

NEW YORK PRESS ASSOCIATION
2021 BETTER NEWSPAPER CONTEST



Celebrating

Newspaper Excellence



And the Winners Are...

NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR The Highlands Current

STUART C. DORMAN AWARD
Editorial Excellence
Sag Harbor Express

JOHN J. EVANS AWARD
Advertising Excellence
The Post-Standard

2021 WRITER OF THE YEAR
Annette Hinkle
Sag Harbor Express

2021 ROOKIE REPORTER OF THE YEAR
Deirdre Bardolf
The Queens Chronicle

2021 SPORTS WRITER OF THE YEAR
Mike MacAdam
The Daily Gazette

2021 PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR
Erica Miller
The Daily Gazette

COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP
The Post-Standard — First Place

PAST PRESIDENTS' AWARD FOR GENERAL EXCELLENCE
Sag Harbor Express — First Place, Division 1
The Riverdale Press — First Place, Division 2

BEST FRONT PAGE
The Suffolk County News — First Place, Division 1
The Highlands Current — First Place, Division 2
Colonie Spotlight — First Place, Division 3
The East Hampton Press — First Place, Division 4

BEST EDITORIAL PAGE

The Riverdale Press — First Place
The Southampton Press - Western Edition — Second Place
The Northport Observer — Third Place

PHOTOGRAPHIC EXCELLENCE

The Southampton Press-Western Edition — First Place

OVERALL DESIGN EXCELLENCE
The Riverdale Press — First Place

ADVERTISING EXCELLENCE

The Highlands Current — First Place
The Southampton Press-Eastern Edition — Second Place
Sag Harbor Express — Third Place
The East Hampton Press — Honorable Mention

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PHOTO CREDITS

FRONT COVER

TOP: Fishing boat

Michael Heller, Sag Harbor Express

LEFT: Audience in awe

Richard Abel, Westmore News

RIGHT: DAVE MATTHEWS

Erica Miller, The Daily Gazette

BOTTOM: Boy with bubble

Jim MacLean, The Scarsdale Inquirer

BACK COVER

Veteran with dog: Christina Daly, Oceanside Island Park Herald

Soccer: Peggy Gallery, Smithtown News

Close-up: Michael Heller, Sag Harbor Express

Roaming Buffalo: Benjamin Patton, The Reporter

Salute: Erica Miller, The Daily Gazette

Roadway flood: Michael Hinman, The Riverdale Press

About the 2021 Better Newspaper Contest ...

132 newspapers submitted 2,481 entries.

Participating newspapers competed for awards in 67 categories, and for Newspaper of the Year, the Stuart C. Dorman Award for Editorial Excellence and the John J. Evans Award for Advertising Excellence.

396 awards were presented during NYPA's Spring Conference April 29th and 30th, 2022.

The entries were judged by members of the Nebraska Press Association.

The winners were determined based on the following point system:

EACH FIRST PLACE AWARD.....	20 POINTS
EACH SECOND PLACE AWARD.....	10 POINTS
EACH THIRD PLACE AWARD.....	5 POINTS

The Top Five — Group or Chain Newspapers

TOTAL CONTEST POINTS:

The Press Newspaper Group — 485 POINTS

The Southampton Press - Eastern, The Southampton Press - Western, The East Hampton Press, The Sag Harbor Express

Schneps Community News Group — 365 POINTS

am New York Metro, Astoria Times, Bay News Bayside Times, Bronx Times Reporter and Bronx Times, Brooklyn Graphic, The Brooklyn Paper, Caribbean Life, Chelsea Now, The Courier Sun, The Extra Courier, Dan's Paper, Downtown Express, El Correo de Queens, The Flushing Times, Forest Hills / The Western Courier, Gay City News, Healthwise Magazine, Long Island Press, Manhattan Express, Mill Basin Courier, North Shore Towers Courier, Northeast Courier, Noticia, Park Slope Courier, Queens Business Today, Queens Courier, Queens Family, Ridgewood Times and Times Newsweek, The Villager Express, The Ledger, The Villager (NYC)

Herald Community Newspapers — 250 POINTS

Baldwin Herald, Bellmore Herald, East Meadow Herald, Franklin Square Elmont Herald, Freeport Herald Leader, Glen Cove Herald Gazette, Long Beach Herald, Lynbrook East Rockaway Herald, Malverne West Hempstead Herald, Merrick Herald, Nassau Herald, Oceanside Island Park Herald, Oyster Bay Guardian, Rockaway Journal, Rockville Center Herald, Sea Cliff Glen Head Herald Gazette, Seaford Herald Citizen, South Shore Record, Valley Stream Herald, Wantagh Herald Citizen, The Jewish Star, The Riverdale Press

Times/Review Newspapers — 210 POINTS

The Suffolk Times, The News-Review, Shelter Island Reporter

Straus News — 135 POINTS

Chelsea Clinton News, Chelsea News, The Chronicle, Dirt Magazine, Our Town Downtown, Our Town Eastside, The Photo News, Warwick Advertiser, The Westside Spirit, The Westsider

THE TOP FIVE — SINGLE FLAG NEWSPAPERS

TOTAL CONTEST POINTS:

The Highlands Current — 240 POINTS

Sag Harbor Express — 200 POINTS

The Post-Standard — 155 POINTS

The Times Union — 150 POINTS

The Daily Gazette — 85 POINTS

THE TOP FIVE NEWSPAPERS

TOTAL EDITORIAL CONTEST POINTS:

The Sag Harbor Express — 155 POINTS

The Highlands Current - 150 POINTS

The Times Union — 125 POINTS

The East Hampton Press — 125 POINTS

Queens Chronicle — 85 POINTS

THE TOP FIVE NEWSPAPERS

TOTAL ADVERTISING CONTEST POINTS:

The Post-Standard — 80

The Highlands Current — 60

The Sag Harbor Express — 45

Port Washington News — 40

The Southampton Press - Eastern Edition — 35

About the Competition ...

CATEGORY 32—FEATURE STORY

Congratulations to the first-place winners in the most competitive category in the contest!

Division 1:..... Michelle Trauring, Sag Harbor Express
Division 2:..... Eric Gross, Putnam County Courier
Division 3:..... Michelle Trauring , The East Hampton Press
Division 4:..... Benjamin Pomerance, Lake Champlain Weekly
Division 5:..... Brett Freeman , Mahopac News
Division 6:..... Oliver Peterson, Dan's Papers

CATEGORY 31—NEWS STORY

The quality of the entries in this category was outstanding — congratulations to:

Division 1:..... Tim Michaels, Shawangunk Journal
Division 2:..... Robbie Sequeira , Bronx Times Reporter and Bronx Times
Division 3:..... Jorge Bello, The Red Hook Star-Review
Division 4:..... Michael Wright and Brendan J. O'Reilly, The Southampton Press-Eastern Edition

CATEGORY 42—FEATURE PHOTO(S)

The judges had a particularly difficult time with this competitive category — congratulations to:

Division 1:..... Michael Heller, Sag Harbor Express
Division 2:..... Dana Shaw, The Southampton Press-Western Edition
Division 3:..... Dean Moses, amNewYork Metro

CATEGORY 33—BEST NEWS OR FEATURE SERIES

Many fine examples of excellent research and writing — congratulations to:

Division 1:..... Helen Demeranville, The River Reporter
Division 2:..... Todd Sliss, Molly Bookner and Jim Maclean, The Scarsdale Inquirer
Division 3:..... Jimmy Lawton , North Country This Week

CATEGORY 43—SPORTS ACTION PHOTO(S)

Catching the right image at the right time — congratulations to:

Division 1:..... Lou Reuter, Adirondack Daily Enterprise
Division 2:..... Skip Pearlman , The Highlands Current
Division 3:..... Joey LaFranca, Press-Republican

CATEGORY 36—BEST COLUMN

Providing perspective... making the reader think, understand and care — congratulations to:

Division 1:..... Scott Brinton, Merrick Herald Life
Division 2:..... Andy Malekoff, Williston Times
Division 3:..... Carlos Sandoval, The East Hampton Press

CATEGORY 30—SPOT NEWS COVERAGE

Great coverage of a single news event — congratulations to:

Division 1:..... Nakeem Grant, Scott Brinton, Peter Belfiore, Sue Grieco and James Bernstein
Malverne W Hempstead Herald
Division 3:..... Aidan Graham, The Brooklyn Paper

Rookie Reporter of the Year, 2021

There were 15 entries in this category



FIRST PLACE:

DEIRDRE BARDOLF, THE QUEENS CHRONICLE

Deirdre Bardolf began her career with *The Queens Chronicle* as a freelancer in the spring of 2021 but quickly moved to a fulltime post as associate editor primarily covering South Queens and borough-wide education.

She has extensively covered the coronavirus pandemic, along with the environment, crime, elections and politics, the arts and a host of other subjects. Her pieces range from breaking spot news to in-depth analysis.

Prior to *The Queens Chronicle*, she worked in the film and television industry, including as a research assistant for an upcoming historical series and documentary. She was a TV and documentary intern at Reveal from The Center for Investigative Reporting in California in the summer of 2019.

Bardolf received an associate's degree from Nassau Community College and a bachelor's degree from SUNY College at Old Westbury, and attended the Craig Newmark Graduate School of Journalism at CUNY.

The judges said: "Solid reporting, thorough, puts a face on stories when she can, which helps readers relate. Great job! You put a lot of hard work into your stories and it shows. I suspect you will go far and accomplish much in this industry."



SECOND PLACE:

BAILEY HOSFELT, THE EXAMINER

Since July 2021, Bailey Hosfelt has covered general assignment local news for *Examiner Media* in Westchester and Putnam counties. She's reported out in-depth news features with a special focus on LGBTQ+ issues, women's rights, climate change, the environment, and local politics.

In addition, Bailey is responsible for a municipal government, school and police beat in the city of White Plains. And she's the paper's digital coordinator.

While in college, Bailey worked as a freelance contributor for City Limits in New York City, reporting on climate change and healthcare.

Bailey received a bachelor's degree in Journalism and Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies from Fordham University. At The Fordham Ram, Bailey was Editorial and Multimedia Director of the collegiate newspaper. Bailey was

honored with the Sigma Delta Chi Award for Excellence in Journalism while at Fordham. At Examiner Media, Bailey also serves as the digital coordinator for the organization's website coverage and email newsletter, while also helping to manage the company's Facebook presence.

The judges said: "Solid reporting, thorough, good use of quotes and state and national stats. Really liked that she interviewed people affected by each situation and put a 'face on each story.' Lots of color and good old-fashioned storytelling. First and second place were really, really close. Keep up the good work."



THIRD PLACE:

BRIANNE LEDDA, THE SUFFOLK TIMES

Brianne Ledda is a community reporter at Times Review Media Group, covering news on the North Fork of Long Island for *The Suffolk Times* and *Riverhead News Review*. She graduated with a bachelor's degree in journalism from Stony Brook University in May 2021, with minors in history and environmental studies. As a student, she interned with WSHU Public Radio, Royal Media through the Dow Jones News Fund and the *Fire Island Chronicle*. She was editor-in-chief at *The Statesman*, Stony Brook's campus newspaper, her senior year.

Brianne joined The Times Review in May 2021 shortly after graduating from Stony Brook University. She began covering town government, a role typically reserved for more seasoned reporters. But she had no trouble quickly picking up the nuances of the job and became the paper's most productive reporter for the remainder of 2021. She produced hard news stories, features and more and was often pitching ideas to editors.

The judges said: "It's hard to believe you're a rookie. Top three entries in this category were really close. I had to go back and re-read each of your stories (15 in all) several times before I could rank the top three. Stories like the ones you wrote remind your readers why newspapers continue to play an important role in their lives. Keep up the good work."

Excellence Awards

PAST PRESIDENTS' AWARD DIVISION 1

FIRST PLACE

SAG HARBOR EXPRESS

Hometown feel. Clean layout. Quick, easy read, well thought-out.

SECOND PLACE

SHELTER ISLAND REPORTER

Hometown feel, good read.

THIRD PLACE

THE NEWS-REVIEW

Easy layout, very well thought out.

HONORABLE MENTION

THE SUFFOLK TIMES

Dynamic layout, solid reporting.

DIVISION 2

FIRST PLACE

THE RIVERDALE PRESS

Overall great newspaper, dramatic photos.

SECOND PLACE

SULLIVAN COUNTY DEMOCRAT

Bold, colorful, well laid out and easy to read. Good job

THIRD PLACE

GAY CITY NEWS

Good concise layout, excellent reporting.

'ROOKIE' REPORTER OF THE YEAR

FIRST PLACE

QUEENS CHRONICLE, QUEENS

Deirdre Bardolf

Solid reporting, thorough, puts a face on stories when she can, which helps readers relate. Great job! You put a lot of hard work into your stories and it shows. I suspect you will go far and accomplish much in this industry.

SECOND PLACE

THE EXAMINER, MOUNT KISCO

Bailey Hosfelt

Solid reporting, thorough, good use of quotes and state and national stats. Really liked that she interviewed people affected by each situation and put a "face on each story." Lots of color and good old-fashioned storytelling. First and second place were really, really close. Keep up the good work.

Third Place

THE SUFFOLK TIMES, MATTITUCK

Brianne Ledda

It's hard to believe you're a rookie. Top three entries in this category were really close. I had to go back and re-read each of your stories (15 in all) several times before I could rank the top three. Stories like the ones you wrote remind your readers why newspapers continue to play an important role in their lives. Keep up the good work.

WRITER OF THE YEAR

FIRST PLACE

THE SAG HARBOR EXPRESS,

SAG HARBOR

Annette Hinkle

Hinkle brings art to life without the over-glorified hyperbole that many writers on this beat fall victim to. Her work covered a broad spectrum of art that dealt with social issues as well as to entertainment. The stories flow smoothly, often bolstered by excellent illustrations.

SECOND PLACE

THE BROOKLYN PAPER, BROOKLYN

Kirstyn Brendlen

Brendlen handled a variety of subjects in her entries with a deftness that gives the reader an understanding of the issue at hand and the importance of it. As a side note, the overall quality of entries from the Brooklyn Paper were notable.

THIRD PLACE

THE EAST HAMPTON STAR,

EAST HAMPTON

Christine Sampson

This is another good example of a writer's ability to handle a variety of topics with comprehension and style. Sampson's work showed solid writing on a variety of assignments

HONORABLE MENTION

SHELTER ISLAND REPORTER,

SHELTER ISLAND

Ambrose Clancy

The quality of Ambrose's work merits an honorable mention in this tough category.

SPORTS WRITER OF THE YEAR

FIRST PLACE

THE DAILY GAZETTE,

SCHENECTADY

Mike MacAdam

This writer creates colorful, energetic writing with plenty of imagery and detail. Fun stories to read no matter the subject. His entertaining style made him stand out, but he also showed the ability to address serious issues.

SECOND PLACE

THE TIMES OF HUNTINGTON,

HUNTINGTON

Steven Zaitz

Zaitz's game coverage is very detailed with multiple sources used for quotes adding perspective. He gets his reader intimately familiar with the teams and athletes he's writing about.

THIRD PLACE

SAG HARBOR EXPRESS,

SAG HARBOR

Cailin Riley

Riley is a good story teller. The stories have an easy reading flow to them

HONORABLE MENTION

THE NEWS-REVIEW, RIVERHEAD

Bob Liepa

Liepa is a strong feature writer. Extensive research shown in the Satchel Paige story.

PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR

FIRST PLACE

THE DAILY GAZETTE,

SCHENECTADY

Erica Miller

You captured some great moments - wide variety - thoroughbred racing, protests, victories, rallies, leisure. You also captured great emotion, found great angles, took advantage of available lighting, and helped us feel the emotion and energy of the moment. Good work.

SECOND PLACE

OCEANSIDE ISLAND

PARK HERALD, OCEANSIDE

Christina Daly

Nice collection of excellent work. You caught more than the action.

THIRD PLACE

THE SMITHTOWN NEWS,

SMITHTOWN

Peggy Gallery

Powerful images - good timing, action, reaction, emotion - well done

HONORABLE MENTION

THE ALTAMONT ENTERPRISE AND

ALBANY COUNTY POST, ALTAMONT

Mike Koff

Strong photos - nice work.

BEST FRONT PAGE

DIVISION 1

FIRST PLACE

SUFFOLK COUNTY NEWS, SAYVILLE

Sam Desmond, Nicole Fuentes,

Ryan Sweezey and Suzanne Link

Like the clean masthead, appealing photography, and strong fonts. Pages were consistent, clean style, eye catching.

SECOND PLACE

LONG ISLAND ADVANCE, PATCHOGUE

Nicole Fuentes, Andrew Ingenito,

Katherine Al Rashdan

One of the most inviting front pages I've seen. Really enjoyed the photo and story in April 1 edition -- clever. Teasers at bottom of page draw readers in.

THIRD PLACE

SHELTER ISLAND REPORTER,

SHELTER ISLAND

Ambrose Clancy

Good to see some news on the front page instead of a large photo with headlines. Clean layout and good headlines that invite the reader in. Nice use of index and teasers.

DIVISION 2

FIRST PLACE

THE HIGHLANDS CURRENT,

PHILIPSTOWN

Pierce Strudler

For me, the toughest of the 4 classes to pick a winner. Great front page - very community-minded paper. Well done.

SECOND PLACE

THE SPOTLIGHT, DELMAR

Michael Hallisey and Jim Franco

Plenty of elements to lure readers in. Good main photo. Nice index at bottom of page.

THIRD PLACE

THE SUFFOLK TIMES, MATTITUCK

As noted, this was toughest of the 4 classes to decide a winner and on another day order could be reversed. I like news on the front, and this page delivers that. Good headlines that beg readers to get into the story. Good photos.

HONORABLE MENTION

MAHOPAC NEWS, MAHOPAC

Bob Dumas and Tabitha Pearson Marshall

Writer of the Year, 2021



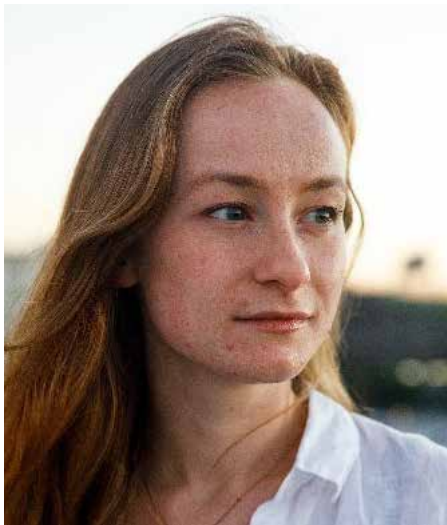
FIRST PLACE:

ANNETTE HINKLE, SAG HARBOR EXPRESS

Annette Hinkle is the Arts and Living Editor for the Express News Group. Over the years, she has written extensively about life on the East End of Long Island — from its cultural scene including theater reviews, author and artists profiles and celebrity pieces, to history, food, environmental issues and politics. In 2017 she wrote “Sag Harbor: 100 Years of Film in the Village,” a book documenting the long history of cinema in the village and the 2016 fire that destroyed the art deco movie theater at its heart. Annette and her husband, Adam, live in East Hampton, occasionally joined by their college-age daughter, Sophie.



The judges said: “Hinkle brings art to life without the over-glorified hyperbole that many writers on this beat fall victim to. Her work covered a broad spectrum of art that dealt with social issues as well as to entertainment. The stories flow smoothly, often bolstered by excellent illustrations.”



SECOND PLACE:

KIRSTYN BRENDLEN, THE BROOKLYN PAPER

A New Jersey native and enthusiast, Kirstyn covers northern Brooklyn for *The Brooklyn Paper*, from Greenpoint to Gowanus. Fresh off an award-winning run at The Riverdale Press, Kirstyn has brought her stellar reporting and can-do attitude to the Brooklyn Paper newsroom, diving headfirst into some of the borough’s most important — and complicated — issues, from the construction of and controversy behind the National Grid pipeline to the contentious Gowanus Rezoning Plan, what New York State is doing to curb maternal mortality rates and so, so much more.



The judges said: “Brendlen handled a variety of subjects in her entries with a deftness that gives the reader an understanding of the issue at hand and the importance of it.”



THIRD PLACE:

CHRISTINE SAMPSON, THE EAST HAMPTON STAR

Christine Sampson earned her first newspaper byline when she was in the eighth grade writing weekly updates about school events for the *Levittown Tribune*. Now in her 18th year as a reporter, Christine feels that being a journalist has given her a front-row seat to all that’s happening in her community, state, country, and world. As a student at Hofstra University her mentor was Bob Greene, the Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist and editor, and she gives back to the profession in his memory by volunteering annually with the Robert Greene Summer Institute for High School Journalists. Her journey has taken her to media outlets including *Newsday*, *Patch.com*, and *The Sag Harbor Express*, and she is now deputy managing editor of *The East Hampton Star*.



The judges said: “This is another good example of a writer’s ability to handle a variety of topics with comprehension and style. Sampson’s work showed solid writing on a variety of assignments.”

Excellence Awards

BEST FRONT PAGE

DIVISION 3

FIRST PLACE

COLONIE SPOTLIGHT, COLONIE
Michael Hallisey and David Abbott

Easily the winner in this division. Very appealing front page with good photos and an overall attractive, upbeat layout. Like the headline font as well. Newspapers need to up their game to gain readers' attention, and this front page does that. Well done.

SECOND PLACE

QUEENS CHRONICLE, QUEENS
Peter C. Mastro Simone and Joseph Berni

Artwork on July front was a definite attention grabber. The masthead is eye catching.

THIRD PLACE

THE COURIER SUN, BAYSIDE
Great photography, especially the towering inferno front. Aesthetically pleasing – encourages reader to turn the page.

DIVISION 4

FIRST PLACE

THE EAST HAMPTON PRESS, EAST HAMPTON

I think I would like working at this paper. Awesome coverage of local issues. Good clean modern design that complements local news. Eye-catching images and teasers above the masthead that invite readers inside.

SECOND PLACE

THE SOUTHAMPTON PRESS EASTERN, SOUTHAMPTON
Bold, impactful front page. Tough call between First Place and Second Place. Seriously. Clean, easy to read and attractive with great images played well on the page. News content shouts “read me.”

THIRD PLACE

SAG HARBOR EXPRESS, SAG HARBOR
Colorful, clean, impactful front page. White space to let everything breathe, which is good because of abundant news copy. Teasers well done. Just a crisp design package.

BEST EDITORIAL PAGE

FIRST PLACE

THE RIVERDALE PRESS, RIVERDALE
Michael Hinman

Clean design. Easy to read. Editorial — the voice of the paper — is prominent. The editorial cartoon's placement adds to the overall quality of the editorial section. Enjoyed the Press's Letters to the Editor Section. Great job of including differing viewpoints — or, viewpoints that differ from the Press' editorial.

SECOND PLACE

THE SOUTHAMPTON PRESS-WESTERN EDITION, WESTHAMPTON BEACH

“But you have to live with a tough reality: It's your fault.” The use of such firm editorials added to the mix of delightful letters to the editor and the overall layout of the editorial section. Great job! Editorial pages such as this remind your readers why newspapers continue to play such an important part of their daily lives. Really fine line between first and second place in this competition – it was hard to give you second place.

THIRD PLACE

THE NORTHPORT OBSERVER, NORTHPORT

Editorials are prominent and take a strong stance. Good job. Plenty of letters to the editor and all packaged together. Nice. Really needed an editorial cartoon to break up the sea of gray. Otherwise, great job!

HONORABLE MENTION

WILLISTON TIMES, WILLISTON PARK

Good job of making the editorials prominent and powerful. Letters to the editor are packaged together and easy to follow. Well done! I'm betting your readers can't wait to get their hands on the Williston Times and read the opinion page.

PHOTOGRAPHIC EXCELLENCE

FIRST PLACE

THE SOUTHAMPTON PRESS-WESTERN, WESTHAMPTON
The commencement front page image was the best. Excellent photography is about action, reaction and emotion. Inside pages were informative and very creative.

SECOND PLACE

THE EAST HAMPTON PRESS, EAST HAMPTON
The images were a good size, lets the reader know what's important. Excellent photography, great variety, help the reader feel the emotion.

THIRD PLACE

SAG HARBOR EXPRESS, SAG HARBOR
Front page images are dynamic. Photos are dramatically displayed and used well.

HONORABLE MENTION

ALBANY BUSINESS REVIEW, ALBANY

Donna Abbott-Vlahos
Photos were large, layouts clean and easy to read.

OVERALL

DESIGN EXCELLENCE

FIRST PLACE

THE RIVERDALE PRESS, RIVERDALE
Michael Hinman
Wonderful design. Hometown feel. Smart layout.

SECOND PLACE

THE EAST HAMPTON PRESS, EAST HAMPTON

Sara Mannino Kent
Beautiful paper. Nice layout and design. Good use of photo above the fold with the flag. Well thought out scheme.

THIRD PLACE

THE SUFFOLK TIMES, MATTITUCK
Easy to navigate, impactful. Great use of photos

ADVERTISING EXCELLENCE

FIRST PLACE

THE HIGHLANDS CURRENT, PHILIPSTOWN
Michele Gedney and Pierce Strudler
I love the cutout placement in your student program house advertisement. Your cutouts are so well placed. Each ad was original and caught my eye. Keep up the good work!!

SECOND PLACE

THE SOUTHAMPTON PRESS-EASTERN EDITION, SOUTHAMPTON
The Express News Group
I really enjoyed the advertisements in your graduation section. Nice, clean, polished, creative ads!

THIRD PLACE

SAG HARBOR EXPRESS, SAG HARBOR
The Express News Group
Gorgeous paper enhanced by beautiful, attention-getting ads. Well done!

HONORABLE MENTION

THE EAST HAMPTON PRESS, EAST HAMPTON
The Express News Group
Your yacht party advertisement stood out to! I love the use of color in your ads throughout the paper.

COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP

FIRST PLACE

THE POST-STANDARD, SYRACUSE
Karen Sherwood, Tom Brown, Jim Read and Tim Kennedy
What a great idea/cause! A holiday fundraiser that engages the entire community and ultimately provides a special Christmas to families in need. Especially appealing because the newspaper's employees were at the heart of the project

that involved civic groups, sports teams and individual volunteers united in an effort to support less fortunate members of the community.

SECOND PLACE

EAST MEADOW HERALD, EAST MEADOW
Laura Lane
A multimedia investigative series that resulted in a street being designated a school speed zone. Working to keep the community safe. Keep up the good work! Also, I loved your map graphic with the school bus.

THIRD PLACE

LONG ISLAND ADVANCE, PATCHOGUE
Nicole Fuentes, Linda Leuzzi, Sam Desmond, Mariana Dominguez, Andrew Ingenito and Terry Tuthill
Superb coverage under difficult circumstances. Your coverage of the LGBTQ+ community was comprehensive, personal, sincere and broad. We salute you!

HONORABLE MENTION

THE ALTAMONT ENTERPRISE AND ALBANY COUNTY POST, ALTAMONT
Sean Mulkerrin
Great job covering a proposal to run a 9,000 foot-long, double stacked train – a two-mile-long train – traveling through this small community, back and forth to Massachusetts every day. The issue is as yet, unresolved (which is why this merits only an honorable mention). Regardless of the outcome, great job of keeping the community informed!

BEST NEWS WEB SITE

FIRST PLACE

TIMES UNION, ALBANY
This site is clearly superior in all aspects to the other entries in this category.

SECOND PLACE

ITHACA TIMES, ITHACA
Nice navigation bar gives quick access to many sections of interest. Page design says “news.” Wide range of coverage is evident.

THIRD PLACE

PELHAM EXAMINER, PELHAM
Well done site with good all-around coverage. Short on advertising. Student run site is unusual to say the least. Well done.

HONORABLE MENTION

THE HIGHLANDS CURRENT, PHILIPSTOWN
Clean, easy to navigate. Interesting funding approach. Great reader transparency. No advertising?.

Sports Writer of the Year

There were 14 entries in this category



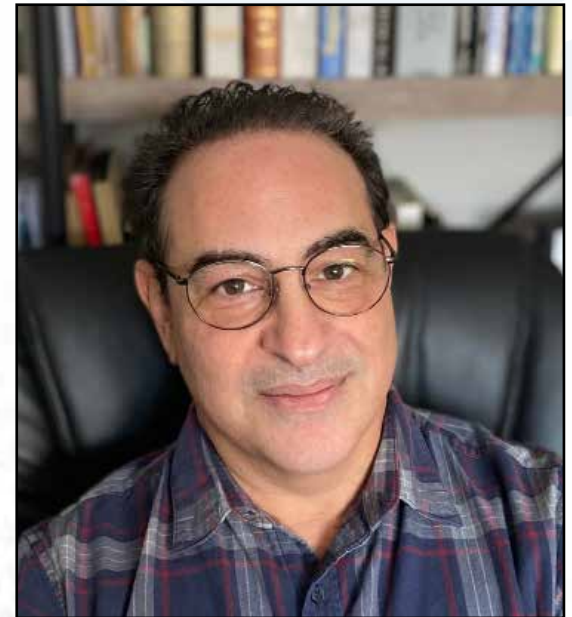
FIRST PLACE: MIKE MACADAM, DAILY GAZETTE

A longtime reporter at The Daily Gazette, Mike MacAdam demonstrated his exceptional writing ability and versatility throughout 2021. Whether it's through a feature on the bond of a trio of soccer-playing sisters or a first-person account of participating in athletic competition during the novel coronavirus pandemic, MacAdam's unique ability to connect with readers always is present. The judges said: *MacAdam shows very colorful and energetic writing with plenty of imagery and detail. Fun stories to read no matter the subject. His entertaining style made him stand out, but he also showed the ability to address serious issues.*



SECOND PLACE: STEVEN ZAITZ, TIMES OF HUNTINGTON

Steven Zaitz has freelanced as a writer and photographer - cherishing both artforms equally - for The Resident family of newspapers in New York City, The Yorkville Eye on the Upper East Side and The Riverdale Press in the Bronx. Upon moving to Long Island in 2019, he has written and shot for TBR News Media. The judges said: *Zaitz's game coverage is very detailed with multiple sources used for quotes adding perspective. He gets his reader intimately familiar with the teams and athletes he's writing about.*



THIRD PLACE: CAILIN RILEY, SAG HARBOR EXPRESS

Versatile freelance writer Cailin Riley won NYPA's Sportswriter of the Year Award three times, first in 2012. She became a features writer and editor, contributing profiles, magazine features, and other long-form stories for every section of the papers she serves. The judges said: *Riley is a good storyteller. The stories have an easy reading flow to them*





Excellence Awards

THOMAS G. BUTSON AWARD FOR INVESTIGATIVE IN-DEPTH REPORTING

DIVISION 1

FIRST PLACE

**MALVERNE W HEMPSTEAD HERALD,
MALVERNE**

*Nakeem Grant, Scott Brinton,
Peter Belfiore, Sue Grieco and
James Bernstein*

Incredible local coverage of a local trauma (mass shooting at a supermarket). The spectrum of pieces—hard news, editorial, column, etc.—to widen the context and learning from this event and its impact on the community was exemplary. Great job.

SECOND PLACE

WESTMORE NEWS, PORT CHESTER
Sarah Wolpoff

Really solid reporting on a local issue that may not have seemed particularly newsworthy but after research was demonstrated to be a looming safety issue that, unchecked, could have had tragic consequences. Comprehensive, thorough. And Ms. Lane's reporting had an actual impact, with changes to speed zone and enforcement. Nice job.

THIRD PLACE

**EAST MEADOW HERALD,
EAST MEADOW**
Laura Lane

Really solid reporting on a local issue that may not have seemed particularly newsworthy but after research was demonstrated to be a looming safety issue that, unchecked, could have had tragic consequences. Comprehensive, thorough. And Ms. Lane's reporting had an actual impact, with changes to speed zone and enforcement. Nice job.

HONORABLE MENTION

THE VILLAGE SUN, NEW YORK
Lincoln Anderson

Well-done piece on an important, often overlooked issue of coastal resiliency.

DIVISION 2

FIRST PLACE

**THE HIGHLANDS CURRENT,
PHILIPSTOWN**

Excellent comprehensive coverage of an otherwise "boring" topic of infrastructure, (what it is, components, locations, age, etc.) for everything from bridges to water infrastructure to dams. Loved the dip into history. Loved the maps, graphics, pull-outs that provide much-needed context to the issue. This type of story impacts readers in a powerful way. (After all, infrastructure is, in fact, rather important ...). Wonderful.

SECOND PLACE

THE SUFFOLK TIMES, MATTITUCK
*Grant Parpan, Steve Wick, Bri-
anne Ledda and Joe Werkmeister*
Really great, in-depth reporting on a spate of deaths from a single batch of opioid/narcotic street drugs. It was thorough, measured, coordinated and sustained. Graphics made the series more effective. Excellent series, impactful. Great job.

THIRD PLACE

ALBANY BUSINESS REVIEW, ALBANY
Chelsea Diana, Michael DeMasi

An excellent and thorough look at what is clearly a growing, under-reported issue: the move to deny WOB certifications by New York State, and the fallout from the trend in real terms. Strong establishment of the issue, especially so with personal, first-person on the record accounts and statistics. Beautiful graphics, photography. Good synthesis of data. Excellent.

HONORABLE MENTION

**THE EAST HAMPTON STAR,
EAST HAMPTON**
Christine Sampson

Very well done look back—"one year later"—after Covid entered our lives. Balanced and comprehensive. This piece was surely a keeper for readers who wanted to really understand what happened. Strong balance between context (national stats/bigger picture) and local reporting, with local sources.

DIVISION 3

FIRST PLACE

TIMES UNION, ALBANY
*Eduardo Medina and Massarah
Mikati*

An extraordinary effort in this five-part series to examine the gap between black opportunity for building personal wealth, the basis of opportunity, family, and community. Excellent reporting, historic research, statistical analysis and connecting the perhaps well-known (perhaps not?) history of redlining to its legacy, in real life, today. Great job providing context (showing the path of each day's stories, and how they fit together), photography, layout and providing so much of the newspaper's space to an important topic.

SECOND PLACE

ITHACA TIMES, ITHACA
Tanner Harding, Harlin McEwen

Excellent reporting on big moves to reform the police dept. in Ithaca. Thoughtful, thorough and balanced. I can't tell if the retired police chief's editorial was considered in the reporting on the whole issue, but it was a great complement to the overall story of this community grappling with its police dept in the wake of cries for police reforms. And the SWAT truck reference (and artwork) felt so representative. The entire endeavor felt like a considered dialog about a critical issue. Excellent all around.

THIRD PLACE

THE BROOKLYN PAPER, BROOKLYN
Rose Adams

Excellent piece exploring the confusing and unsatisfying inter-agency/dept. complexities that came into play after the shooting by ICE of an innocent bystander in a private home. The aftermath is confusing and Ms. Adams did a really good job breaking down all the players and their stances. Important work, important story that hits on important issues we need to know about today.

HONORABLE MENTION

DAN'S PAPERS, BRIDGEHAMPTON
Timothy Bolger

Wow. A thoughtful exploration on the East End of Long Island's unique relationship with missing persons, and deadly remains. Well done. Bolger relied on statistics, established context (NamUs, etc.) and then detailed the people and details (even articles of clothing, brands, etc.) of the human lives behind their remains. Well done.

COVERAGE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT

DIVISION 1

FIRST PLACE

**THE KATONAH-LEWISBORO TIMES,
KATONAH**
*Brian Marschhauser and Tom
Bartley*

Professional looking/reading articles. Clear and concise and to the point. Great use of pictures and side quotes in presenting the news. Marijuana article well done with placing the article onto the picture.

SECOND PLACE (TIE)

**THE SCARSDALE INQUIRER,
SCARSDALE**

The use of stand-alone quotes enhances the desire to read the articles. Pictures effectively convey context of the story. Subsections in certain stories guides the audience through the writing.

SECOND PLACE (TIE)

WESTMORE NEWS, PORT CHESTER
*Jananne Abel, Sarah Wolpoff
and John Donegan*

Articles are written well and educate the reader. Appreciate the way the article is broken up into subsections. Good use of pictures, graphics and stand-alone quotes.

THIRD PLACE

THE SUFFOLK TIMES, MATTITUCK
*Brianne Ledda, Tara Smith,
Grant Parpan*

Clear and concise writing.

HONORABLE MENTION

**THE HIGHLANDS CURRENT,
PHILIPSTOWN**

*Michael Turton, Jeff Simms and
Leonard Sparks*

Writing flows well. use of sub headlines effective in attracting readers.

DIVISION 2

FIRST PLACE

**SULLIVAN COUNTY DEMOCRAT ,
CALLICOON**

Joseph Abraham

By far one of the best entries Pictures help tell the story to the reader. Also, the length of the story is pleasantly broken up by using subheadings. The style used on the front page continues to the jump page.

SECOND PLACE

PRESS-REPUBLICAN , PLATTSBURGH
Cara Chapman

and McKenzie Delisle

Effective writing style that drives the point of the story home. Well-written and edited paragraphs move the story along to the next 'exciting' event.

THIRD PLACE

THE RIVERDALE PRESS, RIVERDALE
*Ethan Stark-Miller, Michael Hin-
man and Joseph De La Cruz*

Well-written, well-organized articles are presented to the reader in a pleasing way. Gets the reader to finish the story inside the paper.

COVERAGE OF EDUCATION

DIVISION 1

FIRST PLACE

PELHAM EXAMINER, PELHAM
Sophia Leung

Great overall coverage of education. I was especially impressed by the equity audit coverage for its variety of sources and experiences, bringing life to a more technical topic.

SECOND PLACE

**BRONX TIMES REPORTER AND
BRONX TIMES, BRONX**
*Robbie Sequeira and Aliya
Schneider*

Variety of topics/institutions covered showed great overall coverage. Particularly like the reporters' abilities to cover an event but take it to the next level, going in depth with both facts and sources to give the full picture and show both sides of every story.

THIRD PLACE

**WANTAGH HERALD CITIZEN,
WANTAGH**
*Kate Nalepinski, Brian Stieglitz
and Stephanie Banat*

I enjoyed the balance of hard news and features related to the schools, keeping people informed on mask and vaccine protocols while also showcasing new programs and providing that human interest piece that is so vital.

Photographer of the Year, 2021

There were 15 entries in this category

FIRST PLACE:

ERICA MILLER, THE DAILY GAZETTE



The people who work with Erica describe her as the consummate shooter, beloved co-worker, perennial all-star and always willing to go the extra step to track down a source, investigate a story lead or help ferret out some information for a story. The judges loved how she captured action, reaction and emotion.

Erica got her start as a photojournalist as a student at SUNY Plattsburgh, where she worked at the college newspaper. She quickly moved up the ranks to be the paper's photo editor. After an internship with NYS Democratic Assembly and the Press Republican

newspaper in Plattsburgh. Erica worked at The Saratogian for 8 years until landing a job with The Daily Gazette.



SECOND PLACE:

CHRISTINA DALY, OCEANSIDE ISLAND PARK HERALD



Christina Daly, a lifelong Long Islander, shot her first newspaper assignment in 2007 and has been hooked ever since. She has worked as the Herald photo editor since 2009 and is responsible for photography, picture selection and story illustration for 18 Heralds and the Jewish Star. A self-taught photographer, Daly is most interested in capturing life's little moments, those split second emotions that are almost impossible to recreate. The judges loved those moments.



THIRD PLACE:

PEGGY GALLERY, THE SMITHTOWN NEWS



Peggy Gallery has been a professional photographer since 2012 and a photographer with The Smithtown News and Observer since 2016. She began taking photos as advent planner, eventually taking photos at her children's sporting events before becoming a freelance photographer.

In her five years at the North Shore News Group, Gallery developed a passion for taking photographs that showcase the action and context of each event she attends.



HONORABLE MENTION:

MIKE KOFF, THE ALTAMONT ENTERPRISE AND ALBANY COUNTY POST



Michael Koff has taken pictures since he was a little kid. "I've always loved it," he said. "I like capturing moments."

Koff, a graduate of the Albany Academy for Boys, went on to earn a bachelor's degree in psychology from Siena College in 2002. In order to pursue his passion for photography, he then earned a second bachelor's degree, in art with a concentration in photography, from the University at Albany. Koff has worked for The Enterprise since June 2007 as a general-assignment photographer. He has covered a wide variety of events — sports, fires, beauty pageants, student plays, and courtroom drama.

He is dedicated to his work and has the patience and persistence it takes to get good photographs. Week after week, Koff captures for our pages the substance of small-town American life.



Excellence Awards

COVERAGE OF EDUCATION

DIVISION 2

FIRST PLACE

QUEENS CHRONICLE, QUEENS
Max Parrott, Michael Gannon, Naeisha Rose and Deirdre Bardolf

Strong enterprise stories on a number of in-depth, investigative topics. Lots of details, sources and facts to back up reporting.

SECOND PLACE

TIMES UNION, ALBANY
Rachel Silberstein

-- Variety of interesting topics
-- Seeking/providing point of view from all sides

THIRD PLACE

THE EAST HAMPTON STAR, EAST HAMPTON
Christine Sampson

Nice variety of topics. I like how you were able to share a bit about the curriculum/what students are learning in a creative way.

COVERAGE OF BUSINESS, FINANCIAL & ECONOMIC NEWS

FIRST PLACE

WARWICK ADVERTISER, WARWICK
Becca Tucker, Hanna Wickes, Molly Colgan and Andrea Cosgrove

Liked the writing in this entry best. Good selection of stories.

SECOND PLACE

AMNEWYORK METRO, NEW YORK
Kirstyn Brendlen and Gabriele Holtermann

Well written. Series covered a lot more topics than just grocery apps

THIRD PLACE

THE ROCKAWAY TIMES, ROCKAWAY

Katie McFadden
Good selection of stories, well written

HONORABLE MENTION

THE RIVERDALE PRESS, RIVERDALE
Ethan Stark-Miller and Joseph De La Cruz

Lots of interesting topics.

COVERAGE OF THE ARTS

Division 1

FIRST PLACE

THE EAST HAMPTON PRESS, EAST HAMPTON
Annette Hinkle, Michelle Trauring and Bryan Boyhan

Oh my! Beautifully packaged articles. Scenes from Native America captivated me immediately. Well written article, with outstanding photography/artwork. The guitar layout is particularly appealing. Makes me wish I lived closer to experience some of these events! Arts coverage at its best!

SECOND PLACE

THE SOUTHAMPTON PRESS-WESTERN, WESTHAMPTON BEACH
Michelle Trauring, Annette Hinkle, Brendan O'Reilly and Bryan Boyhan

I like the variety of the entries. While all the articles are well written, the piece about photographing Ground Zero stands out. Excellent use of photography to tell a story and keep readers captivated.

THIRD PLACE

SAG HARBOR EXPRESS, SAG HARBOR
Michelle Trauring, Annette Hinkle and Sophie Griffin
Excellent writing. The NFT piece is especially timely ... and perhaps the best article I have read explaining what an NFT is, so thank you! Photography and artwork lend support to all articles and, in the case of the Road Rage piece, add another dimension to the storytelling.

HONORABLE MENTION

SOUTHAMPTON PRESS-EASTERN, SOUTHAMPTON
Annette Hinkle, Cailin Riley and Brendan O'Reilly

I like the variety of topics covered. Marie Curie Superheroes is an excellent piece. Artwork with Tumbling Woman stands out. A pleasure to read.

DIVISION 2

FIRST PLACE

LAKE CHAMPLAIN WEEKLY, PLATTSBURGH
Benjamin Pomerance
Outstanding coverage. Articles are well researched and feature strong, inviting writing. Quite a wide variety of topics covered. The "Into the Woods" history includes a lot of insight into the questions that drive the musical. A good read. Artwork/photos accentuate the pieces. Job well done!

SECOND PLACE

PRESS-REPUBLICAN, PLATTSBURGH
Robin Caudell
When I read the blurb for this entry, "From Auschwitz to the cosmos, coverage of local artists and their works," I was intrigued. Entries did not disappoint. All pieces are well written and draw in the reader. Photography accompanying the cosmos article pops on the page. Impressive!

THIRD PLACE

WATERTOWN DAILY TIMES, WATERTOWN
Chris Brock
Pieces cover a variety of art news. The story about Viggo's "Falling," is a great overview. You had me hooked in the lede. Photos with all pieces add to the final product, but especially so with the Islands piece. Well done.

COVERAGE OF THE ENVIRONMENT

FIRST PLACE

THE HIGHLANDS CURRENT, PHILIPSTOWN
Brian PJ Cronin
This newspaper's entries demonstrate breadth, depth, and range of coverage, superb journalistic writing, and excellence in presentation. Two long-form articles—one on the recent shutting down, after six decades, of a nuclear power plant and one about the 1930s CCC and today's "tree army"—plus shorter articles on the effects of undamming a stream, how hot summer days are even hotter in former redlined areas, and the case of the missing squirrels all help readers understand how we got to where we are and what options we have next. The writer presents thoroughly researched, well-sourced information in a conversational tone. Timelines, sidebars, maps, and other graphics help readers grasp data and concepts quickly. Striking images and clean layout draw readers to the articles; the writer's smooth prose leads readers through them.

SECOND PLACE

QUEENS CHRONICLE, QUEENS
Max Parrott, Naeisha Rose, Michael Gannon and Deirdre Bardolf
The entries range from articles about restoring hurricane-damaged wetlands and one neighborhood's hurricane-exacerbated drainage problems to ones about a seldom-seen side of the recycling industry, planned major energy projects, and the removal of scuttled boats from a local bay. Each article orients readers quickly to the problem, the people involved, and the various perspectives on the issue. For two of the articles, full-page images combined with creative headlines command readers' attention. Interior images on all articles complement the well-written, balanced, and clearly sourced articles.

THIRD PLACE

THE SOUTHAMPTON PRESS-WESTERN, WESTHAMPTON BEACH
Michael Wright, Brendan O'Reilly, Kitty Merrill and Jenny Noble
This newspaper's entries include railroad cars being used as artificial reefs, a local couple's invention of a non-plastic oyster box, the problems caused by antiquated septic systems and cesspools, controlling algae in a local lake, and the mating habits of horseshoe crabs. Writing styles range from the prosaic to the poetic, but each is appropriate to the topic. Smoothly written articles reflect thoughtful research and are clearly sourced. Images enhance the articles, and graphics help convey information and add to the articles' appeal.

HONORABLE MENTION

THE BROOKLYN PAPER, BROOKLYN
Ben Brachfeld, Ben Verde, Kevin Duggan and Rose Adams
These entries suggest a flexible and imaginative approach to environ-

mental coverage. One article, titled "(More) trees grow in Brooklyn," describes how the borough's tree canopy has changed over the years and what that bodes for the future. Images of people frolicking in the snow fall after a recent nor'easter passed through, sparked a side bar about why there has been an increase in the number of major snowstorms recently. Concisely written articles pack a lot of information into a short space.

COVERAGE OF HEALTH, HEALTHCARE & SCIENCE

FIRST PLACE

THE SOUTHAMPTON PRESS-EASTERN EDITION, SOUTHAMPTON
Michael Wright, Michelle Trauring and Desiree Keegan
This was a solid package of stories, with good reporting and writing. All stories flowed well and were well organized. I especially liked the personal examples, calling out the zoom cardio story in particular. Another strong story was on the delays in medical testing. Good job. But a quibble...kids are baby goats, not children. Otherwise, great work!

SECOND PLACE

LONG ISLAND PRESS, SYOSSET
Bernadette Starzee, Timothy Bolger and Briana Bonfiglio
This was a strong and diverse package of stories. The story on COVID-19 data being withheld was quite good. The explanation of HIPPA was easy to understand. The story about mold has a strong lead that pulls the reader in. It was well organized and well sourced. Holiday stress can easily fall into clichés. That didn't happen here, and it is appreciated. Great work in a very competitive class.

THIRD PLACE

SAG HARBOR EXPRESS, SAG HARBOR
Michael Wright, Cailin Riley and Michelle Trauring
This was a very solid package of entries, with a good array of topics. I very much liked the COVID-19 vaccination coverage, and the personal stories of trying to get appointments. I also liked the Project Hope piece. The teens talk piece was well done. "This was a strong package of stories. Fine work."

HONORABLE MENTION

DAN'S PAPERS, BRIDGEHAMPTON
Timothy Bolger and Jennifer Corr
The stories on disability staffing and masks in schools were especially strong. Holiday resurgence was also quite good. Stories are well sourced. Leads are a bit of a mouthful on a few of these. Otherwise, very solid reporting and writing. Great work.

BEST FRONT PAGE, 2021

FIRST PLACE — DIVISION 1

SAM DESMOND, NICOLE FUENTES, RYAN SWEZEY & SUZANNE LINK —

THE SUFFOLK COUNTY NEWS

"Liked the clean masthead and appealing photography, and strong fonts. Pages were consistent in that they gave some news and not just a photo with headlines. Clean style, eye-catching."

FIRST PLACE — DIVISION 2

PIERCE STRUDLER — THE HIGHLANDS CURRENT

"For me, the toughest of the 4 classes to pick a winner. Great front pages that make you want to get into these papers. Reads like a very community-minded paper. Well done."

FIRST PLACE — DIVISION 3

MICHAEL HALLISEY AND DAVID ABBOTT — COLONIE SPOTLIGHT

"Easily the winner in this division. Very appealing front page with good photos and just an overall attractive, upbeat layout. Like the headline font as well. Newspapers need to up their game to gain readers' attention, and this front page does that. Well done."

FIRST PLACE — DIVISION 4

THE EAST HAMPTON PRESS

"I think I would like working at this paper. Awesome coverage of local issues. Good clean modern design that complements local news. Eye-catching images and teasers above the masthead that invite readers inside."



Excellence Awards

It can be easy to fall into the trap

of editorializing or slanting reportage of politically charged crimes or legal stories, particularly for a specialty newspaper that represents a particular community impacted by those stories. This newspaper manages to do a good job of reporting the facts of important stories in a clear, accurate and unbiased manner.

SECOND PLACE

QUEENS COURIER, BAYSIDE

Bill Parry

Clear, detailed coverage without sensationalizing an important story that could easily have been ignored.

THIRD PLACE

THE NORTHPORT OBSERVER,

NORTHPORT

David Ambro

A good story well told, giving focus to the people in law enforcement, not just the crime.

HONORABLE MENTION

THE BROOKLYN PAPER, BROOKLYN

Aidan Graham, Jessica Parks,

Ben Verde and Rose Adams

A good example of not simply reporting the fact of a crime but getting into the details behind the crime.

COVERAGE OF ELECTIONS AND POLITICS

FIRST PLACE

THE HIGHLANDS CURRENT,

PHILIPSTOWN

Jeff Simms, Leonard Sparks, Liz

Armstrong and Chip Rowe

Great local election coverage!

SECOND PLACE

QUEENS COURIER, BAYSIDE

Angélica Acevedo, Zachary

Gewelb, Jenna Bagcal and

Julia Moro

Oops. Election board forgot to clear the machines! Also, best explanation of the ranked voter system I've seen (as an outsider).

THIRD PLACE

THE RIVERDALE PRESS, RIVERDALE

Ethan Stark-Miller and

Michael Hinman

Good local election coverage.

HONORABLE MENTION

THE VILLAGE SUN, NEW YORK

Lincoln Anderson and Mary

Reinholz

Good coverage. Very readable.

COVERAGE OF AGRICULTURE

FIRST PLACE

THE PHOTO NEWS, MONROE

Becca Tucker and Hanna Wickes

This entry delivers the whole package - great page layouts, photos, drop quotes, framed by terrific headlines, "Backyard poultry boom enters post-honeymoon phase," and "Do we want a bud shop in our town?" Inside the packages are great stories. This category had several entries that were informative and relied on information from experts from Cornell Cooperative Extension and other agricultural consultants, but these stories stand out because they are entertaining as well as informative, and because they are local, local, local, and fun to read.

SECOND PLACE

THE SUFFOLK TIMES, MATTITUCK

Brianne Ledda, Tara Smith,

Charity Robey and Melissa Azo-

feifa

Local coverage of legalized marijuana and a booming apple crop - good page layout and accompanying photos. Extensive examination of government actions on marijuana, and solid explanation of why the apple crop boomed.

THIRD PLACE

SARATOGA TODAY,

SARATOGA SPRINGS

Chris Bushee and Kacie Cot-

ter-Sacala

Interesting information about the need for quantities of quality water for livestock and the benefits of crop rotation. Real news.

COVERAGE OF RELIGION

FIRST PLACE

QUEENS CHRONICLE, QUEENS

Max Parrott, Katherine Donlevy,

Naeisha Rose and Michael Gannon

Nice variety of topics and religions covered. Each was thorough and included a variety of sources and views. I live in a small midwest (pop. 1213) town with 2 Protestant and one Catholic church, so it was interesting to see the variety of religions in your community.

SECOND PLACE

GAY CITY NEWS, NEW YORK

Tat Bellamy-Walker

Good thorough coverage of story. Lots of sources cited. Maintained neutrality throughout article, just stated facts.

THIRD PLACE

MERRICK HERALD LIFE, MERRICK

Andrew Garcia

and Jordan Vallone

Very strongly worded and political. Lots of good quotes, very biased, but I guess that is what they wanted to get across. Nice tribute to a man and his family's gift in his memory. Multiple resources. Nice blending of history and

celebration

SPORTS FEATURE

DIVISION 1

FIRST PLACE

THE NEWS-REVIEW, RIVERHEAD

Bob Liepa

Wonderful, well researched story. The lede ropes you in. The first quote is perfect. Good use of multiple, varied sources. I like that you tied in your own paper's contemporary coverage of the 1950 game.

SECOND PLACE

SAG HARBOR EXPRESS,

SAG HARBOR

Cailin Riley

Strong imagery. Clever tie in with "Party in the USA." Good, thorough coverage of an interesting story.

THIRD PLACE

WESTMORE NEWS, PORT CHESTER

Michael Iachetta

Fun and easy to read. Colorful word choice!

HONORABLE MENTION

QUEENS CHRONICLE, QUEENS

Michael Gannon

DIVISION 2

FIRST PLACE

THE HIGHLANDS CURRENT,

PHILIPSTOWN

Leonard Sparks

A well-written look back at the summer exploits of a Little League team that almost went all the way to Williamsport. Hearing from the players, 40 years later, helped place the reader back at those summer baseball fields with the team.

SECOND PLACE

THE DAILY NEWS, BATAVIA

Alex Brasky

Clever lead. This is an enjoyable look at three sets of twins dominating in sports while succeeding in the classroom at a small school, where everyone wears multiple hats.

THIRD PLACE

THE DAILY STAR, ONEONTA

Nick Richardson

A small town sends three guys to a team in one of baseball's most competitive summer leagues and the result is a championship.

HONORABLE MENTION

THE SOUTHAMPTON PRESS-EASTERN

EDITION, SOUTHAMPTON

Cailin Riley

I think we can all agree with the lead, so long as we're punching "something" rather than "someone." Nice work!

HEADLINE WRITING

FIRST PLACE

THE HIGHLANDS CURRENT,

PHILIPSTOWN

This is a very strong package of headlines that shows consistently thoughtful work. The headlines do not feel forced and work well in reflecting the content of their articles. These are headlines that work to reflect and compliment their articles, not try to bowl over the reader with forced cleverness.

SECOND PLACE

PARK SLOPE COURIER,

PARK SLOPE

Aidan Graham, Meaghan McGoldrick and Leah Mitch

"Lifting the Vale" is a tremendous headline that acknowledges the reader's intelligence. The other headlines in this package also show a respect for the reader

THIRD PLACE

ADIRONDACK DAILY ENTERPRISE,

SARANAC LAKE

Elizabeth Izzo, Peter Crowley,

Steve Miller and Aaron Cerbone

Great use of book and music (and food) references. Clever without being belabored.

COVERAGE OF

CRIME/POLICE/COURTS

DIVISION 1

FIRST PLACE

THE SUFFOLK TIMES, MATTITUCK

Grant Parpan, Steve Wick, Joe

Werkmeister and Brianne Ledda

Good, clean coverage of some ugly stories without sensationalizing, especially difficult when covering drug stories.

SECOND PLACE

THE NEWS-REVIEW, RIVERHEAD

Grant Parpan, Joe Werkmeister,

Tim Gannon and Melissa Azo-

feifa

Detailed, clear accounts of investigations and personal stories without sensationalizing.

THIRD PLACE

PORT TIMES-RECORD,

PORT JEFFERSON

Julianne Mosher

Good reporting of a difficult story. Some editors don't like quote heavy pieces, but I always prefer to use a quote rather than paraphrasing whenever possible, whether it be a person or court document.

HONORABLE MENTION

AMITYVILLE RECORD, AMITYVILLE

Carolyn James

Fascinating story.

DIVISION 2

FIRST PLACE

GAY CITY NEWS, NEW YORK

Matt Tracy, Arthur S. Leonard

and Tat Bellamy-Walker

Best Sports Action Photo(s), 2021



FIRST PLACE — DIVISION 1
LOU REUTER
ADIRONDACK DAILY ENTERPRISE

"This photo shows the intensity of rugby as a sport, as well as the determination of the players. There are so many visual expressions in this, it makes the photo really enjoyable."



FIRST PLACE — DIVISION 2
SKIP PEARLMAN

THE HIGHLANDS CURRENT

"This is such a good freeze frame of the action, with the dirt flying and, of course, the capture of this amazing facial expression."



FIRST PLACE — DIVISION 3
JOEY LAFRANCA
THE PRESS-REPUBLICAN

"The action of the goalie and the kicker in this picture, as well as the framing of the ball, gives the reader an excellent idea of what's going on."

Excellence Awards

SPORTS FEATURE

DIVISION 3

FIRST PLACE

TIMES UNION, ALBANY

Abigail Rubel

The opening anecdote about the Mohawk Colored Giants hanging a loss on legendary pitcher Walter Johnson sets just the right tone. So much was lost in the dark history of baseball's segregated past, but so much is gained when a writer does such a great job revealing these lost stories.

SECOND PLACE

DAILY GAZETTE,

SCHENECTADY

Mike MacAdam

A poignant look at a man who stepped off the coaching marry-go-round, then was taken way too soon. I smell the butter on the popcorn.

THIRD PLACE

DAILY GAZETTE,

SCHENECTADY

Adam Shinder

Nicely crafted lead that puts the story about Special Olympic athletes in its proper perspective. What we've lost during two years of disruption may be impossible to calculate, but we get a taste of it here.

HONORABLE MENTION

DAILY GAZETTE,

SCHENECTADY

Michael Kelly

An enjoyable look back at one of Union College's biggest fans.

SOLUTIONS

JOURNALISM PROJECT

FIRST PLACE

AMNEWYORK METRO, NEW YORK

Kirstyn Brendlen and Gabriele Holtermann

This newspaper is to be commended for tackling such an important story on a topical issue facing your readers (and advertisers). The newspaper allocated the resources — reporters and photographers' salaries, paper and ink — to help their readers understand the changing dynamics of shopping that is sweeping across America and the globe. The newspaper did an exceptional job of being fair and balanced by getting comments from all sides — the delivery app companies and the brick-and-mortar grocers and shoppers. This sort of stories and series of stories reminds readers why newspapers continue to play an important role in their daily lives.

SECOND PLACE

WATERTOWN DAILY TIMES,

WATERTOWN

Kara Dry

Great job of reporting on an important issue facing communities across the country. Domestic abuse occurs in every community on a daily basis. Great work finding victims willing to talk publicly and share their nightmares with your readers. Many people like to think "it can't happen in our community," but this series of stories shows it can and does. Great job providing victims with information on what they can do to save their lives or the lives of loved ones. My only concern was this: It IS an important issue, but the newspaper didn't play it bigger in the paper. It should have been a prominent, centerpiece story in each issue. Had it been this series would have taken the first-place award because the writing was exceptional and the photography first-class.

THIRD PLACE

THE HIGHLANDS CURRENT,

PHILIPSTOWN

Brian PJ Cronin

What an informative and helpful report. The newspaper dedicated plenty of time, energy and expense to discussing a complex and important issue facing many of its readers. Many newspapers would have wrapped up a similar story in a single issue, but this newspaper dedicated plenty of space and ink to the topic. The series most certainly will increase the number of volunteers and perhaps donations to food banks and community farms. Solid reporting. Great writing. Wonderful use of quotes and photos.

HONORABLE MENTION

DAILY GAZETTE,

SCHENECTADY

Good job on an important issue. Seeking out women who were willing to speak out publicly is always a tough job, but the newspaper found six women who were willing to share their stories of sexual harassment in hopes of helping other victims. The section on what steps women can take if they are sexually harassed at work added immensely to the project. Good job.

SPORTS COVERAGE

FIRST PLACE

THE EAST HAMPTON PRESS,

EAST HAMPTON

There are some great stories here, accompanied by amazing photos, that take a look at not only the action but also the impact of loss and of the loss of spectators.

SECOND PLACE

MENDON-HONEOYE FALLS-LIMA

SENTINEL, MENDON

Donna MacKenzie

There is some great coverage and reporting done here, and the pictures add wonderful visuals.

THIRD PLACE

AMHERST BEE, WILLIAMSVILLE

Patrick Nagy

I enjoyed seeing coverage of so many sports, and the inclusion of the bowling scores shows the dedication to coverage of all sports.

HONORABLE MENTION

THE SCARSDALE INQUIRER

SCARSDALE

There are plenty of pictures here to help add to the coverage, and I find the boxed information with stats and game times particularly helpful to the reader.

SPOT NEWS COVERAGE

DIVISION 1

FIRST PLACE

MALVERNE W HEMPSTEAD HERALD,

MALVERNE

Nakeem Grant, Scott Brinton, Peter Belfiore, Sue Grieco and James Bernstein

Timely and multi-faceted coverage of crime that affects a community. Especially since the shooter, in this case, was not apprehended immediately. Continued coverage of the event is appropriate as the event rocked the community.

SECOND PLACE

WESTMORE NEWS, PORT CHESTER

Sarah Wolpoff & Aliya Schneider

Extensive coverage of devastation to their community. Breadth of coverage is excellent. What happened and how the community begins to recover are well documented.

THIRD PLACE

THE SUFFOLK TIMES, MATTITUCK

Grant Parpan and Steve Wick

Complicated story for the community to understand — you did a great job.

HONORABLE MENTION

ADIRONDACK DAILY ENTERPRISE,

SARANAC LAKE

Aaron Cerbone

Good basic spot reporting in a timely manner. Very good representation and quotes from parties involved.

DIVISION 3

FIRST PLACE

THE BROOKLYN PAPER, BROOKLYN

Aidan Graham

This writer does a fine job of highlighting the timing of the shooting, as well as placing the shooting in a societal context. There were many moving parts in the events of the story, and the writer keeps a clear focus.

SECOND PLACE

SULLIVAN COUNTY DEMOCRAT,

CALICOON

Matt Shortall

This spot news piece is a premier example of how local journalism should be done — tight writing and the facts clearly laid out. Pieces like this are what make local newspapers so valuable.

THIRD PLACE

GAY CITY NEWS, NEW YORK

Tat Bellamy-Walker

The writer explains a complicated issue — unionization — clearly. Also keeps a focus on the goal of the organization.

NEWS STORY

DIVISION 1

FIRST PLACE

SHAWANGUNK JOURNAL,

ELLENVILLE

Tim Michaels

COVID has been difficult to report on, but this was a great article. Standard until the little girl got up and told her story. That was a turn I didn't expect but was so powerful. The chart showing COVID deaths compared to Flu deaths was perfect. The entire piece was put together beautifully.

SECOND PLACE

SAG HARBOR EXPRESS,

SAG HARBOR

Stephen J. Kotz

This was interesting. Days after reading it I told people about this story. I would like to know if you ever got a hold of the other daughter to see if she wanted the vest. I liked the paper's role in helping to reunite this artifact with its owners family. You told a great story that stuck with me.

THIRD PLACE

PELHAM EXAMINER, PELHAM

I thought this was a fantastic idea to interview local politicians after Jan. 6 and print their responses. It's good for a community to know how their leaders feel about this type of behavior. It was put together well, just great.

HONORABLE MENTION

MERRICK HERALD LIFE, MERRICK

Andrew Garcia

Fantastic reporting on a sensitive subject. Something of this nature could be very difficult to report — great thoughtful ness — using the right terms, being sensitive to the subjects and being unbiased all while telling the story.



17

Excellence Awards

DIVISION 2

FIRST PLACE

**BRONX TIMES REPORTER AND
BRONX TIMES, BRONX**
Robbie Sequeira

The first three paragraphs present a way to combat homeless. The writer uses one resident to show the problem, then lists a number of sources and documents to outline the problem, and then closes with comments from the source person. Coverage is excellent, the story is well written, and the documentation is worked into the piece. Certainly, this is a timely story and shows that something is being done in an unusual way. Story grabs my attention.

SECOND PLACE

**BRONX TIMES REPORTER
AND BRONX TIMES, BRONX**
Aliya Schneider

The lead catches the reader's attention, and the entry reads easily. Work was involved in gathering the story, coverage was good, several sources were used, and organization was good. The focus of the story is how the centers work and ways they help fight addiction, but the story also includes noticeable objection to them and what some objections are. Timely story on key issue.

THIRD PLACE

**EAST AURORA ADVERTISER,
EAST AURORA**
Shelly Ferullo

A civil war reenactment ends with controversy, and some solid research by the reporter turns this into a timely story. The reporter talks with many actors and discovers why they enjoy their work and how what they do teaches people many historical facts. Turns out that reenactments are held in many places and have some usual incidents. Writer documents the story and writes it in an interesting way with proper sentences and organization. Not an easy story to do but you will be surprised at the information presented. Story catches the reader's attention.

DIVISION 3

FIRST PLACE

**THE RED HOOK STAR-REVU,
BROOKLYN**
Jorge Bello

Amazingly thorough. Found I had questions that were subsequently answered which speaks to the flow and structure of the article. Sourcing is solid, coherent voices on both sides help paint a more vivid picture of the issue at hand. Love it. Use of graphics, photos, and clever and unique formatting of the story just added to the completeness of it all. Lede, no, the first paragraph alone does something fantastic for me. It tells you the subject of the article, sure, but it, in just two sentences, also allows you to understand that issue at hand as well.

With a little imagination, you can even see what the possible stances of stakeholders will be during the ensuring story. Great piece, thank you for submitting. Was a joy to read!

SECOND PLACE

THE EXAMINER, MOUNT KISCO
Bailey Hosfelt

Solid story through and through. Lede + headline told me exactly what I was going to read. 'plot' of article was extremely intuitive. Local -> National -> Legislation/'Repercussions' -> back to local. Fantastic. Reporting was thorough, complete and well done. No one had an overpowering voice, no one seemed underrepresented. Sourcing allowed the story, though focused in on one family, to feel representative of everyone hit by flooding in the US. Great job.

THIRD PLACE

**WATERTOWN DAILY TIMES,
WATERTOWN**
Alex Gault

Great sources. Great structure. And the timeliness of it all, it's an issue spreading across the country, way to jump on top of it! The variety of sources and skill in writing present a well-thought, well-written article that gets to the points that matter and then tells you why. Allows you to observe evidence in writing and photos, and then tell you what got us there. Fantastic piece!

HONORABLE MENTION

WARWICK ADVERTISER, WARWICK
Becca Tucker
Very close on third!!

DIVISION 4

FIRST PLACE

**THE SOUTHAMPTON
PRESS-EASTERN EDITION,
SOUTHAMPTON**
*Michael Wright
and Brendan J. O'Reilly*

A grand and comprehensive examination of a Congressional Representative's stance on the Jan. 6 Washington, DC capitol riot and the November 2020 election outcome. This is a substantive example of pure journalism. While the lead article and the accompanying analysis of the Representative's Jan. 6 remarks during the House session that evening are the focus, the reporter and analytical writer brought together details that could/should offer readers a generous hard-fact-based account of the lawmaker's position.

SECOND PLACE

TIMES UNION, ALBANY
Brendan J. Lyons

A very thorough, balanced, researched and sourced account of public officials receiving priority testing in the early stages of the COVID-19 pandemic, especially those in and around the governor's sphere of influence. Excellent reporting, and writing! A great example of professional journalism!

THIRD PLACE

THE BROOKLYN PAPER, BROOKLYN
Rose Adams

A good account of how a national issue affected a minority culture in the newspaper's home area. Good writing, relevant quotes to and on the issue provide and provoke the local connection.

HONORABLE MENTION

QUEENS CHRONICLE, QUEENS
Deirdre Bardolf

Lots of voices, good sourcing, and a comprehensive report on an immediate housing crisis. Writer/reporter did a fine job of defining the issue and incorporating detail to give readers a most credible look at a frustrating community challenge.

FEATURE STORY

DIVISION 1

FIRST PLACE

**SAG HARBOR EXPRESS,
SAG HARBOR**
Michelle Trauring

Absolutely riveting...I had tears in my eyes! I loved the many voices and the way the writer took us through this woman's life. Fantastic!

SECOND PLACE

**SAG HARBOR EXPRESS,
SAG HARBOR**
Bryan Boyhan

I enjoyed the different perspective through the eyes of the writer - very moving, and extremely well written. And the photos...my goodness, almost too much to handle!

THIRD PLACE

SUFFOLK COUNTY NEWS, SAYVILLE
Nicole Fuentes

The whole package done perfectly! Great headlines, artwork and writing, and the break-out box is a wonderful eye-catching addition. This was a very tough category with so many good entries, but great job!

HONORABLE MENTION

LAKE PLACID NEWS, LAKE PLACID
Andy Flynn

An intriguing story that we can ALL relate to. I couldn't stop reading - and I LOVED the feet photo! There were just so many entries in this really tough category, but great job!

DIVISION 2

FIRST PLACE

**PUTNAM COUNTY COURIER,
CARMEL**
Eric Gross

Thorough and personal. It's easy to see how much thought, research and time was put into this story. This topic is a tough one to write about, but Carrion was candid and very personal about all she endured. The writer did an excellent job of taking all these aspects, conversations, and research into a story that makes it easy to follow, easy to ready, and easy to digest all that you're taking in.

SECOND PLACE

CITY & STATE, NEW YORK
Ralph R. Ortega

You can tell that much time and research went into this story. Although this was a lengthy piece, it was an easy one to follow where the writer made one topic or interview flow nicely into the next.

THIRD PLACE

**THE SOUTHAMPTON PRESS-
WESTERN EDITION,
WESTHAMPTON BEACH**
Desirée Keegan

This is very well written. I found myself thrown into the community and cheering for this superintendent myself. Great story about a worthy individual...but it was the writer who MADE this story come to life!

HONORABLE MENTION

**THE SOUTHAMPTON PRESS-
WESTERN EDITION,
WESTHAMPTON BEACH**
Michelle Trauring

Going beyond the statistics of Covid, this story dug into outlying issues that are a direction result of Covid: isolation, anxiety, etc. The writer did a nice job of tying in families, victim, and research. The feature did an excellent job of shedding light onto this delicate issue.

DIVISION 3

FIRST PLACE

**THE EAST HAMPTON PRESS,
EAST HAMPTON**
Michelle Trauring

The writer tackles a subject that many are facing after the pandemic: limited housing. Her reporting on one couple's plight is as real as it gets. Excellent report!

SECOND PLACE

CORTLAND STANDARD, CORTLAND
Katie Keyser

This writer did an excellent job revealing the caregiver's side of an illness like Alzheimer's and dementia. It's something we don't normally hear about and if we do, the people who talk about it are never quite as frank about how to deal with it. Great work!

THIRD PLACE

ALBANY BUSINESS REVIEW, ALBANY
Chelsea Diana

J Jaime Ortiz's success story isn't unique, but his approach certainly is. This was a thorough, interesting piece on a businessman who knows a thing or two about timing.

HONORABLE MENTION

**BRONX TIMES REPORTER AND
BRONX TIMES, BRONX**
Aliya Schneider and Robbie Sequeira

Stories about politicians usually aren't something that will keep a reader's interest for long, but this report was different. Maybe it was that the story, in general, was interesting, or maybe it was how this piece was put together. Regardless, it kept me engaged. Good job!

Sharon R. Fulmer Award for Community Leadership, 2021

FIRST PLACE — THE POST-STANDARD

KAREN SHERWOOD, TOM BROWN, JIM READ, TIM KENNEDY

'OLD NEWSBOYS' HOPE FOR THE HOLIDAYS CHRISTMAS FUNDRAISER CAMPAIGN

The judges said: "What a great idea/cause! You are making a huge impact!! As newspapers, we don't always get the best reputations and to do something so humbling is awesome. I loved seeing all of your advertisements, articles and listening to the audio ad (what a great idea!)"

The *Post-Standard* has led community groups and individuals in this annual fundraising drive since the 1930s. Each year, we line up dozens of groups (such as Kiwanis, Ancient Order of Hibernians, Rotary,

Syracuse Crunch hockey team, etc.) and hundreds of individuals as volunteers to "sell" special editions of *The Post-Standard* on street corners, in malls, at gas stations and convenience stores, downtown sidewalks and more.

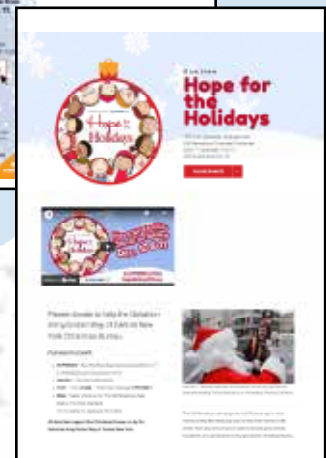
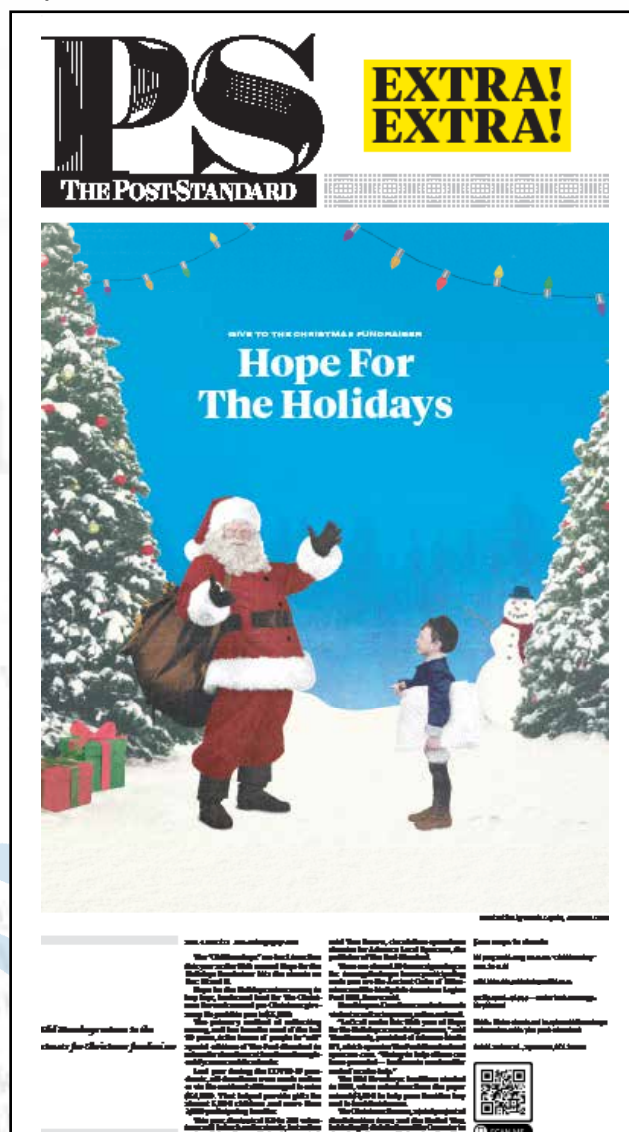
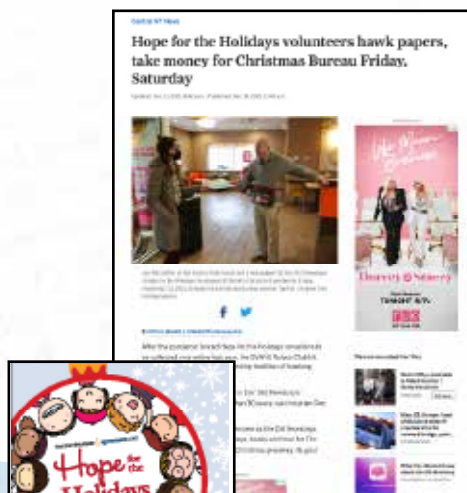
All of the money raised goes to the Salvation Army/United Way's annual Christmas Bureau.

Post-Standard employees participate as well "selling" the special editions in early December (this year Dec. 10 and 11), and helping to give out toys and food baskets to needy families on distribution day (Dec. 15).

This year's drive was a similar success, and raised around \$40K, final numbers still to come.

With this award recognizing community leadership, it can't be stressed enough the role *The Post-Standard* plays in leading this project, with our own employees (participating ourselves) and as importantly leading members of the community, in this project that helps members of our community.

"Our leadership includes articles, ads, outreach, organization and when needed motivation and inspiration," the paper said. "Of course, we also print and donate the special editions of *The Post-Standard*. The result is thousands of children and families have a nicer Christmas than they otherwise would have."



SHARON R. FULMER

Sharon R. Fulmer was co-editor of *The Review* (Liverpool, NY). She served as president of the NYPA board of directors in 1994. In recognition of the countless hours that Sharon devoted to community service, this award was established in her honor in 2008. The award is presented with a stipend for the winner to donate to the community service project of his/her choice.



Excellence Awards

FEATURE STORY

DIVISION 4

FIRST PLACE

LAKE CHAMPLAIN WEEKLY, PLATTSBURGH

Benjamin Pomerance

This story yanks in the reader from the very beginning, and it doesn't let go until the end. While it is lengthy, it is told beautifully. The writer did a fantastic job of being incredibly detailed without going over the top. He spins the story in a way that makes it feel like we were right there with Jimmy throughout his life.

SECOND PLACE

THE EXAMINER, MOUNT KISCO

Andrew Vitelli

It was immediately obvious how much research, time and diligence went into this story. It shed light on a very important topic and thoroughly covered the details.

THIRD PLACE

THE RIVERDALE PRESS, RIVERDALE

Michael Hinman

This story was so well organized, weaving together the life story of Handschuh and his experience on 9/11. Those moments on 9/11 were gripping, and the use of his quotes added wonderfully to the article.

HONORABLE MENTION

THE EAST HAMPTON STAR,

EAST HAMPTON

Christopher Walsh

This story proves that a feature story doesn't have to be long to draw the reader in and tell a complete story. It had history and humor, and it was fun to read.

HONORABLE MENTION

THE ROCKAWAY TIMES,

ROCKAWAY

Katie McFadden

This was such an incredible story. I loved how after so many years these two families continued to stay connected and were there for the most important moments in life. It was easy to read and filled with great details.

DIVISION 5

FIRST PLACE

MAHOPAC NEWS, MAHOPAC

Brett Freeman

Very informative writing and from many angles of the topic, great job.

SECOND PLACE

THE BROOKLYN PAPER, BROOKLYN

Ben Brachfeld

Pretty cool article, wanted to keep reading.

THIRD PLACE

PRESS-REPUBLICAN, PLATTSBURGH

McKenzie Delisle

Love that the homes weren't allowed to just fall in and were loved by others, great piece.

HONORABLE MENTION

WATERTOWN DAILY TIMES,

WATERTOWN

Chris Brock

Very nice.

DIVISION 6

FIRST PLACE

DAN'S PAPERS, BRIDGEHAMPTON

Oliver Peterson

At times, a story grabs your attention and this one does. If you want good writing, originality, style, and human interest, the story has all of them. Several people involved and some excellent quotes that portray the sources' feeling. The pilot got involved when he went to Haiti and has remained involved. What the pilot saw was brutal, such as a carpentry saw for amputations. He got so busy he suddenly realized he had not changed shirts for 17 days. He got others interested and a new school is being built. You'll be glad to read the story; I was.

SECOND PLACE

QUEENS COURIER, BAYSIDE

Four wonderful feature stories have strong human interest, are well written, and each has its own style. One is an emotional story of a wife and daughter taking care of their husband/ father after he had a stroke that left him unable to speak. In addition to daily care, he was further challenged by Covid. A second story about the care being given to a young child with a disease with no known cure that limits life to 3 to 5 years. A third story was about a new comedy team, and the final story was about a young woman who is a boxer, has climbed several mountains, runs in marathons, and trains every day. You want to read these.

THIRD PLACE

TIMES UNION, ALBANY

Shayla Colon

A memory you'll remember if you read this feature. The writer was only three when her mother was killed in 9/11 and has little memory of her, but each year she takes roses and goes to her grave. But what she doesn't remember, her father does, and she recalls his experiences. She remembers his account of their last day together and his searching for her. She remembers he called her to watch CNN's coverage of the terrorist's death. Amazing work.

BEST NEWS

OR FEATURE SERIES

DIVISION 1

FIRST PLACE

THE RIVER REPORTER,

NARROWSBURG

Helen Demeranville

Interesting series on NYC foie gras ban.

SECOND PLACE

THE VILLAGE SUN, NEW YORK

Lincoln Anderson

Interesting ongoing coverage of efforts to save a beloved community park.

THIRD PLACE

THE HIGHLANDS CURRENT,

PHILIPSTOWN

Brian PJ Cronin

Great series on local hunger and what folks are doing to combat it.

HONORABLE MENTION

CHELSEA COMMUNITY NEWS,

NEW YORK

Bonnie Rosenstock

Rats! These stories make my skin crawl. Informative.

DIVISION 2

FIRST PLACE

THE SCARSDALE INQUIRER,

SCARSDALE

Todd Sliss, Molly Bookner and

Jim Maclean

This was a great package of stories, with so many strong pieces. There was not a weak story in the bunch. The illustrations and photos added so much. I especially liked the first responder first-person and litigation book stories, as well as the story about the sons who lost their father. The artist story provided a unique perspective. All were reported and written well. Great job!

SECOND PLACE

BRONX TIMES REPORTER AND

BRONX TIMES, BRONX

Robbie Sequeira

Several papers entered stories about the state's marijuana act, and this was the best of the bunch. Reporting and writing were great, and stories flowed well without getting too caught up in statistics. Great quotes. Great work.

THIRD PLACE

THE SCARSDALE INQUIRER,

SCARSDALE

Todd Sliss, Jim Maclean, Kris Dilozenzo

This was a very good package of stories on Afghan resettlement and the complex issues around it. Stories were well organized and well sourced. Personal stories were powerful. Fine work!

HONORABLE MENTION

THE SPOTLIGHT, DELMAR

Mike Hallisey, John McIntyre, Olivia Poust and Cheyenne Wallace

The story about the locomotives and the need to (again) restore them was great. There was lots of good information and it flowed well. I also liked the piece about painted rocks and the trails piece.

DIVISION 3

FIRST PLACE

NORTH COUNTRY THIS WEEK,

POTSDAM

Jimmy Lawton

This was tough one emotionally,

but the writer did an excellent job putting the information together for the reader to engage and educate on what was happening. One paragraph flowed right into the next and the series all tied together nicely. The writer did a great job balancing facts with emotions in the story, that is why this series moved to the top of the list.

SECOND PLACE

TIMES UNION, ALBANY

Rachel Silberstein

The writer did a great job taking an insurmountable amount of information and organized it in a well thought out story. The features were easy to follow, which made it easy to comprehend the full spectrum of the story. It's easy to see how much time and effort was put into this very well-done series.

THIRD PLACE

QUEENS CHRONICLE, QUEENS

Katherine Donlevy, Naeisha

Rose, Michael Gannon, Deirdre

Bardolf and Max Parrott

All the different aspects that were covered in this series were great. Each feature with its own story to tell, yet the series pulled everything together. The stories that have emerged since that fateful day are heartbreaking stories in and of themselves. Nicely done and may these remembrances continue to be told.

HONORABLE MENTION

WATERTOWN DAILY TIMES,

WATERTOWN

Chris Brock

The Pillars of the Pandemic features were well put together and personal pieces. I especially liked the wide variety of individuals selected..

BEST OBITUARIES

FIRST PLACE

THE NEWS-REVIEW, RIVERHEAD

Bob Liepa, Joe Werkmeister,

Tara Smith and Melissa Azofeifa

I'll say this to all - this is a tough class to judge and difficult to pick a winner. "Celebrate Keri" was the gem of the class for me. Clear writing, nice lede, detailed obituary.

SECOND PLACE

THE VILLAGE SUN, NEW YORK

Lincoln Anderson and John

Pietaro

I'll repeat -this was a tough class to judge and nearly impossible to pick winners. This paper certainly earns kudos for # of obituaries. Wow. That said, content was just as impressive. Very extensive obituaries. Well done

THIRD PLACE

NASSAU HERALD, LAWRENCE

Jeff Bessen

The April issue with the obituary for Jim Steinman was terrific. The lede made me want to keep reading and the more I read the more I wanted to read. Well done.

Richard L. Stein Award for Overall Design Excellence, 2021

FIRST PLACE

THE RIVERDALE PRESS

"Wonderful design. Hometown feel."

SECOND PLACE

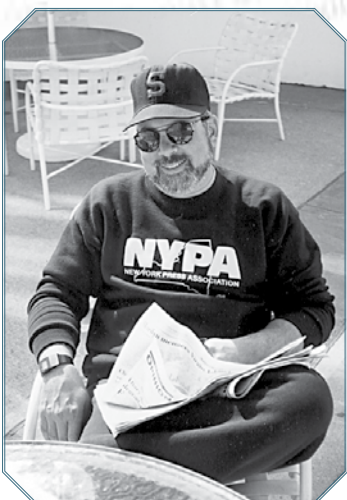
THE EAST HAMPTON PRESS

"Nice layout design. Good use of photo above the fold with the flag. Well thought-out scheme."



RICHARD L. STEIN

Richard L. Stein is the former publisher of *The Riverdale Press*. He served as president of the New York Press Association board of directors in 1988. Acknowledging the countless hours Richard has spent sharing his award-winning design talents with journalism students and newspaper graphic designers, the NYPA board established this award in his honor in 2008.





EDITORIALS

DIVISION 1

FIRST PLACE

**ADIRONDACK EXPLORER,
SARANAC LAKE**

Tracy Ormsbee

The newspaper took a firm stance asking the state to spend taxpayer money to buy a park for inclusion in the Adirondack Forest Preserve, strengthening the Adirondack Park Agency and government transparency. Each of the issues affects readers and the editorials included sound reasons and arguments. These sorts of editorials remind readers why newspapers continue to play an important role in their daily lives. Well done! Keep up the good work

SECOND PLACE

LAKE PLACID NEWS, LAKE PLACID
Andy Flynn

Three great editorials on subjects that affect readers. The editorial on the Ironman competition was well-balanced and insightful. Opting out of marijuana sales revenue was firm and included sound reasoning. Good job!

THIRD PLACE

MERRICK HERALD LIFE, MERRICK
Scott Brinton

I loved the fact that the newspaper put “faces” on their editorials. Each editorial led off with a narrative lead paragraph about someone affected, which helped readers relate to the issue. Great job! (I’ll start doing this myself!)

HONORABLE MENTION

**SAG HARBOR EXPRESS,
SAG HARBOR**

Wow, calling out a U.S. Congressman, how courageous! And the newspaper did a wonderful job of showing the congressman’s partisan ways. Really good job!

DIVISION 2

FIRST PLACE

TIMES UNION, ALBANY
Jay Jochnowitz

Well-reasoned, well-argued editorials on issues affecting readers. Great job calling out U.S. Rep. Elise Stefanik for helping to ignite the Jan. 6, 2021, riot. Gutsy! Courageous! And St. Clare hospital’s moral failure to live up to its agreement to provide pension to workers was well-crafted and no doubt opened the eyes of many readers. Great job of holding Asst. Police Chief John Catone’s feet to the fire, as well as his enabler Commissioner Dalton. The editorials, each one holding those in public office accountable. Awesome! Ben Franklin would be pleased.

SECOND PLACE

CORTLAND STANDARD, CORTLAND
Todd R. McAdam

Good stance on the county legislature chairman who didn’t think before speaking. Great job of holding people in power accountable. Quite daring and well-argued. “Get

the resources to govern” is another example of a newspaper playing a critical role in the lives of the people it serves. McAdam offered a clear, concise path for the county to follow to help mitigate the ongoing covid pandemic. Good job!

THIRD PLACE

AMNEWYORK METRO, NEW YORK
Robert Pozarycki

Important topics - a congresswoman who helped ignite the fire that led to the Jan. 6, 2021, storming of the Capitol, the need for more subway police and moving an overhead roadway underground. It was courageous to call out new Congresswoman Nicole Malliotakis — and she deserved a public scolding. Likewise, asking for more police on the subway or moving a decrepit overhead roadway underground - each editorial played an important role. Good job.

HONORABLE MENTION

THE RIVERDALE PRESS, RIVERDALE
Michael Hinman

Making a Difference of Making a Mess — a strong editorial on an important issue. Good job of holding public officials accountable.

BEST COLUMN

DIVISION 1

FIRST PLACE

MERRICK HERALD LIFE, MERRICK
Scott Brinton

This writer is great at making the reader think, but not cramming the message down their throat. Well written, well thought. Overall, great work.

SECOND PLACE

**SHELTER ISLAND REPORTER,
SHELTER ISLAND**
Ambrose Clancy

Wow. This writer can really turn a phrase. Very fluid writing style. Very well put together.

THIRD PLACE

**MENDON-HONEOYE FALLS-LIMA
SENTINEL, MENDON**
Christopher Carosa

This writer pulls the reader in from the very start. Well written work. Truly work that makes the reader think — and I’m sure most readers will learn something along the way, too.

HONORABLE MENTION

**THE ALTAMONT ENTERPRISE AND
ALBANY COUNTY POST, ALTAMONT**
Dennis Sullivan

The reader can learn a lot from this writer. Very well written work

DIVISION 2

FIRST PLACE

WILLISTON TIMES, WILLISTON PARK
Andy Malekoff

Great job of localizing a national issue. Great research. The words flow so effortlessly, the readers don’t even realize they are being educated.

SECOND PLACE

THE YORKTOWN NEWS, YORKTOWN
Brian Marschhauser

The writer does a great job of mixing local issues in with intelligent commentary. Well written.

THIRD PLACE

THE EXAMINER, MOUNT KISCO
Erin Maher

The writer did an excellent job of weaving personal experiences into a fact-filled piece.

HONORABLE MENTION

THE RIVERDALE PRESS, RIVERDALE
Michael Hinman

DIVISION 3

FIRST PLACE

**THE EAST HAMPTON PRESS,
EAST HAMPTON**
Carlos Sandoval

This writer has the rare ability to both entertain and inform with his words. Well written, well thought out.

SECOND PLACE

TIMES UNION, ALBANY
Chris Churchill

A great read. This writer knows how to warm the hearts of his readers.

THIRD PLACE

ITHACA TIMES, ITHACA
Charley Githler

Very well written. Even though the column is too long for many readers in today’s soundbite world, it manages to keep your interest.

HONORABLE MENTION

**SAG HARBOR EXPRESS,
SAG HARBOR**
Anthony Brandt
Great work

EDITORIAL CARTOON

FIRST PLACE

**THE ALTAMONT ENTERPRISE AND
ALBANY COUNTY POST, ALTAMONT**
Carol Coogan

A lovely commentary not only on vaccinations, but a look ahead to a possibly brighter future. The use of the butterfly is a fresh take. The image itself is crisp and detailed

SECOND PLACE

**SHELTER ISLAND REPORTER,
SHELTER ISLAND**
Peter Waldner

Relatable and very funny!

THIRD PLACE

**SHELTER ISLAND REPORTER,
SHELTER ISLAND**
Peter Waldner

Good use of the contrast between the attire of the vacationing family and the attire of the medical professionals.

BEST USE OF VIDEO

FIRST PLACE

THE POST-STANDARD, SYRACUSE
Christa Lemczak and N. Scott Trimble

Simply a fantastic “explainer” video. Great camera work. Good interviewing, wonderful graphics. This video was a great service to your readers, who like many, were probably wondering what all these CBD, CBG, THC and CBN meant and what they were good for. Great job!

SECOND PLACE

THE POST-STANDARD, SYRACUSE
*Christa Lemczak
and Mike Waters*

I wrestled with this one. This is a great video. I loved it. I’m amazed that someone found some old reel-to-reel audio tape, and someone at the newspaper had the idea to produce a video with it. Getting a hold of one of the players and using the graphics of the speech at the bottom of the video, cutting in and out of the audiotape to interview the former player. I loved it. I wanted to rank it higher, but I had to force myself to remember that this whole project falls apart without someone first finding the audiotape. Still, the fact that you recognized what you had in your hands deserves praise.

THIRD PLACE

**THE ROCKAWAY TIMES,
ROCKAWAY**
Katie McFadden

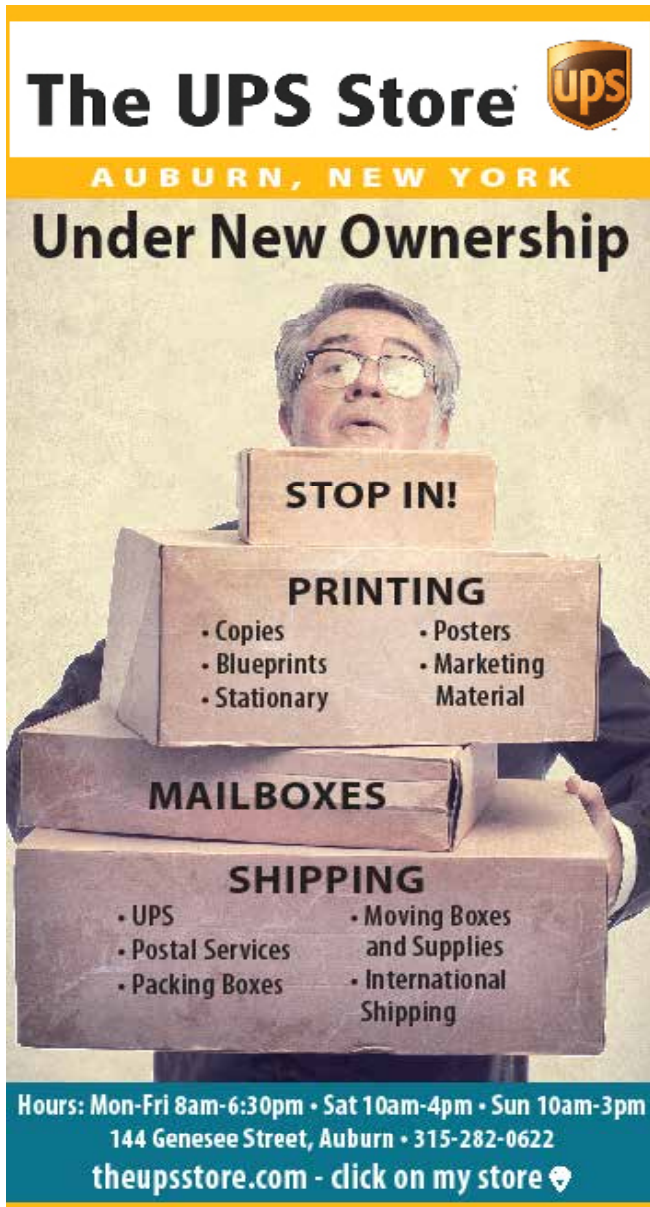
What a captivating video. I really like that it didn’t require use of drones or expensive cameras to make this video. It appears Katie McFadden simply used a hand-held camera and videoed lots of different scenes and spliced them together. With music added, the video was a delight to watch. More importantly, this sort of video is something that most newspapers can produce. Great job! I hope it inspires other newspapers to attempt their own videos.

HONORABLE MENTION

**THE HIGHLANDS CURRENT,
PHILIPSTOWN**
Ross Corsair

I watched this video four times. I watched it once, then watched other videos, then returned and watched this video again. A Fun Afternoon at Winter Hill didn’t take an expensive camera, drones or other camera trickery. Clearly, one person stood on the side of a snowy hill and aimed a camera at the people having fun. Any newspaper could do this sort of video, but Ross Corsair ACTUALLY DID IT! Every single newspaper, no matter the size, should be making similar videos. If a newspaper has a website or social media presence, it should be making these sorts of videos. I know I will from now on.

Best Small Space Ad, 2021



FIRST PLACE — DIVISION 1

LEE CUNNINGHAM

THE CITIZEN

"The photo used provides an immediate impression of the type of business being advertised. The services on the boxes are a nice touch and make it easy for the reader to locate what they need to know."



FIRST PLACE — DIVISION 2

MARTHA ERIKSEN

THE SPOTLIGHT (DELMAR)

"The heading is clever and the ad captures your attention right away!"



FIRST PLACE — DIVISION 3

MATT SOURWINE

THE POST-STANDARD

"Wonderful art choice!"

Excellence Awards

BEST PODCAST

FIRST PLACE

THE POST-STANDARD, SYRACUSE
Matt Parrino and Ryan Talbot
Excellent intro. Team is confident when speaking, which is huge for me because I don't want to listen to a podcast that's monotoned and boring. This also wasn't just a straight question and answer interview, there was actual conversation and a bit of banter. This podcast had great quality to it as well, easy to hear. I'm not a sports person but enjoyed this podcast. Excellent job guys!

SECOND PLACE

THE SUFFOLK TIMES, MATTITUCK
Grant Parpan and Brianne Ledda

I really enjoyed the details put into this podcast. The "crowded room" noise while the story was being told really set the scene for me. I also enjoyed the actual recordings of the meeting being included into this interview. Very well done.

THIRD PLACE

LAKE PLACID NEWS, LAKE PLACID
Andy Flynn
Wow, what an interesting interview. Loved the music. Great job!

BEST SPONSORED CONTENT

FIRST PLACE

WARWICK ADVERTISER, WARWICK
Molly Colgan
This is what all sponsored content should look and feel like - authentic information including helpful, expert advice - no cheesy sales pitch - well-written, appealing, creative, and beautifully designed. This is a great example for others to follow.

BEST NEWSLETTER

FIRST PLACE

AMNEWYORK METRO, NEW YORK
Emily Davenport
Wow - and Pow! This high impact, quick hit daily news digest is powerful - great graphic support, high-interest topics - I'll subscribe!

SECOND PLACE

ADIRONDACK EXPLORER, SARANAC LAKE
Mike Lynch
Back country journal - perfect for your audience!

THIRD PLACE

TIMES UNION, ALBANY
Sarah Diodato
Unique, hyperlocal coverage of Saratoga - great concept

FEATURE PHOTO

DIVISION 1

FIRST PLACE

SAG HARBOR EXPRESS
SAG HARBOR
Michael Heller
Clear, concise image. Well cropped and striking image.

SECOND PLACE

WESTMORE NEWS, PORT CHESTER
Richard Abel
Framed perfectly. Tells a story and yet is just great to look at as a stand-alone photo.

THIRD PLACE

EAST MEADOW HERALD, EAST MEADOW
Christina Daly
Innovative take, draws you in and makes you look at it longer and longer.

HONORABLE MENTION

THE CORNWALL LOCAL, CORNWALL
Jason Kaplan
Well-framed, nice story told through the image.

DIVISION 2

FIRST PLACE

THE SOUTHAMPTON PRESS-WESTERN EDITION, WESTHAMPTON BEACH
Dana Shaw
Great angle for photo. Tells a great story, unique lighting and really dynamic.

SECOND PLACE

THE SCARSDALE INQUIRER
SCARSDALE
Jim MacLean
A photo full of whimsy and so clear. Well cropped.

THIRD PLACE

THE SOUTHAMPTON PRESS-WESTERN EDITION, WESTHAMPTON BEACH
Dana Shaw
Great framing and great timing.

HONORABLE MENTION

THE HIGHLANDS CURRENT, PHILIPSTOWN
Ross Corsair
An entire story told in one image. Great contrast and wonderful angle.

DIVISION 3

FIRST PLACE

AMNEWYORK METRO, NEW YORK
Dean Moses
Such a dynamic photo. It tells a story on so many levels. Well framed, great contrast and has depth on many levels. Excellent story told in just a photo. Brings emotion to the forefront.

SECOND PLACE

COLONIE SPOTLIGHT, COLONIE
Jim Franco
Great angle and draws you into viewing over and over. Contrast is fantastic.

THIRD PLACE

THE SMITHTOWN NEWS, SMITHTOWN
Joseph Sperber
Great timing of photo and wonderfully cropped. Bright, vibrant photo.

HONORABLE MENTION

TIMES UNION, ALBANY
Paul Buckowski
A very clever angle and well cropped. A fun, interesting and deep photo.

SPORTS ACTION PHOTO(S)

DIVISION 1

FIRST PLACE

ADIRONDACK DAILY ENTERPRISE, SARANAC LAKE
Lou Reuter
This photo shows the intensity of rugby as a sport, as well as the determination of the players. There are so many visual expressions in this, it makes the photo really enjoyable.

SECOND PLACE

ADIRONDACK DAILY ENTERPRISE, SARANAC LAKE
Aaron Cerbone
I absolutely love the placement of the board almost directly in the middle of the skater's frame. Using the sky as the background also gives one the feeling he is truly airborne.

THIRD PLACE

THE TIMES OF SMITHTOWN TOWNSHIP, SMITHTOWN
Bill Landon
Great action shots of the game, as well as a reaction shot of the win. The combination shows just what this win meant for the team.

HONORABLE MENTION

WESTMORE NEWS, PORT CHESTER
Joseph DeCarlo
This is a great action shot of slide. I especially enjoy the feet flying backward.

DIVISION 2

FIRST PLACE

THE HIGHLANDS CURRENT, PHILIPSTOWN
Skip Pearlman
This is such a good freeze frame of the action, with the dirt flying and, of course, the capture of this amazing facial expression.

SECOND PLACE

LYNBROOK EAST ROCKAWAY HERALD, LYNBROOK
Brian Ballweg
You can almost feel the pain in this play. Combined with plenty of action in the offensive player, this makes for a great photo.

THIRD PLACE

THE EAST HAMPTON PRESS
EAST HAMPTON
Michael Heller
This is a wonderful shot that shows plenty of intensity between the two teams.

HONORABLE MENTION

THE EXAMINER, MOUNT KISCO
Ray Gallagher
I really enjoy the position of the boys' heads in this photo.

DIVISION 3

FIRST PLACE

PRESS-REPUBLICAN, PLATTSBURGH
Joey LaFranca
The action of the goalie and the kicker in this picture, as well as the framing of the ball, gives the reader an excellent idea of what's going on.

SECOND PLACE

THE NORTHPORT OBSERVER, NORTHPORT
Rob Cuni
Some great action shots that help show the varied aspects of the game.

THIRD PLACE

PRESS-REPUBLICAN, PLATTSBURGH
Fernando Alba
Great action happening in this photo.

HONORABLE MENTION

THE SMITHTOWN NEWS, SMITHTOWN
Peggy Gallery
The action and expression in the players' faces are a great visual for this victory play.

SPORTS FEATURE PHOTO(S)

FIRST PLACE

THE NORTHPORT OBSERVER, NORTHPORT
Peggy Gallery
Oh, wow! The thrill of victory! Unbridled emotion - the team triumphed, but so did the photographer!

SECOND PLACE

THE SUFFOLK TIMES, MATTITUCK
Robert O'Rourke
Jumping for joy! What a shot! Great timing, great emotion, fun action! Great job!

THIRD PLACE

PRESS-REPUBLICAN, PLATTSBURGH
Joey LaFranca
Timing in life is everything! Great emotion, lighting - you really got the shot this time

HONORABLE MENTION

SAG HARBOR EXPRESS
SAG HARBOR
Michael Heller
Good get - nice timing, emotion.

A colorful illustration of a coastal scene. In the foreground, a sandy beach is scattered with small rocks and a wooden bench sits alone. A low stone wall runs along the shoreline, separating the beach from a grassy dune. On the dune, a lighthouse with a white body and a red band stands prominently. To its left is a smaller, grey structure. The background shows a blue ocean under a blue sky with white clouds. The illustration is signed 'KAY 2018' in the bottom right corner.

Excellence Awards

ART PHOTO

DIVISION 2

FIRST PLACE

TIMES UNION, ALBANY

Paul Buckowski

Love this picture. The reflection in the water is just perfect! Makes me want to go fishing.

SECOND PLACE

WATERTOWN DAILY TIMES,

WATERTOWN

Christopher Lenney

Love this shot. The action going on underneath the exploding firework makes it really cool!

THIRD PLACE

SULLIVAN COUNTY DEMOCRAT,

CALICOON

Joseph Abraham

Great capture of a rite of passage!

HONORABLE MENTION

WARWICK ADVERTISER,

WARWICK

Robert G. Breese

Perfect shot -- catching the animals at just the right moment.

ART PHOTO

DIVISION 1

FIRST PLACE

THE RIVERTOWNS ENTERPRISE,

HASTINGS-ON-HUDSON

Tim Lamorte

The mood of this picture just draws me in. Such a simple, stark scene, but so impactful.

SECOND PLACE

THE REPORTER, WALTON

Benjamin Patton

This needs to be framed and hung on a wall. It's gorgeous!

THIRD PLACE

THE SUFFOLK TIMES, MATTITUCK

Eleanor P. Labrozzi

Perfect shot -- excellent color and composition.

HONORABLE MENTION

ALBANY BUSINESS REVIEW,

ALBANY

Donna Abbott-Vlahos

LOVE this photo! The reflection is absolutely perfect.

PICTURE STORY

FIRST PLACE

SAG HARBOR EXPRESS,

SAG HARBOR

Michael Heller

The photography is outstanding, detailed, crisp, noise-free, and I keep looking for more...more horizon, the sunrise that was mentioned a few times, and totally enjoyed the "freedom" mantra each captain mentions of their life on the water.

Great job, particularly on a slippery, wet, moving vessel.

SECOND PLACE

THE SMITHTOWN NEWS,

SMITHTOWN

Anthony Lifrieri

Happiness! Nice spontaneous images.

THIRD PLACE

THE YORKTOWN NEWS, YORKTOWN

Brian Marschhauser

A picturesque way to show the community what's going on downtown! Uptown! And most importantly in Yorktown! This comprehensive story is nicely laid out.

HONORABLE MENTION

THE HIGHLANDS CURRENT,

PHILIPSTOWN

Ross Corsair

Nice showcase of diversity, and a harvest not readily known in the northern U.S. Colorful, clear images.

SPOT NEWS PHOTOS

DIVISION 2

FIRST PLACE

THE SPOTLIGHT, DELMAR

Jim Franco

Fantastic job capturing so many emotions from the protestors and police.

SECOND PLACE

PELHAM EXAMINER, PELHAM

Daniella Cherner

The angle is what pulls the eye to the photo. Great job!

THIRD PLACE

THE RIVERDALE PRESS, RIVERDALE

Michael Hinman

A true breaking news photo. Between the flooded roadway and the people looking at the scene from the overpass, this shot really shows the impact of the flooding.

HONORABLE MENTION

THE DAILY NEWS, BATAVIA

Mark Gutman

The photographer did a nice job capturing this sad moment. There is often more to a scene than just the fire; the photographer was tuned in to his surroundings.

DIVISION 3

FIRST PLACE

WATERTOWN DAILY TIMES,

WATERTOWN

Kara Dry

Great photos of a tragic situation. The photos illustrate the emotions during the incident. The standouts were: The photo with the two women exiting the building, the lone officer holding the gun upright and looking at the photographer and the three officers with their guns trained on a target.

SECOND PLACE

THE NORTHPORT OBSERVER

NORTHPORT

Bruce Baron and Martin Stone

What can be said about these photos, other than, they are absolutely gorgeous! Great job!

THIRD PLACE

WATERTOWN DAILY TIMES,

WATERTOWN

Christopher Lenney

The bird's eye view of this procession is different and that's what made these good photos.

HONORABLE MENTION

THE SMITHTOWN NEWS,

SMITHTOWN

Joseph Sperber

It's hard to go wrong with fire photos, but sometimes, the flames get captured in just the right way. This is one of those instances. Good job!

GRAPHIC ILLUSTRATION

FIRST PLACE

THE HIGHLANDS CURRENT,

PHILIPSTOWN

Deb Lucke

Love, love, love this. What a great tribute to a very special person. Great use of colors and different objects to illustrate the many roles of one woman. This truly reinforces the saying a picture is worth a 1,000 words. Very well done!!

SECOND PLACE

ITHACA TIMES, ITHACA

Taner Harding

and Marshall Hopkins

Love the size, style of drawings and color of the numbers. Great colors. Well placed drawings to illustrate points.

THIRD PLACE

WARWICK ADVERTISER, WARWICK

Mike Guillen, Christina Scotti

Great use of illustration to tell a story. Make numbers stand out. Wow.

HONORABLE MENTION

THE RIVER REPORTER,

NARROWSBURG

Annemarie Schuetz

and Amanda Reed

Hilarious example of every gardener's dream in the spring. Excellent illustrations. The picture is worth a 1,000 words.

BEST SPECIAL

SECTION COVER

FIRST PLACE

WILLISTON TIMES, WILLISTON PARK

Yvonne Farley

That graphic is awesome. The placement is perfect. I am drawn right to the center!

SECOND PLACE

THE KATONAH-LEWISBORO TIMES,

KATONAH

Vim Wilkinson

and Tabitha Pearson Marshall

What a creative idea to use a window to frame images!!

THIRD PLACE

GRANVILLE SENTINEL

GRANVILLE

Jared Stamm and Jane Cosey

I love the layering, colors and font choice!

HONORABLE MENTION

AMNEWYORK METRO, NEW YORK

Luis Matos

This cover is a work of art! I love the border, colors, design. Great job!

SPECIAL SECTIONS/NICHE PUBLICATIONS-NEWSPRINT

DIVISION 1

FIRST PLACE

THE RIVERDALE PRESS, RIVERDALE

Michael Hinman, Ethan

Stark-Miller and Jilleen Barrett

Congratulations for tackling the political editorial & advertising challenges to create a well written, important publication for your readers. The political advertising dollars are hard to secure, you have done that with this section. Hopefully you will continue to publish every year.

SECOND PLACE

SULLIVAN COUNTY DEMOCRAT,

CALICOON

A section 20 years in the making. I'm sure your readers appreciated the extra effort to highlight the impact that the large donation had on your community. A great looking section and I appreciated that you printed on the high-end quality newsprint to give it a longer shelf life.

THIRD PLACE

THE KATONAH-LEWISBORO TIMES,

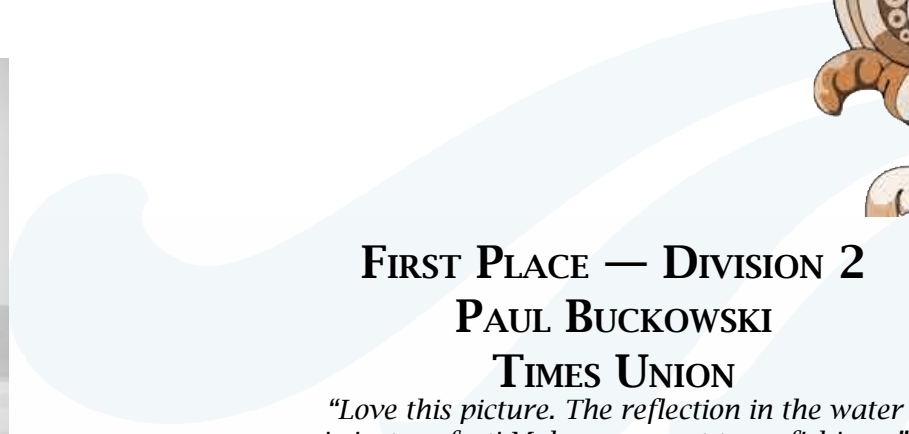
KATONAH

Vim Wilkinson and Tabitha Pearson Marshall

A well-designed, easy-to-read, attractive section. Printing quality was top-notch. You can tell that your team takes pride in their work and it shows.



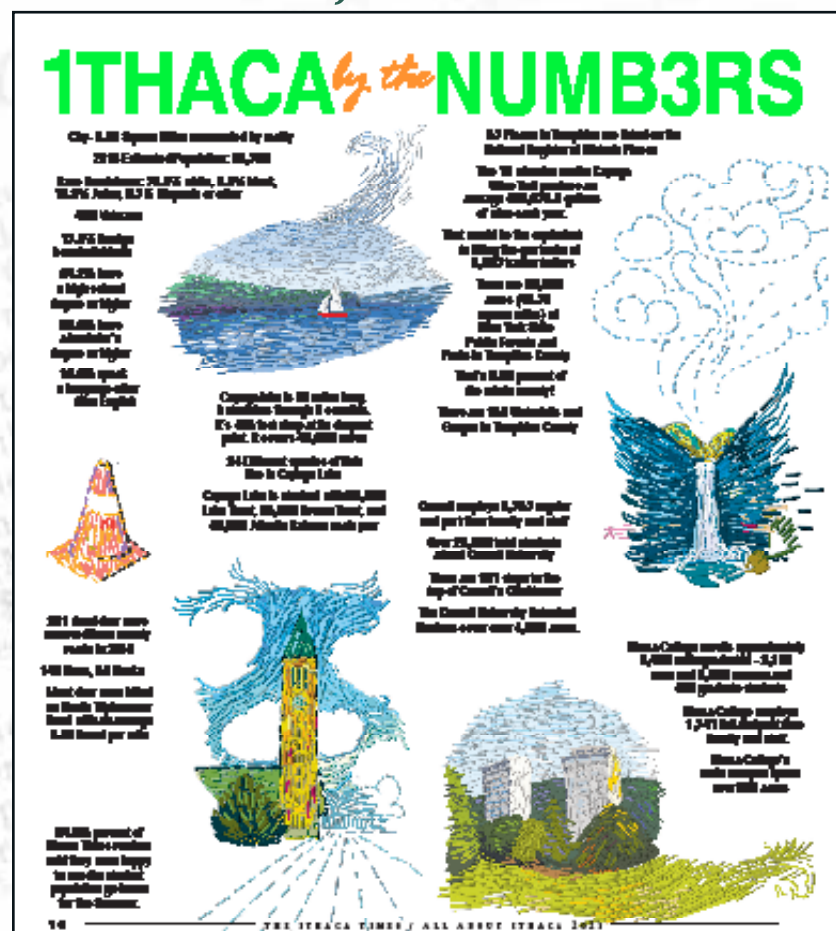
N 2



TIMES UNION

“The mood of this picture just draws me in. Such a simple, stark scene, but so impactful.”

Best Graphic Illustration, 2021



"Love, love, love this. What a great tribute to a very special person. Great use of colors and different objects to illustrate the many roles of one woman. This truly reinforces the saying a picture is worth a 1,000 words. Very well done!!"

"Love the size, style of drawings and color of the numbers. Great colors. Well placed drawings to illustrate points."

Excellence Awards

SPECIAL SECTIONS/NICHE PUBLICATIONS-NEWSPRINT DIVISION 2

FIRST PLACE

DAILY GAZETTE, SCHENECTADY
Indiana Nash, John Thorpe, Erica Miller, Stan Hudy and Peter Barber

At first glance, this entry appeared to be a regular food section, but it was so much more. The wide variety of stories show how individuals, families and businesses adapted to the pandemic. To use a food reference, the A la carte story list made me want to continue reading. Excellent!

SECOND PLACE

DAILY GAZETTE, SCHENECTADY
Jeff Wilkin, John Thorpe, Miles Reed, staff

A tough topic to cover even after 20 years. Particularly enjoyed the the readers' personal recollections throughout the publication. The story on the lasting impact on Muslim community was well done.

THIRD PLACE

THE DAILY NEWS, BATAVIA
The extra research to track down Congressional Medal of Honor recipients going back to civil war with a connection to their local communities put this section in the top 3. Surprising your readers with additional information that they were not expecting is a goal we should all strive for to achieve. Good Job!

HONORABLE MENTION

SARATOGA TODAY, SARATOGA SPRINGS
Chad Beatty and Kacie Cotter-Sacala

SPECIAL SECTIONS/NICHE PUBLICATIONS-GLOSSY

FIRST PLACE

LAKE CHAMPLAIN WEEKLY, PLATTSBURGH
Stunning publication. Loved the presentation of the information and the way the content was delivered through imagery. A couple could come away with many ideas for their special day by reading Northern Bride. Very nicely done.

SECOND PLACE

THE SUFFOLK TIMES, MATTITUCK
Sara Austin, Michelina Da Fonte, David Benthall and Wendy Scofield
The magazine had wonderful articles about local restaurants and food. The photographs they chose jumped off the page and really enticed the reader. There was a wide variety of advertisers, but I liked how they brought in ads that were relevant to the food topic. Well done.

THIRD PLACE

THE CITIZEN, AUBURN
Lee Cunningham
The content was well organized and informative. A visitor to Auburn will be able to map out their visit with this guide (and learn a lot too!). And speaking of mapping - the fold out map was a nice touch.

HONORABLE MENTION

GAY CITY NEWS, NEW YORK
Amanda Tarley and Matt Tracy
Awards programs can be dull. This one was bright! I loved the way the honorees were presented. The advertising was thoughtfully integrated next to the honorees. Nicely done.

MAGAZINE

FIRST PLACE

SAG HARBOR EXPRESS, SAG HARBOR
This magazine uses space to highlight its great photography - eye-catching, captivating. Large photos with interesting typography lead to timely topics such as farming on the island, autumn recipes, artists' inspiration or clams. Very readable. Wonderful cover photography.

SECOND PLACE

THE EAST HAMPTON STAR, EAST HAMPTON
The cover of East magazine was intriguing. Minimalist and beautiful. It drew the eye immediately. Inside were many double-spread layouts, which were allowed to shine in a smaller size magazine. The variety of coverage was also impressive - this issue included articles on protecting trees, the art scene of the '80s, where to find a turkey for holiday dinner, where to go sledding.....to name a few. Interesting content for their community.

THIRD PLACE

WATERTOWN DAILY TIMES, WATERTOWN
Holly Boname
Fabulopus theme issue focusing on 20 Northern New York emerging leaders. The entire issue was built around mini features on these leaders. Good photography, including cutouts, of those people along with great use of their highlight color - red - draws readers into one-page articles on each person, which represent a snapshot of the business community. Interesting cover. Nice work.

HONORABLE MENTION

THE POST-STANDARD, SYRACUSE
MJ Kravec, Amy Bleier Long and Sue Santola
This issue has an airy, light feeling, but still presents wonderful content. The cleanness of the page layout and use of negative space was very nice. The market trends feature which is presented in cutouts (in many of the issues) was interesting and accessible.

HONORABLE MENTION

THE SUFFOLK TIMES, MATTITUCK
Sara Austin, Michelina Da Fonte, David Benthall and Wendy Scofield
This magazine gives its audience delicious articles and photography reflecting its area. Often features focus on entrepreneurs in the community, focusing on food and fashion, especially. The graphic of where to find wine and doughnuts was inspired and interesting. Would like to have seen more. Good photography. Some innovative use of negative space. Engaging cover photos and art.

BEST REAL ESTATE/HOME SECTION

FIRST PLACE

DAN'S PAPERS, BRIDGEHAMPTON
Excellent design and typography, beautiful photos, top shelf paper quality - plus excellent editorial content and not too many ads. Very reader centric. I held it to a super high standard, because there are obviously a lot of resources and revenue available - but jeepers. This is absolutely stunning and stands above in a really tough group.

SECOND PLACE

THE SUFFOLK TIMES, MATTITUCK
Sara Austin, Michelina Da Fonte, David Benthall and Wendy Scofield
The first thing that stuck out was the photography - a wonderful mix of macro, closeup, and landscape. There's eye candy throughout, kudos to that team. The cover is beautiful and compelling. I also love the selection of 'rifle shot' stories, where I can see a list of the best BEC sandwiches or things to do this month, and then either read something else, or not... the whole thing is digestible. Excellent editorial content, well written and interesting. Well done!

THIRD PLACE

LAKE CHAMPLAIN WEEKLY, PLATTSBURGH
Great photos, pretty sure that's my dream home :) I do wish there were more 'across the spread' components in the design. Good ad to editorial ratio, and typography is great throughout. This is a nice section; you should be proud of it!

HONORABLE MENTION

WATERTOWN DAILY TIMES, Watertown
Holly Boname
The editorial content here absolutely shines. Compelling, informative content that is definitely of interest to readers. I love the chart page with the economic indicators. It's brief, compared to others in this category, but it's a really solid section.

BEST SPECIAL SECTION - ADVERTISING

FIRST PLACE

SAG HARBOR EXPRESS, SAG HARBOR
I cannot even imagine the number of man-hours involved, and was really impressed by the compendium of events. I was enthralled by the Chef's Holiday story, and the Gift Guide just went on and on and on - this section has an incredible shelf life, there's no way you'd get through it in one sitting. Well done, you should be very proud (and I bet the revenue generated was tremendous!)

SECOND PLACE

PORT WASHINGTON NEWS, PORT WASHINGTON
I love this highly targeted section - full of great, useful content for the demographic. Excellent typography, the layout is efficient and pleasing to the eye. I'd even call it a CLASSIC look. Great ad/editorial ration, I really enjoyed reading this section!

THIRD PLACE

SARATOGA TODAY, SARATOGA SPRINGS
Chris Bushee and Kacie Cotter-Sacala
Great content in here, the contact info, maps, and more. I really like the info for the specific communities. The house feature is great, there are some spectacular photos there. The pages with 1/3 photos look great, as do the pages with 4-column content. A great section!

HONORABLE MENTION

ROCKVILLE CENTRE HERALD, ROCKVILLE CENTRE
Jeff Negrin
I love LOVE this idea, have never seen it before. Graduation sections are a dime a dozen, but I think I like this idea more! Parents and grandparents are sure to keep copies of this, so it kind of becomes a piece of history.

Best Spot News Photo(s), 2021



FIRST PLACE — DIVISION 2

JIM FRANCO

THE SPOTLIGHT

"Fantastic job capturing so many emotions from the protestors and police."



FIRST PLACE — DIVISION 3

KARA DRY

WATERTOWN DAILY TIMES

"Great photos of a tragic situation. The photos illustrate the emotions during the incident. The standouts were: The photo with the two women exiting the building, the lone officer holding the gun upright and looking at the photographer and the three officers with their guns trained on a target."



SECOND PLACE — DIVISION 2

DANIELLA CHERNER

PELHAM EXAMINER

"The angle is what pulls the eye to the photo. Great job!"



SECOND PLACE — DIVISION 3

BRUCE BARON AND MARTIN STONE

THE NORTHPORT OBSERVER

"What can be said about these photos, other than, they are absolutely gorgeous! Great job!"

Excellence Awards

BEST ADVERTISING CAMPAIGN

FIRST PLACE

PUTNAM COUNTY

NEWS & RECORDER, COLD SPRING
Sheila Smith Cunningham

Hand-drawn graphics, I mean come on. You can't get more unique than that. I loved the colors and the layout. It really caught my eye and was very easy to read. Hands down my favorite campaign of all of these. This is going to be the type of uniqueness that I, personally, am going to strive for. Job well done! #Trendsetter.

SECOND PLACE

THE VILLAGE TIMES HERALD,
SETAUKET

The Buttercup's Dairy Store campaign was such a sweet set of ads. I loved that they decided to focus on a few items for their specials. You can tell exactly who the ad is for. And the anniversary ad with the old photos is what did it for me. That level of personalization included into an ad would make me want to shop there! I'd love to hear their stories. Awesome job!

THIRD PLACE

PORT TIMES-RECORD,

PORT JEFFERSON

I'm amazed on the number of runs this ad had and that each time it was very different. I can tell that this took some time. The use of graphics is excellent. Great job!

HONORABLE MENTION

SAG HARBOR EXPRESS,

SAG HARBOR

This campaign was very clean and well put together. Nicely placed graphics.

BEST LARGE SPACE AD

DIVISION 1

FIRST PLACE

PORT WASHINGTON NEWS,

PORT WASHINGTON

OMG! Talk about artistic images - flowing, fantasy, fabulous!

SECOND PLACE

PORT WASHINGTON NEWS,

PORT WASHINGTON

Anton Media Group

Who doesn't like a cute kid in an ad?

THIRD PLACE

GREAT NECK NEWS,

GREAT NECK

Yvonne Farley

Everything an ad should be - great dominant illustration; good headline; good use of white space. You hit it out of the park.

HONORABLE MENTION

THE RIVER REPORTER,

NARROWSBURG

Amanda Reed

Very nice - easy red love the mountains.

DIVISION 2

FIRST PLACE

SOUTHAMPTON PRESS-

EASTERN EDITION, SOUTHAMPTON

The Express News Group

Love this ad: Great color and simple layout that really works. Great job

SECOND PLACE

BRONX TIMES REPORTER AND

BRONX TIMES, BRONX

Mauro DeLuca

Theme jumps right out at you.

SECOND PLACE

LYNBROOK EAST ROCKAWAY

HERALD, LYNNBROOK

Jeff Negrin, Karen Bloom

Nicely executed, enough white space, good job.

THIRD PLACE

BRONX TIMES REPORTER AND

BRONX TIMES, BRONX

Mauro DeLuca

Pet are No. 1 in most people's lives since Covid. Great layout and coupons. Love this ad.

HONORABLE MENTION

SULLIVAN COUNTY DEMOCRAT,

CALLICOON

Katey Dnistrian

Beautiful

BEST LARGE SPACE AD

DIVISION 3

FIRST PLACE

SARATOGA TODAY,

SARATOGA SPRINGS

Kelsey Sherman

Love this ad! The colors and styling are beautiful and classy. Great job!

SECOND PLACE

THE POST-STANDARD, SYRACUSE

Matt Sourwine

Gorgeous, impactful ad. Well done.

Fingers crossed your readers are paying attention!!

THIRD PLACE

WATERTOWN DAILY TIMES,

WATERTOWN

Brian Mitchell

Fun ad with an eye-catching appeal.

HONORABLE MENTION

THE POST-STANDARD, SYRACUSE

Matt Sourwine

Great new idea -- and the same idea could be used for multiple clients! Nice!

BEST SMALL SPACE AD

DIVISION 1

FIRST PLACE

THE CITIZEN, AUBURN

Lee Cunningham

The photo used provides an immediate impression of the type of business being advertised. The services on the boxes are a nice touch and make it easy for the reader to locate what they need to know.

SECOND PLACE

PUTNAM COUNTY

NEWS & RECORDER, COLD SPRING

Sheila Smith Cunningham

Very eye-catching ad! The dots give a sense of movement throughout.

THIRD PLACE

PUTNAM COUNTY COURIER,

CARMEL

Sheila Smith Cunningham

The curve of the blue shading and the circle photo create interest.

Very nice eye catching ad.

HONORABLE MENTION

PUTNAM COUNTY COURIER,

CARMEL

Sheila Smith Cunningham

Nice clean ad. The large photo captures attention.

DIVISION 2

FIRST PLACE

THE SPOTLIGHT, DELMAR

Martha Eriksen

The heading is clever and the ad captures your attention right away!

SECOND PLACE

GLEN COVE HERALD GAZETTE,

GLEN COVE

Mona Waitzman

Very eye catching! The art and colors all work nice together.

THIRD PLACE

SULLIVAN COUNTY DEMOCRAT,

CALLICOON

Petra Duffy

The torn edge of the heading creates interest. Very nice ad!

HONORABLE MENTION

SULLIVAN COUNTY DEMOCRAT,

CALLICOON

Katey Dnistrian

The layout of this ad is very nice. The photos are large and the text and prices are pleasing to the eye. Much different than the traditional real estate ads.

DIVISION 3

FIRST PLACE

THE POST-STANDARD, SYRACUSE

Matt Sourwine

BOGO for recruitment! Wonderful art choice!

SECOND PLACE

THE POST-STANDARD, SYRACUSE

Matt Sourwine, Nicole Barry

Holistic Blends - clever layout - the bright colors of the ad and unique art really capture your attention.

THIRD PLACE

THE PHOTO NEWS, MONROE

Michael Guillen

The text layout really worked well with the background. Nice job!

HONORABLE MENTION

WATERTOWN DAILY TIMES,

WATERTOWN

Brian Mitchell

The arch helps capture the eye and the ad gives a warm holiday feel.

BEST MULTI-ADVERTISER PAGES

FIRST PLACE

SULLIVAN COUNTY DEMOCRAT,

CALLICOON

Think Pink! Well done - great public service advertising, great design, layout, photography - total package!

SECOND PLACE

THE CITIZEN, AUBURN

Lee Cunningham

Happy Holiday - fresh new idea, love this!

THIRD PLACE

THE GARDEN CITY NEWS,

GARDEN CITY

Shop locally! Great sales effort, great layout!

HONORABLE MENTION

WARWICK ADVERTISER, WARWICK

Christina Scotti

What an original idea - love it

BEST MEDIA KIT/SALES COLLATERAL

FIRST PLACE

AMNEWYORK METRO, NEW YORK

Luis Matos, Ed Abrams

and Zelinda Barnes

This is impressive. Great job telling the story of WHY one should choose amNY. Great art and layout, all the key data is included. It's long, but the layout does a good job of holding your hand and asking you to dig deeper and understand what is available.

SECOND PLACE

THE HIGHLANDS CURRENT,

PHILIPSTOWN

Michele Gedney

and Pierce Strudler

This is hard. Some of the others have more sizzle, but this is a really great piece for a smaller market, and a non-profit at that. The demographic info is great, and I love the "selling" of your properties contained here (including the testimonials). Layouts with pricing and sizes is flawless. This is a great tool.

THIRD PLACE

THE POST-STANDARD, SYRACUSE

Karen Sherwood

Strong competitor from the get-go.

Love the simple designs that share the message clearly and quickly. The video is outstanding - serves well to attract readers, and the client-facing "opportunities" piece is concise and easy to understand. Very well done

HONORABLE MENTION

THE SPOTLIGHT, DELMAR

Dave Abbott

I love the "spotlight" of different properties in one rate card. All the pertinent info is included; good to have the demographic data, distro locations, etc. This is a nice piece.

2021 NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR

Highlands Current

Accumulating 240 contest points, the staff at the *Highlands Current*, led by publisher Chip Rowe, takes home Newspaper of the Year honors. The newspaper earned 11 first place awards including Advertising Excellence, Best Front Page, In-depth Reporting, Coverage of the Environment, Best Headline Writing, Coverage of Elections/Politics, Sports Feature, Sports Action Photo, Graphic Illustration, Local Business Support Campaign and Best House Ad.

The judges said, "Great front page - very community-minded newspaper. Clean, easy to navigate, great reader transparency. Excellent, comprehensive coverage of an otherwise 'boring' topic of infrastructure. Loved the maps, graphics. Writing flows well. Use of subheads effective in pulling in readers."

The newspaper came in second in both the advertising and editorial competition for the Dorman and Evans awards. Great work - congratulations!"

2021 STUART C. DORMAN AWARD FOR EDITORIAL EXCELLENCE

Sag Harbor Express

Staff at *The Sag Harbor Express* earned 155 points in the editorial portion of the contest, taking them to the top. This is the seventh time the *Express* has taken home the top editorial award. This year, the *Sag Harbor Express* won first place for Past President's Award for General Excellence, Writer of the Year (Congratulations Annette!), Feature Story, Feature Photo, Picture Story, and Best Magazine. Cailin Riley earned third place honors for Sports Writer of the Year.

The judges said: "Hometown feel - clean layout, great headlines, artwork, and writing. Well thought out. Colorful, clean, impactful front page. We salute you for yet another year of great work!"

2021 JOHN J. EVANS AWARD FOR ADVERTISING EXCELLENCE

The Post-Standard

Hat trick for Syracuse! This is the third consecutive year that *The Post-Standard* (Syracuse) has earned first place in the advertising portion of the contest. Accumulating 80 points in the advertising categories, *The Post-Standard* earned points for Best Small Space Ad, Best Large Space Ad, Best House Ad (the paper ran the category earning 1st, 2nd and 3rd place awards) and Best Innovative Ad Idea.

The judges said: "Gorgeous, impactful ads. Great new ideas. Wonderful art choices. The bright colors of the ads and unique art capture your attention. Love the simple designs that share message clearly and quickly. You can feel the pride of your team in the ads - well done!"

STUART C. DORMAN

Stuart Callender Dorman established a precedent for excellence in publishing when he owned the *Suffolk Times* (1969 - 1978) and the *News-Review* (1976 - 1978). Dorman died in 1978, during the year he was to have served as president of the New York Press Association. Dorman was also president and founder of Graphics of Peconic. He was educated at Andover Academy and Harvard University. Prior to purchasing the *Suffolk Times*, Dorman held a number of important positions in the book publishing industry, including a 10-year stint as vice president of McGraw-Hill Book Co.



STUART C. DORMAN AWARD

1990 - The Riverdale Press	2006 - The North Shore Sun
1991 - The Riverdale Press	2007 - The Riverdale Press
1992 - The Riverdale Press	2008 - The North Shore Sun
1993 - The Scarsdale Inquirer	2009 - The Suffolk Times
1994 - The Riverdale Press	2010 - Long Island Press
1995 - The Cuba Patriot	2011 - The Sag Harbor Express
1996 - The Record-Review	2012 - Long Island Press
1997 - The Record-Review	2013 - The News-Review
1998 - The Record-Review	2014 - The Suffolk Times
1999 - The Record-Review	2015 - The Sag Harbor Express
2000 - The Sag Harbor Express	2016 - The Sag Harbor Express
2001 - The Villager (NYC)	2017 - The Sag Harbor Express
2002 - The Record-Review	2018 - The Suffolk Times
2003 - The Sag Harbor Express	2019 - The Independent
2004 - The Villager (NYC)	2020 - Southampton Press - Eastern Edition
2005 - The Villager (NYC)	

JOHN J. EVANS

John J. Evans is the former executive vice president of Bee Publications, Inc., Buffalo. Evans is a past president of the New York Press Association and the New York Press Service. Acknowledging the countless hours Evans has devoted to assisting NYPA members with their advertising programs, the NYPA Board of Directors established the John J. Evans Award for Advertising Excellence in 1990.



JOHN J. EVANS AWARD

1991 - East Hampton Star	2007 - The River Reporter
1992 - The Riverdale Press	2008 - The East Hampton Press
1993 - The Scarsdale Inquirer	2009 - The Suffolk Times
1994 - The Scarsdale Inquirer	2010 - Nassau Herald
1995 - The Scarsdale Inquirer	2011 - The Village Times Herald
1996 - The Record-Review	2012 - The Record-Review
1997 - The Record-Review	2013 - TIE — The Record-Review, The Epoch Times
1998 - The Scarsdale Inquirer	2014 - The Epoch Times
1999 - The Record-Review	2015 - Dan's Papers
2000 - The Village Times	2016 - The Sag Harbor Express
2001 - The Record-Review	2017 - Dan's Papers
2002 - The Scarsdale Inquirer	2018 - Dan's Papers
2003 - The Record-Review	2019 - TIE: Dan's Papers, The Post-Standard
2004 - The Scarsdale Inquirer	2020 - The Post-Standard
2005 - The Scarsdale Inquirer	
2006 - The Southampton Press-Eastern Edition	

Excellence Awards

AUDIENCE DEVELOPMENT PROMOTION

FIRST PLACE

THE CHRONICLE, GOSHEN
Christina Scotti

This grabs everyone's attention and makes them stop in their tracks. Anyone who walked by this in a store would stop to take a look. Well done!

SECOND PLACE

WILLISTON TIMES, WILLISTON PARK
Yvonne Farley

This is such a wonderful idea to build audience trust in a community. Every paper should try to do something like this, especially in these times. Perfect.

THIRD PLACE

WARWICK ADVERTISER, WARWICK
Christina Scotti
Really enjoyed how you incorporated notes from subscribers in this page. Great design and very attention-grabbing.

HONORABLE MENTION

AMHERST BEE, Williamsville
Teresa Eastman and Jackie Szarafin
Fun and creative.

BEST LOCAL BUSINESS SUPPORT CAMPAIGN

FIRST PLACE

THE HIGHLANDS CURRENT, PHILIPSTOWN
Teresa Lagerman
Wow, I LOVE THIS! A simple and easy to understand concept, easy to execute, and fun for everyone. I am SOOO stealing this idea! Well done!

SECOND PLACE

WARWICK ADVERTISER, WARWICK
Christina Scotti
The prompt calls for an "innovative and creative campaign" - and this NAILS that! It even prompted me to search the internet to find out more, and look for the entries. Well done!

THIRD PLACE

SARATOGA TODAY, SARATOGA SPRINGS
Chad Beatty and Kacie Cotter-Sacala
This is a GREAT idea! There are obvious benefits here for clients and readers alike, this is a section that'll have shelf life and will garner pride for lots of businesses. I love the story topics and how you included multiple businesses in them. AWESOME!

HONORABLE MENTION

GRANVILLE SENTINEL, GRANVILLE
Jared Stamm, Austin Crosier and Julie Fedler
First off, stupid COVID! It's too bad that the event was cancelled; here's to a great 2022 celebration. Great partnership between the property and client, and kudos to the community for the support and funds raised. Well done!

BEST HOUSE AD/ AD CAMPAIGN

DIVISION 1

FIRST PLACE

THE HIGHLANDS CURRENT, PHILIPSTOWN
Teresa Lagerman
Love the vibe that the ad gives off, the colors are wonderful and the layout works great!

SECOND PLACE

LYNBROOK EAST ROCKAWAY HERALD, LYNBROOK
Jeff Negrin
Great way to have a testimonial stand out!

THIRD PLACE

THE SOUTHAMPTON PRESS-EASTERN EDITION, SOUTHAMPTON
Simple, clean and well put together.

HONORABLE MENTION

THE RIVER REPORTER, NARROWSBURG
Amanda Reed
Fun and creative layout idea!

DIVISION 2

FIRST PLACE

THE POST-STANDARD, SYRACUSE
Matt Sourwine and Lindsay Marlenga
You can feel the pride of your team in the ads-. Well done!

SECOND PLACE

THE POST-STANDARD, SYRACUSE
Nicole Barry
An elegant and classy promotional campaign.

THIRD PLACE

THE POST-STANDARD, SYRACUSE
Matt Sourwine, Lea Gonyea
Very well-done campaign. Everything is very cohesive.

HONORABLE MENTION
ITHACA TIMES, ITHACA
Marshall Hopkins and Casey Martin
Wonderfully put together series of ads.

INNOVATIVE AD PROJECT

FIRST PLACE

NORTH COUNTRY THIS WEEK
I really like this idea; it allows stories that wouldn't otherwise be told some space and grabs revenue that otherwise might not be had! I think we'll steal this idea for the (nearly endless) news briefs, announcements, and 'minor' news that make page 3 but aren't given much love (nor do they garner any revenue)! This is the kind of news that a lot of people want to consume, and you've done a great job of monetizing it!

SECOND PLACE

THE VILLAGE TIMES HERALD, SETAUKET
Great marriage of talent and time for the dark times of COVID-19. It can be hard to support the arts, and this is a great way to do it. I stalked

your social channels and saw some nice promotional posts, too. Maybe I missed it, but a photo gallery with ALL the entries would be nice. I think this one will get better and better.

THIRD PLACE

THE POST-STANDARD, SYRACUSE
Matt Sourwine and Dylan Carpenter
So, a giveaway isn't innovative, but pitting a client's own products against another is a first - let alone when it's MEAT! I had to do a little searching to clarify the contest, I wish the submission would've had screenshots of the contest itself. A great idea!

HONORABLE MENTION

NORTH COUNTRY THIS WEEK, POTSDAM
Another great play with 'sponsored content.'

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

FIRST PLACE

AMHERST BEE, WILLIAMSVILLE
Holly Schiferle and Teresa Eastman
Very nice layout, great use of color, great section overall. Nice and full: Loved it

SECOND PLACE

AMHERST BEE, WILLIAMSVILLE
Holly Schiferle, and Teresa Eastman
Very clean, great color and white space throughout. Loved the layout.

THIRD PLACE

THE GARDEN CITY NEWS, GARDEN CITY
Very nice magazine, very informative and laid out well

HONORABLE MENTION

THE VILLAGE TIMES HERALD, SETAUKET
Clean layout, easy finding the section you want. Great job.

BEST COVID-19

NEWS STORY

FIRST PLACE

THE BROOKLYN PAPER, BROOKLYN
Rose Adams
Good writing. Solid reporting. Well done. I'm certain this issue flew off the racks! I would have liked to have seen comments from citizens but overall this story serves the public interest well.

SECOND PLACE

WESTMORE NEWS, PORT CHESTER
Sarah Wolpoff
Good reporting. Good writing. You got comments from multiple sources to tell your readers about an important issue facing their community. This story really serves the public interest.

THIRD PLACE

THE NEWS-REVIEW, RIVERHEAD
Joe Werkmeister, Tara Smith, Grant Parpan
Good reporting. Good writing. You put a "face on the issue" right up

front to help readers grasp the importance of the story. This was an important topic nationwide and you guys did an excellent job of explaining it to your readers.

HONORABLE MENTION

THE HIGHLANDS CURRENT, PHILIPSTOWN
Leonard Sparks
Good use of a narrative lead to get readers into the story and explain its importance. Lots of quotes. Really good reporting.

BEST COVID-19 FEATURE STORY

FIRST PLACE

LAKE CHAMPLAIN WEEKLY, PLATTSBURGH
Benjamin Pomerance
Pianist/composer/arranger talks about his Covid-19 experience in this well-written story

SECOND PLACE

CITY & STATE, NEW YORK
Isabel Beebe
Great lede! I love this entry, which succeeded in taking a very serious subject lightly without minimizing it. Great job!

THIRD PLACE

ITHACA TIMES, ITHACA
Tanner Harding
Good subject matter is the first ingredient of a good story. The reporter did a fine job with this story about the much-needed fight against vaccine misinformation.

HONORABLE MENTION

THE EXAMINER, MOUNT KISCO
Sherrie Dulworth
Very well-done piece explaining the people and processes behind Regeneron's REGEN-COV™ antibody treatment

BEST COVID-19

INFOGRAPHIC

FIRST PLACE

THE CHRONICLE, GOSHEN
Michael Guillen, Hanna Wickes
Creative use of a syringe to track COVID vaccinations in the county.

SECOND PLACE

THE PHOTO NEWS, MONROE
Christina Scotti
Compelling way to review COVID headlines from the previous year. Nice work

THIRD PLACE

THE NORTHPORT OBSERVER, NORTHPORT
David Ambro
I didn't really find the "graphic" in this infographic. It was interesting content, particularly the Deadliest days in America, but some kind of graph might have brought it home.

HONORABLE MENTION

SOUTHAMPTON PRESS-EASTERN EDITION, SOUTHAMPTON
Sara Mannino Kent
Useful information was provided in a clean format, but would be more classified as a directory.

Best Special Section Cover, 2021

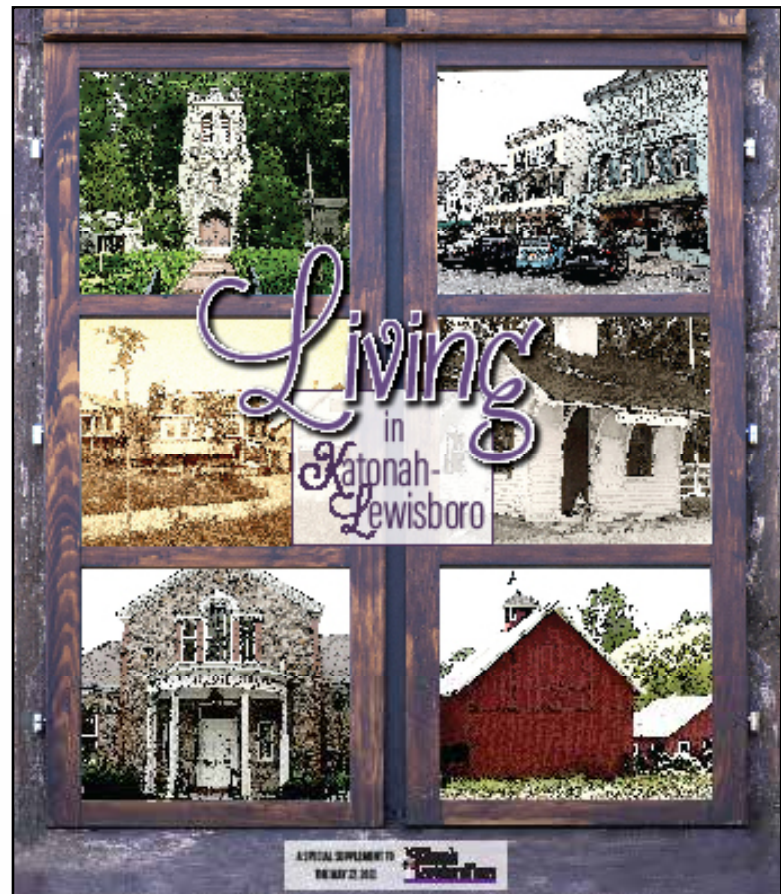


First Place

YVONNE FARLEY

WILLISTON TIMES

"That graphic is awesome. The placement is perfect. I am drawn right to the center!"



SECOND PLACE

VIM WILKINSON & TABITHA PEARSON MARSHALL

THE KATONAH-LEWISBORO TIMES

"What a creative idea to use a window to frame images!!"

PRINTING OF THIS AWARDS NEWSLETTER COURTESY OF



Editor's Note

Members of the Nebraska Press Association and the National Newspaper Association judged the contest in January – a Herculean task involving more than 2500 entries. The judges' time and effort resulted in thoughtful critiques and comments, intended to recognize excellence, and raise the bar on the already high quality of journalism produced by New York's newspapers. We

appreciate the time the judges gave to this project – we know how much this contest means to NYPA members.

NYPA staffers Jill Van Dusen and Judy Patrick did amazing work processing entries, recruiting judges, verifying winners, creating plaques, certificates, award scripts, and producing the contest newspaper – all while juggling all the details associated with producing the spring convention and NewsBeat. I hope you will find time to commend them for their efforts – they consistently do a fabulous job!

What more can I say about Rick Fensterer, NYPA's "adopted" staff member, who for decades (more than three) has worked tirelessly and with infinite good humor, producing the awards presentations? I would say, we couldn't do it without him! To Gus Semon and all our friends and colleagues at Trumbull Printing – thank you for producing the awards newspaper (and NewsBeat!) which provides contest winners with a permanent print showcase for their good work. This newspaper is a treasured keepsake, and we appreciate your contribution, and your excellent work on our behalf.

Finally, to the newspaper staff who created the good work, prepared the entries, and attended the spring conference, you inspire us and one another. Your commitment to your craft and to your communities is what motivates the NYPA staff – we're honored to be associated with you and we're proud of the work you do.

Congratulations to all!

Michelle

2021 BEST HIGH SCHOOL NEWSPAPER

Spectator

Fredonia Central High School

A perennial contender and frequent Best, the *Spectator* takes top honors in the 2021 Best High School Newspaper Contest, earning 105 points. The staff earned first place awards for Best Column, Photography (winning 1st and 3rd place) and Best Sports Story (winning 1st and 2nd place).

The judges said: "The *Spectator* really digs into issues that matter to students. I enjoyed learning what makes the school tick. Nice use of photos on magazine-like covers. Stories well-sourced, conversational, and free from clichés. Interesting design for table of contents." **Congratulations on your inspiring collection of great work!**



GENERAL EXCELLENCE

FIRST PLACE

MANOR INK, LIVINGSTON MANOR
Manor Ink is what I think about when I think about newspapers. Ink is involved in its community, in school and around town. I liked the ad stack. It's great to see a newspaper that supports itself like the Ink. It's also great to see how well the coverage and layout is organized. Colorful, tidy and interesting. This is a great student newspaper.

SECOND PLACE

SPECTATOR, FREDONIA
Spectator really digs into the issues that matter to students. I like the magazine feel of the paper, and enjoyed learning about what makes a school tick when COVID forces classes to be taught remotely. I enjoyed the artwork, strong covers and variety.

THIRD PLACE

TARMAC, MINEOLA
I admire newspapers whose staffs are dedicated to the mission of their educational community, and so I was attracted to Tarmac. Paging through the publication, I was inspired to see this student newspaper dig deeper into the questions of life and what it means to give something back to the world.

HONORABLE MENTION

HORIZON, LYNBROOK
Best covers among all entries. Nice coverage of sports and other topics of interest to students. I liked the opinion pieces, especially the pro-and con essays.

NEWS STORY

FIRST PLACE

THE PULSE, SYOSSET
Hallie Diamant and Caroline Hsu
This story is impressively thorough, with a wide variety of sources and incredible depth of detail. Quotes from students and parents are especially impactful. The student-journalists tackled a tough topic with nuance, consideration for multiple stakeholders, and a dedicated but unbiased point of view.

SECOND PLACE

MANOR INK, LIVINGSTON MANOR
Nicole Davis
Among the COVID-19 stories in this category, this entry stands out for its depth, balance, and innovative angles. The student-journalists gave this topic a deep dive and told the story in great detail with careful consideration for the lives of people involved.

THIRD PLACE

BROCTON REVIEW, BROCTON
Ryan Laurito
This story delighted and surprised me several times -- from the very start of the lede, my attention was piqued. The reporter did a great job of uncovering

all the details to ensure the complete story was told.

HONORABLE MENTION

SPECTATOR, FREDONIA

Jay Hawk

This story is concise and straightforward, focusing on the key concerns of the news event. The quotes are well-threaded into the story to make a maximum impact.

HONORABLE MENTION

HORIZON, LYNBROOK

Alyssa Inserra

This story keeps the tone light while reporting in-depth on the great success of this club's fundraising -- it includes excellent information and great perspective on the students' accomplishments.

FEATURE STORY

FIRST PLACE

HORIZON, LYNBROOK

Julia Swerdin

Interesting feature that gives an inside view of what it's like to join the "boys" team. Good coverage here. Nice writing.

SECOND PLACE

JET GAZETTE, EAST MEADOW

Mahira Ahmed and Maggi Li

A very timely feature that incorporates national events with the daily lives of students. Good examples, quotes.

THIRD PLACE

SPECTATOR, FREDONIA

Max Corsi

Nicely written introduction to a new administrator. I wanted to keep reading.

COLUMN

FIRST PLACE

SPECTATOR, FREDONIA

Dominic Gullo

I thoroughly enjoyed Gullo's conversational tone. It is light-hearted and easier to follow than columns composed of stilted language. The conclusion tossed in a taste of humor that I really appreciated. Yes, I agree with Gullo: Choosing a college will be difficult by its very nature, and there's so much riding on the decision.

SECOND PLACE

TARMAC, MINEOLA

Dimitrios Donas

Dimitrios Donas thoroughly researched the Afghanistan issue and delivered a well-developed argument that the US had to withdraw immediately, and not delay it. The result of Donas' research is a well organized piece that demonstrates a grasp of the issues with plenty of evidence to support his conclusion.

THIRD PLACE

TARMAC, MINEOLA

Dimitrios Donas

This is another well-researched piece

that arrives at a solid conclusion. The author should consider tighter editing to quicken the pace for readers. Otherwise, Donas has scored another home run.

DESIGN

FIRST PLACE

HOOFBEATS, MERRICK

Nice grid usage/consistency and usage of large photos. Great alignment and equal sizing on some smaller photos that retain interest when viewing the page. Heads are nice and large - would like to see a bit more negative space in layouts - especially features. Good work!

SECOND PLACE

TARMAC, MINEOLA

Loved the color palette used here. Nice nameplate. Consistency with that is key. Interesting head style. Lots of photos are centered inside 2-col. grids, but text columns still workable. Justifying out the subheads/decks doesn't work as well as the larger heads. Good photos and art size.

THIRD PLACE

SPECTATOR, FREDONIA

Nice use of photos on magazine-like covers. Interesting design for table of contents. Some good photo groups. Odd, uneven columns of text, in a couple of places, but overall a clean layout. Good use of shading in places. Heads are good, but sometimes placement could be stronger (across all text-rather than a 1-col head on a 3-col article).

PHOTOGRAPHY

FIRST PLACE

THE SPECTATOR, FREDONIA

Angelina May

This photo is attention-grabbing, and not only thanks to Van Gogh! The photographer has made excellent use of the rule of thirds to draw the viewer into the image, so that we're not only watching the students in the photo examine the art but also seeing the art from their perspective. With sharp focus on the subjects and so much space devoted to the background, the photo becomes an immersive experience. Creative and compelling!

SECOND PLACE

JET GAZETTE, EAST MEADOW

Samantha Cuoza

This wonderful photo is full of energy and emotion. The photographer has not sacrificed crispness in snapping this action shot, and the shadows add great depth, almost echoing each figure's action to add to the drama.

THIRD PLACE

SPECTATOR, FREDONIA

Mackenzie Abbey

With sharp focus and a clear sense of the subject, this photo is busy but not distracting. The color contrast of the three faces against the deep hues

of the background draws the viewer's attention, despite so much activity happening in the photo. A tone is set with this cover image.

HONORABLE MENTION

SPECTATOR, FREDONIA

Mackenzie Abbey

Really interesting photo here! The photographer's work is well-captured, and the photo composition effectively draws attention to that focal point.

BEST SPORTS STORY

FIRST PLACE

SPECTATOR, FREDONIA

Tori Spacc

Very well written. Pace of story never bogs down. Reader left with a "behind the scenes" feel based on quotations from so many athletes about their successful football season.

SECOND PLACE

SPECTATOR, FREDONIA

Adrianna Pucci

Well-sourced, conversational and free from clichés, Pucci allowed the story to tell itself. This was a pleasure to read.

THIRD PLACE

TARMAC, MINEOLA

Nico Iacono

Author found ways to insert many players' names into his story about school soccer teams at three age levels winning championship. Photo of key header goal added to quality of writing and presentation.

HONORABLE MENTION

TARMAC, MINEOLA

Dylan Grismer

This is a well-researched and cleanly written profile. I enjoyed the passages that mentioned the coach's faith life. Some reporters are reluctant to address faith issues, so it was refreshing to see Grismer doing so in his sports profile.

BEST WEB SITE

FIRST PLACE

HORIZON, LYNBROOK

SECOND PLACE

THE PHOENIX

BEST USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA

FIRST PLACE

HORIZON, LYNBROOK

Alexis Raynor

SECOND PLACE

SPECTATOR, FREDONIA

Christine Slagle



2021 BEST COLLEGE NEWSPAPER

The Ithacan

Can you say "Dynasty?" The Ithacan has won the Best College Newspaper award for 20 consecutive years!
Amazing! Garnering 65 total contest points, The Ithacan took first place honors for General Excellence, Best News Story, and Best Web Site.

The judges said: "Overall design is outstanding! Eye-catching and appealing. Excellent photos, graphics, and illustrations. Good mix of stories - writing is crisp and clear. Photos have wonderful composition, great use of light, and impressive enterprise on the part of the photographer."

Carry on team! You have an impressive track record to defend.



GENERAL EXCELLENCE

FIRST PLACE

THE ITHACAN, ITHACA
 Overall design is outstanding - really eye-catching and appealing. Excellent photos and illustrations that draw you into the stories. Good mix of stories with strong writing throughout. The coverage of faculty cuts is impressive. Love the "Faces of Austerity" series.

SECOND PLACE

THE LEADER, FREDONIA
 Good use of photos and other visuals throughout to draw readers in and break up the text. Interesting mix of stories that are easy to read and informative -- beyond typical campus news.

THIRD PLACE

THE HILL NEWS, CANTON
 Great mix of stories that appeal to students of all interests.

HONORABLE MENTION

VANGUARD, BROOKLYN
 Good coverage of COVID, the community and politics.

NEWS STORY

FIRST PLACE

THE ITHACAN, ITHACA
Alexis Manore, Alyshia Korba and Caitlin Holtzman
 This story is excellent! It has a strong lede with great first quote. It's very well structured and has a nice flow.
 The writing is crisp and clear. The reporting was perhaps the most impressive: Extensive, deep and balanced. Very well done.

SECOND PLACE

THE LEADER, FREDONIA
Chloe Kowalyk
 Despite the bland headline, this story has very solid, multiple-source reporting that makes it an interesting read.
 Good anecdotes, quotes and general information.

THIRD PLACE

VANGUARD, BROOKLYN
Gabriela Flores
 This is an excellent quick-turn news

story that covers a timely topic with good depth, multiple sources (students and administration) and solid writing. Well done!

HONORABLE MENTION

THE IMPACT, DOBBS FERRY

Noelle Ramirez
 This writer's gift for storytelling shines through in this article. It's sensitive, intimate and detailed, with great quotes and nice ending.

FEATURE STORY

FIRST PLACE

EMPIRE STATE TRIBUNE, NEW YORK
Haeven Gibbons
 This is a beautifully crafted story, from start to finish. A personal story that takes us on a journey, with excellent writing.

SECOND PLACE

EMPIRE STATE TRIBUNE, NEW YORK
Paige Hagy
 This story has great voice, personality and wonderful details. Fun read.

THIRD PLACE

VANGUARD, BROOKLYN
Owen Russell
 This is a fantastic story from start to finish - the lede really drew me in. Multiple voices, great quotes, nice transition and ending. Bravo!

HONORABLE MENTION

EMPIRE STATE TRIBUNE, NEW YORK
Myrian Garcia
 This pandemic-related trend story is a fun diversion. Good reporting and interesting details. Overall, a good read.

COLUMN

FIRST PLACE

THE IMPACT, DOBBS FERRY
Henry Blethen
 Blethen's writing is refreshingly frank. The best columns offer insight and information and come packaged in clear, active writing. That's exactly what these columns do.

SECOND PLACE

CAMPUS TIMES, ROCHESTER
Olivia Alger
 Alger has something every columnist needs: Something to say. Her writing reflects intellect, curiosity and respect for her readers. Well done.

THIRD PLACE

EMPIRE STATE TRIBUNE, NEW YORK
Joshua Story
 Story brings a distinctly different and fascinating perspective to his art review and as a consequence offers readers new ways of considering art.

HONORABLE MENTION

THE ITHACAN, ITHACA
Avery Alexander
 Alexander tackles important topics with clarity and insight.

DESIGN

FIRST PLACE

THE LEADER, FREDONIA

PHOTOGRAPHY

FIRST PLACE

CAMPUS TIMES, ROCHESTER
Henry Litski
 Despite the challenges of shooting in low light, Litski poignantly captured a valuable image from Rochester's Black Lives Matter protests.

SECOND PLACE

THE LEADER, FREDONIA
 I loved this photo, which drew people into a story about bird deaths on campus. With color, great composition and an inspiring setup, the

photographer produced an image that reflects the article.

THIRD PLACE

THE ITHACAN, ITHACA
Abbey London
 Wonderful composition, great use of light and best of all, great display of enterprise from the photographer who shot this from the water.

BEST SPORTS COVERAGE

FIRST PLACE

VANGUARD, BROOKLYN

EDITORIAL

FIRST PLACE

THE IMPACT, DOBBS FERRY
James Tiedemann and Britney Guzman

SECOND PLACE

THE IMPACT, DOBBS FERRY
Nicole Alarcon

BEST WEB SITE

FIRST PLACE

THE ITHACAN, ITHACA
 Great design that's easy to navigate, wonderful selection of stories and great photos and graphics. A very professional and engaging site.

SECOND PLACE

THE HILL NEWS, CANTON
Thao Nguyen
 This site is bursting with engaging and varied content. It's also regularly updated, one of the challenges of any media website operation.

THIRD PLACE

THE IMPACT, DOBBS FERRY
 Newsy, actively updated and easy to read, The Impact offers solid variety.



Congrats

To all of our winners!

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