place

Holland Sentinel

Property owners in Ganges Township have had enough of Campit. But what can they do?

Cassidey Kavathas

Honorable Mention

Grand Rapids Press

Isle Royale 911 call: 'I'm going to murder us all'
Gus Burns

Class 70 - Rookie Writer

Open - Class 70 - Rookie Writer

9 Entries

1st Place

Holland Sentinel

Cassidey Kavathas

2nd Place

Detroit News

Grant Schwab

3rd Place *Michigan Advance*
Leah Craig

Class 71 - Public Notice Journalism Award

Open - Class 71 - Public Notice Journalism Award
4 Entries
1st Place *Greenville Daily News*
Belvidere Twp. clerk finally starts publishing minutes
Elisabeth Waldon
2nd Place *Greenville Daily News*
Cloudy day
Elisabeth Waldon
3rd Place *Greenville Daily News*
DN reminds townships to publish minutes
Elisabeth Waldon

Class 72 - Reporting on the 2nd Amendment

Open - Class 72 - Reporting on the 2nd Amendment
5 Entries
1st Place *Bridge Michigan*
Bridge Michigan 2nd Amendment Coverage
Staff
2nd Place *Gander Newsroom*
Lansing found a way to reduce gun violence. But the Trump administration is pulling the plug
Kyle Kaminski
3rd Place *Detroit Free Press*
Gunfire, explosions ring out from shooting range next to her home. And nobody can help.
Paul Egan
Honorable Mention *Michigan Advance*
Michigan Senate Democrats advance bump stock ban, ghost gun serialization bills from committee
Ben Solis

Class 73 - Community Impact Award

Open - Class 73 - Community Impact Award
2 Entries
1st Place *BridgeDetroit*
BridgeDetroit election initiative
Staff
2nd Place *Leelanau Enterprise*
Community Impact
Staff

Advertising

Class 01 - Community Business Promotions

Daily - Class 01 - Community Business Promotions
4 Entries
1st Place *Ludington Daily News*
Sparkle in the Park
Judy Lytle
2nd Place *Ludington Daily News*
Design a Greeting / Letters to Santa
Judy Lytle
3rd Place *Ludington Daily News*
Blessing of the Bikes
Judy Lytle

Honorable Mention *Ludington Daily News*
Manistee National Forest Festival
Judy Lytle

Non-Daily - Class 01 - Community Business Promotions
11 Entries
1st Place *Oscoda Press*
Oscoda Chamber Book
Staff
2nd Place *Houghton Lake Resorter & Roscommon County Herald-News*
Hometown Shopping
Patty Tribelhorn, Alycia Nielsen
3rd Place *Grosse Pointe News*
The NOSH
GPN Staff
Honorable Mention *Iosco County News-Herald*
East Tawas Downtown Map
Staff

Class 02 - Home Services

Daily - Class 02 - Home Services
1 Entries
1st Place *Ludington Daily News*
Visscher Construction
Julie Eilers
Non-Daily - Class 02 - Home Services
8 Entries
1st Place *Grosse Pointe News*
Sir Grout
John Pigott and Julie Sutton
2nd Place *Tecumseh Herald*
Abstract Builders
Nanci Bridget
3rd Place *Grosse Pointe News*
Zeppelin Cleaning Services
John Pigott, Julie Sutton
Honorable Mention *Leelanau Enterprise*
Depend On Us
Jason Plowman

Class 03 - Home Furnishings

Daily - Class 03 - Home Furnishings
3 Entries
1st Place *Ludington Daily News*
Ludington Paint & Glass
Julie Eilers
2nd Place *Ludington Daily News*
Cooper's Floor Covering
Julie Eilers
3rd Place *Ludington Daily News*
Lundquist Furniture
Julie Eilers
Non-Daily - Class 03 - Home Furnishings
4 Entries
1st Place *Houghton Lake Resorter & Roscommon County Herald-News*
Kabintree Konceptds
Patty Tribelhorn

2nd Place *Grosse Pointe News*
Dumouchelle's Fine Arts & Antiques
 GPN staff

3rd Place *Crawford County Avalanche*
Scared Birds
 Staff

Honorable Mention *The Globe*
Eichenholz Amish Furniture
 Heidi Ofstad and Jill Matazel, The Globe staff

Class 04 - New and Used Autos, Recreational Vehicles and Boats

Daily - Class 04 - New and Used Autos, Recreational Vehicles and Boats
 2 Entries

1st Place *Ludington Daily News*
Benedict's Auto Center
 Julie Eilers

2nd Place *Ludington Daily News*
Lakeshore Motor Sales
 Julie Eilers

Non-Daily - Class 04 - New and Used Autos, Recreational Vehicles and Boats
 8 Entries

1st Place *Tecumseh Herald*
Germain Toyota of Dundee
 Nanci Bridget

2nd Place *Tecumseh Herald*
Bowman Chevrolet - Summer
 Nanci Bridget

3rd Place *Tecumseh Herald*
Bowman Chevrolet - Fall
 Nanci Bridget

Honorable Mention *The Globe*
Welcome To Land O' Lakes
 Jacob Vallejo and Jill Matazel, Globe staff

Class 05 - Real Estate

Daily - Class 05 - Real Estate
 3 Entries

1st Place *Ludington Daily News*
Brian Mulherin - C21
 Julie Eilers

2nd Place *Ludington Daily News*
Brian Mulherin - C21 - Looking to Sell?
 Julie Eilers

3rd Place *Ludington Daily News*
Century 21 - Spring is in the air
 Julie Eilers

Non-Daily - Class 05 - Real Estate
 7 Entries

1st Place *Grosse Pointe News*
Lux Partners Global
 Mary Schlager and Julie Sutton

2nd Place *Leelanau Enterprise*
Aldrich
 Jason Plowman

3rd Place *Newberry News*
Cummings-McCraney Real Estate
 Lauren Burton

Honorable Mention *Leelanau Enterprise*
Mosher
 Jason Plowman

Class 06 - Entertaining Services

Daily - Class 06 - Entertaining Services
 1 Entries

1st Place *Ludington Daily News*
Joy of Dance
 Julie Eilers

Non-Daily - Class 06 - Entertaining Services
 6 Entries

1st Place *Crawford County Avalanche*
Grayling Eagles
 Staff

2nd Place *Tecumseh Herald*
Dundee Mayfly Festival
 Nanci Bridget

3rd Place *Newberry News*
Live Music & Ice Cream Social Events
 Lauren Burton

Honorable Mention *Newberry News*
Comedy Night featuring Red Wings Legend Darren McCarty
 Lauren Burton

Class 07 - Restaurants

Daily - Class 07 - Restaurants
 3 Entries

1st Place *Ludington Daily News*
The Brown Bear
 Julie Eilers

2nd Place *Ludington Daily News*
Cardinal Restaurant
 Julie Eilers

3rd Place *Ludington Daily News*
Beamer's Restaurant
 Julie Eilers

Non-Daily - Class 07 - Restaurants
 10 Entries

1st Place *Tecumseh Herald*
Tuckey's Big Boy - 47th Birthday
 Koda Woodward

2nd Place *Leelanau Enterprise*
Nittolo's
 Mike Anderson

3rd Place *The Globe*
Don & GG's Welcome to Ironwood
 Jacob Vallejo and Jill Matazel, Globe staff

Honorable Mention *Leelanau Enterprise*
VI Grill and Fiddleheads
 Mike Anderson

Class 08 - General Retail

Daily - Class 08 - General Retail

3 Entries
1st Place *Ludington Daily News*
West Shore Market
 Julie Eilers
2nd Place *Ludington Daily News*
Victoria's Jewelry
 Julie Eilers
3rd Place *Ludington Daily News*
Northern Spice
 Julie Eilers

Non-Daily - Class 08 - General Retail

20 Entries
1st Place *Tecumseh Herald*
Baileys Water Care
 Nanci Bridget
2nd Place *Tecumseh Herald*
Meckley's Flavor Fruit Farm - Pizza and Beer
 Koda Woodward
3rd Place *Leelanau Enterprise*
HOB - Mikwaukee Tools
 Mike Anderson
Honorable Mention *Leelanau Enterprise*
RPM Records
 Mike Anderson

Class 09 - Small Ads Work

Daily - Class 09 - Small Ads Work

2 Entries
1st Place *Ludington Daily News*
Fall Wine Tours
 Julie Eilers
2nd Place *Ludington Daily News*
Ludington Senior Center - Halloween
 Julie Eilers

Non-Daily - Class 09 - Small Ads Work

12 Entries
1st Place *Leelanau Enterprise*
SB Farm Market
 Jason Plowman
2nd Place *Tecumseh Herald*
Doherty Family Dentistry
 Nanci Bridget
3rd Place *Oceanas Herald-Journal*
Homebaked by Roxanne
 Julie Eilers

Class 10 - Best Digital Ad

Daily - Class 10 - Best Digital Ad

2 Entries
1st Place *Ludington Daily News*
MCC Color Run
 Julie Eilers
2nd Place *Ludington Daily News*
Sable Points Lighthouse Keepers
 Julie Eilers

Non-Daily - Class 10 - Best Digital Ad

4 Entries
1st Place *Grosse Pointe News*
The NOSH
 Meg Kelly & Aaron Ihrie
2nd Place *Grosse Pointe News*
2025 Wedding Guide
 Olivia Monette
3rd Place *Grosse Pointe News*
2024 Holiday Gift Guide
 Olivia Monette
Honorable Mention *Newberry News*
Northern Wings: Be part of something great
 Steve Stiffler

Class 11 - Best Health/Fitness Ad

Non-Daily - Class 11 - Best Health/Fitness Ad

9 Entries
1st Place *White Lake Beacon*
Beacom Family Chiropractic
 Maddy Kerbyson
2nd Place *Newberry News*
Immunization Awareness
 Lauren Burton
3rd Place *Grosse Pointe News*
Laura Smigielski Counseling
 Ken Ong & GPN Staff
Honorable Mention *The Globe*
Earth & Sky Day Spa – Mother's Day
 Jacob Vallejo and Jill Matazel, Globe staff

Daily - Class 12 - Best use of color

2 Entries
1st Place *Ludington Daily News*
MCC Color Run
 Julie Eilers
2nd Place *Ludington Daily News*
Cosmic Bowling at Spartan West
 Julie Eilers

Non-Daily - Class 12 - Best use of color

15 Entries
1st Place *Tecumseh Herald*
Prielipps and Mohr Greenhouse
 Koda Woodward
2nd Place *Leelanau Enterprise*
Enterprise Printing
 Mike Anderson
3rd Place *Tecumseh Herald*
Hopscotch
 Nanci Bridget
Honorable Mention *Leelanau Enterprise*
New Bohemian/Omena Bay Store
 Mike Anderson

Class 13 - Best Special Section

Daily - Class 13 - Best Special Section

4 Entries
1st Place *Ludington Daily News*
Celebrate the Badger
 Judy Lytle

2nd Place
Lakestyle - Summer 2025 issue
 Judy Lytle
3rd Place
PTW - Winter
 Judy Lytle
Honorable Mention
Veterans Day
 Judy Lytle

Ludington Daily News

Ludington Daily News

Ludington Daily News

Non-Daily - Class 13 - Best Special Section
12 Entries
1st Place
Salute to Cherries
 Advertising Dept., Creative Dept., Editorial Dept.
2nd Place
Tecumseh Herald Junior
 Staff
3rd Place
Leelanau Gift Guide
 Mike Anderson, Jason Plowman, Kendra Kemp
Honorable Mention
2025 Wedding Guide
 GPN Staff

Leelanau Enterprise

Tecumseh Herald

Leelanau Enterprise

Grosse Pointe News

Class 14 - Best Ad Grouping

Daily - Class 14 - Best Ad Grouping
1 Entries
1st Place
Mother's Day
 Julie Eilers, Judy Lytle

Ludington Daily News

Non-Daily - Class 14 - Best Ad Grouping
19 Entries
1st Place
Racing For Kids
 GPN Staff
2nd Place
Manchester Mini
 Nanci Bridget
3rd Place
Mothers Day - 2025
 Koda Woodward
Honorable Mention
Valentines Day - 2025
 Koda Woodward

Grosse Pointe News

Tecumseh Herald

Tecumseh Herald

Tecumseh Herald

Class 15 - Best in House Circulation Ad

Daily - Class 15 - Best in House Circulation Ad
4 Entries
1st Place
Local news matters
 Judy Lytle

2nd Place
Something tangible
 Judy Lytle
3rd Place
Who will write our obituary?
 Judy Lytle

Ludington Daily News

Ludington Daily News

Ludington Daily News

Non-Daily - Class 15 - Best in House Circulation Ad
8 Entries
1st Place
Day at the beach
 Mike Anderson
2nd Place
Audio Circ Promo
 GPN Staff
3rd Place
Foam Finger
 Koda Woodward

Leelanau Enterprise

Grosse Pointe News

Tecumseh Herald

Class 16 - Best in House Content Promotion

Daily - Class 16 - Best in House Content Promotion
3 Entries
1st Place
Vote Now - Readers' Choice
 Judy Lytle
2nd Place
Do you like to write?
 Judy Lytle
3rd Place
Deer of the Year
 Judy Lytle

Ludington Daily News

Ludington Daily News

Ludington Daily News

Non-Daily - Class 16 - Best in House Content Promotion
13 Entries
1st Place
Our family of publications and services
 Mike Anderson
2nd Place
10-16 Hunting and Fishing Stories
 Staff
3rd Place
The Globe Open House
 Jacob Vallejo and Jill Matazel, Globe staff
Honorable Mention
Breast Cancer Awareness
 Mike Anderson

Leelanau Enterprise

St. Ignace News

The Globe

Leelanau Enterprise

Class 17 - Best Community Cause Marketing

Non-Daily - Class 17 - Best Community Cause Marketing
6 Entries
GAFD Pancake Breakfast
GAFD Pancake Breakfast
 Jason Plowman
2nd Place
Racing for Kids
 GPN Staff
3rd Place
HLIB
 Patty Tribelhorn

Honorable Mention
Marty Walsh is turning 90!
 Lauren Burton

Leelanau Enterprise

Grosse Pointe News

Houghton Lake Resorter & Roscommon County Herald-News

Newberry News