



2022 Missouri Press Association's Better Newspaper Contest

Results and Judges Comments

01.) General Excellence | Dailies

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place **The Kansas City Star** **Staff**
 Top to bottom, the Star's product is as professional as it gets. The biggest highlight was a news package that dissected how a frothy real estate market has upended a community of color. The story weaved in stunning infographics that explained the phenomenon. The newspaper consistently produces compelling front pages and advertising.

Second Place **News Tribune** **Staff**
 The News Tribune is the kind of paper you race to the end of your driveway to read. Deep local coverage. Colorful graphics. Persistence in covering stories that matter. Layouts that aren't afraid to push the boundaries. All this was exemplified by the paper's thoroughly engrossing deep dive into the two-year anniversary of a tornado, complete with photographs showing year by year how the same scenes had evolved since the storm.

Third Place **Joplin Globe** **Staff**
 The strength of the 10-year anniversary coverage of Joplin's devastating tornado elevates the Joplin Globe into the winner's circle. The story shows true compassion, care for community and a deft writing touch. Day after day, this newspaper puts out a strong product, one its community can be proud of.

01.) General Excellence | Weeklies - Class 1

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place **Maryville Forum** **The Maryville Forum**

Second Place **California Democrat** **Staff**

Third Place **Maries County Advocate** **Staff**

Honorable Mention **Richmond News** **Staff**

01.) General Excellence | Weeklies - Class 2

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place **Ste. Genevieve Herald** **Staff**

Second Place **Laclede County Record**

Third Place **Gasconade County Republican** **Staff**

Honorable Mention **Springfield Business Journal**

01.) General Excellence | Weeklies - Class 3

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place **St. Louis American** **Staff**
 This is the best-looking weekly newspaper I've seen in a long time. The coverage is interesting and there's a good variety of content, ranging from national entertainment news to super-local stories. Great job, great paper!

Second Place **Jefferson County Leader** **Staff**
 The Jefferson County Leader is doing weekly newspapering right. There's a nice variety of hard news and features. This paper offers something of interest for virtually every reader. Good job!

Third Place Branson Tri-Lakes News

There is plenty of good, local content in this newspaper, which is important in the weekly newspaper business. Good job in offering news that can't be found anywhere else but your community.

Tim Church, Jason Wert, AJ Fahr and Mandy Farrow

Honorable Mention St. Louis Webster - Kirkwood Times

This newspaper has some good local content, as well as a good variety of stories that readers would be interested in. Good job!

Jamie Mowers, Melissa Wilkinson, Kevin Murphy, Amanda Zarecki and Ursula Ruhl

02.) Best Overall Design | Dailies

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place Joplin Globe

Strong stories. Lots of faces. Jam-packed with good information. Attractive presentation.

Staff

Second Place Columbia Missourian

Clean lines. Nice use of graphics. Well organized. Easy to read.

Staff

Third Place The Kansas City Star

Nice use of big art; dominant lead story in each issue; interesting push toward QR codes. Overall a nice package.

Staff

Honorable Mention Columbia Daily Tribune

Strong use of photos. Clean design.

Staff

02.) Best Overall Design | Weeklies - Class 1

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place Richmond News

Attractive and engaging. Well organized. Consistency of layout.

Second Place Cassville Democrat

Nice use of photos.

Staff

Third Place Maryville Forum**Honorable Mention Maries County Advocate**

Staff

02.) Best Overall Design | Weeklies - Class 2

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place Springfield Business Journal

Creative, well organized and colorful design. Nice use of graphics.

Second Place Ozark County Times

Well organized. Good use of photos. Consistent, attractive design.

Norene Prosocki, Sue Ann Jones, Jessica Dreckman, Regina Mozingo and Jennifer Yarger

Third Place Phelps County Focus

Consistent design elements and features. Nothing flashy, just reliable. Readers likely view paper as a well-known, old friend.

Staff

Honorable Mention Laclede County Record

Shawna Bradley, Fines Massey and Daniel Foust

02.) Best Overall Design | Weeklies - Class 3

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place Branson Tri-Lakes News

Clean design, feels modern, easy on the eyes. Like the ad in the top right. Revenue generating on front page without the ad being overly intrusive.

Tim Church, Jason Wert, AJ Fahr and Mandy Farrow

Second Place **St. Louis American**
Clean, large-metro style design. Immediately noticed how well the ads are paginated with the editorial. Modular ads suit this design well.

Staff

Third Place **St. Louis Missouri Lawyers Weekly**
Clean, simple but eye-catching color-use in header and throughout.

Staff

Honorable Mention **St. Louis Call Newspapers**
I really like this one. Specifically because it's not overly designed, it's nostalgically simple which I think appeals to a hyper-local community crowd.

Erin Achenbach, Gloria Lloyd, Larry Saylor, Nathan Burrus and Lucas Irizarry

03.) Best Front Page | Dailies

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place **Monett Times**
Clean design, clear main story, good use of advertising space at the bottom.

Monett Front Pages

Staff

Second Place **Springfield News-Leader**
Clean design. Obvious what the main story is.

Springfield News-Leader Front Page Design Staff

Third Place **Columbia Missourian**
This is clean. Like the masthead logo in all black, you don't see that a lot.

Staff

Honorable Mention **News Tribune**
Able to pack a lot of information on the front page in a way that isn't too overloading.

News Tribune Best Front Page

Molly Morris and Valeri Pearon

03.) Best Front Page | Weeklies - Class 1

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place **Mexico Ledger**
The bold color really stands out. you don't really see this much bold color anymore on front pages. This is attention getting.

Best front page

Tim Schmidt

Second Place **Clinton County Leader**
Love the masthead logo, the font used for editorial copy, ad at the bottom.

Leader Front Pages

Brett Adkison

Third Place **Maries County Advocate**
Clean design, good use of color and not packed with too much information. It's easy and inviting on the eyes.

Maries County Advocate

Jacob Warden

Honorable Mention **Cassville Democrat**
I like the overlay of the fisherman graphic, adds dimension. I like how they display their MPA Gold cup achievements and how they clearly state their position as a small-town weekly newspaper. Choice of color is eye-catching too.

Staff

03.) Best Front Page | Weeklies - Class 2

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place **Wright County Journal**

Best Front Page Wright County Journal

Ron Schott

Second Place **Courier-Tribune**
I like the different style of design within the header, room to highlight additional value proposition of the publication with coupon savings included inside.

Third Place **Springfield Business Journal**
Great design that adds additional visual dimension.

Springfield Business Journal

Staff

Honorable Mention **Laclede County Record**
Clean, uncluttered, easy on the eyes.

Best Front Page Laclede County Record

Fines Massey, Shawna Bradley and Daniel Foust

03.) Best Front Page | Weeklies - Class 3

		<i>Title of Entry, If Applicable</i>	<i>Award Winner(s), If Applicable</i>
First Place	St. Louis Business Journal Incredibly well designed, attention getting.	St. Louis Business Journal Best Front Page	Erik Siemers
Second Place	St. Louis Webster - Kirkwood Times	Best Front Page - Weeklies	Kevin Murphy and Amanda Zarecki
Third Place	St. Louis Call Newspapers	Jan. 28, July 22, Aug. 26	Erin Achenbach, Gloria Lloyd, Larry Saylor, Nathan Burrus and Lucas Irizarry
Honorable Mention	Washington Missourian	Missourian Entry	Sharon Pruessner

04.) Best Breaking News Story | Dailies - Class 1

		<i>Title of Entry, If Applicable</i>	<i>Award Winner(s), If Applicable</i>
First Place	Daily Journal This story zeros in on the heart of the story: the tragic death of a young man in the prime of his life. The writing doesn't try to get in the way of the story. It is clear and devastating. Well done!	Inquest Martin 7-31-21	Bobby Radford
Second Place	Monett Times Details, details, details. This story "rises" above the competition by its attention to small facts. How quickly the creek rose, at what exact time. The suspense is ratcheted up with each fact.	Flood waters again	Mike Gervais
Third Place	Monett Times It takes a deft touch when reporting on vandalism. These reporters demonstrate that it's possible to report on a newsworthy event of vandalism without giving the perpetrators the attention they so desperately seek. And they didn't forget to bring the context: the \$800K raised in donations to create the field. This isn't just a police issue. It's a community issue.	Vandals desecrate	Melonie Roberts

04.) Best Breaking News Story | Dailies - Classes 2 and 3

		<i>Title of Entry, If Applicable</i>	<i>Award Winner(s), If Applicable</i>
First Place	Missouri Independent Great Story about two important issues... freedom of the press, and the plague of technological deficiency in government.	Missouri governor vows criminal	Jason Hancock
Second Place	The Kansas City Star	Mystery surrounds case of MO Ozarks	Laura Bauer and Judy L. Thomas
Third Place	Columbia Missourian	MU to cut pay	ALEX NAUGHTON
Honorable Mention	LakeExpo	ATF Raids Local Gun Shop After Sting	Kate Robbins and Nathan Bechtold

04.) Best Breaking News Story | Weeklies - Class 1

		<i>Title of Entry, If Applicable</i>	<i>Award Winner(s), If Applicable</i>
First Place	Cassville Democrat	Roaring River Recovers	Kyle Troutman
Second Place	Greenfield Vedette	VIDEO/AUDIO WITH UPDATE: Miller Mayor	James McNary
Third Place	Maryville Forum	Rare Serial Derecho	Skye Pournazari and Geoffrey Woehl
Honorable Mention	Richmond News	Water cancels WaterFest	Jack "Miles" Ventimiglia

04.) Best Breaking News Story | Weeklies - Class 2*Title of Entry, If Applicable**Award Winner(s), If Applicable***First Place****Laclede County Record**

This story skillfully captures and distills a controversy in the most human of terms. One official promised one thing, and the agency does another. This is the essence of accountability journalism, and I applaud this publication for caring enough about its community to practice it.

Insurance denies**Fines Massey****Second Place****Houston Herald**

You just can't stop reading this story. This is clearly written by a reporter who is both tireless and walks around with an encyclopedia of local knowledge in their head.

County clerk resigns**Brad Gentry****Third Place****The Odessan**

The attention to detail here is impressive, outlining the costs down the dollar and to the agency for a sweetheart tax break to a deep-pocketed developer. The public has a right to know how their tax money is spent. And thanks to the Odessan, they do.

City gives outlet mall project 25-year tax**Hannah Spaar****04.) Best Breaking News Story | Weeklies - Class 3***Title of Entry, If Applicable**Award Winner(s), If Applicable***First Place****St. Louis Business Journal**

Top to bottom, a professionally crafted package of stories about one of the biggest news events in recent St. Louis sports history. The writers clearly understand their audience and their subject and meet the moment with wordsmithing that is so good, it's nearly invisible.

SLBJ breaking news NFL settlement**Jacob Kirn, James Drew and Nathan Rubbelke****Second Place****Washington Missourian**

Not content to rely solely on police statements, this reporter dug into the background of the child's father to bring to light his shady past. And this story gives readers important context about the frequency of child-involved shootings nationwide and in Missouri. Such details elevate crime news from merely rewriting press releases.

Father Charged In Son's Death**Ethan Colbert****Third Place****Washington Missourian**

The Missourian offers a thoughtful package in the wake of a devastating tragedy. The news story gives a sober, clear account of the child's death while the sidebar offers something we rarely see in journalism: solace.

13-Year-Old Dies From Apparent Drug**William Skipworth****Honorable Mention****St. Louis Call Newspapers**

A hat tip to the reporter for tracking down previous EPA violation history. News doesn't happen in a vacuum. This reporter gets that. The story left no questions unanswered. This community is lucky to have such a thorough reporter.

Fire destroys chemical plant, with no major**Gloria Lloyd****05.) Best News Story | Dailies - Class 1***Title of Entry, If Applicable**Award Winner(s), If Applicable***First Place****Daily Journal**

GREAT pair of stories from Victoria, who hit all the bases and more in a recap of a devastating tornado that thankfully did not leave anyone dead. I thought Victoria did an excellent job in both recounting the damage to a wide range of the community that was interspersed with powerful quotes from first responders that offered insight into how they feel when responding. I was impressed with her getting one official to describe how he'd created safe room in his own home so when he did respond to disaster, he'd have some peace of mind when he was out in the field. I also LOVED this graph - a nugget of personal observation amid a flood of flowing facts that showed Victoria's deft touch in these two articles.

Tornado 2 stories**Victoria Kemper****Second Place****Monett Times**

This was a great breaking news article with a can't put it down flow of facts, recollections from the people involved and a happy ending. I liked to see all the quotes from everyone, and kudos to Mike for getting to the scene for a photo, too, and great job tracking down everyone to get comments. Info-box a nice small touch and highlighting how this woman was mainly responsible for the rescue is refreshing to see. Thanks & second place IMO. Keep up the good work.

Local heroes**Mike Gervais****Third Place****Sedalia Democrat**

While I don't advocate for humorous wording or phrasing in hard news stories, especially ones involving death and injury, Chris and Ryan managed to keep it respectful, yet "peppy" in their reporting of this crazy situation. Could've gone a bit further into the scope/details of the dogs in holding aspect, but overall, well done and third place IMO. Keep up the good work.

Housing Pitbulls**Chris Howell and Ryan Sheehan****Honorable Mention****Daily Journal**

A powerful story of a mother's persistence to find out how her daughter died; really good explanatory reporting here on the second autopsy and the process law enforcement officials follow when a case like this arises - a difficult investigation hampered by uncooperative suspects, a discarded & decomposed body hard to examine and police and law enforcement procedural delays that cause tortuous waits for victim's relatives. Honorable mention in a very tough category.

Mother seeks justice 8-17-21**Bobby Radford****05.) Best News Story | Dailies - Class 2***Title of Entry, If Applicable**Award Winner(s), If Applicable***First Place****Columbia Missourian**

Excellent writing.
Strong data-driven story.
I was so engrossed in reading this, along with all the visuals to accompany it. Solid look at the vaccine and reasons for/against getting it.

Vaccines in rural Mo....**Jose Luis Adriano and Jonathan Jain****Second Place****Springfield News-Leader**

Excellent writing.
Appreciate the explanation of what a catalytic converter does and why thefts are going up.
This has me wondering if it happens often in rural areas and we just don't hear about it.

Catalytic converter thefts skyrocketed in**Jordan Meier****Third Place****Columbia Daily Tribune**

Thorough writing. A good look at how the pandemic affected one segment of the population and business/government. Made me think of questions I wish I would ask.

'They don't cover pandemics in law school**Charles Dunlap****Honorable Mention****Missouri Independent**

Strong writing.

Missouri House Democrats face criticism**Jason Hancock**

05.) Best News Story | Dalies - Class 3

First Place **The Kansas City Star**
 This reporter did their homework for local ties to historical and national concern.

Second Place **The Kansas City Star**
 Dedicated the hours to give voice to people who don't always have one. Great work.

Third Place **The Kansas City Star**
 Great work tracking down players in a critical historic moment.

Honorable Mention **The Kansas City Star**
 When you can't get the image, you talk to everyone around the issue.

*Title of Entry, If Applicable**Award Winner(s), If Applicable*

KC Proud Boys had big role in Capitol riot **Judy L. Thomas**

In her shoes: The Star spends 24 hours with **Anna Spoeerre**

When Missouri repealed a key gun law, few **Kaitlin Washburn, Humera Lodhi and Hurubie Meko**

Kansas City police made racist challenge **Glenn E. Rice**

05.) Best News Story | Weeklies - Class 1

First Place **Cassville Democrat**
 Strong writing.
 Excellent use of interviewing a variety of people. Thorough reporting of a problem affecting law enforcement across the U.S.

Second Place **Focus on Oak Grove**
 A well-written story.
 Good lede.

Third Place **Maryville Forum**
 Thorough explanation of what appears to be an on-going problem.
 Excellent writing.

Honorable Mention **Richmond News**
 Good lede.
 Writing is good.

*Title of Entry, If Applicable**Award Winner(s), If Applicable*

BarCo Sheriff's Office **Kyle Troutman**

Delivery interruption affects school meals **Ruth Ann Hafner**

Senior Center story **Geoffrey Woehl**

Death on M-13 **Jack "Miles" Ventimiglia**

05.) Best News Story | Weeklies - Class 2

First Place **Houston Herald**
 A detailed story and written in an easy-to-read account. The reader is involved with the story from the beginning. Within the early paragraphs the reader gets attention and the incidents are related clearly. The timeline adds to the story and a second story helps. In addition to the details presented the story is written well, is in good grammar, and likely is one well read. The timeline adds graphics and is a nice way to put information together.

Second Place **Unterrified Democrat**
 In some places, a murder isn't a major story. In this town, though, a murder is significant news, and a double murder of a husband and wife and left lying in their yard is a major news story. Police went to work and in 10 hours had an arrest made and the judge said the accused man will remain in jail with no bond. The story is well written and contains valuable reporting. Facts are presented but the story is not overly done in a bad way. A small town with a big story.

Third Place **Laclede County Record**
 Right to the point. Not a long story but a comprehensive one. A reader gets the information in a straight-out story with facts presented in an east-to-understand manner. The health person quoted gives the information and also gives her opinion and what the community will need to understand. What else would the reader want in a story? As a reader, I found this to be a good story and one I read eagerly. Good reporting.

Honorable Mention **Warrensburg Star-Journal**
 If you want a good news story, read this one. It is a comprehensive look at the police department, how it handled situations in the pandemic, the number officers lost and the drop in the force, different ways of handling some situations were used, and a reserve force was in place. Sources are used to complete the story and the writer did an excellent job of putting the story together. A good story to let readers know what had happened. Would have enjoyed having a story like this in my newspaper before I retired.

*Title of Entry, If Applicable**Award Winner(s), If Applicable*

Fatal stabbing **Brad Gentry**

Double Homicide **Neal Johnson**

LCHD to stop **Fines Massey**

Police in Pandemic **Sara Lawson**

05.) Best News Story | Weeklies - Class 3

First Place **St. Louis Business Journal**
 This story did a comprehensive look at the job market and found that workers have leverage and are getting more options, but it also notes that this is not true for everyone. The story is well-written, provides considerable information for the reader, and includes good reporting. The story presents the main picture and then includes four short accounts of people in the job market. They show interesting job situations and one is the person who discovers that the job markets is more for the young folks rather the the older person who lost a job and can't replace it. A story worth reading.

Second Place **St. Louis Community News**
 An attention-getting story about an effort to provide a safe pace for women of color. The house, location not announced, is under the direction of the woman purchasing the home. The woman is the main source of information but others helping the house are included and the reporting includes information about various ways people have provided assistance. The project receives referrals from hospitals and other places. The house owner said this project is very much needed in St. Louis. The program has helped 45 women and assisted over 200 in finding appropriate outside of the safe house. Good story.

Third Place **Branson Tri-Lakes News**
 An organized story that presents the allegations, tells what happened to the whistleblower, presents documents, and the reported contacts of many people involved. Not everyone agrees about what has happened but the reporting covers many individuals in the story. A long story; however, the reader has no problem in reading it or understanding what has happened. Good coverage and a solid news story.

*Title of Entry, If Applicable**Award Winner(s), If Applicable*

SLBJ best news story Empowered Workers **James Drew**

Sisters in arms **Charlotte Beard**

Whistleblower **Jason Wert**

Honorable Mention St. Louis Webster - Kirkwood Times

The house may be a year or more, and maybe not at all, of being able to return to, but everyone in the family is exceedingly glad no one was hurt in the storm. A large oak tree fell just inches from the mother and a ceiling joist fell. Her story gave a way of reporting the storm and caught the reader's attention. Other stories helped give a rundown of happenings in neighbor towns. A nice way to write the story with accounts of electricity gone and fallen trees damaging homes. For the first family, the mother loved their home and where they lived and hoped it could be repaired.

Weathering The Storm**Jaime Mowers****06.) Best Feature Story | Dailies - Class 1***Title of Entry, If Applicable**Award Winner(s), If Applicable***First Place Sedalia Democrat**

Nice examples of three "service" dogs. Good photos too of each dog.

Working Dogs**Skye Melcher****Second Place Sedalia Democrat**

Heartwarming story. Good job getting comments from at least two people.

Adopting Racehorses**Faith Bemiss****Third Place Monett Times**

Well-written story overall. Would've been nice, if not difficult, to get comment from a second person.

Recalling the trauma**Melonie Roberts****Honorable Mention Marshall Democrat-News**

Would've been good to get a direct quote from the girl or one of her parents.

Cyclists raise awareness**Danielle Linton-Hatfield****06.) Best Feature Story | Dailies - Class 2***Title of Entry, If Applicable**Award Winner(s), If Applicable***First Place Columbia Missourian**

Reader become part of the homeless community from the first word. You feel part of these easily forgotten individuals, as if you were living among them. Well done.

Under the Overpass**Ella McCarthy****Second Place Southeast Missourian**

Without knowing Skelton, you feel his dedication to country and family. His sacrifice saved the loved one from another family. There's no greater love than laying down one life for another. May he never be forgotten.

Bradley Skelton: He took someone else's**Rick Fahr****Third Place Columbia Missourian**

One person can truly make a difference and inspire others. He sets the example of how the environment will only improve with the help of human hands.

Missouri River Relief**CONNOR GIFFIN****Honorable Mention Springfield News-Leader**

The inside baseball put the reader inside the newsroom and took them on a journey how the business is done.

40 years after Kansas City hotel skywalk**Gregory Holman****06.) Best Feature Story | Dailies - Class 3***Title of Entry, If Applicable**Award Winner(s), If Applicable***First Place The Kansas City Star****Like Tech N9ne before him, rising rap artist****Kevin Hardy****Second Place The Kansas City Star****You don't believe in ghosts? Kansas City****J.M. Banks****Third Place The Kansas City Star****He loved anime, despite its racism. Now****J.M. Banks****Honorable Mention The Kansas City Star****TV anchor's wife faces deadly diagnosis.****Lisa Gutierrez, Natalie Wallington and Joseph Hernandez****06.) Best Feature Story | Weeklies - Class 1***Title of Entry, If Applicable**Award Winner(s), If Applicable***First Place Richmond News**

The amount of work on this piece is clear, and shows the importance of not allowing history and legacy to fall to the side. Nice work.

Pearl Harbor**Jack "Miles" Ventimiglia****Second Place Richmond News**

The opening grabs you and take you back in time. "Cigar box" made me curious about the story. Writer had me from the first sentence. Enjoyed the blend of past and more recent history.

Cigar box guitar**Jack "Miles" Ventimiglia**

Third Place **Memphis Democrat** **WWII Sailor Laid To Rest** **Echo Menges**
Lost military who come home after decades of being lost should never be glossed over. This son of a sailor thanks you for his service and the reporting of this story. Fair winds and following seas.

Honorable Mention **Fulton Sun** **Weight lifter with autism** **Jeremy Jacob**
This young man is an inspiration to others. He shows you should never judge a book by its cover. Would have liked to see better art, however. The image is courtesy. Not sure if a photog was available to capture his gym workout.

06.) Best Feature Story | Weeklies - Class 2

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place **Houston Herald** **Catastrope yields blessings** **Doug Davison**
The writer crafted a compelling article from start to finish. The meeting with the victim's daughters was particularly touching -- both heartbreaking and heartwarming. The writer balanced a respectful tone in addressing the tragedy, while highlighting how that event shaped Fockler's path to becoming a nurse and caring for others in difficult circumstances.

Second Place **Phelps County Focus** **Rolla Native to be Memorialized** **Kaitlin Brothers**
While short, the story makes good use of the space it fills. The lede draws the reader in and the story maintains that engagement throughout. From Whitney Houston to Star Trek, the reader truly gets to know the late Bowling. A well-structured, well-paced, and well-written tribute.

Third Place **Springfield Business Journal** **The Jobs Journey** **Karen Craigo**
This articles captures such a pivotal moment for so many people during the COVID-19 pandemic as they reevaluate their career paths (either by choice or out of circumstance from losing their previous job). The three women's stories that are included in this piece perfectly capture that change. The writer does a good job of introducing the reader to each woman individually, then weaves their experiences together into the larger story. Well done!

Honorable Mention **Ozark County Times** **High School ring found 1,000 miles away,** **JESSICA DRECKMAN**
The writer kept me engaged from beginning to resolution. While the reader knows who the ring belongs to, it was still exciting being "in" on the mystery. (Will she get her ring back? Who knows! Read on!) There were some details that could have been condensed or removed altogether. But all in all, this article is well-deserving of recognition.

06.) Best Feature Story | Weeklies - Class 3

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place **St. Louis Business Journal** **SLBJ feature story Jubilee** **James Drew**
The reporter did a thorough job of covering the church's efforts to help people experiencing addiction, particularly amplifying the voices of those who face these issues. The article is structured well and breaks down various aspects of the church's mission (treatment, training, etc.). The photos also added wonderful context to the article.

Second Place **Washington Missourian** **Leona's Lasting Legacy** **Laura Miserez**
The article highlights a brilliant songwriter from the past alongside innovative and creative musicians of the present, united from afar during the COVID-19 pandemic. The reporter paints a picture of Leona's life so vividly and wonderfully, and captures the reader's attention from beginning to end. The international collaboration that came from the recording of Leona's song was heartwarming.

Third Place **St. Louis Missouri Lawyers Weekly** **Lawyers lead remembrance project for** **Alan Zagier**
A heavily important and well-told story. The lede sets the tone well, showcasing how racist history continues to pervade racism of the present. From there, the story continues to unfold with well-selected quotes from community leaders. The story is structured smoothly and smartly.

Honorable Mention **St. Louis Business Journal** **SLBJ feature Struggle is Real** **Nathan Rubbelke and Maddy Simpson**
The array of experiences from real estate professionals created a well-rounded story at a time when the housing market has been at one of its hottest points in recent history. Beginning each section with a different story captures the reader's attention, and weaving those stories together with information from other professionals contributed to this well-rounded story. The graphics and images also further contextualized the story in a thoughtful way. Well done!

07.) Best News or Feature Series | Dailies

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place **The Kansas City Star** **Christian Boarding School** **Laura Bauer and Judy L. Thomas**
In a category that had many outstanding entries, it was difficult to select the top honorees. The series on unregulated Christian boarding schools stands out for its truly gripping storytelling and its compelling interviews with survivors of abuse. The reporters did an outstanding job interviewing dozens of victims and recounting their experiences in a brutally honest -- but not sensational -- way. It is notable they also interviewed the mother of a victim and made attempts to interview those accused of abuse. The Kansas City Star showed excellent investigative reporting in obtaining court documents and other records that added new and horrifying layers to the series. I would be interested to see more investigation into the connections of political and law-enforcement leaders to the schools

Second Place **The Kansas City Star** **Public health and gun violence in Missouri** **Humera Lodhi, Kaitlin Washburn, Hurubie Meko and Kevin Hardy**
This series took a comprehensive approach to investigating how gun violence is a public health problem. The interviews with those directly affected by gun violence show how those experiences have long-lasting consequences not only for the victims of violence, but the wider community. The reporters collaborated with outside groups to show how housing problems -- evictions, blight and homelessness -- can be linked to gun violence. That's also true of other factors such as the environment and the quality of education. The series made excellent use of data. which was effectively displayed in graphs. One concern I had was the number of corrections to the stories due to the misspelling of names or other errors. Kudos for full transparency. Great work!

Third Place **Columbia Missourian** **Homelessness Series** **Staff**
Excellent prose and stellar use of photos and sidebars to advance the story. The series provides a very comprehensive look at a wide range of issues surrounding homelessness and proposals to deal with the issue. The stories of those those experiencing homelessness gave voice to people who are often seen, but not heard. Excellent series.

Honorable Mention **Missouri Independent** **Behind the curtain of a gubernatorial** **Rudi Keller**
The writer makes excellent use of Missouri's Sunshine Law to help show how partisanship played a huge role in the nomination to a seat on the University of Missouri Board of Curators. The reporter uses clear and concise writing to make sometimes complex political maneuverings understandable. Excellent reporting.

07.) Best News or Feature Series | Weeklies - Class 1

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place **Richmond News** **Jail**
Outstanding description of the problems surrounding the jail. Crisp, compelling prose. Good effort at demanding accountability of public officials.

Jack "Miles" Ventimiglia

Second Place **Richmond News**
Excellent interviews with experts. Outstanding use of graphics and pull-out features. Well-balanced presentation of multiple perspectives.

Jack "Miles" Ventimiglia

Third Place **Maryville Forum**
Very thorough reporting. Good use of 'fact checks.' Balanced presentation of both sides of a controversial topic.

Geoffrey Woehl

Honorable Mention **Maryville Forum**
Very engaging prose pulls the reader in immediately. A good overview on the impact of the pandemic on businesses. Excellent interviews.

Trinity Cobb

07.) Best News or Feature Series | Weeklies - Class 2

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place **Springfield Business Journal**
The series gives readers a nice behind-the-scenes look at the cannabis industry through the lens of one company. The reporting is thorough, exploring various aspects of the industry from licensing to production and more.

Mike Cullinan

Second Place **Unterrified Democrat**
The reporters did a thorough job reporting on the investigation and proceedings so far. Overall, the writing quality is very strong and shows dedicated reporting.

Double Homicide

Neal Johnson

Third Place **Gasconade County Republican**
Some parts of the Dec. 15 story felt extraneous/redundant and could be condensed (particularly multiple officials' praise for the project), though the story is good overall. The Dec. 22 story delves deeper into the funding sources. And subsequent stories continue to build on previous stories with thorough reporting to give more context.

Rock Island Feature Series

Roxie Murphy

Honorable Mention **The Odessan**
The candidate profiles and ballot question summaries provide a thorough and thoughtful guide to help voters make an informed decision. Some of the profiles took a bit of a superficial approach, but this reader also acknowledges the limited space to conduct a deeper dive on an array of issues for each candidate.

April 6 Voting Guide

Hannah Spaar and Ruth Ann Hafner

07.) Best News or Feature Series | Weeklies - Class 3

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place **St. Louis Webster - Kirkwood Times**
(NOTE: Other stories in this series were submitted as separate entries, but I have judged them together.) The series was an important and incredibly thorough exploration of the Douglas Hill project, from its naming to public hearings to the project ultimately being voted down.

Proposal For Webster Groves Commercial &

Kevin Murphy

Second Place **St. Louis Missouri Lawyers Weekly**
The replacement of a Missouri Supreme Court judge would be an important story in any event. But the appointment of the first Black woman to the state's highest court -- paralleling similar circumstances that would be to come in the U.S. Supreme Court -- is particularly noteworthy. The reporters cover this series extremely well, with insights into both Stith and Ransom's legacies and futures.

Filling a Missouri Supreme Court vacancy

Scott Lauck and Jessica Shumaker

Third Place **Jefferson County Leader**
The coverage of De Soto's cases coming before the Missouri Supreme Court, particularly the wrongful death lawsuit, is thorough and well-organized for readers to understand them easily.

De Soto in Supreme Court

Steve Taylor

Honorable Mention **Northeast News**
The series brings readers along on a scenic tour through America's National Parks, not only as they stand today but also the history behind them. The pieces are informative and engaging, and the postcard images are a beautiful blast from the past.

National Park postcards

Michael Bushnell, Dorri Partain and Bryan Stalder

08 - D.) Best Editorial | Dalies - Class 2

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place **LakeExpo**
Time For A New Mayor: Lake Ozark Needs

Nathan Bechtold and Brent Simpson

Second Place **Joplin Globe**
Selling Scout camp another betrayal

Staff

Third Place **Springfield News-Leader**
Our Voice: Parson's attempt to shift blame

Amos Bridges, Stephen Herzog and Harrison Keegan

Honorable Mention **Joplin Globe**
Tulsa's story is ours, too

Staff

08 - D.) Best Editorial | Dailies - Class 3

First Place **The Kansas City Star**
No punches pulled here. Powerful arguments. Persuasive.

Second Place **The Kansas City Star**
Persuasive, well written, clarity of style. Terrific details.

Third Place **The Kansas City Star**
Significance, power to influence opinion, writing style.

Honorable Mention **The Kansas City Star**
Relatable, well reasoned.

*Title of Entry, If Applicable**Award Winner(s), If Applicable***Editorials by Melinda Henneberger****Melinda Henneberger****Editorials by Dave Helling****Dave Helling****Editorials by Mara' Rose Williams****Mara' Rose Williams****Editorials by Toriano Porter****Toriano Porter****08 - W.) Tilghman Cloud Memorial Editorial Award | Weeklies - Class 1**

First Place **Maryville Forum**
Above and beyond. Simply the best written editorial - well worthy of more awards. The defense of free thought and expression was rock solid and moving. The subtle use of humor and adherence to logic highlighted this well-written editorial.

Second Place **Richmond News**
How do you combat misinformation? This editorial spells it out with facts and flawless logic. Very well written.

Third Place **Richmond News**
A focus on domestic abuse and the fallout - well written with a good focus on a tough issue.

Honorable Mention **Richmond News**
One of the hardest issues to take on. "Not in My Backyard" is often the battle cry. This editorial avoids the sensationalism for cold logic. Well done.

*Title of Entry, If Applicable**Award Winner(s), If Applicable***School district owes explanation****Staff****Mask Mandates****Jack "Miles" Ventimiglia****Domestic Abuse****Jack "Miles" Ventimiglia****New jail****Jack "Miles" Ventimiglia****08 - W.) Tilghman Cloud Memorial Editorial Award | Weeklies - Class 2**

First Place **The Odessian**
Most of the entries in this competition were columns and not editorials. This was the one in this category that was close enough to an editorial to place.

*Title of Entry, If Applicable**Award Winner(s), If Applicable***The Odessa way of doing business****Hannah Spaar****08 - W.) Tilghman Cloud Memorial Editorial Award | Weeklies - Class 3**

First Place **Washington Missourian**
An editorial that praises local newspapers while pointing out the foibles of the USPS! Very well written.

Second Place **Washington Missourian**
A beautifully penned piece about voter turnout and why we all need to be involved.

Third Place **Northeast News**
Cogent. Precise. Well written and it covers a variety of topics about local neighborhood needs. The essence of a good editorial.

Honorable Mention **Washington Missourian**
Compelling.

*Title of Entry, If Applicable**Award Winner(s), If Applicable***Sending Out A USPS SOS****Bill Miller, Trish Miller and Ethan Colbert****Pathetic Voter Turnout****Bill Miller, Trish Miller and Ethan Colbert****The time for strong neighborhoods is now.****Michael Bushnell****Give E-Scooters A Test Spin****Ethan Colbert, Trish Miller and Bill Miller Jr.****09.) Best Columnist- Humorous | Dailies - Classes 1 and 2**

First Place **Independence Examiner**
Jeff Fox finds fun in his junk mail, as he ponders the impact the pandemic has had on shopping--and merchandising. He also questions whether we need the very latest technology, such as the newest phone and who needs Lego sets costing hundreds of dollars. (apparently not including the cost of damaging his foot if he steps on one.)

Second Place **Springfield News-Leader**
Steve Pokin finds fun in some of the annoyances in life, like getting his car stolen a day after it was in a wreck, and those unwelcome letters from a realtor who wants to buy his home. Other times, he wonders what ever happened those nudist "colonies" in the Springfield area. These columns should have produced some smiles.

*Title of Entry, If Applicable**Award Winner(s), If Applicable***The truth is out of this world****Jeff Fox****Columnist Steve Pokin****Steve Pokin**

Third Place **Monett Times** **9-Humorous Columnist** **Kyle Troutman**
 He reviews first year as husband/father--and at-work boss of his bride, ponders folklore about winter and does a very long letter to Santa in verse. Generally, his columns are a bit long. The Santa pulled quote appears to be effort to fill space.

09.) Best Columnist- Humorous | Weeklies - Class 1

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place **Maries County Advocate** **A New Adventure** **Dennis Warden**
 Great storytelling in funny columns, especially the account of the shooting of Coco and the cooking and vocabulary lessons provided by the writer's daughter.

Second Place **South Cass Tribune** **Dennis Minich** **Dennis Minich**
 Funny column about the pains of growing old and the missing tooth fairy

Third Place **Cassville Democrat** **Kyle Troutman**

09.) Best Columnist- Humorous | Weeklies - Class 2

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place **Laclede County Record** **Fines Massey Humorous** **Fines Massey**
 All well written pieces about writer's family. Helping Your Spouse kept my attention and made me chuckle the whole time.

Second Place **Morgan County Statesman** **Nickels and Sense** **Bryan Jones**
 Funny accounts of columnist's mishaps. Especially liked the column about overused phrases.

Third Place **The Odessan** **Hannah's Happenings** **Hannah Spaar**

Honorable Mention **Houston Herald** **Off the Cuff** **Doug Davison**

09.) Best Columnist- Humorous | Weeklies - Class 3

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place **St. Louis Community News** **Moore On Life** **Cindy Moore**
 Concise, well written, and funny columns about every day life, including two about life during COVID.

Second Place **Jefferson County Leader** **Laura Marlow** **Laura Marlow**
 Punctuation column hits home for people in our profession and whimsical look at the days of the Saturday morning cartoons.

Third Place **Jefferson County Leader** **Peggy Bess** **Peggy Bess**
 Funny column about cats and dogs in the White House.

Honorable Mention **St. Louis Missouri Lawyers Weekly** **With All Due Respect, by Spencer Farris** **Spencer Farris**
 Interesting takes on life as a lawyer.

10.) Best Columnist- Serious | Dailies - Classes 1 and 2

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place **Joplin Globe** **Andy Ostmeyer** **Andy Ostmeyer**
 Andy Ostmeyer tackles national issues and events from a community perspective. When he wrote about the Capitol riot, he did it by raising questions that might have been going through his readers' minds. In a column on a spacecraft setting down on Mars, he pointed out that a Joplin firm made some of the essential parts, and in his best effort, he argued the best way for readers to get through the confusing and conflicting information coming from many sources was to turn to their local newspapers. trusted neighbors that have been there for years.

Second Place **Independence Examiner** **The humble heart of our greatest holiday** **Jeff Fox**
 There is a serious side to Jeff Fox. Upon the death of a former boss/editor, Jeff showed what he had learned from the man about accuracy, truthfulness and making a newspaper be a public trust. While he also wrote about doing your homework about public affairs and how many holidays have become too commercial, his column about being a public trust suggests a yardstick for measuring today's media.

Third Place **Monett Times** **Monett Serious Columnist** **Kyle Troutman**
 Kyle Troutman deals with some tough local issues: The sheriff's department has only 8 road deputies, meaning it may be slow in responding to some emergencies. Schools have struggled with mask mandates and closings due to Covid 19; Local businesses can't hire or keep workers, although unemployment is up locally.

Honorable Mention Columbia Missourian

David Webber, a political scientist, can be plain-spoken. Responding to calls for the resignation of a public official, he wrote "Haphazard calling for a public official to resign has become a cheap political weapon in the perpetual politics of grievance." He also can find the words of others to make a point. He quoted former Speaker of the House Tip O'Neal: "Any jackass can kick down the barn door, but it takes a skilled carpenter to build one."

David Webber**David Webber****10.) Best Columnist- Serious | Dalies - Class 3***Title of Entry, If Applicable**Award Winner(s), If Applicable***First Place The Kansas City Star**

Melinda Henneberger raises plenty of questions about the daylight shooting of a Black man in his own backyard by a white policeman, within 9 seconds of entering the yard. She tells about the many white people in court in support of the officer, but only two seated behind the Black family. She finds sympathy for both families. Ms. Henneberger also can portray little-noted people doing notable things—showing readers these are people they would want to meet. Take the Turkish Muslim family who took an ailing elderly Christian woman into their apartment and cared for her in her failing health. Or Sisters of Mercy's last nun in Kansas City—who had worked for better housing and against abuse here for 54 years. Very good storytelling that makes one want to check out

Melinda Henneberger columns**Melinda Henneberger****Second Place The Kansas City Star**

Dave Helling's long career as a reporter is reflected in his approach as a columnist. He uses researching, sourcing, reporting and writing to produce his columns. After hearing much talk about moving the Royals and Chiefs to new stadiums downtown, he traces KC's history of other major projects, and then asks who is prepared to pay billions for downtown sports. On another front, he recalls how there wasn't much of a fuss when government mandated polio vaccines, but now many refuse a Covid shot. And with all the strife among Americans in recent years, even the storming of the U.S. Capitol, he asks what if democracy fails.

Dave Helling columns**Dave Helling****Third Place The Kansas City Star**

Mara Rose Williams concentrates on race relations in these three columns. She defines critical race theory—and what it is not. She finds there was poor communication between two groups with similar goals who chose to hold rallies at the same time. And she decried KC children having access to guns.

Mara' Rose Williams columns**Mara' Rose Williams****Honorable Mention The Kansas City Star**

Derek Donovan likes to burst some balloons. He scoffed at state legislators wanting to have an official holiday for the late hate monger Rush Limbaugh. Donovan noted that much to the delight of his listeners Limbaugh belittled Blacks, Latinos, homeless people, gays, etc Donovan also responded to social media claiming Elii Kemper was in the KKK, and reports that the temporary \$300 grants to unemployed people were hurting Missouri.

Derek Donovan columns**Derek Donovan****10.) Best Columnist- Serious | Weeklies - Class 1***Title of Entry, If Applicable**Award Winner(s), If Applicable***First Place Maryville Forum**

Woehlk is consistently clear-headed and empathetic. He doesn't write to show off how smart he is. He writes when he sees a wrong that should be righted. He doesn't try to score easy political points. In fact, his politics aren't necessarily out there on his sleeve. He just does his job well, column in, column out.

A Word from Woehlk**Geoffrey Woehlk****Second Place Richmond News**

Miles -- it just feels more natural to use his nickname, given the personal nature of his columns -- isn't afraid of high-concept. And he has the chops to pull it off!

Auschwitz, death by COVID, trash man**Jack "Miles" Ventimiglia****Third Place South Cass Tribune**

Minich displays courage in his convictions and love for his community in ways that hearken back to local journalism's yesteryear. That is, the days when the person who ran your paper shopped at the same grocery store as you and wasn't afraid of what the shareholders might think. You might not always agree with him, but you respect his flair and his fortitude.

Dennis Minich**Dennis Minich****10.) Best Columnist- Serious | Weeklies - Class 2***Title of Entry, If Applicable**Award Winner(s), If Applicable***First Place Springfield Business Journal**

Attacking issues with sharp intellect, Temple rarely disappoints. She carefully chooses issues that deserve our attention -- and then makes us look at them in a fresh light. Her finest quality may be her willingness to provide solutions -- to not merely complain.

Truth Be Told**Christine Temple****Second Place Morgan County Statesman**

Jones is whip-smart but humble enough to leave his readers feeling as though they are the smart ones. He covers an array of topics with trademark neighborliness and fearlessness.

Nickels and Sense**Bryan Jones****Third Place Springfield Business Journal**

If you need help understanding quantitative easing, it's hard to find yourself in better hands than in Olson's. He's not afraid to get nerdy and reward his rewards with the hidden knowledge he's uncovered in a Census report or the latest Federal Reserve report. His passion is unmistakable and catching.

Eyes & Ears**Eric Olson****10.) Best Columnist- Serious | Weeklies - Class 3***Title of Entry, If Applicable**Award Winner(s), If Applicable***First Place Jefferson County Leader**

Insightful column about depression and suicide awareness and poignant column about being thankful, even in hard times.

Laura Marlow**Laura Marlow****Second Place Jefferson County Leader**

Interesting thoughts about the possible extinction of the penny and good account of the Olympics and their impact.

Gordon Bess**Gordon Bess****Third Place St. Louis Webster - Kirkwood Times**

Nice, positive column.

A Buzzing Love Moment**Jaime Mowers****Honorable Mention Jefferson County Leader**

Well written, but sad column about "baby sister."

Peggy Bess**Peggy Bess**

II.) Best News Photograph | Dailies - Class 1*Title of Entry, If Applicable**Award Winner(s), If Applicable***First Place****Sedalia Democrat****Martinez Shop Fire****Chris Howell**

A nice image you captured, it caught my eye and causes me to linger at great storytelling. I like your composition, lighting and wide view of the scene. Half the job of a photographer is capturing the moment in time that last only but a second but will be remembered forever. You did just that.

Second Place**Sedalia Democrat****Pettis Fire****Chris Howell**

You captured the dangerous work of a firefighter. Your photo has such depth of field, and it was good choice to have him off-center.

Third Place**Monett Times****Groundbreaking held****Melonie Roberts**

Really fun image and a break from the norm by it being kids doing a groundbreaking. The like that you cropped out the mothers, which strengthens the focus on the kids.

Honorable Mention**Monett Times****Collision sends****Mike Gervais**

A nice photo. The difference in first place and honorable mention is that the FedEx truck photo was an image that was there for some time. You could have captured this image for the next hour, unlike the photos that won.

II.) Best News Photograph | Dailies - Class 2*Title of Entry, If Applicable**Award Winner(s), If Applicable***First Place****Columbia Missourian****Grad student Patrick Luo****Olivia Anderson**

You captured a strong image, that brings viewer into the scene. I like your composition, the lighting and focal point of the image. It was the best image without question. Great job.

Second Place**News Tribune****Salvation Army serves****Julie Smith**

This photo gets high marks for creativity, use of color and composition.

Third Place**Columbia Missourian****The door of Rep. Rick Roeber...****Tristen Rouse**

I liked that you used a long exposure to blur the person. It carries the theme of why you were there. A really strong image.

Honorable Mention**Columbia Daily Tribune****Road Rage Incident****Don Shrubshell**

The image doesn't tell the complete story, but it draws you in to want to know more.

II.) Best News Photograph | Dailies - Class 3*Title of Entry, If Applicable**Award Winner(s), If Applicable***First Place****The Kansas City Star****Mayor scolded by tenants****Rich Sugg**

This was a strong image you captured between the mayor and a citizen. The emotions caught by her eye, it causes me to linger and want to know more. I like your composition, lighting, and points of interests. Half the job of a photographer is capturing the moment in time that last only but a second but will be remembered forever. You did just that.

Second Place**The Kansas City Star****Justice for Cameron Lamb****Jill Toyoshiba**

You captured an emotional moment that this family and readers will remember forever. It makes you hold your breath, strong image, that brings viewer into the scene. I like your composition, the lighting and focal point of the image.

Third Place**The Kansas City Star****Manslaughter conviction****Jill Toyoshiba**

This image tells the complete story, it draws you in the courtroom. Even through it's an image, you feel the raw emotions in the room. I like your composition, lighting, and sharpness of the image.

Honorable Mention**The Kansas City Star****Kylr Yust trial****Jill Toyoshiba**

You captured a strong image, that brings viewer into the scene. I like your composition, the lighting and focal point of the image.

II.) Best News Photograph | Weeklies - Class 1*Title of Entry, If Applicable**Award Winner(s), If Applicable***First Place****Cassville Democrat****Broncos Buck****Kyle Troutman**

A nice image you captured, it caught my eye and causes me to linger at great storytelling. I like your composition, lighting and wide view of the scene. Half the job of a photographer is capturing the moment in time that last only but a second but will be remembered forever. You did just that.

Second Place**Edina Sentinel****Sad Dog****Echo Menges**

You captured a strong image, that brings viewer into the scene. I like your composition, the lighting and focal point of the image. It was the second-best image without question. Great job. Man's best friend missing its owner, is so moving.

Third Place**Cassville Democrat****Fire Destroys****Kyle Troutman**

You captured the dangerous work of a firefighter. Your photo has such depth of field, and it was good choice to have him off-center.

Honorable Mention Richmond News

A nice photo. The difference in first place and honorable mention is that the flooding photo was an image that was there for some time. You could have captured this image for the next hour, unlike the photos that won.

Water cancels WaterFest**Jack "Miles" Ventimiglia****11.) Best News Photograph | Weeklies - Class 2***Title of Entry, If Applicable**Award Winner(s), If Applicable***First Place Wright County Journal**

A nice image you captured, it caught my eye and causes me to linger â€” great storytelling. I like your composition, lighting and wide view of the scene. Half the job of a photographer is capturing the moment in time that last only but a second but will be remembered forever. You did just that. To think a church was burned down and an image resembling a cross appear is amazing.

Fire on the Square (cross in smoke)**Ron Schott****Second Place Gasconade County Republican**

You captured a strong image, that brings viewer into the scene. I like your composition, the lighting and focal point of the image. It was the second-best image without question. Great job.

Ruthie's Fire**Jacob Warden****Third Place Houston Herald**

You captured the dangerous work of a firefighter and in this case a policeman as well. Your photo has such depth of field, and it was a strong photo.

Police firefighters**Doug Davison****Honorable Mention Unterrified Democrat****Side of House Explosion****Jacob Warden****11.) Best News Photograph | Weeklies - Class 3***Title of Entry, If Applicable**Award Winner(s), If Applicable***First Place Washington Missourian**

Half the job of a photographer is capturing the moment in time that last only but a second but will be remembered forever. You did just that. I love the look on the two board members faces as the person speaks.

Speaking Out**Julia Hansen****Second Place St. Louis Webster - Kirkwood Times**

The image doesn't tell the complete story, but it drawn you in to want to know more.

Schools Open With Masks In Place**Ursula Ruhl****Third Place Washington Missourian**

You captured the work of a firefighter beyond fighting fires. Your photo has such emotions, and it was such a strong photo.

Yowling for Air**Ethan Colbert****Honorable Mention Northeast News****KC Tenants celebrate funding of tenant****Corbin Smith****12.) Best Feature Photograph | Dailies - Class 1***Title of Entry, If Applicable**Award Winner(s), If Applicable***First Place Sedalia Democrat****Lineman Veterans Day****Chris Howell****Second Place Monett Times****Spark Tank****Melonie Roberts****Third Place Sedalia Democrat****Ali Halane****Faith Bemiss****Honorable Mention Sedalia Democrat****Nutcracker Performer****Faith Bemiss****12.) Best Feature Photograph | Dailies - Class 2***Title of Entry, If Applicable**Award Winner(s), If Applicable***First Place Southeast Missourian****Christmas cheer: Toybox thrills children****Monica Obradovic****Second Place Southeast Missourian****Saxony... celebrates end of school year****Tyler Graef**

Third Place	News Tribune	Taxing weather	Julie Smith
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Honorable Mention	Columbia Missourian	Kate Mehan	Megan Matty
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12.) Best Feature Photograph | Dalies - Class 3*Title of Entry, If Applicable**Award Winner(s), If Applicable*

First Place	The Kansas City Star	COVID deaths memorial	Jill Toyoshiba
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Second Place	The Kansas City Star	Snowy quinceanera	Tammy Ljungblad
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Third Place	The Kansas City Star	HOT DAY SPLASH	Rich Sugg
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Honorable Mention	The Kansas City Star	Fall colors from above	Rich Sugg
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12.) Best Feature Photograph | Weeklies - Class 1*Title of Entry, If Applicable**Award Winner(s), If Applicable*

First Place	Maries County Advocate	Nap Time_9-8-21	Jacob Warden
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Second Place	Maryville Forum	Pickering Horse Show	Skye Pournazari
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Third Place	Richmond News	Skateboarding	Jack "Miles" Ventimiglia
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Honorable Mention	Maries County Advocate	Ride Video_7-21-21	Jacob Warden
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12.) Best Feature Photograph | Weeklies - Class 2*Title of Entry, If Applicable**Award Winner(s), If Applicable*

First Place	Laclede County Record	Fair, 7-14-21	Christy Dieman
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Second Place	Gasconade County Republican	Painter reflected	Dennis Warden
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Third Place	The Odessan	Let It Glow	Hannah Spaar
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Honorable Mention	Unterrified Democrat	I do not Like Spiders	Ed Gehlert
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12.) Best Feature Photograph | Weeklies - Class 3*Title of Entry, If Applicable**Award Winner(s), If Applicable*

First Place	St. Louis Business Journal	SLBJ feature Wine Collectors	Dilip Vishwanat
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Second Place St. Louis Business Journal Jubilee Community Church Dilip Vishwanat

Third Place St. Louis Webster - Kirkwood Times A Car Parade For Kirkwood Grads! Ursula Ruhl

Honorable Mention St. Louis American Service til glory Wiley Price

13.) Best Sports Photograph | Dailies - Class 1

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place Monett Times Lady Cubs swim Cody Thorn

Second Place Daily Journal Central leap 4-10-21 Matt King

Third Place Monett Times Brawl comes Kyle Troutman

Honorable Mention Monett Times Cubs take aim Kyle Troutman

13.) Best Sports Photograph | Dailies - Class 2

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place Columbia Daily Tribune Braggin' Fights Madeline Carter

Second Place Joplin Globe Carthage rallies past Carl Junction Laurie Sisk

Third Place Columbia Missourian Anna Stephens attempts to pin Faith James ELIZABETH UNDERWOOD

Honorable Mention Columbia Daily Tribune Battle Tipped-Pass Touchdown J Thomas Taylor

13.) Best Sports Photograph | Dailies - Class 3

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place The Kansas City Star
Great action shot. Terrific framing. The photo really tells the story. KU vs. Baylor Rich Sugg

Second Place The Kansas City Star
Great mid-air action. Chiefs tight end Kelce on the fly Jill Toyoshiba

Third Place The Kansas City Star
The close-up details are fantastic. Chiefs QB Patrick Mahomes crunched Rich Sugg

13.) Best Sports Photograph | Weeklies - Class 1

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place Maries County Advocate
The angles, the hair, it all works Schultz long Jump Will Johnson

Second Place Dynamic	South Cass Tribune	Bulldogging	Christopher Tenpenny
Third Place Right time right place.	Maries County Advocate	Flying Tag_9-1-21	Jacob Warden
Honorable Mention	Centralia Fireside Guard	Centralia's Xaden Lockett	James Smith

13.) Best Sports Photograph | Weeklies - Class 2

		<i>Title of Entry, If Applicable</i>	<i>Award Winner(s), If Applicable</i>
First Place Photog captured the fierce determination of the player. Shot tells the whole story.	The Odessan	VanLanker 3-4-21	Kory Hales
Second Place Great shot of a celebrating team. Nice choice to capture the moment where it all spills out - and down!	Phelps County Focus	A Season to Remember - Softball	Lori Lunceford
Third Place Amazing action shot - lots going on around the player, but the angle captures the moment.	The Odessan	Hughes	Kory Hales
Honorable Mention	The Odessan	Briggle 3-18-21	Kory Hales

13.) Best Sports Photograph | Weeklies - Class 3

		<i>Title of Entry, If Applicable</i>	<i>Award Winner(s), If Applicable</i>
First Place	Washington Missourian	Stretching Over the Bar	Bill Battle
Second Place	Jefferson County Leader	Triple jumper Jonathan Carey	Russell Korando
Third Place	Jefferson County Leader	Out at home	Russell Korando
Honorable Mention	St. Louis American	Loose ball, 3-25-21	Wiley Price

14.) Best Sports Feature Photograph | Dailies - Class 1

		<i>Title of Entry, If Applicable</i>	<i>Award Winner(s), If Applicable</i>
First Place Excellent jube! Makes me feel like I should be cheering, too!	Monett Times	Semi Ahead	Kyle Troutman
Second Place This photo really tells the story. Oof.	Sedalia Democrat	Lady Cardinals Fourth	Alex Agueros
Third Place Great jube here, too.	Sedalia Democrat	Lincoln Title	Alex Agueros
Honorable Mention Tack-sharp, makes me want to go play catch and be a kid again.	Monett Times	Mighty Mite	Kyle Troutman

14.) Best Sports Feature Photograph | Dailies - Classes 2 and 3**First Place** **Columbia Missourian**
Excellent lighting makes this image stand above the rest.*Title of Entry, If Applicable**Award Winner(s), If Applicable***Homecoming Royalty****Irynka Hromotska****Second Place** **Columbia Missourian**
Thank you for showing me something I have never seen before.**Elsie Butterfield****Madi Winfield****Third Place** **Springfield News-Leader**
Lots of layers here, all showing jubilation. Well done.**Last minute basket 3-13-21****Nathan Papes****Honorable Mention** **Columbia Missourian**
They sure are having fun! What a great moment.**Zaira Zuno and junior Ataliya Bass fall****Maya Bell****14.) Best Sports Feature Photograph | Weeklies - Class 1****First Place** **Maryville Forum**
Shallow depth of field isolates the subject cleanly from the background. Fortuitous light makes this image sing with a magical quality.*Title of Entry, If Applicable**Award Winner(s), If Applicable***Reflection****Jon Dykstra****Second Place** **Clinton County Leader**
Wonderful expressions throughout.**State Champs****Clint Dye****Third Place** **Maryville Forum**
I feel like I am running and smiling when I look at this photo.**Geiman****Jon Dykstra****Honorable Mention** **Cassville Democrat**
Really captures the joy of this moment!**30 Wins****Kyle Troutman****14.) Best Sports Feature Photograph | Weeklies - Class 2****First Place** **Unterrified Democrat**
I love when stories are told at both the plane of focus and in the blurry background. Really nice, clean isolation of the jube, with more details behind.*Title of Entry, If Applicable**Award Winner(s), If Applicable***Soccer Celebrate****Neal Johnson****Second Place** **Warrensburg Star-Journal**
Love the expressions in this shot.**Warrensburg Football****Joe Andrews****Third Place** **Gasconade County Republican**
So many faces, smiles, and blink-and-you'll miss it blue-purple hair make this a joy to look at.**Dutchgirl victory lap 5-19-21****Will Johnson****Honorable Mention** **Courier-Tribune**
It's interesting that the sun isn't shining on the losing team, while the winners are shimmering golden.**Liberty North football loses****Liam Keating****14.) Best Sports Feature Photograph | Weeklies - Class 3****First Place** **Washington Missourian**
This photo captured so much within one photo. This photo made me feel what I'm sure the young ladies in the photo were feeling!*Title of Entry, If Applicable**Award Winner(s), If Applicable***Springfield Bound****Arron Hustead****Second Place** **St. Louis Webster - Kirkwood Times**
This is a truly candid photo that showed so much emotion and happiness.**Turkey Day Game In May****Ursula Ruhl****Third Place** **Washington Missourian**
This is a unique photo that shows the dedication of a coach to their athletes. Really like this one. This captured moment was one that you don't see everyday.**Lending a Hand****Bill Battle**

Honorable Mention Washington Missourian
I really like the black and white on this one, actually. No dimension was lost, in fact I think it added to the value of the moment.

Great Start

Arron Hustead

15.) Best Photo Illustration | Dailies

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place The Kansas City Star
Keeping it simple always get attention. Timely is key in the image. Masks, social distancing with the mask in between the students send a clear message. Like the evening image as well, which is when proms occur. Nicely done!

Covid prom

Chris Ochsner

Second Place Columbia Missourian
Simple and clean composition with the various colors and jars tells a clear story of jarring. There no mistaking what the story is here. Well done.

Fermentation Frenzy

ALESSIA TAGLIABUE

Third Place Columbia Daily Tribune
Would have like to have seen the softball player be center focus of the image. Her mask, arm motion...all attraction. My eye went their first when i saw the image.

Best of Columbia Sports

Gabriela Velasquez

Honorable Mention Columbia Missourian
Trash certainly creates a mess. Would have liked to have seen more contrast, as the colors seem to run together. Hard edges of the image could be softened for a better blend. Message does get acrossed.

Talkin' trash

Makalah Hardy

15.) Best Photo Illustration | Weeklies - Class 3

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place St. Louis Business Journal
Very clever use of the Gateway Arch in the light bulb. A perfect way to sum up an Innovation issue.

SLBJ photo illustration Innovation

Jacqueline Prins

Second Place St. Louis Business Journal
Great illustration of cow using corn and peas for a feature on plant-based foods.

SLBJ photo illustration Beefing Up

Jacqueline Prins

Third Place Washington Missourian
Nice depiction of the highway using a rearview mirror. The reader would surely recognize the section of Route 66 and also the landmark wax museum featured on the page.

Reflections of Route 66

Julia Hansen

Honorable Mention St. Louis Business Journal
The mask-shaped heart is a effective way to illustrate giving during COVID.

SLBJ photo illustration Giving in the Age of

Jacqueline Prins

15.) Best Photo Illustration | Weeklies - Classes 1 and 2

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place Edina Sentinel
Clever use of staging. Skillfully executed. Literally puts a face on the product.

Copacetic Cosmetics

Echo Menges

Second Place Richmond News
Plays to the Of the Earth label. Nice combination of elements to invite the reader in.

Spirit of Ray County

Jack "Miles" Ventimiglia

Third Place Houston Herald
Impressed with the sheer amount of work that went into this piece â finding just the right photos to fit into the letter frames, the cutouts. And faces, lots of faces, everywhere. Betting this page was a hit with the students and parents.

SCA Champs

Amanda York

Honorable Mention Richmond News
Nice use of blue theme throughout; ties it all together nicely. Would have liked a clearer view of the cobalt blue tea â maybe in that bottom cup.

Tea totally

Jack "Miles" Ventimiglia

16.) Best Photo Package | Dailies - Class 1

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place Monett Times
This captured such a sweet moment with so much joy. It illicit an emotion to the reader. Great job.

Cops, Kids

Mike Gervais

Second Place Monett Times
Awesome action shot!

Knights

Mike Gervais

Third Place **Marshall Democrat-News** **Easter egg hunt** **Danielle Linton-Hatfield**
I like how the photo series captured the full space. It gives me a sense as a reader the mapping of the business.

Honorable Mention **Monett Times** **Freedom and fireworks** **Melonie Roberts, Mike Gervais and Brad Stout**
Bright and vibrant!

16.) Best Photo Package | Dailies - Classes 2 and 3

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place **Columbia Missourian** **Maintaining magnificence** **Cory Macneil**
Use of black and white images an effective way to accent the simple life of gardening. Excellent use of blurring and framing of subjects on both A1 and A4.

Second Place **Columbia Missourian** **Dribbling from dusk till dawn** **Megan Matty and CARA PENQUITE**
Nice documentation of an ongoing event. Capturing the yawn of the gate worker sums up the long hours put in by volunteers. Adding the time element to the photo was a nice touch.

Third Place **Columbia Missourian** **'It's a huge day'** **Lily Dozier**
A nice package of images showing the daily routine of a large family and the importance of getting kids vaccinated against COVID-19. Effective use of sunlight on the little girl with the trach tube in the A1 photo. Kid photos are always a winner.

Honorable Mention **News Tribune** **Salute Moments, 7-7-21** **Jason Strickland**
A good job of capturing the sights and sounds of the Salute to America event. Fireworks image has perspective and no smoke!

16.) Best Photo Package | Weeklies - Class 1

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place **Richmond News** **Playoffs photos** **Jack "Miles" Ventimiglia**
Great game action photos. The tight cover photo captures the expressions of players during the play. Images sharp and and exposed well for night football.

Second Place **Cassville Democrat** **Broncos Buck** **Kyle Troutman**
Nice package on the sights and sounds of the rodeo. The photographer captures the cowboy at just the right time in the front page image. Great stop action.

Third Place **Edina Sentinel** **WWII Veteran Funeral/Harr Funeral** **Echo Menges**
A good selection of images from a somber event. Nice A1 design at top of page with the streaming of the gun salute photo.

Honorable Mention **Maries County Advocate** **Scenes from the 75th Maries County Fair** **Jacob Warden**
Two photos stand out in this package: The girl sleeping with her steer and the singing of the National Anthem framed by the American flags. Nice job!

16.) Best Photo Package | Weeklies - Class 2

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place **The Odessan** **Fowl Out** **Kory Hales**
Sharp game action images that are nicely cropped.

Second Place **Salem News** **Beating the Heat - City Pool** **Catherine Wynn**
A nice selection of photos. The shot of the little girl with her head in the fountain is perfectly framed.

Third Place **Gasconade County Republican** **Musical send-off 3-10-21** **Dave Marner**
Photographer accurately sets the scene in this group of photos from the funeral for the band director. Nice touch using the closeup of the sheet music.

Honorable Mention **Houston Herald** **Houston High School Homecoming** **Doug Davison**
A good mix of images that gives the reader a front row seat at the Homecoming parade.

16.) Best Photo Package | Weeklies - Class 3

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place **Washington Missourian** **Holiday Light Parade** **Julia Hansen and Ethan Colbert**
This series of photos captured the sights and sounds of the Christmas parade. Nice composition and exposure on night images.

Second Place **St. Louis Webster - Kirkwood Times**
Nice package depicting Turkey Day football game. All aspects are covered: Game action, fans and band.

Sound The Bell!

Ursula Ruhl

Third Place **Washington Missourian**
Great anchor photo with woman's eyes to the sky and binoculars in hand.

Scanning The Skies: Young Birders Club

Julia Hansen

Honorable Mention **St. Louis Webster - Kirkwood Times**
Cute main photo of dog jumping with ball in its mouth. You can never go wrong with pet photos.

Pooches Enjoying A Pool Party

Ursula Ruhl

17.) Community Service | Dailies - Class 2

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place **Columbia Missourian**
Great job. Wonderful showcase and kudos for getting the job done to have an event in the midst of a pandemic.

Spelling bee- Local sisters; 'Good vibes'

Jacob Mosocvitch and Hannah Barczykowski

Second Place **Columbia Missourian**
Great total coverage with special section dedicated to telling the behind the scenes parts of the event and allowing readers to get up close and personal with the winners.

2021 Progress Awards

Staff

17.) Community Service | Weeklies - Class 1

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place **Richmond News**
Great piece that is one to keep for years to come. Nice way to show involvement in the community and tell their stories. This is something that says community pride and was a service at the same time. Amazing.

Red White and Blue

Second Place **Edina Sentinel**
In a day and age where going to meetings is sometimes difficult for people, especially with the constraints of COVID-19 and time, having a local newspaper go above and beyond to make sure the council meetings are accessible to everyone is a bravo moment. Great job.

Edina City Council - Live Streaming

Echo Menges

Third Place **Cassville Democrat**
Supporting breast cancer awareness is still something we have to make more top of mind. By dedicating a month coverage and kicking back advertising dollars to a local non profit, this newspaper hit the mark.

Cassville BC Community Service

Staff

17.) Community Service | Weeklies - Class 2

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place **Wright County Journal**
Very appealing and easy on the mind to read. Great job!

Baby Diaper Drive 2021

Ron Schott

Second Place **Unterrified Democrat**
Love all the photos. Easy to read layout.

Double Homicide

Neal Johnson

Third Place **The Odessan**
Nice layout but too much info for easy reading.

April 6 Voting Guide

Hannah Spaar and Ruth Ann Hafner

17.) Community Service | Weeklies - Class 3

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place **St. Louis American**
Nicely done program to recognize educators. Good to have an event to honor recipients, as well as media coverage.

Salute to Excellence in Education

Staff

Second Place **St. Louis Business Journal**
Provides a good resource to the community. Knowledge is important when it comes to decision on where/how to contribute.

SLBJ Giving Guide

Staff

Third Place **Branson Tri-Lakes News**
Great event that most any company can host. Critical to step up when blood is scarce. Well done, and it even looked like donors were having fun!

CBCO Collects 37 Donations

Tim Church

18.) Best Editorial Pages | Dailies - Classes 1 and 2

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place **News Tribune**
Includes lots of different voices on its opinion pages.

News Tribune Best Editorial Pages

Staff

Second Place **Columbia Missourian**
Nice clean design. Good local columnists.

Staff

Third Place **Columbia Daily Tribune**
Mother's Day page was the strongest.

Staff

Honorable Mention **Monett Times**

Monett Editorial Pages

Staff

18.) Best Editorial Pages | Weeklies - Class 1

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place **Richmond News**
Nice, clean design. Interesting columns.

Editorial Pages

Jack "Miles" Ventimiglia

Second Place **Cassville Democrat**
Consistent design and features.

Staff

Third Place **Maryville Forum**
Nice variety of voices on the opinion pages.

Best Editorial Pages

18.) Best Editorial Pages | Weeklies - Class 2

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place **Houston Herald**
The historical art and articles grounds this editorial page and provides clarity and continuity. Very well done.

Best Opinion pages

Brad Gentry

Second Place **Gasconade County Republican**
The letters, the editorials from professionals and politicians all enhance this editorial page. The one drawback - ads on the editorial page.

GCR Ed pages

Dave Marner

18.) Best Editorial Pages | Weeklies - Class 3

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place **St. Louis Call Newspapers**

Our Call / Letters to the Editor

Gloria Lloyd, Erin Achenbach, Larry Saylor and Nathan Burrus

Second Place **Jefferson County Leader**

Opinions

Steve Taylor

Third Place **Washington Missourian**

The Missourian Entry

Bill Miller Jr., Trish Miller and Ethan Colbert

19.) Best Sports Pages | Dailies

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place **The Kansas City Star**
Marked by outstanding work, especially "The Big Pitch" item about the ongoing discussion about whether to build a new football stadium. Required deep research and reviews of experiences in other big league. Achieved good reporting that would make any sides of the issue think.

Kansas City Star: Sports Pages

Jeff Rosen, Chris Fickett, Tom Smith, Neil Nakahodo and Chris Ochsner

Second Place **Springfield News-Leader**
With "Special Showdown" featuring five great pictures of athletes in action, this story set the stage for readers to dig into the sports section enthusiastically. The news desk did almost magician's lever work at pasting together an aggressive flow of USA Today, Associated Press and related work to give the reader much of what is required of even larger papers to deliver compelling new during hard times.

Springfield News-Leader Best Sports Pages **Staff**

Third Place **Monett Times**
This paper was helped by fantastic photographs woven throughout its sports section, exemplified by the swimming team focus. The good use of photographer was repeated in the basketball team item. Writer Kyle Trousdale brought in story after story, too chatty at times, that delivered the bacon evertime

Monett Sports Pages

Staff

Honorable Mention **Columbia Missourian**
Good reporting, photography and overuse of math confused people from the start in an effort to look enticing to read. May have cluttered the story at its onset.

Staff

19.) Best Sports Pages | Weeklies - Class 1

First Place **Cassville Democrat**
 Stories were filled with good photography, good quotes and seemed focused.

*Title of Entry, If Applicable***Cassville Sports Pages***Award Winner(s), If Applicable***Staff**

Second Place **Maries County Advocate**
 Will Johnson is a good photographer and writer on a variety of sports topics. He gives his stories a health mix of good quotes, none of them throw away quotes.

Maries County Advocate**Will Johnson**

Third Place **Fulton Sun**
 Dave Skarilta's story did a great job of helping this paper have a good day with his story on KC Chiefs's Henne.

Fulton Sun**Staff****19.) Best Sports Pages | Weeklies - Classes 2 and 3**

First Place **Ste. Genevieve Herald**
 This section simply provides tons of info, including box scores, schedules and glances ahead. The layout is strong overall and the photography is varied. There's also a bonus of having some basic information on pro teams. Little appears to be left uncovered by the sports department.

*Title of Entry, If Applicable***Ste. Genevieve Herald Best Sports Pages***Award Winner(s), If Applicable***Eric Viccaro**

Second Place **Washington Missourian**
 The photography in this section is outstanding. There isn't a sport left uncovered by this sports department. Having a columnist is also a nice touch and adds some variety.

Washington Missourian Sports**Bill Battle and Arron Husted**

Third Place **Gasconade County Republican**
 This section provides loads of big photos, clean design and variety of coverage. In what could not be a more hyper-local element, there are even brackets for youth basketball tournaments. Will Johnson must be a busy, devoted journalist.

Gasconade County Republican**Will Johnson**

Honorable Mention **Warrensburg Star-Journal**

Sports Pages**Staff****20.) Best Sports News Story or Package | Dailies - Class 1**

First Place **Hannibal Courier-Post**
 Nice treatment of a event that clearly had significant meaning for the community with a lengthy game story, column and first-person piece.

*Title of Entry, If Applicable***Hannibal State***Award Winner(s), If Applicable***Mike Thomas, Matthew Kirby and Kim Kirby**

Second Place **Monett Times**
 A well-written game story accompanied by a color piece that were both written by the same author.

Semi Ahead**Kyle Troutman**

Third Place **Daily Journal**
 A nice job finding a unique angle to track and field championships.

Cunningham 5-29-21**Matt King****20.) Best Sports News Story or Package | Dailies - Classes 2 and 3**

First Place **Columbia Daily Tribune**
 A thrilling b-ball story that writer unveiled over course of several pieces.

*Title of Entry, If Applicable***Short-handed...***Award Winner(s), If Applicable***Chris Kwiecinski**

Second Place **Columbia Missourian**
 Writer skillfully presents a national discussion (naming) through lens of their sports beat.

What's in a name?**Owen Krucoff**

Third Place **Springfield News-Leader**
 Writer unravels lawsuit for readers.

Without Hammons Field upgrades soon,**Wyatt D. Wheeler**

Honorable Mention **Columbia Missourian**
 Great local discussions on a big topic of college merch.

Merch madness**Jack Soble****20.) Best Sports News Story or Package | Weeklies - Class 1**

First Place **Maryville Forum**

*Title of Entry, If Applicable***20 - Mac-nificent***Award Winner(s), If Applicable***Jon Dykstra**

Second Place	Clinton County Leader	EBHS State Championship	Brett Adkison and Clint Dye
Third Place	Maryville Forum	20 - Perfect	Jon Dykstra
Honorable Mention	Maryville Forum	20 - Statement Saturday	Jon Dykstra

20.) Best Sports News Story or Package | Weeklies - Class 2

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place **Warrensburg Star-Journal**
The Clawson centerpiece is fantastic, and the writing does a nice job of detailing the genesis of a cross-country/track powerhouse that means so much to those who are a part of it.

Cross Country

Joe Andrews

Second Place **Warrensburg Star-Journal**
Every aspect is detailed in the story of an activities complex that is clearly very meaningful to the community.

Activities Complex

Joe Andrews

Third Place **Courier-Tribune**

Sports News Story-Smithville State

Liam Keating

Honorable Mention **Warrensburg Star-Journal**

Leeton Quarterfinal

Joe Andrews

20.) Best Sports News Story or Package | Weeklies - Class 3

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place **Washington Missourian**
battle Battle! Making history as the sining duo's Sam and Dave or The Righteous Brothers did, Bill Battle and Arron Hustead repeatedly teamed to make the readers winners. Good job of double teaming, even during tugh times

Lady 'Cats Roar

Bill Battle

Second Place **Daily Express & News**
Some stories are like pulling teeth. Others are thrown in the news team's hands with challenge to organize and presents thefts well. The Putnam tea's regrouping put the story in the hands of Austin Mille who did not let players or readers down. starting with the lead, Miller wrote a first class story.

Putnam County baseball comeback

Austin Miller

Third Place **Washington Missourian**

Lady Jays Win State Title

Arron Hustead

Honorable Mention **Washington Missourian**
outstanding photography and writing.

State Track

Bill Battle and Arron Hustead

21.) Best Sports Feature Story | Dailies - Class 1

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place **Daily Journal**
A nice piece on an unassuming athlete.

Doubted Dodd 5-22-21

Matt King

Second Place **Monett Times**
An informative, tightly written story.

Endurance for the win

Kyle Troutman

21.) Best Sports Feature Story | Dalies - Class 2

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place **Columbia Daily Tribune**
Interesting look into the day in the life of the new AD

A day with Desiree Reed-Francois

Eric Blum

Second Place **Southeast Missourian**
Entertaining read about a jumper that had plans for a different sport.

Leap of faith

J.C. Reeves

Third Place Southeast Missourian
Family lineage stories are always good.

Malloy

Ryan Collingwood

21.) Best Sports Feature Story | Dalies - Class 3

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place The Kansas City Star
Gripping story on probably the most important sports topic of this era.

Hannah Erker has a story to tell about

Sam Mellinger

Second Place The Kansas City Star
Terrific story of an athlete overcoming family hurdles.

His family legacy is prison. KC Chiefs'

Sam McDowell

Third Place The Kansas City Star
A well-done examination of the crossover of politics and high-profile athletes.

A story on Chiefs' Patrick Mahomes, a Black

Sam McDowell

21.) Best Sports Feature Story | Weeklies - Class 1

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place Cassville Democrat

4 Kleines a'coachin'

Kyle Troutman

Second Place Edina Sentinel

Bone Transplant

David Sharp

Third Place Cassville Democrat

For Mom

Kyle Troutman

Honorable Mention Cassville Democrat

Make the call

Kyle Troutman

21.) Best Sports Feature Story | Weeklies - Class 2

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place Laclede County Record
Nice profile of a non-traditional athlete

Running

Christy Dieman

Second Place Warrensburg Star-Journal
Well-written and well-researched article on a unique topic

Soap Box Champion

Joe Andrews

Third Place Phelps County Focus
Well-done profile

Hobbs Twins

Dave Roberts

Honorable Mention Warrensburg Star-Journal

Wille's Path

Joe Andrews

21.) Best Sports Feature Story | Weeklies - Class 3

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place Washington Missourian
A well-written family story with an easy, flowing style

Peiricks Make New Haven Athletics Feel like

Laura Miserez

Second Place Washington Missourian
A very well-done profile of a promising athlete

Vaulting Her Way Toward Tokyo

Laura Miserez

Third Place Washington Missourian
A well-crafted piece on family unity

A Family Adventure - Biking Across Missouri

Arron Hustead

Honorable Mention Daily Express & News
A nice profile

Putnam-Pearson feature

Austin Miller

22.) Best Sports Columnist | Dailies - Classes 2 and 3

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place News Tribune **Tom Rackers Sports Columns** Tom Rackers

Second Place News Tribune **Greg Jackson Sports Columns** Greg Jackson

Third Place Columbia Daily Tribune **Tiger Extra** Chris Kwiecinski

Honorable Mention The Kansas City Star **Sam Mellinger, Kansas City Star** Sam Mellinger

22.) Best Sports Columnist | Weeklies

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place Unterrified Democrat **Perspective - Neal Johnson** Neal Johnson

Second Place Cassville Democrat **Cassville Sports Columnist** Kyle Troutman

Third Place Maryville Forum **22 - Best Sports Columnist** Jon Dykstra

Honorable Mention Jefferson County Leader **The County Line** Russell Korando

23.) Best News or Feature Special Section | Dailies - Class 1

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place Sedalia Democrat **Bicentennial Magazine** Sedalia Democrat and Phillips Media Group
This Missouri bicentennial special publication was visually compelling and well-written. The variation of page layouts keeps the reader engaged and avoids monotony. And the wide range of articles do well to celebrate Missouri's past, present and future.

Second Place Sedalia Democrat **20 Under 40** Staff
The team produced a thorough 20 Under 40 publication. The writing was clean and engaging, and the image cutouts created dynamic visuals.

Third Place Sedalia Democrat **Veterans Day** Democrat Staff and Star-Journal Staff
Not only was this a great Veteran's Day issue, but the staff also did a great job of highlighting the psychological challenges that many veterans face -- and the resources available to help them heal. The cover image was nice, albeit simple. But the images throughout helped tell the stories well, and the photos of veterans who have passed was an honorable touch.

Honorable Mention Monett Times **Farm and Ranch** Staff
The farm education article balances nicely with the more brief pieces. I liked the use of bulleted lists and short sections within those other pieces. Strong use of photos/images throughout.

23.) Best News or Feature Special Section | Dailies - Class 2

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place Columbia Missourian **Missouri Tourism** Staff

Second Place Columbia Daily Tribune **Staff**

Third Place	Columbia Missourian	Boomtown	Staff
Honorable Mention	Southeast Missourian	Memorial Day	Southeast Missourian

23.) Best News or Feature Special Section | Weeklies - Class 1

		<i>Title of Entry, If Applicable</i>	<i>Award Winner(s), If Applicable</i>
First Place	Cassville Democrat	Trout Times	Staff
Second Place	Richmond News	9-11	Staff
Third Place	Clinton County Leader	EBHS State Champs	Brett Adkison and Clint Dye
Honorable Mention	Maryville Forum	23 - Fall Sports Preview	Jon Dykstra

23.) Best News or Feature Special Section | Weeklies - Class 2

		<i>Title of Entry, If Applicable</i>	<i>Award Winner(s), If Applicable</i>
First Place	Ozark County Times	2021 The Real Ozarks visitors' guide	Norene Prosocki, Sue Ann Jones, Regina Mozingo, Jessica Dreckman and Jenny Yarger
Second Place	Ozark County Times	2021 Ozark County Cookin'	Jessica Dreckman, Regina Mozingo, Jenny Yarger, Sue Ann Jones and Norene Prosocki
Third Place	Ozark County Times	2021 Hootin an Hollarin festival guide	Norene Prosocki, Sue Ann Jones, Jessica Dreckman, Regina Mozingo and Jenny Yarger
Honorable Mention	The Odessan	2021 OHS Seniors Say Goodbye	Staff

23.) Best News or Feature Special Section | Weeklies - Class 3

		<i>Title of Entry, If Applicable</i>	<i>Award Winner(s), If Applicable</i>
First Place	Washington Missourian This is a nice, different approach to a bridal guide. I like that the staff thought outside the box on this one and strayed from the typical "what to do, where to go" format. The bios are a nice touch and make this a different type of product.	The Bridal Showcase	Staff
Second Place	Washington Missourian When it comes to special sections, the Washington Missourian knows how to do them right and make them interesting. This one had some nice military coverage and personal stories from people in the community, which are sure to spark some interest.	Saluting Our Military	Staff
Third Place	St. Louis Missouri Lawyers Weekly This section had a good, clean layout with a ton of information. Good job!	MOney 2021	Scott Lauck
Honorable Mention	St. Louis Call Newspapers This was a good section with lots of local information that spanned all sports and wasn't just your typical football guide.	32nd Annual Fall Sports Preview	Erin Achenbach, Larry Saylor, Nathan Burrus, Lucas Irizarry and Stephen Glover

24.) Best Investigative Reporting | Dailies

		<i>Title of Entry, If Applicable</i>	<i>Award Winner(s), If Applicable</i>
First Place	The Kansas City Star These stories take a long historical view: Property in the area into which Black families were pushed by racist policies back in the 1950s is now being bought up by investors and speculators from around the country and around the world, threatening the stability, identity, and fabric of the area. The stories also look at some of the local individuals and organizations trying to keep the area livable and affordable for the Black community. The amount of data gathering and analysis and the number of interviews that went into these stories is remarkable.	East Side Land Grab	Eric Adler, Mike Hendricks, Kevin Hardy and Cortlynn Stark

Second Place Columbia Missourian

This story traces the link between loosened gun laws and rising rates of intimate partner violence in Missouri, and presents stories of some of the women who have been shot by their current or former partners. The stories are compelling, as are the data that the staff has gathered and analyzed.

Lost in the fight series**Julia Garlich****Third Place Columbia Missourian**

This story was a fascinating, and somewhat horrifying, look at the arrival of a CAFO, or concentrated animal feeding operation, in Livingston County, just after state lawmakers voted to take away local officials' power to regulate such giant factory farms. Neighbors worry about the effects on their water and on their smaller farms. A powerful and memorable story.

Disappearing Agriculture Regulations**Mallory Daily****Honorable Mention LakeExpo**

This was a troubling story, about a politician who has been often investigated but never charged for his pattern of targeting vulnerable young women, offering them money and legal help (including, apparently, witness tampering) in exchange for sex. He is currently up for re-election as mayor of Lake Ozark. Informative and well crafted.

Lake Ozark Mayor Exposed**Nathan Bechtold and Brent Simpson****24.) Best Investigative Reporting | Weeklies - Class 1***Title of Entry, If Applicable**Award Winner(s), If Applicable***First Place Maryville Forum**

This set of stories was the clear winner. This deep dive into the issues that led to the withdrawal of federal funding for a county senior center was well written, well researched, and very readable. It was hard not to come away with the sense that the center's financial administration was, at best, incompetent, and at worst, criminal.

24 - Senior Center analysis**Geoffrey Woehl****Second Place Richmond News**

A strong set of stories and an editorial around the topic of the money the state owed to its counties for several years, despite the state's announcement each year that it had successfully balanced its budget. The paper broke the story in 2018 that the state in fact owed a total of more than \$2 million to several counties that operated county jails. This year, the state announced that it had finally made the counties whole.

Deadbeat Missouri**Jack "Miles" Ventimiglia****Third Place Maryville Forum**

Fascinating story about censorship and its effect on young people.

24 - R-II postpones musical**Skye Pournazari****24.) Best Investigative Reporting | Weeklies - Class 2***Title of Entry, If Applicable**Award Winner(s), If Applicable***First Place Phelps County Focus**

Centering the story on a murder and, crucially, the young individual who was killed, makes this story human while also conveying the toll of what was going on. The time and energy put into this story sets it apart, especially considering how many people were interviewed for it. This is clearly a case where an unusual, terrible event spurred a journalist to look deeper and found more to report beyond an isolated death. It was also good to publish the facility's response in full, for the sake of fairness. And the summation spins the story forward, explaining the changes that have been implemented and what might still need to be. It's a compelling story, and it ought to encourage change for the better. Breaking out Cates' story as a related sidebar to the main piece only adds to the

Reform at Great Circle**Andrew Sheeley****Second Place Houston Herald**

This investigation was buoyed by the details obtained through public records and persistent interviews as the story developed over several months. The stories clearly outline different but intertwined aspects of the situation through subheads. This situation concerns the integrity of elections and taxes, touching many in the local jurisdiction. Most of the stories in the series conveyed the significance. And the story came to an end with real action, in the form of the scrutinized public official stepping down. This is important work.

Laura Crowley, county clerk**Brad Gentry****Third Place The Odessan**

The stories do a good job conveying the stakes of having the health office position open during the pandemic, explaining the situation well. Getting the letter referenced in the second story was crucial to expanding readers' understanding of what was going on, and it showed solid reporting chops.

County Commission vs. Health Official**Hannah Spaar****Honorable Mention The Odessan**

This is important public accountability journalism about a life-and-death matter. The story makes clear that local reporting of these important health figures was lacking, and any community ought to know about such a lack of transparency. Good on the reporter and organization for not taking the local figures at face value and looking beyond them. It's also commendable that detailed data for specific facilities is included. I do wonder if there was any follow-up on this issue beyond the single story.

Most nursing home staff in county**Hannah Spaar****24.) Best Investigative Reporting | Weeklies - Class 3***Title of Entry, If Applicable**Award Winner(s), If Applicable***First Place Jefferson County Leader**

This is excellent records-powered reporting. Without a Sunshine Law request, this story doesn't get found. And considering the tremendous increase in legal expenses in such a short time, this was a story that the public had an interest in learning about. The story goes into great detail on the records and engages with the sources at play. The subtitled section noting a budget adjustment at the end effectively spins the story forward. This is great work all around.

Skyrocketing fees**Katelyn Mary Skaggs****Second Place Branson Tri-Lakes News**

The allegations made by the whistleblower are to be taken seriously, and that's just what happened in this reporting. It's important that the story explains in the third paragraph how it came upon these allegations; it's perhaps even more important that the whistleblower trusted the newspaper with this story and that the newspaper gave the story its due. Transparency is essential at all levels of government especially the local level, where no one else may do this work. I will note, however, that as a reader I was left wondering for a long time whether the reporter reached out to the accused for comment. I see that the response came just before press time. but some reference to her response ought to have been made earlier in the story. Still, this is strong, important reporting.

Whistleblower**Jason Wert****Third Place Northeast News**

This story shines light on an issue affecting a surprising number of people in the affected area. It quickly and effectively answers the questions of what is a catalytic converter and why do I care? And it shares relevant data that contextualizes the problem.

Catalytic Converter Theft**Abby Hoover****Honorable Mention Washington Missourian**

While these stories can't answer questions about why the mayor decided to resign early, it does a good job of focusing in on whether the former mayor's subsequent appointment was legal. The legal process was borne out and found no wrongdoing, but without this reporting effort the public may not have known that the appointment was scrutinized at all. Scrutiny of public officials doesn't always need to expose wrongdoing to be worthwhile.

Pacific Mayor Resigns**William Skipworth****25.) Best Local Business Coverage | Dailies and Weeklies***Title of Entry, If Applicable**Award Winner(s), If Applicable***First Place The Media**

Great stories told in a way that engages the reader to want to know more. Clean layouts and designs.

KAHOKA MEDIA**Mike Scott**

Second Place **Springfield Business Journal**
Great variety of business stories with solid writing.

Springfield Business Journal

Staff

Third Place **Sedalia Democrat**
Great local stories that are on the pulse of the community. Solid layouts.

Business Coverage

Honorable Mention **Richmond News**
Beautiful colors and bold layouts with solid reporting.

Business Coverage

Jack "Miles" Ventimiglia

26.) Best Business Story | Dailies - Class 1

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place **Daily Journal**

Barber Bone 7-6-21

Mark Marberry

Second Place **Sedalia Democrat**

Kona Ice

Faith Bemiss

Third Place **Sedalia Democrat**

Funky Pot

Skye Melcher

Honorable Mention **Daily Journal**

Thailand

Mark Marberry

26.) Best Business Story | Dailies - Class 2

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place **Southeast Missourian**

Supply chain casualty -- U.S. flags

Rick Fahr

Second Place **LakeExpo**

Lake Of The Ozarks Real Estate Sales

Kate Robbins

Third Place **Joplin Globe**

Eagle-Picher celebrates successful Mars

Kevin McClintock

Honorable Mention **Columbia Missourian**

Main Squeeze

Skylar Laird

26.) Best Business Story | Dailies - Class 3

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place **The Kansas City Star**

Internal workings of a company are difficult to report. This piece did a good job of outlining the problems, thanks to strong on-the-record accounts. Good, comprehensive reporting and writing.

Boulevard leaders knew of sexual

Kevin Hardy, Allison Kite and Steve Vockrodt

Second Place **The Kansas City Star**

This captured the market trends clearly and thoroughly. It had lots of good voices to get various angles.

Kansas City's hot real estate market pricing

Kevin Hardy

Third Place **The Kansas City Star**

A knowledgeable look at the music and entertainment venue scene. It explained well what was happening and why.

With multiple venues closing, does live

David Hudnall, Joseph Hernandez and Allison Dikanovic

26.) Best Business Story | Weeklies - Class 1

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place **Richmond News**

This stood out not just for the story it told, but for the writing that moved the story along. It was informative, in explanation how beekeeping works, and in its light sense of adventure, literally following along with the new owners. A fine example of a narrative that was fun to read and to write. Well done.

Bees

Jack "Miles" Ventimiglia

Second Place **Fredericktown Democrat-News** **One for road** **Victoria Kemper**
A lot of history and sentiment were packed into the story. The photos helped it along, making for a package that was a treat.

Third Place **Maries County Advocate** **Local barber has served Vienna community** **Laura Schiermeier**
Nice weaving together a story about someone with a rich past, waiting to be told.

Honorable Mention **Richmond News** **Spirit of Ray County** **Jack "Miles" Ventimiglia**
A nice feature that puts the reader in the mind of the distiller. Each time this writer takes on a new topic, he learns it well enough to explain it to others, with deft storytelling skill.

26.) Best Business Story | Weeklies - Class 2

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place **Ozark County Times** **Chaney Monument: one of Ozark County's** **Sue Ann Jones**
Excellent story about the family business, and such a terrific job of digging into the business history. Well done!

Second Place **Springfield Business Journal** **Moving Up** **Christine Temple**
Wonderful job of taking a national story and localizing it. The attention to detail is remarkable.

Third Place **Eldon Advertiser** **Making a difference one garment at a time** **Tim Flora**
An excellent look at how everyone loves their job, and the historical sidebar was an incredible touch to the story.

Honorable Mention **Wright County Journal** **Kingdom Builders owner credits true** **Ron Schott**
Really good story. Only thing for improvement would have been digging around why he thinks God called him to this.

26.) Best Business Story | Weeklies - Class 3

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place **St. Louis Business Journal** **SLBJ best business Dilemma at the Dome** **Jacob Kirn**
Great story. Good writing. Nice layouts and supporting sidebars.

Second Place **St. Louis Business Journal** **SLBJ business story Emerson's future** **Nathan Rubbelke**
Solid story that tells all the details. Good leads and information.

Third Place **Branson Tri-Lakes News** **A family legacy continues** **AJ Fahr**
This story hit home. Great photos and history. Solid piece.

Honorable Mention **Branson Tri-Lakes News** **Angler's Lodge now open** **Tim Church**
Great story on a new business with nice photos.

27.) Best Coverage of Government | Dailies

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place **The Kansas City Star** **The Trump Effect: How a new era of** **Jonathan Shorman, Katie Bernard, Jeanne Kuang, Bryan Lowry, Steve Vockrodt and Sarah Ritter**
Interesting group of stories showing the influence of Trump on politicians

Second Place **Missouri Independent** **Vaccine Rollout** **Tessa Weinberg**
In depth coverage of vaccination distribution

Honorable Mention **Columbia Missourian** **City Manager Search series** **Brooke Muckerman**
Nice investigative pieces on city manager controversy

27.) Best Coverage of Government | Weeklies - Class 1

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place **Maryville Forum** **27 - Legally Blonde** **The Maryville Forum**
The coverage was good, and the newspaper took a strong stance with its editorial. It was important to shine a light on the workings of government, including its lack of transparency.

Second Place **Maryville Forum** **27 - Tourism committee**
The coverage was clear and thorough, explaining throughout that no one had raised a specific problem with the current system. The editorial was well reasoned.

Third Place **Maries County Advocate** **Belle mayor, treasurer resign unexpectedly** **Roxie Murphy**
What an odd turn of events. The newspaper did well to pursue the fuller story and to get the perspectives of everyone involved, in detail.

27.) Best Coverage of Government | Weeklies - Class 2

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place **Houston Herald** **County Clerk Laura Crowley** **Brad Gentry**
There is so much going on here, and it looks like the newspaper is on top of all of it. It probably will take a while to recover from all of the dysfunction documented here. Very good coverage.

Second Place **The Odessan** **R-7 faces pandemic 2021-22 school year** **Hannah Spaar**
While an inflamed community bickered, the newspaper was a consistent, steady presence in documenting the conflict and the school system's attempts to move past it. The editorials were an essential voice of reason, cutting through the rhetoric.

Third Place **Courier-Tribune** **Clay County commission** **Amanda Lubinski**
The stories did a good job of laying out what was happening and why.

27.) Best Coverage of Government | Weeklies - Class 3

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place **St. Louis Missouri Lawyers Weekly** **SLOW JUSTICE: Supreme Court Case** **Scott Lauck**
The old saying is: Justice delayed is justice denied. This story documents how the Missouri Supreme Court took over 700 days to deliver an opinion, part of a pattern of many delayed decisions. The photos of the justices showed which were the slow pokes. Story is a bit wonky but an important public issue showing lots of enterprise.

Second Place **St. Louis Business Journal** **SLBJ Dome** **Jacob Kirn**
Lots of leg work went into this story on the legal and policy issues about the Dome that housed the St. Louis Rams.

Third Place **St. Louis American** **STL Mask Mandates** **Staff**
This could have been routine but the paper followed up with editorials.

28.) Best Coverage of Rural Life or Agriculture | Dailies and Weeklies

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place **Washington Missourian** **The Missourian's Entry** **Staff**
Well written articles, nice photos and great layouts and graphics.

Second Place **Missouri Independent** **CAFOs in Missouri** **Allison Kite**
Multiple in-depth stories with a large assortment of sources

Third Place **Richmond News** **Ray County Agriculture** **Jack "Miles" Ventimiglia and Christi Rice**
Wide variety of stories with good art

Honorable Mention **Quincy Herald - Whig** **Farm and Field Spring 2021** **Deborah Gertz Husar and Cody Bozarth**
Nice looking layout

29.) Best Story About Rural Life or Agriculture | Dailies - Class 1

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place **Sedalia Democrat** **Mule Barn** **Skye Melcher**

Second Place **Daily Journal** **Sale barn** **Mark Marberry**

Third Place **Sedalia Democrat** **Bowhunting HOF** **Chris Howell**

29.) Best Story About Rural Life or Agriculture | Dalies - Class 2*Title of Entry, If Applicable**Award Winner(s), If Applicable*

First Place **Columbia Missourian** **Founding Farms are few, far between** **Anna Watson**
 This is a great story that hits home for rural America when it comes to century farms. Great research. Wonderful graphics.

Second Place **Columbia Missourian** **3D printing lets Amish draft horse breathe** **Charlie Drape**
 This is a story that weds technology and farming and a community. Great photos and storytelling.

Third Place **Missouri Independent** **CAFOs in Missouri** **Allison Kite**
 Nice piece. Well written. Strong storytelling.

Honorable Mention **Southeast Missourian** **High on Chaffee** **Jay Wolz**
 Nice in depth piece.

29.) Best Story About Rural Life or Agriculture | Dalies - Class 3*Title of Entry, If Applicable**Award Winner(s), If Applicable*

First Place **The Kansas City Star** **In rural Missouri, poverty, hopelessness** **Kevin Hardy**
 Such a phenomenal story. Much credit has to be given to the reporter for not just diving into the suicide rate and poverty, but also talking about the efforts to reshape the local economy.

Second Place **The Kansas City Star** **Johnson County development invades their** **Sarah Ritter and Kevin Hardy**
 Such a great story that covered the angles really well and truly gave these individuals, who noted they are without a voice to the powers that be, a voice and an opportunity to be heard.

Third Place **The Kansas City Star** **Want to fight climate change? Buy turkeys,** **Katie Moore**
 A very well put together and researched article. I felt there could have been some restructuring of the article early on and some better quote usage towards the first quarter of the story.

29.) Best Story About Rural Life or Agriculture | Weeklies - Class 1*Title of Entry, If Applicable**Award Winner(s), If Applicable*

First Place **Richmond News** **Chicken** **Jack "Miles" Ventimiglia**

Second Place **Richmond News** **Tractors** **Jack "Miles" Ventimiglia**

Third Place **Maryville Forum** **29 - Northwest cheers opening** **Geoffrey Woehlk**

Honorable Mention **Greenfield Vedette** **MFA: No Plans for Lockwood Retail** **James McNary**

29.) Best Story About Rural Life or Agriculture | Weeklies - Class 2*Title of Entry, If Applicable**Award Winner(s), If Applicable*

First Place **Springfield Business Journal** **Farmers' Rights** **Karen Craigo**
 Great story highlighting the issue and how hurtful it can be to farmers. Fantastic use of quotes and insight from farmers.

Second Place **Salem News** **Love Thy Neighbor puts unity in community** **Caleb Brubaker**
 A very heartwarming story about neighbors coming together to lend a hand. Fantastic usage of quotes to help tell the story and done in a complementary way.

Third Place **Springfield Business Journal** **Business on the Vine** **Christine Temple**
 Well done providing an in-depth look at the explosion of wineries. Getting the stats on where most winery visitors hail from was a great addition to the story.

29.) Best Story About Rural Life or Agriculture | Weeklies - Class 3*Title of Entry, If Applicable**Award Winner(s), If Applicable*

First Place **Washington Missourian** **Knoenschields Celebrate Farm's History** **Laura Miserez**
 This is the story of a family and the farm. It doesn't get more rural than this. Excellent story telling.

Second Place **Jefferson County Leader**
Wonderful story. Well written. Great photos. Total package.

Generations of agriculture

Steve Taylor

Third Place **Washington Missourian**
A haven of tomato heaven! Loved this story from start to finish. Great photos and layout too.

Tomato Heaven in New Haven

Aneeta Brown

Honorable Mention **St. Louis Community News**
Great story in a large category. Good reporting.

Farm fresh

Charlotte Beard

30.) Best Story About Religion | Dailies

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place **Springfield News-Leader**
Grabbed my attention right from the start. Emotionally connected me to the area and the story.

Pokin Around: Story of country church is

Steve Pokin

Second Place **The Kansas City Star**
Well-written article about a very difficult topic. Was organized and connected the reader to the individuals involved.

In Netflix doc 'Procession,' KC men recreate

Judy L. Thomas

Third Place **Sedalia Democrat**
This was a perfect tribute to someone who dedicated their life to their religious calling. The thoughts were organized and held the readers interest.

Downing Retires

Faith Bemiss

Honorable Mention **Southeast Missourian**
Powerful story delivered very well.

Fighting the good fight of faith

Monica Obradovic

30.) Best Story About Religion | Weeklies - Class 1

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place **Richmond News**
The article offered an informative and contextualized look at this issue. Getting the quotes from people who spoke at the meeting, including the history and offering information about people who hadn't been suggested for such an honor served readers well.

Whitmer's bust

Jack "Miles" Ventimiglia

Second Place **South Cass Tribune**
This article helped readers see beyond what town leaders have said about this location and, importantly, amplified what seems to be a minority view on the location and the people living there.

Pastor hopes helping hands end blight

Lucas Lord

Third Place **Maryville Forum**
The bits from the historical documents and the archive photos really gave readers something meaty to consider in what could otherwise have been an ordinary anniversary celebration announcement.

Cheering 151 years

Skye Pournazari

Honorable Mention **Richmond News**
The photos and inclusion of many names in this package really gave readers a sense of place, which is an especially important goal for any local newspaper.

Faith with works

Jack "Miles" Ventimiglia

30.) Best Story About Religion | Weeklies - Class 2

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place **Springfield Business Journal**
Well reported. Helped readers understand the impact of not having a cemetery dedicated to one's religion in the community.

Mosque draws Muslim professionals

Karen Craigo

Second Place **Laclede County Record**
Very nice meet-cute about two Christians whose connection grew into love.

You can't argue

Laura Valenti

Third Place **Wright County Journal**
Good story. Needed better editing, because there are some mistakes.
One glaring omission: The story never explained what the mission or activities of MMM are. It mentions that 14 men live in a house, but what is that for?

Mountain Moving Ministry blessing

Ron Schott

30.) Best Story About Religion | Weeklies - Class 3

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place **St. Louis Business Journal**
Impressive undertaking, impressive writing which has covered many questions and decisions for the public and those with addictions. Great job. Refreshing layout.

SLBJ religion Jubilee

James Drew

Second Place **Washington Missourian** **Keyed For The Soul** **Reid Glenn**
Very informative. It makes me wonder more about pipe organs, their sounds, history, and I'm sure I'll look them up. Nice references to the Bible and first organ played.

Third Place **Northeast News** **St. Anthony completes restoration in** **Abby Hoover**
Very well done, documented, and flowed beautifully. I would love to have seen a photo of the painted ceiling though.

Honorable Mention **Washington Missourian** **Upon This Rock** **Laura Miserez**
Nicely weaved story...neat facts about membership throughout history!

31.) Best Story About Education | Dailies - Class 1

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place **Daily Journal** **Autism 6-15-21** **Kevin Jenkins**
The writer set the stage with the problem the community needed to solve and took the reader through what it took to reach a solution and gave us a look at the impact of implementation.

Second Place **Marshall Democrat-News** **Governor visits schools** **Danielle Linton-Hatfield and Sarah Gray**
This might have been a routine story in other hands. This writer not only captured a sense of the Governor's visit, but a sense of the Governor himself. Though and a good read.

Third Place **Hannibal Courier-Post** **Melissa Long recognized as 2021** **Trevor McDonald**
This writer not only told us why a teacher deserved an honor, but showed us with examples how the teacher continues to affect students so positively.

31.) Best Story About Education | Dailies - Classes 2 and 3

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place **The Kansas City Star** **Kansas City area disabled student sexually** **Sarah Ritter**
Remarkable series that covered the story in every imaginable way, What a superb job that makes for a great read.

Second Place **The Kansas City Star** **'Never seen this kind of money': Big** **Kevin Hardy and Sarah Ritter**
Follow the money has always been the mantra for journalists. This tale of big money, where it came from and why took a lot of effort and delivered.

Third Place **News Tribune** **Preschool students DIVE into differences** **Anna Campbell**
A lot is written about educational losses during the pandemic but this story looked at social skills that needed remediation. Good job.

Honorable Mention **Columbia Daily Tribune** **Male student is crowned Homecoming** **Roger McKinney**
A quirky and heartwarming standout well told that featured a wonderful story of acceptance.

31.) Best Story About Education | Weeklies - Class 1

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place **Richmond News** **Eat a dog** **Jack "Miles" Ventimiglia**
This writer blew me away. He can handle anything and this story of racism affecting an Asian student was simply magnificent. Comprehensive and compelling.

Second Place **Richmond News** **Freedom means** **Jack "Miles" Ventimiglia**
Solid story of freedom of differing views that benefitted from breaking out varying points of view in a way that made them quickly accessible. Great job.

Third Place **Maryville Forum** **31 - R-II musical rescheduled** **Skye Pournazari**
Terrific job in retelling those who want to censor a play in many markets would be considered benign, but in this community parents force its postponement.

Honorable Mention **Maryville Forum** **31 - Albrecht presses Hegeman** **Geoffrey Woehlk**
Public versus private education is a controversial issue in many areas. This writer captured the issues and wrote a story that deserves recognition.

31.) Best Story About Education | Weeklies - Class 2

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place **Unterrified Democrat** **Mock crash at Chamois R-1 serves as a** **Neal Johnson**
This story blew me away. It not only captured the logistics but embraced the emotional experience of students, staff and parents. Simply great.

Second Place **Laclede County Record**
Great lead, excellent writing and use of graphics made this stand out. This is a talented writer.

An Ideal Dog's Life

Christy Dieman

Third Place **Laclede County Record**
In less skilled hands, this might have been a routine story, but the writer beautifully represented a story about art with the culture, providing a richness to the story. Nicely done.

Art for Thought

Christy Dieman

Honorable Mention **Laclede County Record**
This writer zeroed in nicely on the story giving the reader a sense of the personality of the officer and what her efforts meant to be able to provide safety and security to students and staff. Good job.

Making a difference

Steve Smith

31.) Best Story About Education | Weeklies - Class 3

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place **St. Louis Webster - Kirkwood Times**
Writer found an interesting topic and delivered the story well. Held my interest and made me want to learn more.

Education That Makes You Dance

Melissa Wilkinson

Second Place **St. Louis Community News**
There was a lot of information to share. The writer delivered it in an insightful and interesting manner

Breaking down barriers

Charlotte Beard

Third Place **Branson Tri-Lakes News**
This was not only a feel-good article - it grabbed the reader emotional and made you feel inspired to do better. Nicely written

Custodian brightens students daily routines **AJ Fahr**

Honorable Mention **Jefferson County Leader**
Inspiring story. The author caught the humor and sibling rivalry well.

Songbirds

Tony Krausz

32.) Best Story About the Outdoors | Dailies - Classes 1 and 2

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place **Columbia Missourian**
I've been at the outdoors writing biz for nearly 40 years (the horror) and I can't remember a story in which the angle was completely new to me. Not that I'd never heard of the concept, but in this case, someone set out to write about the way outdoor recreation seems to be unintentionally segregated. On top of that, you wrote about it without giving me a case of the CRT vapors, for heaven's sake! Nice work.

Hiking while Black

Emma Veidt

Second Place **Columbia Missourian**
The paths we take to our place in the outdoors. An unlikely, but compelling story, well told.

Paothong: A nature photographer's journey **Regan Mertz**

Third Place **Joplin Globe**
Too often we take the angles of advocates at face value. Thanks for digging deeper. Next time hammer that point in your lede, and don't let them off the hook in your lede folo.

Study at behest of landowners concludes **Andy Ostmeyer and Kevin McClintock**

Honorable Mention **Joplin Globe**
This is a great story. If you're invested in the outdoors and the complexity of habitat, you get it. If they are not, you need to bang them over the head a little harder next time.

Reintroduction of burying beetles continues **Kevin McClintock**

32.) Best Story About the Outdoors | Weeklies - Class 1

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place **Cassville Democrat**
Detailed how-to on filling a creel of trout when the season opens.

2021 Trout Season

Kyle Troutman

Second Place **Richmond News**
Interesting story on remarkable buck, though the photo depicts an unusual wound I wanted explained. Nice 16 pointer for a 12 year old.

Prize buck

Jack "Miles" Ventimiglia

Third Place **The Media**
Probably natural causes in this case, but the story spells out the serious federal penalties when eagles are illegally killed.

Eagles Found Dead In Northeast Missouri **Mike Scott**

32.) Best Story About the Outdoors | Weeklies - Class 2

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place **Unterrified Democrat**
Record black carp caught, which in itself is a great topic. Carp are a trendy fish these days. But we also get a tip: use chicken marinated in strawberry jello for bait as it mimics the native mollusks black carp feed on. Those mollusks are endangered, by the way. The opening of this story is packed with important detail.

Record black carp caught at Bonnots Mill **Neal Johnson**

Second Place **Unterrified Democrat** **Gabelsberger tops Denali in a great** **Neal Johnson**
Enjoyable feature recounting one of the toughest challenges in the outdoors: climbing Denali, the tallest mountain in North America and possibly the most dangerous.

Third Place **Ozark County Times** **Gainesville man kills Missouri elk with bow** **Jessica Dreckman**
One of the greatest wildlife restoration efforts in world history, as elk are returned across the species' former range. The return of hunting is a sign Missouri's elk restoration project is well on it's way.

32.) Best Story About the Outdoors | Weeklies - Class 3

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place **Washington Missourian** **A Walk On The Wild Side** **Arron Husted**
Bears and armadillos on the rise. Thorough look at increasing populations of bears due to conservation efforts, and armadillos because they can handle the cold better than biologists realized.

Second Place **St. Louis Webster - Kirkwood Times** **Three Spring Farms** **Melissa Wilkinson**
Inspired by a The Omnivore's Dilemma, a doctor heads back to the land to start a sustainable farm.

Third Place **Northeast News** **Young PH resident requests park** **Abby Hoover**
Eleven-year-old Jack Murphy goes to work seeking grant money to improve neighborhood park.

33.) Best Story About History | Dailies - Class 1

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place **Marshall Democrat-News** **Influence of Santa Fe Trail** **Danielle Linton-Hatfield**
A lot of really good info here. Could've used a quote from someone else, such as one of the attendees of the presentation who asked a question, for example.

Second Place **Sedalia Democrat** **Santa Fe Trail** **Faith Bemiss**
Photos really add to this story.

Honorable Mention **Sedalia Democrat** **Polio Outbreak** **Faith Bemiss**

33.) Best Story About History | Dailies - Class 2

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place **Missouri Independent** **Deskin's gum dispenser: 1913 ruling seen as** **Rudi Keller**
Good reporting and insight into a tiny act that swayed the course of the state.

Second Place **Independence Examiner** **"Iron Curtain 75th anniversary"** **Mike Genet**
Great writing on the story behind a global political statement

Third Place **Columbia Missourian** **Fanning a dying flame** **Janae McKenzie**
Interesting features on the faces of an ancient craft.

33.) Best Story About History | Weeklies - Class 1

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place **Lexington News** **Lessons Learned From Spanish Flu** **Joe Parmon**
This story hit all the right notes. It had historical context, it had interesting quotes, it had a unique angle looking at the 1918 flu through the prism of a historic institution and it was well-written. Nice job!

Second Place **Maryville Forum** **33 - Longtime law office** **Skye Pournazari**
The lively quotes and the numerous personal histories woven with the firm's history made this article a solid entry but what put it over the top was the candid sense of place. I feel like I would recognize this firm's neighborhood just from this article. Well done!

Third Place **Clinton County Leader** **Born on the Fourth** **Brett Adkison**
Talk about a life lived! The writer here does a terrific job merging the resident's memories with the relevant historical details. The readers were well-served.

Honorable Mention **South Cass Tribune** **Klings have been carving memorials for** **Lucas Lord**
This is one of those pieces that I love to see: when the story about the memorials for the upcoming holiday prompts the reporter to dig into who created those memorials and then you get this wonderful history of a local business.

33.) Best Story About History | Weeklies - Class 2

		<i>Title of Entry, If Applicable</i>	<i>Award Winner(s), If Applicable</i>
First Place In-depth research on the history of this place and space. Well done!	Unterrified Democrat	From log structure to ornate church,	Neal Johnson
Second Place Fascinating!	Phelps County Focus	Rolla by Rotoscope	Andrew Sheeley
Third Place Great feature on a person who made a tremendous health and social impact on hundreds of lives.	Ozark County Times	Remembering Dr. Hoerman: Siblings' gift to	Sue Ann Jones
Honorable Mention Lots of noteworthy content. Interesting read.	Houston Herald	Digging up the past	Doug Davison

33.) Best Story About History | Weeklies - Class 3

		<i>Title of Entry, If Applicable</i>	<i>Award Winner(s), If Applicable</i>
First Place Interesting feature on an 'unsung' heroine in music history.	Washington Missourian	Leona's Lasting Legacy	Laura Miserez
Second Place Good exploration into the conflicts between local government, cost, and importance of historic preservation.	St. Louis Call Newspapers	Historic preservation returns as buildings	Gloria Lloyd
Third Place It's so important to shed light on these moments in history to connect us to our present. Timely.	St. Louis American	1917 ESL race massacre parallels Tulsa	James Ingram
Honorable Mention Blend of old nostalgia with a fresh twist. Good to see the craftsmanship that goes into these restoration projects.	Washington Missourian	The Heart Of The Park	Laura Miserez

34.) Best Military Story | Dailies - Class 1

		<i>Title of Entry, If Applicable</i>	<i>Award Winner(s), If Applicable</i>
First Place Amazing story.	Sedalia Democrat	Full Circle	Faith Bemiss
Second Place Good story but not sure why you used "Sgt. Major" to refer to him instead of Woods. The comments helped shed some light on the appealing nature of the man despite his gruff exterior.	Sedalia Democrat	Dedicated to Battalion	Bob Satnan
Third Place Good story, but wish you had used better photos, including possibly one made from the video.	Daily Journal	Viral video	Sarah Haas

34.) Best Military Story | Dalies - Class 2

		<i>Title of Entry, If Applicable</i>	<i>Award Winner(s), If Applicable</i>
First Place Good personal accounts on how military service helps organize and inspire life for these veterans. EXCEPTIONAL narratives captured in very good writing.	Southeast Missourian	From the military to the classroom	Rick Fahr
Second Place An engaging story that provides insight to a remote, but effective, World War II unit in Europe. The writer brings the historical significance to readers through the exploits of the men who served. Nice crafting of an enlightening military story.	Springfield News-Leader	Pokin Around: The Ghost Army that used	Steve Pokin
Third Place A well-written account of a son responding to 9/11 event and serving in military action in Afghanistan. His service commitment is reflected in his parents' response to his death in action. The story focuses on the son's dedication to the military principle, protect and defend, as well as remaining at his station to support and rescue his service brothers.	Joplin Globe	Philip Svitaks	Kevin McClintock
Honorable Mention The story appears to be a plea for financial support to help rescue refugees from Afghanistan as the US pulls out its troops. That impression evolves into a more substantial account of how and why a group of local veterans are anxious to help those left behind. The commitment appears focused in the narrative. Good sourcing. Generally well-written, but needed an editing eye to deal with grammatical hiccups.	Springfield News-Leader	Springfield veteran works to save	Andrew Sullender

34.) Best Military Story | Weeklies - Class 1*Title of Entry, If Applicable**Award Winner(s), If Applicable*

First Place **Richmond News** **Bridge naming** **Jack "Miles" Ventimiglia**
 A great reflective story merging the events of 80 decades past with the lives of family members today. Excellent writing/reporting! Reflective memorials are abundant during annual celebrations, but few make such detailed connections to the past with present day lives as this story accomplishes.

Second Place **Greenfield Vedette** **'A Date Which Will Live in Infamy' & #8211;** **James McNary**
 Exceptional narrative of events 80 years distant reflected in this personalized story. Pearl Harbor Day (Dec. 7, 1941) is a day that will live in infamy, as U.S. President Franklin D. Roosevelt declared when Japanese warriors launched their attack on the Naval Base. It's the writing and resourcing that connects this story to the newspaper's community. This story gave this reader the historic connection it deserves, personified!

Third Place **Maryville Forum** **34 - Honoring their sacrifice** **Geoffrey Woehlk**
 Good focus, very good writing/reporting, and appealing graphics.

Honorable Mention **Richmond News** **Quilts of Valor** **Jack "Miles" Ventimiglia**
 Excellent writing/reporting on a project that epitomizes the connections between civilian recognition of military service!

34.) Best Military Story | Weeklies - Class 2*Title of Entry, If Applicable**Award Winner(s), If Applicable*

First Place **Laclede County Record** **Reflections** **Christy Dieman**
 Nicely written, with clear focus on featured character. Good graphics! This reporter exemplifies our professional standards!

Second Place **Ozark County Times** **Sometimes the heroes' graves we honor on** **Sue Ann Jones**
 A narrative tribute to families whose members served in the military, and in this story, never returned home. Headstones memorialize their service; their remains remain in distant lands. Good writing/reporting.

Third Place **Laclede County Record** **Forgotten legacy** **Fines Massey**
 This story materializes as details are uncovered in accounts long lost. How the local pastor served his country as a teenager in World War II wasn't revealed until after his death makes fascinating reading. Even the horrors of prison camps are revealed, graphically, in this narrative. Copy editing before publication would have helped.

Honorable Mention **Laclede County Record** **Adrenaline Junkie** **Laura Valenti**
 A good general single-person feature story, in need of a good copy editor. The story line is clear and focused. Nice writing. Good graphics!

34.) Best Military Story | Weeklies - Class 3*Title of Entry, If Applicable**Award Winner(s), If Applicable*

First Place **Washington Missourian** **Carol Eckelkamp Finds Ways To Remember** **Laura Miserez**
 What a touching, heartfelt story illustrating one woman's experience, growing up, not knowing her father because he died before she was born.

Second Place **Daily Express & News** **Kirkville hosts first Missouri National** **Austin Miller**
 You always hear about the "major" branches of the service, so those who serve in the National Guard don't usually get recognized. Great job in changing that narrative.

Third Place **St. Louis American** **Service til glory** **Sylvester Brown, Jr.**
 This was a great story about what it was like for one man who was "forced" into service.

Honorable Mention **Washington Missourian** **Cousins Fought Together In Vietnam** **Geoff Folsom**

35.) Best Page Design | Dailies - Classes 1 and 2*Title of Entry, If Applicable**Award Winner(s), If Applicable*

First Place **Joplin Globe** **It's time for some football** **Trey Vaughan**
 The reason I scored this the way I did was because it is SO loud and in your face, screaming "Football!!!!!!". Bonus points for the brilliant ad placement at the bottom of the page. Perfect audience for that ad. FANTASTIC job.

Second Place **Joplin Globe** **100th Anniversary of Tulsa Race Massacre** **Nathan Mills**
 Historic look-backs can be difficult to design because of the quality of creative at your disposal. I think they did a great job bringing some "4k" so to speak to the design itself.

Third Place **Columbia Missourian** **A drawn out year** **Staff**
 I love the messaging behind this page. The photos and headlines itself tells the story of how COVID-19's effected the youth through their eyes and minds.

Honorable Mention Columbia Daily Tribune

This is a great design that if a younger child saw, they'd be curious to understand what the photo is about. Great way to introduce news media to a younger audience in a wholesome way.

Kids**Natalie Anderson****35.) Best Page Design | Weeklies - Class 1***Title of Entry, If Applicable**Award Winner(s), If Applicable***First Place****Richmond News**

What an awesome design! The look itself takes you back in time. Awesome, awesome design.

Pearl Harbor**Jack "Miles" Ventimiglia****Second Place****Richmond News**

What really struck me what the artistic messaging of the lone helmet laying on the field. It speaks to the "It's Over" messaging well. It shows using the right photo can really make the overall page more compelling.

All over**Jack "Miles" Ventimiglia****Third Place****Richmond News**

Bright, vibrant, catches happy emotion. Mass appeal.

Easter Egg Hunt**Jack "Miles" Ventimiglia****Honorable Mention****Maryville Forum**

I like how the front page design color choices mirror the brand colors within the photo uniforms, etc. Also great use of advertising space at the bottom of the page.

35 - Get Wright Game**Jon Dykstra and Skye Pournazari****35.) Best Page Design | Weeklies - Class 2***Title of Entry, If Applicable**Award Winner(s), If Applicable***First Place****Springfield Business Journal****Made in the Ozarks****Heather Mosley, McKenzie Robinson and Christine Temple****Second Place****Springfield Business Journal****3 New Menus on the Block****Heather Mosley, McKenzie Robinson and Christine Temple****Third Place****Laclede County Record****Demolition****Daniel Foust****Honorable Mention****Springfield Business Journal****Tech Training****Cynthia Reeves and McKenzie Robinson****35.) Best Page Design | Weeklies - Class 3***Title of Entry, If Applicable**Award Winner(s), If Applicable***First Place****Washington Missourian**

I appreciate this design because it visually tells a story of important hyper-local happenings within a community. Sometimes the more local the story, the harder to make the design visually compelling. The designer did a really great job here.

Lenten Fish Fry Previews**Lori Obermark****Second Place****Washington Missourian**

There's lots of July 4th fireworks designs, but this one stands out with the flag at the top, and the audience reactions vs. lots of photos of the fireworks blooming in the sky.

Fourth of July Photos**Sarah Moore****Third Place****St. Louis American**

Just a great, clean design with awesome visuals.

Living It: Jazz St. Louis**Melvin Moore****Honorable Mention****St. Louis Missouri Lawyers Weekly**

Great infographic that ties easily in to the headline.

WAITING for JUDGMENT**Ryan O'Shea****36.) Best Information Graphic | Dalies - Class 2***Title of Entry, If Applicable**Award Winner(s), If Applicable***First Place****Columbia Missourian****Mayors Pledge to help the monarchs****Regan Mertz****Second Place****Columbia Missourian****How the vaccine really works****CONNOR GIFFIN**

Third Place **Columbia Missourian** **Safer than Smoking?** **Danielle DuClos**

Honorable Mention **Columbia Missourian** **Out of the raging fire** **Khue Nguyen**

36.) Best Information Graphic | Weeklies - Class 1

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place **Richmond News** **Census 2020** **Jack "Miles" Ventimiglia**

Second Place **Richmond News** **COVID deaths** **Jack "Miles" Ventimiglia**

Third Place **Maryville Forum** **COVID-19 data** **Skye Pournazari**

Honorable Mention **Maryville Forum** **36 - Census** **Skye Pournazari**

36.) Best Information Graphic | Weeklies - Class 2

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place **Springfield Business Journal**

Women's Workforce Participation

Heather Mosley and Karen Craigo

This one flows well. I really like how there was use of visuals (i.e. people walking in a single direction in mass) to further illustrate the "Mass Exodus" portion of the information. For me, that is next level compared to all others submitted. I was actually shocked on how much more the story was told. Great design!

Second Place **Springfield Business Journal**

Funding Dreams

Heather Mosley

I like how they devoted a spread to this. The man holding the balloon floating over to the infographic itself brings attention to the infographic. There's a great flow to this how piece.

Third Place **Houston Herald**

Timeline of stabbing

Brad Gentry

How the timeline was displayed was easily digestible, especially the nuances in times within the timeline as a whole.

Honorable Mention **Springfield Business Journal**

COVID-19 Look Back

Amanda Miller

I like the design of the darker background to make the information within the graphic stand out. Good placement of each informational piece to put a lot of information in a space without looking or feeling congested.

36.) Best Information Graphic | Weeklies - Class 3

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place **Washington Missourian** **Vaccination Rates** **Lori Obermark**

Second Place **Washington Missourian** **The Business of Christmas** **Reid Glenn and Lori Obermark**

Third Place **Washington Missourian** **Remembering This Eventful Year Timeline** **Ethan Colbert, Laura Miserez, Julia Hansen and Sarah Moore**

Honorable Mention **Washington Missourian** **Holy Micro-Matrimony** **Lori Obermark**

37.) Best Editorial Cartoon | Dalies - Class 2

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place **Columbia Missourian**

FrankenHawley

John Darkow

John Darkow must have been laughing as he drew Sen. Josh Hawley as "FrankenHawley", after Hawley downplayed the Capitol riots, claiming the public was reacting to "voter fraud.". A major benefactor, "Dr. Danforth," was quick to criticize Hawley's action.

Second Place **Columbia Missourian** **Wally Funk- Stephens College** **John Darkow**
John Darkow produced another good one with his illustration of a Jeff Bezos spacecraft going briefly aloft with long time pilot Wally Funk aboard.

Third Place **News Tribune** **News Tribune Best Editorial Cartoon** **Jim Dyke**
Jim Dyke of the Jefferson City News Tribune noted that the Governor's mansion was now 150 years old, and that Republicans and Democrats didn't always get along there.

37.) Best Editorial Cartoon | Weeklies

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place **Jefferson County Leader** **It's a brave new world** **Cody Taylor**
This skillfully-drawn cartoon highlights how the ordinary became the extraordinary as the nation took its first tentative steps toward "normalcy" following pandemic-related restrictions.

Second Place **Northeast News** **Fruit Loops** **Bryan Stalder**
This cartoon, for the most part, effectively draws attention to inconsistencies in pandemic-related guidance from government officials and others. Some frames fall a bit flat.

Third Place **Richmond News** **Something extra for teachers** **Jack "Miles" Ventimiglia**
The idea behind this cartoon is strong and the use of the "COVID-19 apple" is clever. The overall artwork, however, could have been stronger.

Honorable Mention **Jefferson County Leader** **Modern day pandora** **Cody Taylor**
Although the "Pandora's Box" theme can sometimes be overused, this cartoon is nicely presented and complements the accompanying commentary well.

38.) Best Newspaper In Education Project | Dailies and Weeklies

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place **Eldon Advertiser** **Veterans Day Project** **Tammy Witherspoon**
LOVED photos and brief story. Easy to read!

Second Place **St. Louis American** **St. Louis American NIE** **Cathy Sewell**
Red ink hard on the eyes. Pictures great.

Third Place **Joplin Globe** **All-Area Academic Excellence Team** **Staff**
Could have done better with topic.

39.) Best Online Newspaper or Website | Dailies - Class 1

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place **Sedalia Democrat** **Democrat website** **Staff**

Second Place **Hannibal Courier-Post** **hannibal.net** **Staff**

Third Place **Monett Times** **Monett Best Website** **Staff**

39.) Best Online Newspaper or Website | Dailies - Classes 2 and 3

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place **Southeast Missourian**

Second Place **Springfield News-Leader** **News-Leader.com** **Staff**

Third Place **Joplin Globe** **Joplinglobe.com** **Staff**

39.) Best Online Newspaper or Website | Weeklies - Class 1

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place **Cassville Democrat**
 Clean design! Love the uncluttered look.
 Would like to see the masthead - and the awesome tagline larger.
 Easy to navigate. except when accessed through the site map - some issues there.

Second Place **Maryville Forum**
 Personally, I don't like the gray on the sides. I think it's a sensory thing.
 Organized. Clean design.
 Especially like the event calendar and the about town section.

Third Place **The Media**
 Like the setup, especially like the headline only on sports, news and obit on the main page.
 Advertising section is a great idea.
 Nice community calendar.

Honorable Mention **Edina Sentinel**
 The side rail feels cluttered.
 Good layout on homepage. Clean design.
 Nice touch to add the crossword puzzle.

Cassville Best Website **Staff**

39 - maryvilleforum.com **Ken Garner**

kahokamedia.com **Mike Scott, Elsa Scott and Sue Scott**

Echo Menges, Mike Scott, Elsa Besler and Emilie Rumble

39.) Best Online Newspaper or Website | Weeklies - Class 2

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place **Phelps County Focus**
 This website uses its space wisely and uses color to break up content. Makes viewing and reading the website easy and user-friendly.

Second Place **Springfield Business Journal**
 Website is formatted nicely and I like the way content is sorted and displayed.

Third Place **Warrensburg Star-Journal**

Honorable Mention **Houston Herald**

phelpscountyfocus.com **Staff**

Springfield Business Journal

Website **Staff**

Website - Houston Herald (houstonherald. **Isaiah Buse, Brad Gentry and Doug Davison**

39.) Best Online Newspaper or Website | Weeklies - Class 3

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place **St. Louis American**
 Very impressed with the extensive depth and breadth of this website, which is an outstanding example of Black/African-American journalism that shines through important hyper-local coverage of issues critical to this community. The local news drop down menu with the Black History feature was very cool; and the jam-packed opinion section featured a range of diverse opinions and Black voices expressing their views. The four-story carousel had a nice mix of news, with people piece, sports and important diversity and equity articles. Then you slide down a tad bit to get a dedicated COVID-19 section - critical to the Black community across the nation which has been ravaged by the pandemic at higher rates than other racial populations. That is important news that directly helps readers. and it is not

Second Place **Washington Missourian**
 This is a unique news website in that it has no carousel, but instead a color-coded top three news articles that catch readers' eyes. Then you get five featured stories in a mix-box with a nice, diverse mix of topic (hard news, sports galleries and a calendar item. Third segment is a robust local news section complete with 12 stories - all of which are timely, yet of different content areas. Several stories are of community/gov't accountability (homeless man tased one example) which is great to see. Scroll down more and you get three powerful, reader-friendly set of galleries - news, sports and look back in time history images. Good diversity, there, too. Local news gets its attention, too, with people category and weddings, births, etc... the national news is where it should be on a local site - wavy at the bottom.

Third Place **Branson Tri-Lakes News**
 The site is a TownNews/Blox franchise, but this paper has gone the extra step most TN/Blox customers don't - by tweaking fonts and type sizes into different look than most papers. I liked the carousel, which had stories relating to a fire station, local business scene, and mental health. The national news was too high up on webpage for me, though. As expected for Branson, the entertainment was important with good coverage - but place it higher than canned, wire copy from other regions of USA. High marks for the multi-media section and a raft of specialtv publication links for visitors. Overall, nicely done site. Thank you.

Honorable Mention **Jefferson County Leader**
 The site is interesting as there was a nice selection of local news with impact articles at the top, but there is no carousel - a near universal feature of smaller newspaper websites. I was a bit confused by such massive photos and high placement of the obituaries - while a money maker, no doubt, they were too high on page IMO. Email newsletter sign up box was placed well; as was the back issues of e-edition. Nice personalized touches with the my yummy food section, the pet section and the local trivia dude section. Overall, a very nice product. Thank you.

Stlamerican.com **Dawn Suggs, James LeBine, Isaiah Peters and Jennifer Sarti**

The Missourian Entry **Staff**

Tim Church

My Leader Paper **Kim Robertson and Leader Staff**

40.) Best Video | Dalies - Class 2

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place **Missouri Independent**
 Wonderful story telling. Even though I knew the outcome of the closing of the clinic, it kept my interest throughout the video.

Second Place **Columbia Missourian**
 Great video. Really nice story telling. I would like to have seen more of the history.

Free health clinic in southern Missouri **Rebecca Rivas**

Inside Booche's **Irynka Hromotska (Kohut)**

Third Place **Springfield News-Leader** **'I want justice for my father': An** **Nathan Papes, Steve Pokin and Bruce Stidham**
Good story telling. Even though this event happen many years ago. Your research the images and footage made it relevance to today.

Honorable Mention **Columbia Missourian** **Demolition derby teams build family bonds** **JACOB LUEBBERT, SARA WILLIAMS and MINH CONNORS**

40.) Best Video | Dalies - Class 3

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place **The Kansas City Star** **Realistic miniature model house with** **Jill Toyoshiba**
Wonderful story telling. Your wide shots and close up shots were fantastic. The subject narration throughout the piece kept my interest.

Second Place **The Kansas City Star** **This Kansas City hair salon brings back joy** **Shelly Yang**
Great story telling of the impact of the pandemic on businesses and lives.

Third Place **The Kansas City Star** **Personal trainer hopes to empower women** **Tammy Ljungblad**
I loved the story. The only reason it didn't win was because of the video showed you in the scene videotaping. You could have placed it on a tripod and stepped out of the shot.

Honorable Mention **The Kansas City Star** **Real Life Rosies See B-25 Bomber They Built** **Jill Toyoshiba**

40.) Best Video | Weeklies - Class 2

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place **Wright County Journal** **Live reporting from fire on the square** **Ron Schott**
Narration helps viewers understand what is going on, setting this apart from all the other entries. Could be improved by rotating camera horizontally.

Second Place **Laclede County Record** **Game winning field goal** **Alex Boyer**
This brief clip captured the critical moment, saving viewers time. Could be improved with some narration or perhaps on-screen graphics.

Third Place **Laclede County Record** **End of Watch Broadcast** **Chris Roden**
The value in this clip is its documentation of the end of watch radio call. Could be improved by rotating camera 90 degrees and also with on-screen graphics to provide context about the law enforcement officer's life and death and the tradition of these calls.

40.) Best Video | Weeklies - Class 3

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place **St. Louis American** **Lifetime Achiever in Health Care Award - R.** **James LeBine and Kate Daniel**
Nice variety of well-composed shots, especially the soft background on the interview subject makes this entry stand out. Helps viewers know why he is an achiever.

Second Place **St. Louis American** **Tishaura O Jones' first 100 days in office** **Dawn Suggs**
Great two-camera setup for this interview helps viewers know that journalism is done by people in their community. Could be improved with mics for every person (or better audio if every person was mic'd)

Third Place **St. Louis American** **2021 Lifetime Achiever Arthur R. Culver** **Dawn Suggs**
This video helps us understand why the honoree deserves the award. it uses a nice variety of shots to illustrate as people are speaking.

Honorable Mention **Washington Missourian** **The Last Dance** **Julia Hansen and Elena K. Cruz**
A nice slice of life for these students whose traditions were upended by the pandemic. Dances can be dark and challenging to shoot but these shots might be improved somewhat by bringing light and color-balancing to match ambient. Also paying better attention to audio editing would improve the video.

41.) Best Headline Writing | Dailies - Classes 1 and 2

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place **Columbia Missourian** **Staff**
These headlines were some of the shortest among the nominees, but they were some of the most effective. "Hardly a peep" is a cute reference to the Bird scooters' name but also clearly conveys the story's main takeaway. "Pomp and strange circumstance" was certainly apt, "Tepee" was clever, "morel" was a smart play on words and "Business isn't booming" was a great quote for the headline. Overall, this is a very strong package.

Second Place **Springfield News-Leader** **Springfield News-Leader Best Headlines** **Staff**
This is a collection of headlines that convey a lot of information without overstaying their welcome. In particular, the spring headline is recognizable and relatable, and "No one talked then, no one's talking now" reads like the intro voiceover to a crime drama (very enticing).

Third Place **LakeExpo** **Irresistible Headlines From Lake Of The** **Nathan Bechtold, Brent Simpson, Kate Robbins, Kathy Brown and Stacy Johnson**
 These stories are relatively straightforward local happenings, but the headlines go far beyond whatâs needed. Ultimately, all of them tease to what makes the stories interesting, inviting clicks to find out more.

Honorable Mention **Missouri Independent** **The Missouri Independent** **Jason Hancock**
 The "Deskâ gum dispenser" and "Once upon a time in Missouri" are unique and compelling teasers for the interesting stories they're attached to.

41.) Best Headline Writing | Weeklies

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place **Richmond News** **Fired superintendent fires back** **Jack "Miles" Ventimiglia**
 This was an excellent collection of different kinds of headlines that accomplished their goals well. I appreciate the punchiness of the back-and-forth superintendent headline, but the creativity and complementary designs of "Brick by Brick," "Not a bummer summer" and the 1941-style front set this collection apart.

Second Place **Laclede County Record** **Best Headline Writing LCR** **Fines Massey**
 "Help wanted, like yesterday" is my favorite individual headline I saw from all entrants. And the "Help wanted" sign in the design elevated the whole package. This is a collection of headline with impact and charm, and they describe their stories well.

Third Place **Cassville Democrat** **Cassville Headlines** **Staff**
 I appreciated the creative energy behind this strong collection of headlines, especially with "4 Kleines aâcoachin.â" And the boxing analogy with the breast cancer story was apt.

Honorable Mention **Jefferson County Leader** **Jefferson County Leader** **Staff**
 This was a solid collection of headlines that effectively and succinctly captured the thrust of the stories. "Bottom line," in reference to a story about diaper demand, was particularly clever.

42.) Best News or Feature Obituary | Dailies - Class 1

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place **Sedalia Democrat** **Sen. Mathewson** **Ryan Sheehan**
 Reporter included multiple sources and political history (although never shared the senator's political party.)

Second Place **Monett Times** **Beloved business owner** **Melonie Roberts**
 The reporter put in the legwork to cover the event.

Third Place **Monett Times** **Verona's Coach Nash** **Kyle Troutman**
 Great insight from a single source.

42.) Best News or Feature Obituary | Dalies - Class 2

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place **Columbia Daily Tribune** **Colleagues recall** **Aarik Danielsen**
 This is very elegantly written and provides a vivid portrait of a talented man who led a remarkable life.

Second Place **Columbia Missourian** **'Always a coach'** **Grace Nieland and Mae Bruce**
 Compelling lede; good range of voices.

Third Place **Columbia Missourian** **Ruth Ann Brandon** **Claudia Hope Levens**
 This obituary recounted the life of someone who suffered much, but who also made a difference. Very well-written.

Honorable Mention **Southeast Missourian** **Don Dickerson** **Jay Wolz**
 Very thorough reporting. Well-written.

42.) Best News or Feature Obituary | Dalies - Class 3

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place **The Kansas City Star** **LC's without the man himself: Kansas City** **Kevin Hardy, Cortlynn Stark and Joyce Smith**
 I like that you got several commenters for this story, along with several quality photos! Good job.

Second Place **The Kansas City Star** **Frank 'Iron Jaw' Oakley, blues harmonica** **Bill Lukitsch**
 Story has quite a bit of "bite." :)

Third Place The Kansas City Star Father and fitness trainer fatally shot in Anna Spoeerre

42.) Best News or Feature Obituary | Weeklies - Class 1

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place **Maryville Forum** **42 - Former sheriff Espey** **Ken Garner**
This obituary features solid reporting and includes a wide range of voices highlighting Espey's impact on the community.

Second Place **South Cass Tribune** **Former Wildcat mentor dies** **Christopher Tenpenny**
This obituary includes some memorable quotes from people who knew the deceased well.

Third Place **Richmond News** **Virus claims doctor's life** **Jack "Miles" Ventimiglia**
Shows the wide-ranging impact of the coronavirus pandemic.

Honorable Mention **Maries County Advocate** **Community remembers selfless acts of** **Edward Gehlert**

42.) Best News or Feature Obituary | Weeklies - Class 2

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place **Ozark County Times** **Ozark County Ambulance EMT's young wife** **Sue Ann Jones**

Second Place **Phelps County Focus** **Wayne writes epitaph to fill 100** **Donald Dodd**

Third Place **Houston Herald** **Wilburn Elmore, downtown institution, dies** **Brad Gentry**

Honorable Mention **Gasconade County Republican** **Marine shot at MetroLink** **Roxie Murphy**

42.) Best News or Feature Obituary | Weeklies - Class 3

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place **Jefferson County Leader** **Life story: William Mathew "Bill" Schmidt** **Laura Marlow**
A cleverly written but sad story of the premature death of a teen told through the eyes of those who knew him. Almost brings him alive again. It's a matter of style, but the byline could have been more prominently placed. You almost can't see who did the sensitive reporting.

Second Place **St. Louis Missouri Lawyers Weekly** **Dee Wampler, noted defense lawyer in** **Scott Lauck**
Written as a tribute to a local citizen with reminiscences from the family. Describes his life and accomplishments succinctly.

Third Place **Jefferson County Leader** **A towering figure - Philip Hess** **Steve Taylor**
A complete summary of a life well lived. The story goes through the life and career of a judge who died of old age. The reporter did a thorough reporting job telling the story through the eyes of people who knew the deceased in different capacities. The only trouble is that it lacks information about his later years.

43.) Multi-Media Reporting | Dalies - Class 2

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place **Columbia Missourian** **FROM FIERCE RIVALRY TO FRIENDSHIP** **Emma Eaton, Ciara McCaskill, Kalya Laire, Zachary Linhares, Bradford Siwak and Hunter Pendleton**
Good use of video to help tell the story along with the written component.

Second Place **Missouri Independent** **Why police reform fails** **Rebecca Rivas**

43.) Multi-Media Reporting | Weeklies - Class 3

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place **St. Louis American** **Mayor Tishaura Jones makes history** **Staff**
Comprehensive coverage on a very important race in the history of the city. Watch audio levels when conducting video interviews or pressers.

Second Place **Washington Missourian** **Washington High School prom goes on** **Elena K. Cruz and Julia Hansen**
 Excellent main video piece that captures an important day in the life of young people who have been through much in the last few years due to COVID. Watch your b-roll audio popping in and out, white noise was audible here and there. Great job.

Third Place **Northeast News** **Kansas City Museum** **Abby Hoover, Michael Bushnell and Bryan Stalder**
 I liked the fact that you had live interviews for social and web.

43.) Multi-Media Reporting | Weeklies - Classes 1 and 2

First Place **Springfield Business Journal** **No Ceiling** **Christine Temple**
 The vast majority of locally produced podcasts that I run across aren't exactly engaging - this is quite the opposite. Very well done professional and interesting that I actually listened to from beginning until end.

Second Place **Richmond News** **The jail** **Shawn Roney and Jack "Miles" Ventimiglia**
 Excellent coverage of the kind of story that often is overlooked locally.

Third Place **Phelps County Focus** **Honoring His Fallen: Gold Star Father** **Kaitlin Brothers**
 Touching package that kept me engaged.

Honorable Mention **Edina Sentinel** **Headhunters Series** **Echo Menges**
 When a big band comes to a small town - every endearing interview with Doug Phleps.

44.) Magazine/Alternative Publication | Dailies

First Place **Joplin Globe** **JMag** **Kevin McClintock**
 Tornado cover photo - who could resist turning the page? Ads incorporate the theme. Nice. Readers often don't differentiate ads from stories. Gripping photos of the aftermath. Effective timeline of memorial landmarks. Survivor tales - good variety of stories and types and sizes of photos. In memory: The names tell it all.
 Pet story - yes! Such an important part of this. Five things you probably didn't know about the tornado - would be a great sidebar idea to borrow for various types of stories.

Second Place **News Tribune** **HER Magazine** **Molly Morris, Nina Todea and India Garrish**
 Featured artist is a great way to engage reader participation. Summer vibes - quick read graphic loaded with information in compact form. There's something for everyone in your beverage guide - nice variety of options. Effective use of bottom banner list to display wineries. Quench Your Thirst - quick read graphic with a variety of helpful information. Love the promo for the next edition - simple yet informative. Delightful feature on Mrs. Santa Claus. Ways to give back - a great resource. Special Christmas gifts - easy, engaging feature that pulls reader in. Season for gifting is a quick read and nice way to feature five gift ideas. Deck the halls with stress-free holidays - quick advice column: nice use of subheads.

Third Place **Monett Times** **Monett Best Magazine** **Staff**
 Keep the From the Editor column to one page, no jump. Shop Local is designed well but should include contact information for businesses. Christmas vacation - personable holiday story Health column is an informative, quick read. Cutest kid contest - nice way to engage readers. Parenting column has great tips. QR codes make shopping convenient for readers. Familiar faces - great way to get a lot of local faces on one page Dragon Fest - jousting photo on cover is eye-catching. Headline "A Ghost, a Monster and a Lover's Leap" draws reader in. Love the short, fun halloween recipes.

Honorable Mention **Southeast Missourian** **Flourish: Spring, Summer, Winter 2021** **Southeast Missourian**
 Two regular features stand out -- Things to Love and Hey, Contributors. Those short briefs capture eyeballs and will be something readers seek in each issue. The abundant use of white space in this publication is disturbing, particularly considering the current cost of paper. Avoid trapped white space, especially in a feature such as the one on student voices. The quotes were too far from the photos. Also, consider using more photos. The portrait of the restaurant owners was captivating, but could you have also included a closeup of the food and a photo of them working in the restaurant?

44.) Magazine/Alternative Publication | Weeklies

First Place **Cassville Democrat** **Cassville Best Magazine** **Staff**
 Engineer in reverse headline makes the reader want to turn to this story. Nice use of black vertical banner to showcase the moon shots.
 11/11/11 - draws reader into story. Writer explains significance well. Love the shots of locals at the apple butter festival. May 2021
 Love the circle photos of graduates on the TOC page. Buddy Poppies - beautiful design.

Second Place **Laclede County Record** **Best Magazine - Trout Talk** **Fines Massey, Laura Valenti, Shawna Bradley and Daniel Foust**
 Oct./Nov. 2021 - nice illusion on cover -- looks like the raised fishing pole is catching the fish in the letter "o" What a neat, unusual story on the church inside a state park. Nice alliteration in the headline, too: Spiritual Spring. Love the fish story photos! Nice, easy-to-read map on page 14. July/August - suggestion for the cover photo -- instead of taking the photo from behind, take it from the front as the woman is walking toward the photographer so we can see her face. (Same for the two hikers on page 3) nice roundup of trails!
 It's great that the Lt. Gov. was flipping pancakes -- shoot tighter so pancakes are more prominent in right side of photo. Also shoot tighter on shots like the one on page 11 so just the Lt. Gov. and people at the picnic table are in photo.

Third Place **Branson Tri-Lakes News** **Ozark Mountain Visitor 2021** **Tim Church and Joshua Clark**
 Love how you use the photo as the cover. On page 4, can you adjust your layout so the headline doesn't start over the ad? Maybe advertising could sell a vertical banner ad that would extend from top to bottom for that spot? Vary layout so it is less blocky. Dress it up with drop caps and pull quotes. Cutout of basketball player is effective but would work better with a three-column layout (wider columns in the same space). The wraparound would be tighter and there would be less trapped white space. Pumpkin headline is unexpected -- who expects dumplings to be in the city? Nice play on headline 'Legends' of the Fall. especially for the age group attending this show. Nice restaurant feature -- these stories are popular with readers. It's never too early to let readers dream about summer

Honorable Mention **Branson Tri-Lakes News** **Branson This Week 2021** **Tim Church**
 Nice variety of stories -- There's something for everyone here! Have you considered breaking away from a block layout and getting more creative with the layout? An occasional drop cap or cutout would add a lot, especially on the cover.

45.) Best Health Story | Dailies - Class 1

First Place **Daily Journal** **Fritch miracle 3-5-21** **Kevin Jenkins**
 This was a compelling, fascinating story. It was told well through strong quotes and vivid recollections. Medical procedures can be complicated, but this story did well to break down the news so it was understandable at each step of the story. Well done.

45.) Best Health Story | Dailies - Classes 2 and 3*Title of Entry, If Applicable**Award Winner(s), If Applicable***First Place Missouri Independent**

In a highly competitive category, this story shone above the rest for its behind-the-scenes look at a hospital system's breakdown at the very worst time.

'Soooo frustrating:' Infighting, bad**Tessa Weinberg and Betsy Ladyzhets****Second Place Missouri Independent**

Below the surface, what appears to be a numbers story is a master's class in watchdog reporting, not only describing the problem (mismatched Covid numbers) but, importantly, why it matters (leading to public distrust).

One year into pandemic, Missouri's COVID **Rudi Keller****Third Place Southeast Missourian**

Stories about health board meetings don't typically win awards. This one does because it boldly ventures outside the vacuum of day-to-day reporting to provide a window into the frustration, fear and folly of the Covid Era.

Health board Jay Wolz**Honorable Mention Missouri Independent**

Again, this was a difficult category to judge because there were so many deserving stories. This one under different circumstances would have zoomed higher. It gets past the numbers to deeply and satisfying explain why nursing home staff are resistant to Covid vaccinations.

Less than half of Missouri nursing home Allison Kite and Tessa Weinberg**45.) Best Health Story | Weeklies - Class 1***Title of Entry, If Applicable**Award Winner(s), If Applicable***First Place Richmond News**

Excellent package by editor Jack "Miles" Ventimiglia from a small, rural county where less than half the people have been vaccinated and anti-maskers are strong. Not preachy but delivers the facts on death and hospitals overrun by the unvaccinated. And he took the trouble to write a few sentences explaining the stories and graphs. Good job. We can hope his community appreciates him.

COVID YEAR WRAP Jack "Miles" Ventimiglia**Second Place Cassville Democrat**

Very nice package on breast cancer. Do these thorough descriptions of the treatment journey help or deter people from treatment? We can hope they help, but they are very honest and touching. There were several good entries on breast cancer, but this was the most comprehensive and best looking. (It was really two entries but should have been submitted as a package.)

Boxing Back Jordan Troutman**Third Place Richmond News**

Another great package on a significant issue by Jack "Miles" Ventimiglia of the Richmond News. Should people with disabilities in workshops get less than minimum wage? A national issue localized with all the local representatives.

Handicapping the handicapped Jack "Miles" Ventimiglia**45.) Best Health Story | Weeklies - Class 2***Title of Entry, If Applicable**Award Winner(s), If Applicable***First Place Laclede County Record**

Solid story about AG order to stop all Covid restrictions, with very firm reaction from local health officer about its implications.

LCHD to stop Fines Massey**Second Place Courier-Tribune**

A clunky lead but a very nice little feature story. The photo of Magic Dude really helps pull you in. It's short but instructive.

Health story- Magic Dude Kellie Houx**Third Place Wright County Journal**

Readers love these kind of stories.

Dispatchers talk caller through delivery of Ron Schott**45.) Best Health Story | Weeklies - Class 3***Title of Entry, If Applicable**Award Winner(s), If Applicable***First Place Washington Missourian**

The lede is strong and drew me in immediately, and the reporter maintained my attention throughout the story. The reporter does a fantastic job of painting vivid pictures of the various scenes along Greg's (and his family's) journey. I felt the tension, relief, pain, hope and more that Greg and Brenda each felt. The story flows smoothly and is very well-written. The first page is laid out nicely (e.g. Greg's outstretched arm as he plays cornhole gestures smartly toward the headline, and Greg's cane points toward the caption in the bottom photo). A job well done!

Greg Kruse Feature Laura Miserez**Second Place Washington Missourian**

The article's structure flows nicely and carries the reader through the Wilsons' story smoothly. The descriptions help shape the story and draw the reader in (e.g. I felt the cough developing while working out, and later the breathlessness while in the hospital).

Sgt. Wilson Receives Warm Welcome Home Laura Miserez**Third Place Washington Missourian**

The reporter does an incredible job of telling this story and delving into the various issues that people in the program are working on. The lede captured my attention, and the rest of the story held it firmly.

Paving A Road To Recovery Laura Miserez**Honorable Mention Washington Missourian**

Olivia's story helps illustrate the importance of older children and adults getting vaccinated to protect the younger population. And the balance of quotes from Olivia, her mother and her doctor create a well-rounded article. It might have been nice to hear more from Olivia and delve just a bit more into what life with sickle cell disease looks like. But overall, this is a solid story.

Little Blessings Laura Miserez**46.) Best Coverage Of Elections | Dailies - Classes 1 and 2***Title of Entry, If Applicable**Award Winner(s), If Applicable***First Place LakeExpo**

Definitely an interesting story. A good job wrapping it all together.

Write-In Mayor Wins After LakeExpo's Nathan Bechtold and Brent Simpson

Second Place **Columbia Missourian**
Lots of good questions to candidates.

Staff

Third Place **News Tribune**
Lots of good questions to candidates.

News Tribune April Election

Staff

Honorable Mention **Joplin Globe**

LaRussell vote

John Hacker

47.) Best COVID-19 Coverage | Dailies

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place **Missouri Independent**

Documenting COVID

Rudi Keller, Tessa Weinberg, Betsy Ladyzhets and Derek Kravitz

Second Place **Columbia Missourian**

Staff

Third Place **The Kansas City Star**

How Missouri's inaction allowed delta

Jonathan Shorman, Jeanne Kuang, Lisa Gutierrez and Katie Bernard

Honorable Mention **Southeast Missourian**

Cutting the line...

Southeast Missourian

47.) Best COVID-19 Coverage | Weeklies

Title of Entry, If Applicable

Award Winner(s), If Applicable

First Place **Gasconade County Republican**

This was the most comprehensive entry. They they interpreted five items to mean five issues of the paper and not individual stories, so some issues had four or five related COVID stories, some supplemented with coverage from the Missouri News. Network.

Dave Marner, Roxie Murphy and Buck Collier

Second Place **Richmond News**

Also comprehensive, but with the best looking layouts, photos and graphics.

Jack "Miles" Ventimiglia

Third Place **The Odessan**

Small rural hospitals are full with no place to transfer critically ill patients. No specialists on staff; last August only 10% of the county is vaccinated; Great personal story of man forced to retire after getting COVID twice.

Hannah Spaar

Honorable Mention **Branson Tri-Lakes News**

Other papers also deserved honorable mention, including the Cassville Democrat, Laclede County Republican, and Maryville Forum

AJ Fahr, Tim Church and Addie Cantrell