

2013

News,  
Editorial  
&  
Photo  
Journalism  
Contest



# HUGH MORTON Photographer of the Year

## Community Newspaper Winner



### MARK SCHULTZ

Chapel Hill News  
Chapel Hill

*Judge's comments:* This photographer has a wonderful eye for composition. Overall these images show a remarkable sensitivity to people in the world around us.



## Daily Newspaper Winner



### SCOTT MUTERSBAUGH

The Times-News  
Burlington

*Judge's comments:* There are some stellar photographs here. The sports action photos are impressive as well. Everything in the set was clean and well-executed and worthy of this division's first place prize!



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## PRINT, ONLINE OR VIDEO...

We have you covered!

### OPEN GOVERNMENT

- ✓ public records
- ✓ open meetings
- ✓ open courts and judicial proceedings

### LIBEL

- ✓ prepublication/prebroadcast review
- ✓ strategic planning and response
- ✓ litigation defense

### SUBPOENAS

- ✓ anticipatory response to avoid issuance
- ✓ objections and motions to quash

### ONLINE COUNSELING

- ✓ terms of use/terms of service
- ✓ privacy policies
- ✓ response to take-down demands
- ✓ Communications Decency Act/DMCA planning, management and response

### ADVERTISING

- ✓ contract drafting and review
- ✓ content review
- ✓ political ad compliance
- ✓ statutory and regulatory compliance



Hugh Stevens



Amanda Martin



Matt Vaughn



Mike Tadych



Brandon Huffman



stevens martin vaughn & tadych, PLLC

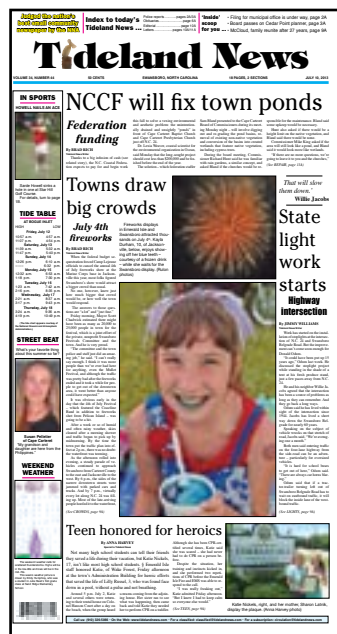
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# GENERAL EXCELLENCE

## Division A



### FIRST PLACE Tideland News

Swansboro

Judge's comments: Well written stories and editorials. Advertising design and layout score high.

## Division B



### FIRST PLACE The Wake Weekly

Wake Forest

Judge's comments: Good overall newspaper. Editorial and advertising departments should be complimented.

## Division C



### FIRST PLACE The Mountaineer

Waynesville

Judge's comments: Good balance of news and features. Well written. Nice use of color. Easy to read.

## Division D



### FIRST PLACE The Sanford Herald

Sanford

Judge's comments: What makes this paper a stand-out is the quality of the writing (hats off to the editors!) and the number of local stories. Local story count surpasses the field. Terrific local paper.

## Division E



### FIRST PLACE The Star

Shelby

Judge's comments: Large number of terrific local stories, strong local sports section, and a robust classified liner section. Photos very well handled throughout the paper. Vibrant print job.

## Division F



### FIRST PLACE The Fayetteville Observer

Fayetteville

Judge's comments: This paper was a stand-out. Magnificent layouts with terrific use of alternate story forms, outstanding enterprise reporting stories, deep local story count.

## SECOND PLACE The Perquimans Weekly

Hertford

Judge's comments: Strong editorials. Good flow of news throughout. Advertising is well done.



## SECOND PLACE Black Mountain News

Black Mountain

Judge's comments: News and features are well balanced. Nice sports section.



## SECOND PLACE The Franklin Press

Franklin

Judge's comments: Good opinion page, headlines and photos. Good job overall.



## SECOND PLACE The Wilson Times

Wilson

Judge's comments: Beautiful care of photo assets. Good amount of local stories. Nice sports section. Nice obit treatment. Lots of small size local ads.



## SECOND PLACE Salisbury Post

Salisbury

Judge's comments: Great local stories. Nice job localizing national election story. Lots of real estate ads.



## SECOND PLACE The News & Observer

Raleigh

Judge's comments: Really strong active writing and local story count that's through the roof.



## THIRD PLACE The News-Journal

Raeford

Judge's comments: Good reporting on many new stories. Advertising design and layout are strong.



## THIRD PLACE Bertie Ledger-Advance

Windsor

Judge's comments: Articles well written. Good looking front page layout. Nice idea to thank subscribers.



## THIRD PLACE Smoky Mountain News

Waynesville

Judge's comments: Good story on female football player.



## THIRD PLACE The Daily Advance

Elizabeth City

Judge's comments: Strong writing, strong local news story count, strong headline writing, strong photos. Great job overall.



## THIRD PLACE The Daily Reflector

Greenville



## THIRD PLACE Winston-Salem Journal

Winston-Salem

Judge's comments: Good local story count. Outstanding promotion of online throughout. Strong writing. Beautiful typography.



# DIVISION A

## GENERAL NEWS REPORTING

*1st Place*  
**Sharon Roberts**  
The Mecklenburg Times  
Charlotte  
Queens University's neighbors mull next move  
Very good job reporting. Concisely written. Fair. Many voices brought to the story. Excellent job.

*2nd Place*  
**Graziella Steele**  
The Mecklenburg Times  
Charlotte  
A home away from HOA Control  
Very tight difference between first and second place. Well researched and written. Solid reporting.

*3rd Place*  
**David Donovan**  
NC Lawyers Weekly  
Raleigh  
Undoing the Dix deal  
Solid writing. Well reasoned and well reported.

## NEWS FEATURE WRITING

*1st Place*  
**Tony Brown**  
The Mecklenburg Times  
Charlotte  
Demolishing the myth  
Writer takes the ordinary that we pass every day and turns it into extraordinary read.

*2nd Place*  
**Catharin Shepard**  
The News-Journal  
Raeford  
Community sends message: "Respect our soldiers"  
Nice combination of news and feature reporting/writing.

*3rd Place*  
**Phillip Bantz**  
NC Lawyers Weekly  
Raleigh  
Dangerous practices  
Well-done look at an under-reported subject.

## FEATURE WRITING

*1st Place*  
**Catharin Shepard**  
The News-Journal  
Raeford  
Blind soldier sets aim for South Pole  
Great story that holds my interest. I do hope you do a follow-up when he returns. This was a heart-warming story.

*2nd Place*  
**Jessica Webb**  
The Highlander  
Highlands  
Lincoln legend  
This piqued my interest with something I did not know a lot about. Good research, and it makes the reader think.

*3rd Place*  
**Norma Dennis**  
Jamestown News  
Jamestown  
From horror to hope: Holocaust survivor remembers  
Great story about a dark time in world history. Well written, and the fact box was well placed.

## PROFILE FEATURE

*1st Place*  
**Todd Wetherington**  
Duplin Times  
Kenansville  
Shavonia West  
What a story of courage. Couldn't stop reading. Lots of details. Exemplary writing.

*2nd Place*  
**Jeff Eason**  
The Blowing Rocket  
Blowing Rock  
Hiking blind  
No handicap here. Great lead and smooth writing style. Not a dull moment, kept my interest throughout.

## Community newspapers under 3,500 circulation

*3rd Place*  
**Amber Nimocks**  
NC Lawyers Weekly  
Raleigh  
Final exam  
I really enjoyed this story. Unique story idea. Writer captured the man and his unheralded integral role in his profession. Well written.

## ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT REPORTING

*1st Place*  
**Ken Buday**  
The Havelock News  
Havelock  
Big time for Little Big Town

*2nd Place*  
**Mike Staton**  
Duplin Times  
Kenansville  
Broadway bound

*3rd Place*  
**Drew Wilson**  
The Havelock News  
Havelock  
The perfect chili

## EDUCATION REPORTING

*1st Place*  
**Drew Wilson**  
The Havelock News  
Havelock  
Applying concepts

*2nd Place*  
**Lenise Willis**  
Jamestown News  
Jamestown  
Haynes-Inman walking and rolling in style

*3rd Place*  
**Drew Wilson**  
The Havelock News  
Havelock  
Musical youth

## NEWS ENTERPRISE REPORTING

*1st Place*  
**David Donovan**  
NC Lawyers Weekly  
Raleigh  
So far, so good

*2nd Place*  
**Bill Moss**  
Hendersonville Lightning  
Hendersonville  
County, towns make parks a high priority

## INVESTIGATIVE REPORTING

*1st Place*  
**Bill Moss**  
Hendersonville Lightning  
Hendersonville  
Legal fights imperil restitution promises  
In-depth research was needed for this article that accurately portrayed a man embroiled in a series legal battles. The pull-outs of the various restitution offers helped break up the article and made the story easy to follow.

## SPORTS NEWS REPORTING

*1st Place*  
**Bill Rollins**  
Duplin Times  
Kenansville  
Lady Tigers denied

*2nd Place*  
**Ken Buday**  
The Havelock News  
Havelock  
Mustangs hold off Havelock Middle

*3rd Place*  
**Rich Levey**  
Tideland News  
Swansboro  
Lady pirates are state champs  
Felt the excitement in their win while reading.

## SPORTS FEATURE WRITING

*1st Place*  
**Bill Rollins**  
Duplin Times  
Kenansville  
92 state title games and counting

# DIVISION A

## Community newspapers under 3,500 circulation

## SPORTS FEATURE PHOTO

*1st Place*  
**Drew Wilson**  
The Havelock News  
Havelock  
Ram nation takes state  
Love the expression on her face as she's passed among the fans. I also like the placement of the photo in a dominant position on the page.

*2nd Place*  
**Ken Buday**  
The Havelock News  
Havelock  
Opening day  
A cute, whimsical moment at opening day.

*3rd Place*  
**Ken Buday**  
The Havelock News  
Havelock  
Winning note  
Good expression of a celebration.

## SPORTS PHOTOGRAPHY

*1st Place*  
**Ken Buday**  
The Havelock News  
Havelock  
Girls medal  
Beautifully balanced photo that reflects the tremendous personal effort the swimmer is making.

*2nd Place*  
**Ryan Elvin**  
Duplin Times  
Kenansville  
Bowling over other team  
Freezing the moment. Balance, motion and energy all captured in a very tight, well composed photo.

*3rd Place*  
**Emmy Errante**  
Lumina News  
Wrightsville Beach  
Fast times, ideal conditions in Pier-2-Pier swim  
Their faces show the intense focus on their goal that makes this photo work so well.

## PHOTO PAGE

*1st Place*  
**Ken Buday**  
The Havelock News  
Havelock  
Time for T-ball  
Great moment and great expression.

*2nd Place*  
**Drew Wilson**  
The Havelock News  
Havelock  
Patriotic night out on the town  
Good coverage of event. Readers get a good feeling of the overall event.

*3rd Place*  
**Annette Pierce**  
The Roanoke Beacon  
Plymouth  
Pickin'  
Good subject.

## BEST VIDEO

*1st Place*  
**Ken Ripley, Joe Burnette, Vickie Ripley**  
Spring Hope Enterprise  
Spring Hope  
2013 Spring Hope Fireman's Day video  
The video highlighted interesting details on the fire competitions that might not have been noted in a print story. The video showed a lot of action and kept the viewer entertained.

*2nd Place*  
**Ken Ripley**  
Spring Hope Enterprise  
Spring Hope  
2012 Pumpkin Festival video  
An entertaining video that showed us a broad cross-section of the community and the variety of entertainment at the festival.

## BEST MULTIMEDIA PROJECT

*1st Place*  
**Ken Ripley**  
Spring Hope Enterprise  
Spring Hope  
2012 Pumpkin Festival  
The video shows every aspect of this festival. I am impressed with the number of photographs used. The slide show was nice.

## EDITORIALS

*1st Place*  
**Gary Scott**  
Duplin Times  
Kenansville  
Collection of editorials

*2nd Place*  
**Bill Moss**  
Hendersonville Lightning  
Hendersonville  
McCrory to farmers: Drop dead

*3rd Place*  
**Jimmy Williams**  
Tideland News  
Swansboro  
Collection of editorials

## LIGHTER COLUMNS

*1st Place*  
**Peter Williams**  
The Perquimans Weekly  
Hertford  
Tomatoes  
Paints a good picture with the words.

*2nd Place*  
**Bill Humleker**  
Hendersonville Lightning  
Hendersonville  
Always better to do the easy things right

*3rd Place*  
**Bethany Gibbs**  
The Roanoke Beacon  
Plymouth  
Germaphobe  
**SERIOUS COLUMNS**  
*1st Place*  
**Todd Wetherington**  
Duplin Times  
Kenansville  
Bent Notes  
Well written. Well done. Could be syndicated.

*2nd Place*  
**Peter Williams**  
The Perquimans Weekly  
Hertford  
Dad cards  
Personal. Well done.

*3rd Place*  
**Ken Buday**  
The Havelock News  
Havelock  
Band, turkeys and school  
Topics of interest.

## SPORTS COLUMNS

*1st Place*  
**Bill Rollins**  
Duplin Times  
Kenansville  
Sports Bill  
His columns are both informative and well-informed, showing an understanding of current news as well as background and history. His challenges to the NCHSAA's decisions are fair and his arguments are presented well.

## HEADLINE WRITING

*1st Place*  
**Sharon Roberts**  
The Mecklenburg Times  
Charlotte  
Collection of headlines  
Clever headlines that grabbed our attention and made us chuckle. They make the reader want to spend time with the story.



First Place, Sports Feature Photo, Division A, by Drew Wilson



# DIVISION A



First Place, Feature Photography, Division A, by Jennifer Pearce

**2nd Place**  
**Ken Buday**  
 The Havelock News  
 Havelock  
 Skeeter, Newport, and winning  
 Headlines show creativity and good play on  
 words, yet draw the reader into the story.

**3rd Place**  
**Carol Brooks**  
 Jamestown News  
 Jamestown  
 Collection of headlines  
 The headline "Flowers Bakery is the Breadwinner  
 in Hostess Bid" was one of the best we read in this  
 division. Good employment of double meaning.

**EDITORIAL PAGE**  
**1st Place**  
**Staff**  
 The Havelock News  
 Havelock  
 Havelock News Editorial Pages

**2nd Place**  
**Kelly Donaldson**  
 Crossroads Chronicle  
 Cashiers  
 March 6, 20 & 27, 2013 editions

**3rd Place**  
**Staff**  
 Tideland News  
 Swansboro  
 Editorial Page

**GENERAL EXCELLENCE FOR WEB SITES**  
**1st Place**  
**Bill Moss**  
 Hendersonville Lightning  
 Hendersonville  
 www.HendersonvilleLightning.com

**2nd Place**  
**Staff**  
 The Havelock News  
 Havelock  
 www.HaveNews.com

**3rd Place**  
**Scott Brings Plenty**  
 The Cherokee One Feather  
 Cherokee  
 www.TheOneFeather.com

**APPEARANCE & DESIGN**  
**1st Place**  
**Staff**  
 The Havelock News  
 Havelock  
 Havelock News  
**2nd Place**  
**Staff**  
 Duplin Times  
 Kenansville  
 May 16 & 23, 2013 editions

**3rd Place**  
**Staff**  
 The Highlander  
 Highlands  
 The Highlander

## Community newspapers under 3,500 circulation

**SPORTS COVERAGE**  
**1st Place**  
**Staff**  
 Tideland News  
 Swansboro  
 Sports coverage  
 Good mix of sports. Great photos.

**2nd Place**  
**Staff**  
 The Havelock News  
 Havelock  
 Havelock News  
 Good variety of reporting styles. Enjoyed  
 profiles on well performing athletes.

**USE OF PHOTOGRAPHS**  
**1st Place**  
**Staff**  
 The Havelock News  
 Havelock  
 Havelock News  
 Well done, both in layout and photo quality.  
 Excellent use of photos in section fronts. The  
 Havelock News strikes a nice balance between  
 photos and text.

**2nd Place**  
**Staff**  
 The Roanoke Beacon  
 Plymouth  
 The Roanoke Beacon  
 The Roanoke Beacon's sports photos give it the  
 edge over most of the competition.

**3rd Place**  
**Staff**  
 Tideland News  
 Swansboro  
 Tideland News  
 Good effort at providing colorful coverage  
 of community events and local people in the  
 news. The paper is at its best when it uses more  
 than one photo to help tell the story.

**NEWS COVERAGE**  
**1st Place**  
**Staff**  
 Duplin Times  
 Kenansville  
 May 16 & 23, 2013 editions

**2nd Place**  
**Staff**  
 The Havelock News  
 Havelock  
 The Havelock News

**3rd Place**  
**Bill Moss**  
 Hendersonville Lightning  
 Hendersonville  
 Building on the rise

**BEST COMMUNITY COVERAGE**  
**1st Place**  
**Staff**  
 Duplin Times  
 Kenansville  
 August 8 & 15, 2013 editions  
 With front pages, complex calendars and  
 detailed attention to the little people who make  
 up a community, this paper stands out.

**2nd Place**  
**Staff**  
 The Havelock News  
 Havelock  
 Havelock News  
 The Havelock community should be proud to have  
 this kind of community journalism in its paper. Well  
 designed stories add to its coverage.

**3rd Place**  
**Kelly Donaldson, Jessica Webb**  
 Crossroads Chronicle  
 Cashiers  
 August 14 & 21, 2013 editions  
 Nice job throughout.

**SPECIAL SECTION**  
**1st Place**  
**Staff**  
 Crossroads Chronicle  
 Cashiers  
 Best of Cashiers

**2nd Place**  
**Staff**  
 The Highlander  
 Highlands  
 Leaf Season

**3rd Place**  
**Staff**  
 The Highlander  
 Highlands  
 Best of Highlands

**BEST NICHE PUBLICATION**  
**1st Place**  
**Staff**  
 Duplin Times  
 Kenansville  
 Duplin County Welcome Guide  
 2013-2014

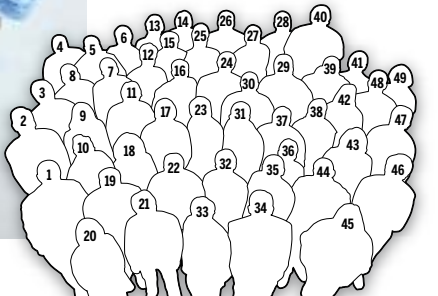
**2nd Place**  
**Staff**  
 Standard Laconic  
 Snow Hill  
 Greene Living: The Refuge

# CONGRATULATIONS!



The Charlotte Observer  
 www.charlotteobserver.com

We're proud of the journalists at The Charlotte Observer and the McClatchy Publishing Center in Charlotte, who won 37 awards this year from the North Carolina Press Association. It's the 17th consecutive year in which we've won at least 20 awards from the NCPA. More importantly, it continues a tradition of journalism that not only distinguishes The Charlotte Observer and CharlotteObserver.com, but also connects day after day with our communities and readers.



# EXCELLENCE

It's what we do!

- Rick Thames
- Doug Miller
- David Scott
- Gary Wright
- David T. Foster III
- Pam Kelley
- Roland Wilkerson
- Rick Rothacker
- Sarah Crosland
- Liz Spangler
- Kathleen Purvis
- Peter St. Onge
- Elizabeth Leland
- Todd Sumlin
- Fannie Flono
- Bert Fox
- Robin Johnston
- Ann Doss Helms
- David Perlmutter
- Rebekah Lewis
- Hope Paasch
- Kathy Sheldon
- Gary Schwab
- Taylor Batten
- David Puckett
- Tony Lone Fight
- Mike Persinger
- Fred Clasen-Kelly
- Rogelio Aranda
- Kelvin Hart
- Dave Enna
- Deon Roberts
- Michael Weinstein
- Michael Gordon
- Theoden Janes
- Barry Talley
- Jack Russell
- Cristina Wilson
- Cleve Woolson
- Jeff Siner
- Sergio Tovar
- Caroline McMillan-Portillo
- Cheryl Carpenter
- Eric Edwards
- Tracie Stafford
- Ely Portillo
- John Arwood
- Andrew Dunn
- Maria David

### FIRSTS

**Education reporting:** CMS success stories: Ann Doss Helms  
**Best Niche Publication:** Carolina Bride: Staff  
**Photo Page:** Ready to rise up: Jeff Siner  
**Sports News Reporting:** NASCAR's big crisis: Is racing real?: David Perlmutter, Jim Utter  
**News Section Design:** Staff  
**Profile Feature:** Running for her life: Theoden Janes  
**Best Video:** Sights and sounds from the 49ers first football game: Todd Sumlin  
**Appearance & Design:** Staff  
**News Feature:** Money Rock: A cocaine dealer's redemption: Pam Kelley  
**Editorial Page:** Staff  
**Special Section:** Living Here: Staff

**Sports Coverage:** Staff  
**Editorials:** Fannie Flono  
**Sports Feature Writing:** Breaking through: Gary Schwab, David Scott  
**Deadline News Reporting:** Tearful widow: Ask your God to forgive you: Elizabeth Leland

### SECONDS

**Feature Photography:** A new bass in Norman: Jeff Siner  
**Best Niche Publication:** Carolina Bride: Staff  
**General News Reporting:** Mental health breakdown: Michael Gordon  
**Sports Feature Photo:** Wonder from down under: Jeff Siner  
**Profile Feature:** Riding with Rock: Kathleen Purvis

**Business Writing:** Big money buying homes: Andrew Dunn, Deon Roberts  
**Arts & Entertainment Reporting:** We're funny that way: Pam Kelley  
**Deadline News Reporting:** Builder blamed for racing deaths: David Perlmutter  
**Multimedia Project:** Breaking through: Staff

### THIRDS

**Education reporting:** Ashley Park class of 2017: Ann Doss Helms  
**Public Service Award:** 0-78: Staff  
**Best Niche Publication:** SouthPark: Staff  
**Graphics:** David Puckett  
**General News Photography:** Woman found dead at scene of blaze: Davie Hinshaw

**Sports Columns:** Tom Sorensen  
**Sports Photography:** Patriots D picks up slack: Jeff Siner  
**Business Writing:** From idea to marketplace: Caroline McMillan-Portillo  
**Online Breaking News:** Kroger buys Harris Teeter: Staff  
**Arts & Entertainment Reporting:** A cocktail with a cloud - and questions: Helen Schwab  
**General Excellence for Web Sites:** www.CharlotteObserver.com: Staff  
**Multimedia Project:** Tour the world in Charlotte food: Helen Schwab, David Puckett  
**Illustration/Photo Illustration:** Fan the flames: Todd Sumlin



# DIVISION B

## GENERAL NEWS REPORTING

1st Place

**Mike Gates**

The Chatham News

Siler City

Chatham residents participate in Moral

Monday protest

2nd Place

**Joseph Martin**

Cherokee Scout

Murphy

Possum drop will go on Monday

3rd Place

**Bill Willcox**

The Chatham News

Siler City

Mayor owes \$286,000 to state, feds in

back taxes

## ONLINE BREAKING NEWS

1st Place

**Joseph Martin**

Cherokee Scout

Murphy

Mother of two killed in 2-car wreck

2nd Place

**Joseph Martin**

Cherokee Scout

Murphy

Road collapses

## NEWS FEATURE WRITING

1st Place

**Lee Hinnant**

The State Port Pilot

Southport

Unique dredge ship keeps inlets clear

*This had writing that danced. The piece had*

*spirited and knowledgeable writing about*

*something most readers might find banal.*

2nd Place

**Amanda Jones Hoyle**

Triangle Business Journal

Raleigh

Food fight

*A smart way of explaining changes to a vital,*

*everyday market, this piece is written clearly*

*and uses data to paint a picture reflected on*

*an individual woman's choices.*

3rd Place

**Amanda Hutcheson**

The State Port Pilot

Southport

Immigration impasse for Southport

couple

## FEATURE WRITING

1st Place

**Eliot Duke**

The Thomasville Times

Thomasville

Book inspires student's paper crane

promise

*Almost had me in tears while I read it. Writer*

*seemed to connect with the parties involved and*

*was able to convey it to the readers. Well written.*

2nd Place

**Morgan Harper**

The State Port Pilot

Southport

'Little Pink Houses' what the doctor

ordered

*Sometimes, the idea makes the story so easy to*

*write. This is one of them, and the writer went*

*with the flow to put together a good story.*

3rd Place

**Jeremiah Reed**

The Transylvania Times

Brevard

Freedom sweet after ordeal in Iraq

*This is a great story and very well written. The*

*writer did a great job on interviewing and*

*getting the facts.*

## PROFILE FEATURE

1st Place

**Joel Burgess**

Black Mountain News

Black Mountain

We went on

*Great lead!*

2nd Place

**David Leone**

The Wake Weekly

Wake Forest

One of the faithful

*Perfect structure and solid storytelling.*

3rd Place

**Jennifer Harris**

Warren Record

Warrenton

Love, determination unite Frenchman

with American father

*An uncomplicated telling of a complicated story.*

## ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT REPORTING

1st Place

**Randall Riggsbee**

The Chatham News

Siler City

Local woman pens new book about

Aunt Bee

## Community newspapers 3,500-10,000 circulation

2nd Place

**Renee Sloan**

The State Port Pilot

Southport

Rock n' Roll 'Southport tradition'

3rd Place

**Randall Riggsbee**

The Chatham News

Siler City

Washtub bass playing helps keep local

man feeling young

## EDUCATION REPORTING

1st Place

**Anna Fortenberry**

news@norman

Denver

A walking, talking history book

*Very appealing subject matter. Loved the layout.*

2nd Place

**Clellie Allen**

The Wake Weekly

Wake Forest

UNC coach passes on reading tips

*Interesting and well written.*

3rd Place

**Barbara Hootman**

Black Mountain News

Black Mountain

Pack a lunch, pack a device

*Made some good points.*

## NEWS ENTERPRISE REPORTING

1st Place

**Staff**

The Alamance News

Graham

What are DOJ's cases against the

sheriff?

*The paper clearly devoted a lot of space and re-*

*sources to investigating a touchy issue. Well done.*

2nd Place

**Amanda Jones Hoyle**

Triangle Business Journal

Raleigh

State of credits

*Numbers are the backbone here with interest-*

*ing insights about the merit and practical*

*purpose of tax credits - nice investigation.*

3rd Place

**Eric Crews**

The Transylvania Times

Brevard

Proposed biomass project draws op-

position and support

## INVESTIGATIVE REPORTING

1st Place

**Tomas Murawski**

The Alamance News

Graham

Can she be believed?

*After extensively covering a lawsuit, this news-*

*paper took the time to check the veracity of the*

*claims made by one of the most outspoken ac-*

*tors in the case. Nice job collecting all the pieces.*

2nd Place

**Kristy Bailey**

The Alamance News

Graham

Loaves & Fishes

*Tax returns can be rough to slog through but*

*this paper made the effort and put together an*

*informative piece that explained to the com-*

*munity the problems with a local charity.*

3rd Place

**Linda Beaulieu, Ryan Houser**

Montgomery Herald

Troy

Keeping an eye on Handy

*Despite local government's failure to adhere*

*to open meeting laws, this paper stuck with*

*their story.*

## SPORTS NEWS REPORTING

1st Place

**Anna Fortenberry, John Fortenberry**

news@norman

Denver

Mustangs win state football title

2nd Place

**Doug Rutter**

The State Port Pilot

Southport

Streak snapped

3rd Place

**Thadd White**

Bertie Ledger-Advance

Windsor

LA lads bag sixth straight title; Heart of

a Champion

## SPORTS FEATURE WRITING

1st Place

**Joel Burgess**

Black Mountain News

Black Mountain

Ripmaster closing in on 50

2nd Place

**Terry Pope**

The State Port Pilot

Southport

'Pink Ladies' battle in an all-boys league

# DIVISION B



First Place, Feature Photography, Division B, by Scott Wallace

3rd Place

**Anna Fortenberry**

news@norman

Denver

The coach's wife

## GENERAL NEWS PHOTOGRAPHY

1st Place

**Scott Wallace**

Cherokee Scout

Murphy

Cat-astrophy

*A great shot capturing the cat hanging on for*

*dear life.*

2nd Place

**Micah Henry**

Taylorsville Times

Taylorsville

Landmark burns

*The shadowy figures of what appear to be*

*innocent children on bikes juxtaposes the*

*seriousness of the blaze.*

3rd Place

**Clellie Allen**

The Wake Weekly

Wake Forest

Cougars run over Caps

*It's clear who the winning team is in these*

*photos, both offense and defense. Good shots.*

## FEATURE PHOTOGRAPHY

1st Place

**Scott Wallace**

Cherokee Scout

Murphy

Fun at fall carnival

*We can just hear the assignment editor say:*

*'Go out and bring back the joy, the glee the fun*

*and wonder that kids have at this carnival.'*

*This photographer did just that! Bravo!*

2nd Place

**Scott Wallace**

Cherokee Scout

Murphy

Spelling showdown

*The four faces, all determined, captured at a*

*student's angle. Well composed and balanced*

*image.*

3rd Place

**Jim Harper**

The State Port Pilot

Southport

Safe at second

*Perfect moment! Makes us smile.*

## SPORTS FEATURE PHOTO

1st Place

**Lee Moody**

The Chatham News

Siler City

A good day outside

*A charming photo that captures the essence of*

*childhood.*

2nd Place

**Megan Bannerman**

Black Mountain News

Black Mountain

The future of tennis

*Cute photo. It conveys a nice range of expression.*

3rd Place

**Seth Mabry**

news@norman

Denver

Soccer girl

*A good photo.*

## SPORTS PHOTOGRAPHY

1st Place

**Scott Wallace**

Cherokee Scout

## Community newspapers 3,500-10,000 circulation

Murphy

Flipping out

*Perfect exposure and focus force you to see the*

*kayaker and not just the kayak.*

2nd Place

**Jim Harper**

The State Port Pilot

Southport

Coastal draws first blood

*The tight crop and strong colors make you feel*

*the frustration on her face with letting that*

*goal get into the net.*

3rd Place

**Seth Mabry**

news@norman

Denver

Mustangs fall

*The intense drive of the player going strong to*

*the hoop makes this a terrific basketball photo.*

## PHOTO PAGE

1st Place

**Megan Bannerman**

Black Mountain News



# DIVISION B

**3rd Place**  
**Joseph Martin**  
 Cherokee Scout  
 Murphy  
 There are real heroes  
 Good to see this point of view in a general newspaper. Well written

## SPORTS COLUMNS

**1st Place**  
**Anna Fortenberry**  
 news@norman  
 Denver  
 Selection of columns  
 The judging criteria for this category include "the writer's ability to uplift, inform or entertain." She does all three. Her column on heroes on and off the field gave attention to an often overlooked subject - the team's supporters.

**2nd Place**  
**Jamie Shell**  
 The Avery Journal-Times  
 Newland  
 Call to the Pen  
 His columns show a depth of understanding and the results of good research while keeping the reader's attention and proving his points.

**3rd Place**  
**Jon Galloway**  
 Montgomery Herald  
 Troy  
 A reminder of what sports is all about  
 This columnist has a down-to-earth approach. Reading his column is like chatting with a fellow fan over lunch.

## HEADLINE WRITING

**1st Place**  
**Ed Harper**  
 The State Port Pilot  
 Southport  
 Collection of headlines  
 Witty yet clear headlines.

**2nd Place**  
**Terry Pope**  
 The State Port Pilot  
 Southport  
 Collection of headlines  
 Creative headlines that quickly help the reader understand the issues presented.

**3rd Place**  
**David Leone**  
 The Wake Weekly  
 Wake Forest  
 Couple dons 'brew suede shoes'  
 The headline on the non-stop freeway concisely summarizes the story. Every word added significant meaning.

## EDITORIAL PAGE

**1st Place**  
**Clellie Allen, Jay Lamm, Jean McCamy**  
 The Wake Weekly  
 Wake Forest  
 Info blocked at school doors  
 Great local editorials that have a significant impact on the community coupled with nice, clean layout and political cartoons with a local focus.

**2nd Place**  
**Tom Boney, Staff**  
 The Alamance News  
 Graham  
 December 13, 20 & 27, 2012 editions  
 Great editorial on the DOJ's suit against the local Sheriff's Office. Well researched with a well reasoned conclusion.

**3rd Place**  
**Ken Fortenberry**  
 news@norman  
 Denver  
 Editorial pages from December 2012  
 Interesting, well-written editorials.

## GENERAL EXCELLENCE FOR WEB SITES

**1st Place**  
**Staff**  
 The State Port Pilot  
 Southport  
 www.StatePortPilot.com

**2nd Place**  
**Deirdre Brown, Staff**  
 The Chatham News  
 Siler City  
 www.ChathamNewsandRecord.com

## APPEARANCE & DESIGN

**1st Place**  
**Jeff Davis, Staff**  
 The Chatham News  
 Siler City  
 October 18 & 25, 2012 editions

**2nd Place**  
**W. Curt Vincent**  
 The Bladen Journal  
 Elizabethtown  
 Petition aims to change town's government

**3rd Place**  
**Staff**  
 The Wake Weekly  
 Wake Forest  
 Budget reflects economic thaw; Eaton arrested 'for a cause'

## Community newspapers 3,500-10,000 circulation

### SPORTS COVERAGE

**1st Place**  
**Staff**  
 The State Port Pilot  
 Southport  
 Sports coverage  
 Good stories, pictures and a clean layout. Like the schedule down the side, very easy to read.

**2nd Place**  
**Staff**  
 Cherokee Scout  
 Murphy  
 Cherokee Scout  
 Writing is strong and good variety of sports. Well written column.

**3rd Place**  
**D. Clay Best, Staff**  
 The Clayton News-Star  
 Clayton  
 February 13 & 17, 2013 editions  
 Strong writing, nice use of photos. Nice column as well.

### USE OF PHOTOGRAPHS

**1st Place**  
**Jeff Davis, Staff**  
 The Chatham News  
 Siler City  
 April 11 & 18, 2013 editions  
 News of Chatham stands out for its pages with single dominant photo. Page 1s and sports pages are especially strong.

**2nd Place**  
**Staff**  
 The State Port Pilot  
 Southport  
 Use of Photographs  
 Photos are nicely played in section fronts. Color reproduction is among the best we've seen in any class.

**3rd Place**  
**Staff**  
 Cherokee Scout  
 Murphy  
 Cherokee Scout  
 Nice sports action, and picture pages in "Community" section are fun to look at.

### NEWS COVERAGE

**1st Place**  
**Staff**  
 The State Port Pilot  
 Southport  
 News coverage

**2nd Place**  
**Staff**  
 Cherokee Scout  
 Murphy  
 Cherokee Scout

**3rd Place**  
**Staff**  
 The Chronicle  
 Winston-Salem  
 News coverage issues

Continued on page 37



First Place, General News Photography, Division B, by Scott Wallace

# Smoky Mountain news

## Not your cookie-cutter newspaper...



## ...not your average staff

### 2013 NC Press Association News, Editorial and Photojournalism Contest

Congratulations to our award-winning staff!

- FIRST PLACE**  
Andrew Kasper  
**News Enterprise Reporting**
- SECOND PLACE**  
Becky Johnson  
**News Enterprise Reporting**
- SECOND PLACE**  
Garret K. Woodward  
**News Feature Writing**
- SECOND PLACE**  
Garret K. Woodward  
**Profile Feature**
- SECOND PLACE**  
Garret K. Woodward, Travis Bumgardner, Micah McClure  
**Special Section**
- THIRD PLACE**  
Caitlin Bowling, Becky Johnson, Andrew Kasper  
**Education Reporting**
- THIRD PLACE**  
Becky Johnson  
**General News Reporting**
- THIRD PLACE**  
Becky Johnson, Andrew Kasper  
**Investigative Reporting**
- THIRD PLACE**  
Travis Bumgardner  
**General Excellence for Websites**
- THIRD PLACE**  
Garret K. Woodward, Travis Bumgardner, Micah McClure, Emily Moss  
**Best Niche Publication**
- Media and the Law Award**  
Andrew Kasper

COVERING HAYWOOD, JACKSON, MACON & SWAIN COUNTIES  
 828.452.4251 www.smokymountainnews.com

## Past Awards

**2012**  
 First Place General News Reporting  
 First Place News Feature Writing  
 First Place Education Reporting  
 First Place Investigative Reporting  
 First Place Sports News Reporting  
 First Place General Excellence for Websites  
 Second Place Education Reporting

**2011**  
 First Place Education Reporting  
 First Place Investigative Reporting  
 First Place Appearance and Design  
 Second Place General Excellence  
 Third Place General Excellence for Websites  
 Third Place News Feature Writing  
 Third Place Education Reporting  
 Third Place News Enterprise Reporting  
 Third Place Headline Writing  
 Third Place News Coverage

**2010**  
 First Place General News Reporting  
 First Place Education Reporting  
 First Place Investigative Reporting  
 Second Place Feature Writing  
 Second Place News Enterprise Reporting  
 Second Place Editorials  
 Second Place Serious Columns  
 Second Place News Coverage  
 Third Place News Feature  
 Third Place A&E Reporting  
 Third Place Sports Feature Writing  
 Third Place General Excellence for Websites  
 Media and Law Award  
 Duke Divinity Award

**2009**  
 First Place News Enterprise Reporting  
 Second Place Community Service  
 Second Place Investigative Reporting  
 Third Place Appearance and Design

**2008**  
 First Place Community Service  
 First Place News Enterprise Reporting  
 Second Place General News Reporting  
 Third Place Investigative

**2007**  
 First Place Community Service  
 Second Place News Enterprise Reporting  
 Second Place Profile Writing

**2006**  
 First Place General News Reporting  
 First Place Sports Columns  
 Third Place Investigative Reporting  
 Third Place News Enterprise Reporting  
 Third Place Criticism

**2005**  
 First Place General News Reporting  
 Second Place Investigative Reporting  
 Third Place Editorial Writing

**2004**  
 First Place General News Reporting  
 First Place Investigative Reporting  
 Second Place Investigative Reporting  
 Second Place Sports News Reporting  
 Second Place Lighter Columns  
 Third Place Serious Columns



# DIVISION C

Community newspapers over 10,000 circulation

## GENERAL NEWS REPORTING

1st Place

**John Tucker**

INDY Week

Durham

The brief life of Derek Walker

*The story was seamless, poignant and relayed in such a manner that the cliched "we didn't see it coming" aspect was overshadowed by the raw emotion Tucker conveyed.*

2nd Place

**Billy Ball**

INDY Week

Durham

Double agent

*Ball presents an illuminating profile of someone who appears to be a rising political player in North Carolina.*

3rd Place

**Becky Johnson**

Smoky Mountain News

Waynesville

Under the rug: Sweepstakes in limbo

*Encapsulates solid news reporting. Well done.*

## ONLINE BREAKING NEWS

1st Place

**Jake Frankel**

Mountain Xpress

Asheville

Ballots in question for 1,000 registered voters at Warren Wilson College

2nd Place

**Renee Sloan, Jackie Torok**

The Brunswick Beacon

Shallotte

Grand jury indicts Murray in killing of 3-year-old boy

3rd Place

**Eric Ginsburg**

YES! Weekly

Greensboro

Fast food strike announced in Greensboro

## NEWS FEATURE WRITING

1st Place

**Caitlin Byrd**

Mountain Xpress

Asheville

Collateral damage

2nd Place

**Garret K. Woodward**

Smoky Mountain News

Waynesville

In search of 'White Lightnin'

3rd Place

**Andrew Kenney**

Cary News

Cary

At last, answers to a mother's grief

## FEATURE WRITING

1st Place

**Gloria Lloyd**

Chapel Hill News

Chapel Hill

Lincoln dressmaker has local ties

*Interesting and well written from start to finish.*

2nd Place

**Chris Vitiello**

INDY Week

Durham

The inexhaustible energy source

*The writing was so tight and well done here it would be very hard to find a criticism.*

3rd Place

**Barry Yeoman**

INDY Week

Durham

A good death

*Good writing, excellent topic.*

## PROFILE FEATURE

1st Place

**Renee Sloan**

The Brunswick Beacon

Shallotte

Oyler among first women to serve in U.S. Marine Corps

*I can see the interviewer's skill here. Easy to follow, enjoyed reading about the subject.*

*Well written and very memorable.*

2nd Place

**Garret K. Woodward**

Smoky Mountain News

Waynesville

Walking the dog

*Appreciate the subject selection as a person who many in your community may be curious about. Well written.*

3rd Place

**Brian Slattery**

The Brunswick Beacon

Shallotte

Leland family adjusts to life with quintuplets

*Fun feature about family going through a unique experience. Answers a lot of questions readers may have about this situation.*

## ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT REPORTING

1st Place

**Dane Smith**

Mountain Xpress

Asheville

Pitchfork features local songwriter,

Asheville music fans puzzled

2nd Place

**Laura Lewis**

The Brunswick Beacon

Shallotte

Welcome, Willie

3rd Place

**Craig Lindsey**

INDY Week

Durham

Theater of pain

## EDUCATION REPORTING

1st Place

**Will Huntsberry**

INDY Week

Durham

Class dismissed

*The depth of sources and compelling layout made a complex story more interesting.*

2nd Place

**Jake Frankel**

Mountain Xpress

Asheville

Building knowledge

*The graphics really help tell the story here, and we appreciate the amount of space*

*editors gave over to the faces and comments of those involved in the story. An interesting*

*and dynamic way to tell the tale.*



First Place, Sports Photography, Division C, by Kelly Snow

3rd Place

**Caitlin Bowling, Becky Johnson, Andrew Kasper**

Smoky Mountain News

Waynesville

School resource officers

*The three writers should be commended for their dogged pursuit of this story.*

## NEWS ENTERPRISE REPORTING

1st Place

**Andrew Kasper**

Smoky Mountain News

Waynesville

Bracing for the worst

*This is a total package piece! Wow! Great story, graphics and informational content!*

2nd Place

**Becky Johnson**

Smoky Mountain News

Waynesville

Junaluska's crossroads

*Very interesting subject and presentation! A great package piece.*

3rd Place

**Tim Reaves**

Independent Tribune

Concord

10 years after: Dream endures for 'new'

Kannapolis

*Very nice package, composition and story!*

# DIVISION C

Community newspapers over 10,000 circulation

## INVESTIGATIVE REPORTING

1st Place

**Lisa Sorg**

INDY Week

Durham

Muddy waters

*In a concise manner, this article showed the impact a community newspaper's investigation can have even on a state level.*

2nd Place

**Jordan Green, Chad Nance, Brian Clarey, Alex Ashe**

YES! Weekly

Greensboro

Equity & Appraisals: The distressing

relationship between race and real

estate in Winston-Salem

*Delving into how race impacted the*

*judgements explored an issue many in the*

*community suspected but could not support*

*without the newspaper's research.*

3rd Place

**Becky Johnson, Andrew Kasper**

Smoky Mountain News

Waynesville

Steep slope scrutiny

*Very explanatory series on a subject many*

*papers would not bother to cover.*

## SPORTS NEWS REPORTING

1st Place

**J. Mike Blake**

Cary News

Cary

Falcons still airborne

2nd Place

**Nicholas Hall**

Carteret County News-Times

Morehead City

Collection of sports stories

3rd Place

**Kelly Snow**

The Courier-Times

Roxboro

Rockets' bats come alive just in time

## SPORTS FEATURE WRITING

1st Place

**Neil Morris**

INDY Week

Durham

Boxes of fame

2nd Place

**Brian Clarey**

YES! Weekly

Greensboro

Shadenfreude at the ACC

3rd Place

**Andy Moore**

Wilkes Journal-Patriot

North Wilkesboro

No. 52: East honors Delaina Adams Smith

## GENERAL NEWS PHOTOGRAPHY

1st Place

**Mark Schultz**

The Durham News

Raleigh

Vigil remembers Ocampo

2nd Place

**Aaron Moody**

Eastern Wake News

Zebulon

Donation music to their ears

3rd Place

**Hannah Sharpe**

The Pilot

Southern Pines

Hundreds attend officer's funeral

## FEATURE PHOTOGRAPHY

1st Place

**Tim Chandler**

The Courier-Times

Roxboro

Celebration

*Captures the moment with faces and eyes.*

*Excellent image that tells a whole story.*

2nd Place

**Harry Lynch**

The Durham News

Raleigh

The flight of the butterfly

*Nice closeup with good depth of focus.*

3rd Place

**Hannah Sharpe**

The Pilot

Southern Pines

At Fire Academy, teamwork rules

*Perfect timing that captures the fun.*

## SPORTS FEATURE PHOTO

1st Place

**Michael Paul**

The Brunswick Beacon

Shallotte

John McNeil somersaults after scoring

against North Brunswick

*A spontaneous moment captured at just the*

*right instant.*

2nd Place

**Michael Paul**

The Brunswick Beacon

Shallotte

'This one was for my brother'

*A moving and powerful photo capturing a*

*coach's tribute to his late brother.*

3rd Place

**Hannah Sharpe**

The Pilot

Southern Pines

Pinewild play

*Great shot of a chip shot.*

## SPORTS PHOTOGRAPHY

1st Place

**Kelly Snow**

The Courier-Times

Roxboro

Person running back Marquis Torain

dives into the endzone

*A terrific photo that captures the amazing*

*ballet that is football well played.*

2nd Place

**James Nix**

Independent Tribune

Concord

Up the middle

*Every face captures a distinct reaction, and the*

*focused drive of the scoring player is captured*

*cleanly.*

3rd Place

**Jaclyn Anthony**

Lincoln Times-News

Lincolnton

Wrestling Regionals

*Painful to see, but genuine and poetic.*

## PHOTO PAGE

1st Place

**Justin Cook**

INDY Week

Durham

The Passion of Dean

*Great subject and nice interaction with subject.*

2nd Place

**Jeremy Lange**

INDY Week

Durham

Saturday at the grandstands

*Nice dominant image. Simple but effective layout.*

3rd Place

**Jeremy Lange**

INDY Week

Durham

Swing your partner, round and round

*Nice expressions.*

## BEST VIDEO

1st Place

**Hannah Sharpe**

The Pilot

Southern Pines

Into the garden with WPMS Garden Club

*Cinematographic skill captured the enthusiastic*

*engagement of the kids*



# DIVISION C

Community newspapers over 10,000 circulation

2nd Place

**Michaela Duckett**

The Charlotte Post

Charlotte

Collection of columns

A unique subject that will surely keep young readers interested in newspapers. Well written and intriguing.

3rd Place

**Bob Scott**

The Franklin Press

Franklin

Collection of columns

Columns with a strong, burly message that pull no punches and thumb their noses at the thought police.

## SERIOUS COLUMNS

1st Place

**John Deem**

Lake Norman Citizen

Huntersville

Collection of columns

2nd Place

**Jim Longworth**

YES! Weekly

Greensboro

BSA officials; NRA; Lawmakers obsessed with nipples

3rd Place

**Barbara McRae**

The Franklin Press

Franklin

Collection of columns

## SPORTS COLUMNS

1st Place

**J. Mike Blake**

Cary News

Cary

Collection of columns

Engaging and moving. His piece on the lasting impact of a coach's off-the-field encouragement spoke to the true importance the coach-player relationship can have.

2nd Place

**Justin Parker**

Lake Norman Citizen

Huntersville

Collection of columns

It's encouraging to see a columnist recognize aspects of a player's performance that might not make it onto the stat sheet.

3rd Place

**Zach Colburn**

Wilkes Journal-Patriot

North Wilkesboro

Collection of columns

Columns show a thoughtful approach to sports, focusing on the people, interactions and experiences that give them their value.

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## HEADLINE WRITING

1st Place

**John Nagy**

The Pilot

Southern Pines

Collection of headlines

Cool Hand Lucas was a great play on a popular reference. Giving a Hoot was fun and clear.

2nd Place

**Staff**

The Franklin Press

Franklin

Collection of headlines

'Books and bullets' is quick, to the point, and pithy. Good use of nouns that drive home problems facing all schools. 'Meth nap' was clever.

3rd Place

**Tom Embrey**

The Pilot

Southern Pines

Collection of headlines

New Leash made me want to read the story and find out more. Drive-In Help was cute.

## EDITORIAL PAGE

1st Place

**Staff**

The Franklin Press

Franklin

Franklin Press editorial pages

## GENERAL EXCELLENCE FOR

### WEB SITES

1st Place

**Staff**

INDY Week

Durham

www.INDYWeek.com

2nd Place

**Staff**

The Pilot

Southern Pines

www.ThePilot.com

3rd Place

**Travis Bumgardner**

Smoky Mountain News

Waynesville

www.SmokyMountainNews.com

## APPEARANCE & DESIGN

1st Place

**Staff**

The Pilot

Southern Pines

May 5 & 8, 2013 editions

2nd Place

**Staff**

INDY Week

Durham

May 22 & 29, 2013 editions

3rd Place

**Shelagh Clancy**

The Brunswick Beacon

Shallotte

The Brunswick Beacon

## SPORTS COVERAGE

1st Place

**D. Clay Best, Staff**

Garner Cleveland Record

Smithfield

February 3 & 6, 2013 editions

Nice layout, easy to read. Love the feature photo from inside the basketball locker room. Overall well done.

2nd Place

**Hunter Chase**

The Pilot

Southern Pines

September 22 & 29, 2013 editions

Good headlines. Nice clean look.

3rd Place

**Michael Paul**

The Brunswick Beacon

Shallotte

The Brunswick Beacon

Football, fishing and golf all on one page! Nice.

## USE OF PHOTOGRAPHS

1st Place

**Staff**

Carteret County News-Times

Morehead City

Carteret County News-Times

Multi-photo stories on the front page set the News-Times apart, both in design and content. Individual photos are very nicely done. Good moments and good work.

2nd Place

**Staff**

The Pilot

Southern Pines

August 4 & 25, 2013 editions

Care is given to give visual interest to section fronts. Photos are played well inside as well.

3rd Place

**Mark Schultz, Jim Kenny**

The Durham News

Raleigh

August 7 & 28, 2013 editions

Eye-catching front page photos. The way they are played makes you want to pick up this paper.

## NEWS COVERAGE

1st Place

**Staff**

The Mountaineer

Waynesville

News Coverage

2nd Place

**Staff**

The Franklin Press

Franklin

News Coverage

3rd Place

**Staff**

Mooreville Tribune

Mooreville

March 3 & 10, 2013 editions

## BEST COMMUNITY COVERAGE

1st Place

**Staff**

Carteret County News-Times

Morehead City

Carteret County News-Times

This paper screams local ahead of the rest. Putting obits on right side of page A3 is quite ambitious.

2nd Place

**Staff**

Mooreville Tribune

Mooreville

December 19 & 30, 2012 editions

Lots of local news throughout. Quite versatile. Especially liked pictures of "Wanted Suspects" with top ten bond amounts.

3rd Place

**Staff**

North Raleigh News

Raleigh

August 14 & 28, 2013 editions

Great variety of community news hits the reader right from the front page. Daybook is the best community calendar in the bunch.

## SPECIAL SECTION

1st Place

**Staff**

The Mountaineer

Waynesville

Lake Junaluska Centennial

2nd Place

**Garret K. Woodward, Micah McClure, Travis Bumgardner**

Smoky Mountain News

Waynesville

WNC Travel Guide

# DIVISION C

Community newspapers over 10,000 circulation

3rd Place

**Staff**

Carteret County News-Times

Morehead City

Outlook 2013

## BEST NICHE PUBLICATION

1st Place

**Staff**

INDY Week

Durham

INDY Eats - Guide to Dining in the Triangle

Unique, eye catching, fabulous fresh design, artistic and creative drawings and layout that screams "I'm cool and fun to look at."

2nd Place

**Frank Ruggiero, Johnny Hayes, Staff**

The Mountain Times

Boone

Autumn Times

Big bold layout with beautiful scenic photography that will attract visitors to pick it up.

3rd Place

**Micah McClure, Garret K Woodward, Emily Moss, Travis Bumgardner**

Smoky Mountain News

Waynesville

Calling Haywood home

Classy directory to lure families and businesses to relocate to the area.

## CRITICISM

1st Place

**Craig Lindsey**

INDY Week

Durham

Collection of criticisms

Lindsey has a talent for writing short, declarative sentences in a simple yet elegant conversational style. A pleasure to read.

2nd Place

**David Fellerath**

INDY Week

Durham

Collection of criticisms

The author's engaging lead paragraphs pull the reader into the reviews.

3rd Place

**Brandon Soderberg**

INDY Week

Durham

Collection of criticisms

Soderberg shares an educated, thorough look into the subject in each of his reviews. His opinions appear backed by facts.



First Place, Feature Photography, Division C, by Tim Chandler

## CONGRATULATIONS to the following Cooke Communications News, Editorial & Photojournalism Winners! Thank you for your hard work and commitment to excellence!

**Cooke**  
COMMUNICATIONS  
NORTH CAROLINA LLC

1150 Sugg Pkwy  
Greenville, NC  
252-329-9500

### The Daily Reflector (Greenville, NC)

1<sup>st</sup> Feature Writing, Michael Abramowitz

1<sup>st</sup> Deadline News Reporting, Jane Dail,

Ginger Livingston, Katherine Ayers

1<sup>st</sup> Editorial Page, Brian Colligan, Mark Rutledge,

Al Clark

1<sup>st</sup> Sports Feature Photo, Aileen Devlin

1<sup>st</sup> Online Breaking News, Staff

1<sup>st</sup> Multimedia Project, Staff

2<sup>nd</sup> Feature Section Design, Steve Cagle

2<sup>nd</sup> General News Photography, Aileen Devlin

2<sup>nd</sup> Arts & Entertainment Reporting, Natalie Sayewich

2<sup>nd</sup> Profile Feature, Jane Dail

3<sup>rd</sup> News Section Design, Staff

3<sup>rd</sup> Headline Writing, Chris Siegel

3<sup>rd</sup> Appearance & Design, Staff

3<sup>rd</sup> News Enterprise Reporting, Kristin Zachary

3<sup>rd</sup> Editorials, Mark Rutledge

3<sup>rd</sup> Illustration/Photo Illustration, Aileen Devlin

### Rocky Mount Telegram (Rocky Mount, NC)

1<sup>st</sup> Website General Excellence, Staff

1<sup>st</sup> Arts & Entertainment, Brie Handgraaf

1<sup>st</sup> General News, Darla Slipke

2<sup>nd</sup> Sports Features, Justin Hite

2<sup>nd</sup> Graphics, Ross Chandler

2<sup>nd</sup> Feature Photo, Hannah Potes

2<sup>nd</sup> Sports Feature Photo, Alan Campbell

3<sup>rd</sup> General News Photo, Alan Campbell

3<sup>rd</sup> Online Breaking News, Brie Handgraaf

3<sup>rd</sup> Sports News, Nick Piotrowicz

### The Daily Advance (Elizabeth City, NC)

1<sup>st</sup> Best Community Coverage, Staff

1<sup>st</sup> Headline Writing, Bob Montgomery

1<sup>st</sup> Appearance & Design, Staff

1<sup>st</sup> Criticism, Robert Kelly-Goss

2<sup>nd</sup> Feature Section Design, Chris Day, Jason Balduf,

Will Harris

2<sup>nd</sup> News Section Design, Chris Day, Jason Balduf,

Will Harris

2<sup>nd</sup> Editorial Page, Staff

2<sup>nd</sup> Lighter Columns, Robert Kelly-Goss

3<sup>rd</sup> General Excellence for Web Sites, Chris Day,

Will Harris, Jason Balduf

### Duplin Times/Duplin Today (Kenansville, NC)

1<sup>st</sup> Sports Columns, Bill Rollins

1<sup>st</sup> Best Niche Publication, Staff

1<sup>st</sup> News Coverage, Staff

1<sup>st</sup> Criticism Columns, Todd Wetherington

1<sup>st</sup> Serious Columns, Todd Wetherington

1<sup>st</sup> Profile Feature, Todd Wetherington

1<sup>st</sup> Best Community Coverage, Staff

1<sup>st</sup> Sports News Reporting, Bill Rollins

1<sup>st</sup> Editorials, Gary Scott

1<sup>st</sup> Sports Feature Writing, Bill Rollins

2<sup>nd</sup>



# DIVISION D

## GENERAL NEWS REPORTING

*1st Place*  
**Darla Slipke**  
Rocky Mount Telegram  
*Rocky Mount*  
Hutcheson murder trial  
*Nicely done. The reader is drawn into the story.*

*2nd Place*  
**Jon Jimison**  
The Wilson Times  
*Wilson*  
‘Tears of love’  
*Nicely written. Compelling.*

*3rd Place*  
**Darrick Ignasiak**  
The Dispatch  
*Lexington*  
Accident dashes young man’s dream days before fulfillment  
*Well done.*

## DEADLINE NEWS REPORTING

*1st Place*  
**Darrick Ignasiak**  
The Dispatch  
*Lexington*  
DCSO probes 2 Arcadia deaths  
*Excellent lead paragraph immediately pulls the reader into the story. The interview of the first person on the scene connects the story to the reader in a profound way.*

*2nd Place*  
**Olivia Neeley**  
The Wilson Times  
*Wilson*  
‘My heart dropped’  
*The reader is on scene as the reporter selects imagery and phrases which make the emotions and significance of the event vivid. Solid reporting.*

*3rd Place*  
**Jean Gordon**  
The Daily Courier  
*Forest City*  
Children rescued from fast moving creek  
*Excellent lead paragraph and good use of quotes throughout. Solid job of providing information.*

## ONLINE BREAKING NEWS

*1st Place*  
**Corey Friedman, Gray Whitley, Brad Coville**  
The Wilson Times  
*Wilson*  
Man killed in car  
*This story no doubt had the community on edge. Good reporting and photography.*

*2nd Place*  
**Janet Conner-Knox, Gray Whitley**  
The Wilson Times  
*Wilson*  
‘I just want to breathe’  
*This high profile case was surely followed closely by the local community. Good coverage from all sides.*

*3rd Place*  
**Brie Handgraaf**  
Rocky Mount Telegram  
*Rocky Mount*  
Search suspended for missing tractor-trailer driver  
*Timely updates and good photography.*

## NEWS FEATURE

*1st Place*  
**Olivia Neeley**  
The Wilson Times  
*Wilson*  
‘I just want to hold her’  
*Heartbreaking story, meaningful quotes, thorough interviewing. Reads quickly and kept me interested to the end. Exceptional.*

*2nd Place*  
**Lisa Boykin Batts**  
The Wilson Times  
*Wilson*  
Rescue and recovery  
*Starts with a story worth telling. Vivid description and clear writing make it all the more readable.*

*3rd Place*  
**Janet Conner-Knox, Jon Jimison**  
The Wilson Times  
*Wilson*  
‘It is a firing,’ Mayor responds, thanks 301 volunteers; 301 key to the city’s future  
*Good job airing all sides. First story resulted in a contrite response from the mayor. Nice to see good journalism prompt such an action.*

## FEATURE WRITING

*1st Place*  
**Lisa Boykin Batts**  
The Wilson Times  
*Wilson*  
Turning back the clock

*2nd Place*  
**Rochelle Moore**  
The Wilson Times  
*Wilson*  
An extraordinary White Christmas

*3rd Place*  
**Olivia Neeley**  
The Wilson Times  
*Wilson*  
Anchors away

## Daily newspapers under 12,500 circulation

### PROFILE FEATURE

*1st Place*  
**Corey Friedman**  
The Wilson Times  
*Wilson*  
Vets’ van man out  
*Writer uses the now to circle back and give readers a richly detailed look at the life of this quirky philanthropist. Readers who have never met him will end up caring about Eddie Price.*

*2nd Place*  
**Bryan Hanks**  
The Free Press  
*Kinston*  
A father to many  
*Hanks takes his time in the telling, but a good use of quotes and solid writing keep the story moving along to create a fine portrait of a modest man.*

*3rd Place*  
**Kim Gilliland**  
The News-Topic  
*Lenoir*  
A once-promising life ends too soon  
*This story gives meaning to the life of a man who could have been dismissed as just another addict. The sources’ raw emotions come through in the telling with bittersweet results.*

### ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT REPORTING

*1st Place*  
**Brie Handgraaf**  
Rocky Mount Telegram  
*Rocky Mount*  
A proud procession  
*The photo pulled me into this story immediately. Such a beautiful and rich heritage, and I can feel the pride of the tribe and the journalist capturing the moment.*

*2nd Place*  
**Matthew Clark**  
The Daily Courier  
*Forest City*  
Tangled in film  
*I always enjoy a “blast from the past” retro piece, and felt the urge to cheer Michael on for his passion to preserve his past.*

*3rd Place*  
**Lisa Boykin Batts**  
The Wilson Times  
*Wilson*  
Married to the artist  
*I loved being invited into the living room to share the story of these two lovely artists living their dream.*

### EDUCATION REPORTING

*1st Place*  
**Corey Friedman**  
The Wilson Times  
*Wilson*  
Trial by fire  
*Strong lede and solid reporting in this comprehensive look at a different kind of school. Friedman’s piece captures the experience of training at one of NC’s most demanding fire training academies.*

*2nd Place*  
**Chip Pate**  
The Sanford Herald  
*Sanford*  
New rules of the game  
*Good use of source material and statistics without losing the story. This writer tackles a broad topic with ease. This is a fine piece of journalism.*

*3rd Place*  
**Stephanie Creech**  
The Wilson Times  
*Wilson*  
Mother’s complaints spark change  
*A thoughtful, poignant story of a mother and son and a struggle for inclusion of special needs students. Good reporting and strong photography.*

### NEWS ENTERPRISE REPORTING

*1st Place*  
**Olivia Neeley**  
The Wilson Times  
*Wilson*  
‘We care about our children’  
*This series did a wonderful job of detailing this serious problem, but what really made the series stand out was the humanity the writer wove into the stories.*

*2nd Place*  
**Jon Jimison**  
The Wilson Times  
*Wilson*  
Trial and error  
*A deft exploration of significant changes to the court-appointed attorney system. It tells readers what they need to know.*

*3rd Place*  
**Alan Wooten**  
The Daily Dispatch  
*Henderson*  
Pieces of a puzzle  
*This is a classic example of a reporter putting a complicated case in context.*

# DIVISION D

## Daily newspapers under 12,500 circulation

### INVESTIGATIVE REPORTING

*1st Place*  
**Olivia Neeley**  
The Wilson Times  
*Wilson*  
Uncovering new evidence  
*Thanks to The Wilson Times, an additional key witness to a 1976 murder was finally uncovered, one of the reasons the man sentenced to life for the killing may get a new trial. The series answered all of the questions a reader would have about the case.*

*2nd Place*  
**Matthew Clark**  
The Daily Courier  
*Forest City*  
Authority buys Owens’ property  
*Through public records requests and good old fashioned reporting, the series lays out all of the developments and issues involved in an easily understood writing style.*

*3rd Place*  
**Nash Dunn**  
The Dispatch  
*Lexington*  
Information underload?  
*A very in depth report. The series prompted a pledge by the board to be more open about its process, which shows how important newspapers can be to the communities they serve.*

### BUSINESS WRITING

*1st Place*  
**Rochelle Moore**  
The Wilson Times  
*Wilson*  
The extra mile  
*Great job placing a face to the issue. Good use of available data.*

*2nd Place*  
**Jon Jimison**  
The Wilson Times  
*Wilson*  
Critical decisions  
*Very thorough. Great local example of the healthcare sector at a crossroads.*

*3rd Place*  
**Jon Jimison**  
The Wilson Times  
*Wilson*  
Gambling with the lottery  
*Plenty of numbers here.*



*First Place, Feature Photography, Division D, by Mark Dolejs*

### SPORTS NEWS REPORTING

*1st Place*  
**Travis Durkee**  
The Daily Courier  
*Forest City*  
IM 50/70 Little League World Series  
*Talk about comprehensive! This reporter went the extra mile. Having your local team go to the Little League World Series is a sports reporter’s dream, but this reporter touched every base to bring his readers along.*

*2nd Place*  
**Alan Wooten**  
The Daily Dispatch  
*Henderson*  
Kelly brings magic  
*Probably as good an account of a single game as you’ll find anywhere - proof that the best story isn’t necessarily the longest.*

*3rd Place*  
**Nick Piotrowicz**  
Rocky Mount Telegram  
*Rocky Mount*  
An Important First Step  
*This reporter clearly enjoys delving into the machinery behind the sports rather than offering simple game coverage - and he does a very good job.*

### SPORTS FEATURE WRITING

*1st Place*  
**Paul Durham**  
The Wilson Times  
*Wilson*  
Fight club

*2nd Place*  
**Justin Hite**  
Rocky Mount Telegram  
*Rocky Mount*  
Home Sweet Home

*2nd Place*  
**Hannah Potes**  
Rocky Mount Telegram  
*Rocky Mount*  
Getting connected  
*A moment of pure delight is beautifully captured by the photographer. This shot really draws the reader into the page.*

*3rd Place*  
**Brad Coville**  
The Wilson Times  
*Wilson*  
She’s on a mission  
*The photographer positioned himself perfectly and chose just the right moment to get the most out of this scene.*

### SPORTS FEATURE PHOTO

*1st Place*  
**Brad Coville**  
The Wilson Times  
*Wilson*  
Great Scott  
*Nicely set up, tempted me to read the story and find out who was in the picture.*

*2nd Place*  
**Mark Dolejs**  
The Daily Dispatch  
*Henderson*  
Spring Sports 2013  
*Great variety of athletes doing what athletes do. Nice representation of different sports.*

*3rd Place*  
**Alan Campbell**  
Rocky Mount Telegram  
*Rocky Mount*  
Gryphons fall short in OT  
*The shot we all try to get following a tough loss. The emotion is evident.*

### SPORTS PHOTOGRAPHY

*1st Place*  
**Donnie Roberts**  
The Dispatch  
*Lexington*  
Atkins upends Yellow Jackets  
*Tough choice between 1st and 2nd. Both were near perfect timing, and it came down to the framing, angle and storytelling aspects.*

*2nd Place*  
**Mark Dolejs**  
The Daily Dispatch  
*Henderson*  
Ending with a win  
*Great image of a moment, framed and timed well.*



# DIVISION D

*(Sports photography continued)*

3rd Place

**Mark Dolejs**

The Daily Dispatch

Henderson

Rivals collide at Raider Stadium

*Rare moment in track with being in focus at the right time and right place.*

## PHOTO PAGE

1st Place

**Mark Dolejs**

The Daily Dispatch

Henderson

Year in review

2nd Place

**Wesley Beeson**

The Sanford Herald

Sanford

Scenes from the Lee Regional Fair

3rd Place

**Allison Moore Pridgen, Gray Whitley, Brad Coville**

The Wilson Times

Wilson

Moments in time

## ILLUSTRATION/PHOTO ILLUSTRATION

1st Place

**Robert Oden**

The Wilson Times

Wilson

'Error' come to light?

*I often see graphic elements that are compelling but not informative. This one is both.*

2nd Place

**Mark Dolejs, Alan Wooten**

The Daily Dispatch

Henderson

Pieces of a puzzle

*Creative use of mug shots. I like the addition of the cocaine in the center.*

3rd Place

**Allison Moore Pridgen, Brad Coville**

The Wilson Times

Wilson

A Second Amendment amendment?

*Eye-catching. Quickly gets to the subject matter by combining gun with ballot.*

## BEST VIDEO

1st Place

**Anna Johnson**

The Sanford Herald

Sanford

National Night Out 2013

2nd Place

**Anna Johnson, Wesley Beeson**

The Sanford Herald

Sanford

Scenes from the 2013 Lee Regional Fair

3rd Place

**Will Doran**

The Sanford Herald

Sanford

Miss Lee Regional Fair 2013 pageant

## MULTIMEDIA PROJECT

1st Place

**Anna Johnson, Jennifer Gentile, Will Doran, Wesley Beeson**

The Sanford Herald

Sanford

Lee Regional Fair Blog

*The photographs, videos and stories cover every aspect of this event. The blog is user-friendly and informative.*

2nd Place

**Stephanie Creech, Brad Coville, Chad Lucas**

The Wilson Times

Wilson

Hidden in a box of memories

*The series of stories are enhanced by the web videos and informational timeline. Plenty of great pictures and documents, too.*

3rd Place

**Bryan Hanks, Jessika Morgan, Jon Dawson**

The Free Press

Kinston

North Johnston, North Lenoir eye win column

## EDITORIALS

1st Place

**Staff**

Statesville Record & Landmark

Statesville

Collection of editorials

*These strong arguments take bold stands on local issues where a big difference can be made by small papers.*

2nd Place

**Jennifer Gentile**

The Sanford Herald

Sanford

Collection on editorials

3rd Place

**Corey Friedman**

The Wilson Times

Wilson

Collection of editorials

## Daily newspapers under 12,500 circulation

### LIGHTER COLUMNS

1st Place

**Amy Fuhrman**

Statesville Record & Landmark

Statesville

Collection of columns

2nd Place

**Robert Kelly-Goss**

The Daily Advance

Elizabeth City

Collection of columns

3rd Place

**Chad Killebrew**

The Dispatch

Lexington

Collection of columns

### SERIOUS COLUMNS

1st Place

**Leonard Rizzo**

Tryon Daily Bulletin

Tryon

Special cases

2nd Place

**Travis Durkee**

The Daily Courier

Forest City

Collection of columns

3rd Place

**Chad Killebrew**

The Dispatch

Lexington

Collection of columns

### SPORTS COLUMNS

1st Place

**Randy Jones**

The Wilson Times

Wilson

Collection of columns

*Good mix of humor, emotion and serious news.*

2nd Place

**Jason Queen**

The Dispatch

Lexington

Collection of columns

*Nice piece on a teenage baseball player losing his mother. Very touching.*

3rd Place

**Travis Durkee**

The Daily Courier

Forest City

Collection of columns

*Very personal and emotional columns.*

### CRITICISM

1st Place

**Robert Kelly-Goss**

The Daily Advance

Elizabeth City

Colleciton of criticisms

*The first review of the paintings was excellently done, expressive and well-felt. Overall, writing is very good.*

2nd Place

**Jon Dawson**

The Free Press

Kinston

Collection of criticisms

3rd Place

**Neil Morris**

The Sanford Herald

Sanford

Collection of criticisms

### HEADLINE WRITING

1st Place

**Bob Montgomery**

The Daily Advance

Elizabeth City

Collection of headlines

2nd Place

**Staff**

The Wilson Times

Wilson

Collection of headlines

3rd Place

**Stephanie Creech**

The Wilson Times

Wilson

Collection of headlines

### GRAPHICS

1st Place

**Robert Oden**

The Wilson Times

Wilson

Collection of graphics

2nd Place

**Ross Chandler**

Rocky Mount Telegram

Rocky Mount

Collection of graphics

3rd Place

**Richard Clark**

The Free Press

Kinston

Collection of graphics

# DIVISION D

## Daily newspapers under 12,500 circulation

### EDITORIAL PAGE

1st Place

**Alan Wooten**

The Daily Dispatch

Henderson

The Daily Dispatch

*Solid page with intelligent local comment and lots of entry points for readers.*

2nd Place

**Staff**

The Daily Advance

Elizabeth City

Court case grounds for Hollowell

resignation

*Many good points to this page.*

3rd Place

**Staff**

The Dispatch

Lexington

Collection of editorial pages

*Good local insights.*

### GENERAL EXCELLENCE FOR WEB SITES

1st Place

**Staff**

Rocky Mount Telegram

Rocky Mount

www.RockyMountTelegram.com

*Clean design. Well organized and ease of navigation. Lots of interactive tools.*

2nd Place

**Staff**

The Daily Courier

Forest City

www.TheDigitalCourier.com

*Like the overall look.*

3rd Place

**Chris Day, Will Harris, Jason Balduf**

The Daily Advance

Elizabeth City

www.DailyAdvance.com

*Really good overall.*

### APPEARANCE & DESIGN

1st Place

**Staff**

The Daily Advance

Elizabeth City

The Daily Advance

2nd Place

**Staff**

The Dispatch

Lexington

The Dispatch

3rd Place

**Staff**

Statesville Record & Landmark

Statesville

May 18 & 19, 2013 editions

### SPORTS COVERAGE

1st Place

**Staff**

The Wilson Times

Wilson

Not friends on the field

*Great depth of coverage, including several sports both in male and female athletics.*

2nd Place

**Travis Durkee, Matt Clark, Jacob Conley, Paul Schenkel**

The Daily Courier

Forest City

September 20 & 21, 2013 editions

*A very close second. Great work and coverage.*

3rd Place

**Staff**

The Sanford Herald

Sanford

The Sanford Herald

### NEWS SECTION DESIGN

1st Place

**Allison Moore Pridgen, Robert Oden**

The Wilson Times

Wilson

Ready for a revolution?: The Whirligig

Maker

*I really like the large photo at the top of this front page! Great photo and layout.*

2nd Place

**Chris Day, Jason Balduf, Will Harris**

The Daily Advance

Elizabeth City

The Daily Advance

3rd Place

**Staff**

The Daily Dispatch

Henderson

The Daily Dispatch

### FEATURE SECTION DESIGN

1st Place

**Staff**

The Washington Daily News

Washington

Getting lost; The life of an artist,

displayed

2nd Place

**Chris Day, Jason Balduf, Will Harris**

The Daily Advance

Elizabeth City

The Daily Advance

### BEST NICHE PUBLICATION

1st Place

**Annette Jordan, JD Walker, Charles Wade, Paul Church**

The Courier-Tribune

Asheboro

Thrive: Life in Our Town and Beyond -

September 2013

*This has it all: clean, modern design, gorgeous photography, tasteful ads. A dramatic cover draws you in.*

2nd Place

**Staff**

The Washington Daily News

Washington

Washington the Magazine

*Color, typography and bright, lively photographs say summer is on the way. Love the minimalism of the What's in Store pages.*

3rd Place

**Annette Jordan, JD Walker, Charles Wade, Paul Church**

The Courier-Tribune

Asheboro

Thrive: Life in Our Town and Beyond -

August 2013

*Variety of design - each article getting its own custom treatment - keeps the eye moving and keeps things wonderfully unpredictable.*

### BEST COMMUNITY COVERAGE

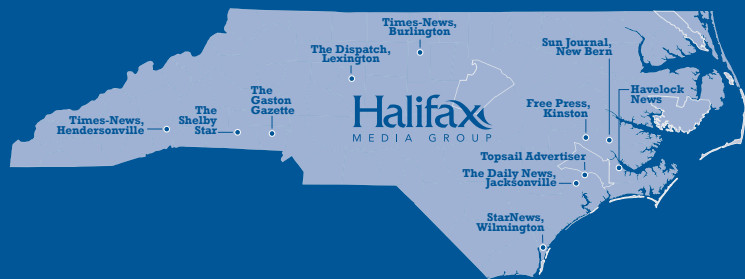
1st Place

**Staff**





Halifax Media Group newspapers have years of tradition of delivering quality journalism to N.C. readers and advertisers. Our commitment to North Carolina and community journalism speaks for itself with almost 100 awards for Halifax Media newspapers in this year's NCPA News and Photojournalism contest!



# Award-winning excellence across the state in ...

## BEST COMMUNITY COVERAGE

- StarNews, Wilmington 1st Place
- Havelock News, Havelock 2nd Place
- The Gazette, Gastonia 2nd Place
- The Dispatch, Lexington 3rd Place

## NEWS REPORTING (GENERAL, INVESTIGATIVE & DEADLINE)

- The Gazette, Gastonia 1st Place
- The Dispatch, Lexington 1st Place
- The Star, Shelby 1st Place
- The Dispatch, Lexington 3rd Place
- StarNews, Wilmington 3rd Place
- Times-News, Hendersonville 3rd Place
- Sun Journal, New Bern 3rd Place

## GENERAL EXCELLENCE FOR WEB SITES

- Times-News, Burlington 1st Place
- Havelock News, Havelock 2nd Place
- Sun Journal, New Bern 3rd Place

## SPORTS PHOTOGRAPHY (INCLUDING FEATURE)

- Havelock News, Havelock 1st Place
- The Dispatch, Lexington 1st Place
- Times-News, Hendersonville 1st Place
- Havelock News, Havelock 2nd Place
- The Gazette, Gastonia 2nd Place
- Times-News, Burlington 2nd Place
- Havelock News, Havelock 3rd Place
- Times-News, Burlington 3rd Place



# Congratulations ...

### Havelock News, Havelock Dailies Division A

- 1st Education Reporting
- 1st Photo Page
- 1st Sports Photography
- 1st Arts & Entertainment Reporting
- 1st Sports Feature Photo
- 1st Use of Photographs
- 1st Appearance & Design
- 1st Editorial Page
- 1st General News Photography
- 2nd Photo Page
- 2nd Headline Writing
- 2nd News Coverage
- 2nd Sports Feature Photo
- 2nd Sports Coverage
- 2nd Best Community Coverage
- 2nd Sports News Reporting
- 2nd General News Photography
- 2nd General Excellence for Web Sites
- 3rd Education Reporting
- 3rd Arts & Entertainment Reporting
- 3rd Sports Feature Photo
- 3rd Serious Columns

### The Free Press, Kinston Dailies Division D

- 2nd Profile Feature
- 2nd Criticism
- 3rd Graphics
- 3rd Multimedia Project

### Times-News, Burlington Dailies Division E

- 1st Photo Page
- 1st Best Video
- 1st Arts & Entertainment Reporting
- 1st General Excellence for Web Sites
- 1st Illustration/Photo Illustration
- 1st Profile Feature
- 2nd Photo Page
- 2nd Graphics
- 2nd Appearance & Design
- 2nd Sports Photography
- 2nd Criticism
- 2nd Illustration/Photo Illustration
- 3rd General News Photography
- 3rd Sports Photography
- 3rd Sports News Reporting

### The Dispatch, Lexington Dailies Division D

- 1st Sports Photography
- 1st Deadline News Reporting
- 2nd Sports Columns
- 2nd Appearance & Design
- 2nd Special Section
- 3rd Feature Section Design
- 3rd Serious Columns
- 3rd Best Community Coverage
- 3rd Investigative Reporting
- 3rd Editorial Page
- 3rd Lighter Columns
- 3rd General News Reporting

### The Gazette, Gastonia Dailies Division E

- 1st News Feature
- 1st News Section Design
- 1st Investigative Reporting
- 1st Graphics
- 1st Sports Coverage
- 2nd Feature Photography
- 2nd Best Community Coverage
- 2nd Headline Writing
- 2nd Special Section
- 2nd Sports Feature Photo
- 2nd Online Breaking News
- 3rd Feature Photography
- 3rd Photo Page

### The Star, Shelby Dailies Division E

- 1st General News Reporting
- 1st Appearance & Design
- 2nd News Section Design
- 2nd Business Writing
- 2nd Editorial Page
- 2nd Sports News Reporting
- 3rd Graphics
- 3rd Education reporting

### Times-News, Hendersonville Dailies Division E

- 1st Serious Columns
- 1st Sports Photography
- 1st Best Niche Publication

- 2nd Feature Writing
- 3rd Feature Writing
- 3rd General News Reporting
- 3rd Best Video

### The Daily News, Jacksonville Dailies Division E

- 1st Feature Photography
- 2nd Sports Columns
- 3rd Arts & Entertainment Reporting
- 3rd Online Breaking News

### Sun Journal, New Bern Dailies Division E

- 2nd Deadline News Reporting
- 3rd General Excellence for Web Sites

### StarNews, Wilmington Dailies Division F

- 1st Best Community Coverage
- 1st Headline Writing
- 1st Arts & Entertainment Reporting
- 2nd Education reporting
- 2nd Sports Columns
- 2nd Special Section
- 2nd Headline Writing
- 2nd Feature Writing
- 3rd Sports News Reporting
- 3rd Appearance & Design
- 3rd Headline Writing
- 3rd Deadline News Reporting





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## And the awards go to...



General News Reporting • 1st place • The Mecklenburg Times • Sharon Roberts  
Headline Writing • 1st place • The Mecklenburg Times • Sharon Roberts  
News Feature Writing • 1st place • The Mecklenburg Times • Tony Brown  
Feature Photography • 2nd place • The Mecklenburg Times • Tony Brown  
General News Reporting • 2nd place • The Mecklenburg Times • Graziella Steele

News Enterprise Reporting • 1st place • NC Lawyers Weekly • David Donovan  
General News Reporting • 3rd place • NC Lawyers Weekly • David Donovan  
News Feature Writing • 3rd place • NC Lawyers Weekly • Phillip Bantz  
Profile Feature • 3rd place • NC Lawyers Weekly • Amber Nimocks

THE MECKLENBURG  
TIMES

THE DOLAN  
COMPANY

LAWYERS WEEKLY

www.mecktimes.com

www.nclawyersweekly.com

# DIVISION E

Daily newspapers 12,500-35,000 circulation

### GENERAL NEWS REPORTING

1st Place  
**Staff**  
The Star  
Shelby  
E. coli outbreak  
*Thorough, tenacious coverage of E. coli outbreak with strong sidebars and good use of informational graphics and social media.*

2nd Place  
**Mark Wineka**  
Salisbury Post  
Salisbury  
So, how do you feel about the direction of the country?  
*Well-reported look at voter disenchantment. Profile sections feature good imagery and demonstrate strong reporting and interviewing ability.*

3rd Place  
**Emily Weaver**  
Times-News  
Hendersonville  
Suspect in triple homicide kills himself after manhunt  
*Detailed, descriptive account reconstructed through interviews with neighbors, family, authorities and 911 transcript. Strong sidebars profile the shooter.*

### DEADLINE NEWS REPORTING

1st Place  
**Jane Dail, Ginger Livingston, Katherine Ayers**  
The Daily Reflector  
Greenville  
Quick response ends shooting  
*The writing and dramatic photographs were simply outstanding.*

2nd Place  
**Drew Wilson**  
Sun Journal  
New Bern  
2-year-old pulled from house fire  
*This was a great human interest story. The dramatic photo of the fireman rushing the child to the ambulance was captivating.*

3rd Place  
**Paul B. Johnson**  
The High Point Enterprise  
High Point  
Family tragedy - 3 drown in High Point retention pond  
*I felt like I was on the scene of this tragic event. The writing was very good, but the photographs of the men looking for the bodies really helped the story come to life.*

### ONLINE BREAKING NEWS

1st Place  
**Staff**  
The Daily Reflector  
Greenville  
Fifth Street fire  
*Timely updates; good video; good coverage.*

2nd Place  
**Staff**  
The Gaston Gazette  
Gastonia  
Teen faces double murder charge  
*Great job by newspaper staff - good coverage and photos.*

3rd Place  
**Jannette Pippin**  
The Daily News  
Jacksonville  
Longtime legislator dies at 77  
*Great depth of coverage for this breaking news story.*

### NEWS FEATURE

1st Place  
**Diane Turbyfill**  
The Gaston Gazette  
Gastonia  
Killer confession  
*Good get on the letter, and the story is well told. Good job casting some doubt on the confession, too.*

2nd Place  
**Jimmy Tomlin**  
The High Point Enterprise  
High Point  
Know risk, know reward  
*A great tie-in to a national story that also serves a good purpose by explaining the pros and cons of the procedure.*

3rd Place  
**Jimmy Tomlin**  
The High Point Enterprise  
High Point  
Lethal dose  
*An interesting local look at a national story. The account of the progression of the disease was well-written.*

### FEATURE WRITING

1st Place  
**Michael Abramowitz**  
The Daily Reflector  
Greenville  
What bugs cicadas? Habitat destruction

2nd Place  
**Gina Malone**  
Times-News  
Hendersonville  
Lincoln's birthplace: Mystery or myth?

3rd Place  
**Joey Millwood**  
Times-News  
Hendersonville  
A bounty of beards

### PROFILE FEATURE

1st Place  
**Molly McGowan**  
The Times-News  
Burlington  
Rude awakening  
*Very sad story. I have been in journalism 20 years and have never read this before. I had to read it twice because it was so moving.*

2nd Place  
**Jane Dail**  
The Daily Reflector  
Greenville  
Citizens on patrol  
*Great writing to go along with a great subject.*

3rd Place  
**Jimmy Tomlin**  
The High Point Enterprise  
High Point  
A castaway for life  
*Touched on the subjects I wanted to know about her life. Article was not boring. Good job!*

### ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT REPORTING

1st Place  
**Charity Apple**  
The Times-News  
Burlington  
Peace by pieces

2nd Place  
**Natalie Sayewich**  
The Daily Reflector  
Greenville  
Sanders Family Christmas

3rd Place  
**Chris Thomas**  
The Daily News  
Jacksonville  
Teens make film at local library

### EDUCATION REPORTING

1st Place  
**Cammie Bellamy**  
The Daily Tar Heel  
Chapel Hill  
New school, old ground

2nd Place  
**Sarah Campbell**  
Salisbury Post  
Salisbury  
Sound machines

3rd Place  
**Graham Cawthon**  
The Star  
Shelby  
Eating up taxpayer dollars? SBI investigates school spending

### NEWS ENTERPRISE REPORTING

1st Place  
**Madeline Will, Andy Thomason, Caitlin McCabe, Jordan Bailey**  
The Daily Tar Heel  
Chapel Hill  
Sexual assault on campus series  
*This was a great body of work that focuses intense scrutiny on an issue that deserves attention that results in drastic changes.*

2nd Place  
**David Nivens**  
The High Point Enterprise  
High Point  
Bursting at the seams

*This reporter did an amazing job telling the story from all angles - got peoples' attention - resulting in change.*

3rd Place  
**Kristin Zachary**  
The Daily Reflector  
Greenville

A judicial 'no man's land'; Officials: inmates fail without care  
*A great story about an issue being played out in communities throughout the country. Thanks for calling attention to this problem.*

### INVESTIGATIVE REPORTING

1st Place  
**Michael Barrett**  
The Gaston Gazette  
Gastonia  
Foster Care System spurs controversy  
*This series demonstrates how local newspapers can significantly impact their communities. Comprehensive reporting on all sides of the issue. Great job!*

2nd Place  
**Nathan Hardin**  
Salisbury Post  
Salisbury  
East Spencer Mayor: 'There is a problem'  
*Thanks to reviews of public records and emails, along with many interviews, the Salisbury Post drew attention to things that would not have otherwise come to light.*

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# DIVISION E

Daily newspapers 12,500-35,000 circulation

**3rd Place**  
**Pat Kimbrough**  
 The High Point Enterprise  
 High Point  
 Mayor subject of SBI probe  
 Good use of public records to get to the bottom of the story. Pat Kimbrough demonstrated persistence and resourcefulness in developing this series.

**BUSINESS WRITING**  
**1st Place**  
**Emily Ford**  
 Salisbury Post  
 Salisbury  
 Pillowtex 10 years later - then vs. now  
 Excellent stories on a topic important to the community. Good, clear, interesting writing including use of narrative style that draws you in.

**2nd Place**  
**Staff**  
 The Star  
 Shelby  
 Are we getting a casino here?  
 The Star got out in front of this story when there were only rumblings about it and didn't let it go. Thorough reports detailing all sides of the story.

**3rd Place**  
**Nathan Hardin**  
 Salisbury Post  
 Salisbury  
 County looks to buy Salisbury Mall  
 Hardin played the watchdog in keeping on top of the actions of government officials until he got his story. He then continued to follow it through as it developed.

**SPORTS NEWS REPORTING**  
**1st Place**  
**Scott Schlaufman**  
 The Robesonian  
 Lumberton  
 St. Pauls wrestling series  
 A well-covered feel-good story. The initial report outlined the team's problem and the financial need. Follow-ups detailed the successful fund drive and the victory celebration. Well done.

**2nd Place**  
**Clark Leonard**  
 The Star  
 Shelby  
 'National Scale': Is Shelby on its way to being baseball landmark like other major tournament host cities?  
 A well-written, well-researched story. I was impressed that the writer was able to get a lot of information in a compact package.

**3rd Place**  
**Adam Smith**  
 The Times-News

**Burlington**  
 Danger zone: Tar Heels crumble late in loss  
 This reporter knows his basketball and paints a vivid word picture of a team in trouble. He goes beyond the account of the game to outline the importance of the team's loss for chances for a successful season.

**SPORTS FEATURE WRITING**  
**1st Place**  
**Mark Wineka**  
 Salisbury Post  
 Salisbury  
 'Hawkeye': George Hargrave broke color barriers as a golfer while never losing passion for the game  
 A well-written feature on an interesting character.

**2nd Place**  
**Kelly Parsons**  
 The Daily Tar Heel  
 Chapel Hill  
 Players see blurry future  
 This article - along with the graphic used - illustrates a local effort to combat a national issue.

**3rd Place**  
**Steve Wiseman**  
 The Herald-Sun  
 Durham  
 Dawkins takes season away to finally heal  
 Despite not being able to interview the subject, this reporter did well to interview several other sources and get as complete a picture as possible.

**GENERAL NEWS PHOTOGRAPHY**  
**1st Place**  
**Bernard Thomas**  
 The Herald-Sun  
 Durham  
 Officer shoots, kills armed man  
 Powerful image. Easy winner. Multiple emotional states, lots of information conveyed. Good framing, depth.

**2nd Place**  
**Aileen Devlin**  
 The Daily Reflector  
 Greenville  
 'Let's let this be the time to stop'  
 Excellent photography. Good selection of images that detail the event well and keep the reader engaged.

**3rd Place**  
**Scott Muthersbaugh**  
 The Times-News  
 Burlington  
 'Shop with a cop'  
 Fun image. Conveys the story perfectly. Great capture.



First Place, Feature Photography, Division E, by John Althouse

**FEATURE PHOTOGRAPHY**  
**1st Place**  
**John Althouse**  
 The Daily News  
 Jacksonville  
 Eye got it  
 I love this photo. Makes one appreciate the wonders of nature and the talent of a very patient photographer.

**2nd Place**  
**Mike Hensdill**  
 The Gaston Gazette  
 Gastonia  
 Sliders  
 Striking juxtaposition of the stunning similarities and the dramatic differences of these two individuals make this a knock-out image. Crisp shot with beautiful color and composition.

**3rd Place**  
**John Clark**  
 The Gaston Gazette  
 Gastonia  
 Stars and Stripes  
 Impressive photo. Great composition with extraordinary detail. A photo that keeps drawing the viewer back in.

**SPORTS FEATURE PHOTO**  
**1st Place**  
**Aileen Devlin**  
 The Daily Reflector  
 Greenville  
 Pirates raid Kenan  
 Really enjoyed the photographer's ability to blur the massive crowd as the backdrop. It creates an extremely artistic shot.

**2nd Place**  
**Mike Hensdill**  
 The Gaston Gazette  
 Gastonia  
 High five  
 Fantastic view point playing with the foreshortening. I really like the tightlipped facial expression.

**3rd Place**  
**Casey Monzigo**  
 The Goldsboro News-Argus  
 Goldsboro  
 Inside the ropes  
 The slightly offcenter cropping really adds that artistic element to create an event stronger impact. Photographer should be very pleased with this shot.

**SPORTS PHOTOGRAPHY**  
**1st Place**  
**Patrick Sullivan**  
 Times-News  
 Hendersonville  
 In new territory  
 The sharp focus on the faces of the players celebrating framed against the background celebration stood out.

**2nd Place**  
**Scott Muthersbaugh**  
 The Times-News  
 Burlington  
 Close quarters  
 This image competed well against football and baseball images where timing caught awkward moments. This is a tough shot to get.

**3rd Place**  
**Scott Muthersbaugh**  
 The Times-News  
 Burlington  
 Going for a rebound  
 You just had to keep looking at this image in the lineup.

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### RCC Graduate

Wesley Beeson  
 Wesley Beeson (team)  
 Cindy Burnham  
 Mark Dolejs  
 Mark Dolejs  
 Mark Dolejs  
 Mark Dolejs (team)  
 Mark Dolejs  
 Jon Lakey (team)  
 Donnie Roberts  
 Todd Sumlin  
 Todd Sumlin  
 Bernard Thomas  
 Jerry Wolford  
 Jerry Wolford  
 Jerry Wolford

### Newspaper

The Sanford Herald  
 The Sanford Herald  
 The Fayetteville Observer  
 The Daily Dispatch  
 The Daily Dispatch  
 The Daily Dispatch  
 The Daily Dispatch  
 The Daily Dispatch  
 Salisbury Post  
 The Dispatch  
 The Charlotte Observer  
 The Charlotte Observer  
 The Herald-Sun  
 News & Record  
 News & Record  
 News & Record

### Place/Category

2nd/Photo Page  
 2nd/Best Video  
 3rd/Feature Photo  
 1st/Photo Page  
 1st/Feature Photography  
 2nd/Sports Feature Photo  
 2nd/Sports Photography  
 2nd/Illustration/Photo Illustration  
 3rd/Sports Photography  
 2nd/Best Video  
 1st/Sports Photography  
 1st/Best Video  
 3rd/Illustration/Photo Illustration  
 1st/General News Photography  
 1st/Feature Photography  
 1st/General News Photography  
 3rd/Photo Page



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# DIVISION E

Daily newspapers 12,500-35,000 circulation



First Place, General News Photography, Division E, by Bernard Thomas

## PHOTO PAGE

**1st Place**  
**Scott Muthersbaugh**  
The Times-News  
Burlington  
Recycled wonders  
Great job making an interesting visual story out of a simple assignment. Good use of a dominant image and detail photos.

**2nd Place**  
**Scott Muthersbaugh**  
The Times-News  
Burlington  
Rugged maniacs  
Lots of good action here and some interesting angles.

**3rd Place**  
**John Clark**  
The Gaston Gazette  
Gastonia  
Let's go Panthers  
Nice mix of action pictures and feature pictures.

## ILLUSTRATION/PHOTO ILLUSTRATION

**1st Place**  
**Linda Bowden**  
The Times-News  
Burlington  
Where do the Democrats go from here?  
Eye catching, creative. Like the placement of the headline.

**2nd Place**  
**Linda Bowden**  
The Times-News  
Burlington  
The mosquitoes have landed  
Quickly conveys to readers why they should take steps to avoid these pests.

**3rd Place**  
**Aileen Devlin**  
The Daily Reflector  
Greenville  
Trick or truth?  
The starkness of the black and white layout adds to the spookiness.

**BEST VIDEO**  
**1st Place**  
**Scott Muthersbaugh**  
The Times-News  
Burlington  
The Zombie Walk

**2nd Place**  
**Andy Morrissey**  
Salisbury Post  
Salisbury  
Sheriff's office hoping sale of historic 'Tommy' gun leads to some new gear

**3rd Place**  
**Mike Dirks**  
Times-News  
Hendersonville  
Square Dance Dane Elementary

**MULTIMEDIA PROJECT**  
**1st Place**  
**Staff**  
The Daily Reflector  
Greenville  
Ficklen anniversary  
The interactive timeline is interesting and done really well. The trivia contest and use of social media and the web is smart.

**2nd Place**  
**Christine Nguyen, John McCann, Mark Donovan**  
The Herald-Sun  
Durham  
GameDay: Episode 6 (Sept. 26, 2013)

## EDITORIALS

**1st Place**  
**Andy Thomason**  
The Daily Tar Heel  
Chapel Hill  
Rape is a violent crime; Protect free speech; Officials owe answers

**2nd Place**  
**Elizabeth Cook**  
Salisbury Post  
Salisbury  
Collection of editorials

**3rd Place**  
**Mark Rutledge**  
The Daily Reflector  
Greenville  
Collection of editorials

## LIGHTER COLUMNS

**1st Place**  
**Elizabeth Cook**  
Salisbury Post  
Salisbury  
Collection of columns

**2nd Place**  
**Mark Wineka**  
Salisbury Post  
Salisbury  
Collection of columns

**3rd Place**  
**Jimmy Tomlin**  
The High Point Enterprise  
High Point  
Collection of columns

## SERIOUS COLUMNS

**1st Place**  
**Bruce Benson**  
Times-News  
Hendersonville  
Collection of columns

**2nd Place**  
**Mark Wineka**  
Salisbury Post  
Salisbury  
Collection of columns

**3rd Place**  
**Jimmy Tomlin**  
The High Point Enterprise  
High Point  
Collection of columns

## SPORTS COLUMNS

**1st Place**  
**Mark Wineka**  
Salisbury Post  
Salisbury  
Collection of columns  
Columns highlight the not-so-obvious, but truly special, engaging and page turning stories often found just off the field in sports reporting. The hands down favorite.

**2nd Place**  
**Rick Scoppe**  
The Daily News  
Jacksonville  
Collection of columns  
No one can say this columnist is without opinions, but he is also not without heart. This columnist was able to truly be a part of each piece while still allowing the story to unfold.

**3rd Place**  
**Ronnie Gallagher**  
Salisbury Post  
Salisbury  
Collection of columns  
You know you are good when you can craft a complete and engaging column about a line coach without even talking to him, and yet the reader hardly notices.

## CRITICISM

**1st Place**  
**Dawn Baumgartner Vaughan**  
The Herald-Sun  
Durham  
Collection of criticisms  
Very good reading, even inviting. Writer does a good job of storytelling.

**2nd Place**  
**Madison Taylor**  
The Times-News  
Burlington  
Collection of criticisms  
The writer weaves a good tale about what he critiques, even explaining why the reader should be interested.

**3rd Place**  
**Cliff Bellamy**  
The Herald-Sun  
Durham  
Collection of criticisms  
Good material.

## HEADLINE WRITING

**1st Place**  
**Vince Wheeler**  
The High Point Enterprise  
High Point  
Collection of headlines

# DIVISION E

Daily newspapers 12,500-35,000 circulation

**2nd Place**  
**Erin Wetzelberger**  
The Gaston Gazette  
Gastonia  
Collection of headlines  
Nice play on words.

**3rd Place**  
**Chris Siegel**  
The Daily Reflector  
Greenville  
Collection of headlines

## GRAPHICS

**1st Place**  
**Randy Erwin**  
The Gaston Gazette  
Gastonia  
Book report, Workhorse and NC prisoners

**2nd Place**  
**Linda Bowden**  
The Times-News  
Burlington  
Obamacare; The Road(s) ahead;  
Coming of age

**3rd Place**  
**Lauren Frame**  
The Star  
Shelby  
Collection of graphics

## EDITORIAL PAGE

**1st Place**  
**Brian Colligan, Mark Rutledge, Al Clark**  
The Daily Reflector  
Greenville  
Collection of editorial pages  
Clear winner. This contestant did everything well.

**2nd Place**  
**Staff**  
The Star  
Shelby  
What change could do more good than harm?  
Solid section. Readers are served well.

**3rd Place**  
**Chris Verner**  
Salisbury Post  
Salisbury  
Salisbury Post editorial pages

## GENERAL EXCELLENCE FOR WEB SITES

**1st Place**  
**Staff**  
The Times-News  
Burlington  
TheTimesNews.com  
Liked community calendar! Like the headlines that linked directly to photos and stories.

**2nd Place**  
**Staff**  
The Daily Tar Heel

Chapel Hill  
DailyTarHeel.com  
Great videos, and very clean layout. Easy to read.

**3rd Place**  
**Staff**  
Sun Journal  
New Bern  
NewBernSJ.com

## APPEARANCE & DESIGN

**1st Place**  
**Staff**  
The Star  
Shelby  
Shelby is official World Series home; Losing Religion?

**2nd Place**  
**Staff**  
The Times-News  
Burlington  
The Times-News

**3rd Place**  
**Staff**  
The Daily Reflector  
Greenville  
Breaking silence on domestic violence

## SPORTS COVERAGE

**1st Place**  
**Staff**  
The Gaston Gazette  
Gastonia  
Gazette Sports Coverage  
Quality work. Loved the right rail/scoreboard.

Continued on page 40

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# DIVISION F

## GENERAL NEWS REPORTING

1st Place

**John Frank, Lynn Bonner**

The News & Observer

Raleigh

2013 legislative session

*Selected entries of legislative coverage offered readers real depth and insight to the motivations and issues driving the session.*

2nd Place

**Michael Gordon**

The Charlotte Observer

Charlotte

Mental health breakdown

*Excellent package detailing the strains on police, hospitals and families caused by the reduction of care for mental health patients.*

3rd Place

**Greg Phillips, Drew Brooks, Henry Cuninghame, Ali Rockett**

The Fayetteville Observer

Fayetteville

Brace yourself; At Bragg, business as usual; et al

*This was a really nice job detailing the effects of sequestration on the area. Every newspaper likely did such stories but few did it better than this.*

## DEADLINE NEWS REPORTING

1st Place

**Elizabeth Leland**

The Charlotte Observer

Charlotte

Tearful widow: Ask your God to forgive you

2nd Place

**David Perlmutter**

The Charlotte Observer

Charlotte

Builder blamed for racing deaths

3rd Place

**Ashley Withers**

StarNews

Wilmington

Berger asked to resign after McCrory incident

## ONLINE BREAKING NEWS

1st Place

**J. Andrew Curliss**

The News & Observer

Raleigh

After audit, pressure mounts for changes at Rural Center

*Extraordinary effort by a reporter who knows how to dig.*

2nd Place

**John Frank, Annalise Frank, Craig Jarvis, Lynn Bonner**

The News & Observer

Raleigh

Fiery debate in NC Senate, then approval of abortion restrictions

*Great depth of coverage and perspective on an important breaking news story.*

3rd Place

**Staff**

The Charlotte Observer

Charlotte

Kroger buys Harris Teeter

*No doubt this story was hugely important to readers.*

## NEWS FEATURE

1st Place

**Pam Kelley**

The Charlotte Observer

Charlotte

Money Rock: A cocaine dealer's redemption

*This story is a true testament to the value of institutional knowledge of a beat and a community. The fact that the reporter had a 25-year history with the subject is remarkable.*

2nd Place

**Chick Jacobs**

The Fayetteville Observer

Fayetteville

The Peaceful Revolution

*To read a thoroughly reported history piece - and updates on the key players - about the civil way one city was spared was incredibly refreshing.*

3rd Place

**Paul Woolverton**

The Fayetteville Observer

Fayetteville

'I became a scapegoat'

*A detailed and balanced look at one man's proclaimed innocence in a crime committed 35 years earlier. A continued investigation by the paper could mean more awards in the future.*

## FEATURE WRITING

1st Place

**Wesley Young**

Winston-Salem

Always upbeat; Secret to longevity?

Coffee

*Well written. Opening draws me in. I feel like I know Gladys after reading this story, which means that the writer did a great job.*

2nd Place

**F.T. Norton**

StarNews

Wilmington

65 years later, letters returned and a first love is recalled

*Good topic, great story. Good job of conveying her surprise, the discovery and the story behind both.*

3rd Place

**Greg Phillips**

The Fayetteville Observer

Fayetteville

Tardis replicas are cool

*The story does well at explaining the Dr. Who fervor that this father and daughter share. The sidebar goes the extra mile in explaining the whole Dr. Who phenomena.*

## PROFILE FEATURE

1st Place

**Theoden Janes**

The Charlotte Observer

Charlotte

Running for her life

*After reviewing a category filled with strong storytelling, I stepped away for a day. This piece haunted me with its subject matter, excellent detail and superb writing.*

2nd Place

**Kathleen Purvis**

The Charlotte Observer

Charlotte

Riding with Rock

*This is just a great piece of storytelling and a very interesting subject.*



First Place, Sports Feature Photo, Division F, by Chris Seward

Daily newspapers over 35,000

3rd Place

**Mackensy Lunsford**

Asheville Citizen-Times

Asheville

Jonathon Flaum is a modern-day milkman

*Interesting subject and interesting topic, well told.*

## ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT REPORTING

1st Place

**Ben Steelman**

StarNews

Wilmington

How UNCW stacks up

*Great headline; well-written, surely of great interest to the local community.*

2nd Place

**Pam Kelley**

The Charlotte Observer

Charlotte

We're funny that way

*This must have provoked community conversation and controversy - love it.*

3rd Place

**Helen Schwab**

The Charlotte Observer

Charlotte

A cocktail with a cloud - and questions

*Fascinating and important - the stories no doubt led to the end of the line for this cocktail.*

# DIVISION F

## EDUCATION REPORTING

1st Place

**Ann Doss Helms**

The Charlotte Observer

Charlotte

CMS success stories

*Good to read information on a success story to give hope for other schools. Nice graphics, stats, and thorough coverage.*

2nd Place

**J. Andrew Curliss**

StarNews

Wilmington

Achievement gap widens

*Interesting and compelling story. Easy to follow flow of information from statistics to solutions.*

3rd Place

**Ann Doss Helms**

The Charlotte Observer

Charlotte

Ashley Park class of 2017

## NEWS ENTERPRISE REPORTING

1st Place

**John Ramsey**

The Fayetteville Observer

Fayetteville

Bitter pills: The painkiller epidemic

*The Fayetteville Observer is blessed to have such a talented and intense writer on their staff. John Ramsey has put serious efforts into this very 'real' story.*

2nd Place

**Dan Kane, John Frank, J. Andrew Curliss**

The News & Observer

Raleigh

Sustained examination of tax policy in NC

*The amount of investigative reporting that must have gone into the very lengthy series is simply amazing.*

3rd Place

**John Murawski**

The News & Observer

Raleigh

NC's coastal counties

*Lots of serious analysis and research has gone into this. Incredible use of maps, graphics, diagrams and photography are a superior touch. This is top-notch enterprise reporting!*

## INVESTIGATIVE REPORTING

1st Place

**Staff**

Asheville Citizen-Times

Asheville

Police chief's car in wreck

*A 'watchdog' success. The coverup would not have been revealed had it not been for the dogged reporting by the paper's staff.*

2nd Place

**J. Andrew Curliss**

The News & Observer

Raleigh

Investigaton of N.C. Rural Center

*Strong story of a public program off the rails. Your investigation appeared more informative than the state audit. Real results.*

3rd Place

**Dan Kane, J. Andrew Curliss, John Drescher**

The News & Observer

Raleigh

UNC academic fraud scandal

*Comprehensive, detailed. Attacking college sports can really hit a nerve; probably had more readers than any of the other entries.*

## BUSINESS WRITING

1st Place

**John Boyle**

Asheville Citizen-Times

Asheville

The \$13M Baily Ponzi case: Lives ruined, trust broken

*A clear winner. Nice detail in a compelling story about how one man's sins become many people's downfall. Well reported.*

2nd Place

**Andrew Dunn, Deon Roberts**

The Charlotte Observer

Charlotte

Big money buying homes

*Good effort here to discern a development within the local housing market.*

3rd Place

**Caroline McMillan**

The Charlotte Observer

Charlotte

From idea to marketplace

*A simple but well-written story about how an idea comes to fruition. Nice work.*

## SPORTS NEWS REPORTING

1st Place

**David Perlmutter, Jim Utter**

The Charlotte Observer

Charlotte

NASCAR's big crisis: Is racing real?

*What set this apart was the attached breakdown of "How It Happened," allowing readers to better understand the event that triggered the larger scandal.*

Daily newspapers over 35,000

2nd Place

**David Morrison**

News & Record

Greensboro

The revenue race

*This in-depth series explores the revenue side of college athletics in a way that is both engaging and comprehensive. The packaging of this series adds interest for readers and makes the articles more approachable.*

3rd Place

**Brian Mull**

StarNews

Wilmington

Decision time for UNCW athletics, et al

*This series examines several points of view, clearly lays out the process and the stakes, and follows developments in good detail.*

## SPORTS FEATURE WRITING

1st Place

**Gary Schwab, David Scott**

The Charlotte Observer

Charlotte

Breaking through

*A really well-researched and well-written series. Great details, solid interviews and very worthy of a first-place finish.*

2nd Place

**Chick Jacobs**

The Fayetteville Observer

Fayetteville

Where once there was a racetrack

*This piece takes the reader back to another time and combines great, descriptive writing and an expert's feel. A very solid submission.*

3rd Place

**Greg Barnes**

The Fayetteville Observer

Fayetteville

The glory days are gone

*Great detail, great interviews and very well-written. A cautionary tale about a local kid who almost made it big, but for one poor decision.*

## GENERAL NEWS PHOTOGRAPHY

1st Place

**Jerry Wolford**

News & Record

Greensboro

Thank you Jesus

*This is a photo that does everything a news photo should and more. The emotion and the story of the situation are packaged perfectly in the frame.*

2nd Place

**Corey Lowenstein**

The News & Observer

Raleigh

Early voters flock to poll

*Simply a wonderful capture. A simple image that says so much.*

3rd Place

**Davie Hinshaw**

The Charlotte Observer

Charlotte

Woman found dead at scene of blaze

*The sharp reality of the moment captured here puts the reader there, feeling what those neighbors feel. Very solid work.*

## FEATURE PHOTOGRAPHY

1st Place

**Jerry Wolford**

News & Record

Greensboro

Last day of school

*What an amazing photo with such genuine emotion. A stand out. Everything about this photo is perfect.*

2nd Place

**Jeff Siner**

The Charlotte Observer

Charlotte

A new bass in Norman

*Readers get to see fish as most of us never do/will. I bet a lot more readers read this story because of the photo. A work of art.*

3rd Place

**Cindy Burnham**

The Fayetteville Observer

Fayetteville

Littlest swimmers make a big splash

*Such an engaging photograph. Great color and perspective.*

## SPORTS FEATURE PHOTO

1st Place

**Chris Seward**

The News & Observer

Raleigh

Fans welcome Canes home

*This is a sports photo, but not just a sports photo: the photographer has been able to go above and beyond to the point where it becomes a work of art - something that we as photographers all strive to, but rarely, do.*

2nd Place

**Jeff Siner**

The Charlotte Observer

Charlotte

Wonder from down under

*A wonderfully captured, well-lit and most impressively composed photograph. Well done!*

3rd Place

**Andrew Craft**

The Fayetteville Observer

Fayetteville</



**Congratulations**  
to the entire Wilson Times newsroom  
on a record-breaking



and counting...

**North Carolina Press Association Editorial Contest Awards**

**First Place**

Jon Jimison, N.C. Bar Association Media and the Law Award of Excellence  
Paul Durham, Sports Feature Writing  
Brad Coville, Sports Feature Photo  
Olivia Neeley, Investigative Reporting  
Randy Jones, Sports Columns  
Corey Friedman, Education Reporting  
Corey Friedman, Profile Feature  
Allison Moore Pridgen & Robert Oden, News Section Design

Robert Oden, Graphics  
Olivia Neeley, News Enterprise Reporting  
Rochelle Moore, Business Writing  
Lisa Boykin Batts, Feature Writing  
Corey Friedman, Gray Whitley & Brad Coville, Online Breaking News  
Sports Staff, Sports Coverage  
Olivia Neeley, News Feature  
Robert Oden, Illustration/Photo Illustration

**Second Place**

Brad Coville, General News Photography  
Jon Jimison, News Enterprise Reporting  
Sports Staff, Headline Writing  
Jon Jimison, Business Writing  
Janet Connor-Knox & Gray Whitley, Online Breaking News

Lisa Boykin Batts, News Feature  
Rochelle Moore, Feature Writing  
Stephanie Creech, Brad Coville & Chad Lucas, Multimedia Project  
Olivia Neeley, Deadline News Reporting  
Jon Jimison, General News Reporting

**Third Place**

Brad Coville, Feature Photography  
Allison Moore, Gray Whitley & Brad Coville, Photo Page  
Lisa Boykin Batts, Arts & Entertainment Reporting  
Stephanie Creech, Education Reporting  
Stephanie Creech, Headline Writing  
Jon Jimison, Business Writing

Olivia Neeley, Feature Writing  
Bradley Hearn, Special Section  
Janet Connor-Knox & Jon Jimison, News Feature  
Corey Friedman, Editorials  
Allison Moore Pridgen & Brad Coville, Illustration/Photo Illustration



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# DIVISION F

Daily newspapers over 35,000



First Place, Feature Photography, Division F, by Jerry Wolford

## SPORTS PHOTOGRAPHY

**1st Place**  
**Joseph Rodriguez**  
The News & Observer  
Greensboro  
Tim Thornton  
You can feel the emotion, backed by strong composition and framing.

**2nd Place**  
**Chuck Liddy**  
The News & Observer  
Raleigh  
Broken  
Rare to see such a tight shot that has it all Great moment where we see into the eyes and the play.

**3rd Place**  
**Jeff Siner**  
The Charlotte Observer  
Charlotte  
Patriots 'D' picks up slack  
This is a storytelling image backed with a great caption that gets us into the game. The sharpness and peak timing are showstopping.

## PHOTO PAGE

**1st Place**  
**Jeff Siner**  
The Charlotte Observer  
Charlotte  
Ready to rise up  
Very nice quiet, subtle moments. Great use of light, details and dominant images.

**2nd Place**  
**Erin Brethauer**  
Asheville Citizen-Times  
Asheville  
High steppin'  
Great variety of moments. Good use of light. Beautiful, clean design.

**3rd Place**  
**Jerry Wolford**  
News & Record  
Greensboro  
Mitchell's on Market  
Great subtle moments. Good variety and clean design.

## ILLUSTRATION/PHOTO

### ILLUSTRATION

**1st Place**  
**Justin Morrison**  
The Fayetteville Observer  
Fayetteville  
Health debate toned down in 2012  
Impressive. Creative take on a topic that can be extremely hard to illustrate. This layout takes it up a notch. Great work.

**2nd Place**  
**Justin Morrison**  
The Fayetteville Observer  
Fayetteville  
Travelers set to hit the road  
Creative and fun. Different take draws readers in.

**3rd Place**  
**Todd Sumlin**  
The Charlotte Observer  
Charlotte  
Fan the flames  
I like this -- it speaks directly to the topic of grilling recipes. Kudos.

## BEST VIDEO

**1st Place**  
**Todd Sumlin**  
The Charlotte Observer  
Charlotte  
Sights and sounds from the 49ers first football game

**2nd Place**  
**Jon Ostendorff**  
Asheville Citizen-Times  
Asheville  
Family of bears hold Asheville women hostage

**3rd Place**  
**Erin Brethauer**  
Asheville Citizen-Times  
Asheville  
High steppin' to the beat

## MULTIMEDIA PROJECT

**1st Place**  
**John Ramsey, Andrew Craft, Raul Rubiera, Mariano Santillan**  
The Fayetteville Observer  
Fayetteville  
Bitter pills  
Absolutely unbelievable series. From the stories to the art to the depth of coverage, this is a very well-done series that targets a very important problem within our culture.

**2nd Place**  
**Staff**  
The Charlotte Observer  
Charlotte  
Breaking through  
This is a great story that is incredibly well done. The photos also tell the story beautifully.

**3rd Place**  
**Helen Schwab, David Puckett**  
The Charlotte Observer  
Charlotte  
Tour the world in Charlotte food  
This is a very unique and awesome idea. As someone who has never been to North Carolina, I would want to view this before my first trip.

## EDITORIALS

**1st Place**  
**Fannie Flono**  
The Charlotte Observer  
Charlotte  
Collection of editorials  
I'm impressed with the way this paper willingly broke its mold to develop an editorial position using photos and graphics. The writing propels, then compels the reader.

**2nd Place**  
**Doug Clark**  
News & Record  
Greensboro  
Collection of editorials

**3rd Place**  
**John Railey**  
Winston-Salem Journal  
Winston-Salem  
Winning sterilization compensation  
An impressive campaign that paid dividends.

## LIGHTER COLUMNS

**1st Place**  
**Casey Blake**  
Asheville Citizen-Times  
Asheville  
Answer Woman columns

**2nd Place**  
**Myla Barnhardt**  
StarNews  
Wilmington  
Collection of columns

**3rd Place**  
**Jeri Rowe**  
News & Record  
Greensboro  
Collection of columns

## SERIOUS COLUMNS

**1st Place**  
**Bill Kirby Jr.**  
The Fayetteville Observer  
Fayetteville  
Collection of columns

**2nd Place**  
**Josh Shaffer**  
The News & Observer  
Raleigh  
Shaffer: Raleigh uproots 83-year-old widow

**3rd Place**  
**Susan Ladd**  
News & Record  
Greensboro  
Collection of columns

## SPORTS COLUMNS

**1st Place**  
**Lennox Rawlings**  
Winston-Salem Journal  
Winston-Salem  
Collection of columns  
Strip away the sentimentality and what remains is hard-hitting news, emotion, humor and a deep knowledge of sports at North Carolina State.

**2nd Place**  
**Brian Mull**  
StarNews  
Wilmington  
Collection of columns  
Touching story on Ed Emory where the writer really captured the emotion of his story. And some good advice to the people running the Panthers.

**3rd Place**  
**David Puckett**  
The Charlotte Observer  
Charlotte  
Collection of graphics

**3rd Place**  
**Tom Sorensen**  
The Charlotte Observer  
Charlotte  
Collection of columns  
This columnist knows golf. Nice mix of news and emotion. Column about what golf means to him was right on the mark.

# DIVISION F

Daily newspapers over 35,000

## CRITICISM

**1st Place**  
**John Murawski**  
The News & Observer  
Raleigh  
Book review: Atheist calls for abolishing religion

**2nd Place**  
**David Menconi**  
The News & Observer  
Raleigh  
Collection of criticisms

**3rd Place**  
**Michael Hewlett**  
Winston-Salem Journal  
Winston-Salem  
Rain Pryor shines in one woman show

## HEADLINE WRITING

**1st Place**  
**Ted Newman**  
StarNews  
Wilmington  
Collection of headlines

**2nd Place**  
**Scott Nunn**  
StarNews  
Wilmington  
Collection of headlines

**3rd Place**  
**Steve McDaniel**  
StarNews  
Wilmington  
Collection of headlines

## GRAPHICS

**1st Place**  
**Mariano Santillan**  
The Fayetteville Observer  
Fayetteville  
Collection of graphics

**2nd Place**  
**Margaret Baxter**  
News & Record  
Greensboro  
100 years of T-shirts; If N.C. Builds It...; Earth Day 2013 Climate Worries

**3rd Place**  
**David Puckett**  
The Charlotte Observer  
Charlotte  
Collection of graphics

## EDITORIAL PAGE

**1st Place**  
**Staff**  
The Charlotte Observer  
Charlotte  
Collection of editorial pages  
A clear winner. Lots of viewpoints, well designed.

**2nd Place**  
**Burgetta Wheeler, Ned Barnett, Jim Jenkins**  
The News & Observer  
Raleigh  
Collection of editorial pages  
Clear, cogent editorials. Nice reader response.

**3rd Place**  
**Tim White**  
The Fayetteville Observer  
Fayetteville  
Collection of opinion pages  
Plenty of local focus. Nice job.

## GENERAL EXCELLENCE FOR WEB SITES

**1st Place**  
**Staff**  
The News & Observer  
Raleigh  
www.NewsObserver.com  
Loved the "Stay Connected" feature at bottom. Really clean, very inviting, tons of content under each tab.

**2nd Place**  
**Staff**  
The Fayetteville Observer  
Fayetteville  
www.FayObserver.com  
Great addition of graphic content attached, ie. video, etc.

**3rd Place**  
**Staff**  
The Charlotte Observer  
Charlotte  
www.CharlotteObserver.com  
Lots of related stories associated with lead story. Good depth of coverage.

## APPEARANCE & DESIGN

**1st Place**  
**Staff**  
The Charlotte Observer  
Charlotte  
Appearance and Design

**2nd Place**  
**Staff**  
The News & Observer  
Raleigh  
UNC campus faces crime inquiry

**3rd Place**  
**Staff**  
StarNews  
Wilmington  
October 6 & 7, 2012 editions

## SPORTS COVERAGE

**1st Place**  
**Staff**  
The Charlotte Observer  
Charlotte  
Sports coverage  
Outstanding work! From the quality of writing to the depth of photography, it was a joy to read.

**2nd Place**  
**Andrew Carter, Chris Wright, Luke DeCock, Joe Giglio**  
The News & Observer  
Raleigh  
A close call/unstoppable  
I love the flow within your paper. The writing is crisp and fun to read.

**3rd Place**  
**Staff**  
The Fayetteville Observer  
Fayetteville  
College football signing day  
The signing day spread is beautiful!

## NEWS SECTION DESIGN

**1st Place**  
**Staff**  
The Charlotte Observer  
Charlotte  
News Section Design

**2nd Place**  
**Staff**  
News & Record  
Greensboro  
News & Record News Design 2013

Continued on page 42

# ELON

## SCHOOL OF COMMUNICATIONS



- Home to 65 faculty and staff and 1,100 students.
- Accreditation team calls school's growth in quality "nothing short of spectacular."
- Elon parent Brian Williams of NBC News is national chair of the school's advisory board.
- Student media have won two collegiate Emmys.
- Recipient of AEJMC's Equity & Diversity Award.
- Publishes the nation's only journal of undergraduate research in communications.
- An innovative M.A. in Interactive Media degree.
- The school is being more than doubled in size (architectural design above).



## Curious what you were up against this year?

See all winning entries online:

**NCPress.com/  
2013-contest-winners**



## DIVISION A continued from page 8

*(Best Niche Publication cont.)*

3rd Place

**Staff**

The Times-Leader

Grifton

Ayden Magazine - Making a

Splash

Attractive ads, useful map, nice design with wrap around text.

2nd Place

**Ken Ripley**

Spring Hope Enterprise

Spring Hope

Collection of criticisms

He displayed knowledge of the script

as well as the theater in general, and

combined that information into

compelling reviews. The writing is

clear, yet packed with information.

### CRITICISM

1st Place

**Todd Wetherington**

Duplin Times

Kenansville

Bent notes

Writer's extensive knowledge of the

music industry shows in his writing.

He deftly weaves historical facts into

his reviews, helping the reader put the

subject into context.

## THE NORTH CAROLINA BAR ASSOCIATION CONGRATULATES THE 2013 RECIPIENTS OF THE NCBA MEDIA AND THE LAW AWARDS

### NONDAILY NEWSPAPER ARTICLE

**Andrew Kasper**

Smoky Mountain News

### DAILY NEWSPAPER ARTICLE

**Jon Jimison**

The Wilson Times

### BEST SERIES (DAILY OR NONDAILY NEWSPAPER)

**The Charlotte Observer**

Gary Wright, Cleve Wootson and Fred Clasen-Kelly

**NORTH CAROLINA  
BAR ASSOCIATION**  
SEEKING LIBERTY & JUSTICE

## Congratulations to the contestants!

*Keep up the fight for free press rights  
and open government!*

Attorney John Bussian has decades of experience representing individuals and companies in state and federal courts across the country.

### The Bussian Law Firm

Wells Fargo Capitol Center, 16th Floor

Raleigh, N.C.

(919) 829-4900

john@bussianlaw.com

## Bussian Law Firm

Protecting Media and Intellectual Property

# A team effort.

*Congratulations to our staff  
for winning 18 NCPA awards.*

### First place

Sports Columns,  
Mark Wineka

Business Writing,  
Emily Ford

Sports Feature Writing,  
Mark Wineka

Lighter Columns,  
Elizabeth Cook

### Second place

Serious Columns,  
Mark Wineka

General News Reporting,  
Mark Wineka

Investigative Reporting  
Nathan Hardin

Best Video,  
Andy Morrissey, Jon C. Lakey,  
Nathan Hardin

Education Reporting,  
Sarah Campbell

Editorials,  
Elizabeth Cook

Lighter Columns,  
Mark Wineka

### Third place

Feature Section Design,  
Andy Mooney

Best Community Coverage,  
Staff

Sports Columns,  
Ronnie Gallagher

Business Writing,  
Nathan Hardin

Editorial Page,  
Chris Verner, Elizabeth Cook

Special Section,  
Staff

Sports Coverage,  
Ronnie Gallagher,  
Mike London, Ryan Bisesi,  
David Shaw



*Images by Mark Schultz,  
Hugh Morton Photographer of the Year  
Community Newspaper Winner*

## DIVISION B continued from page 12

### BEST COMMUNITY COVERAGE

1st Place

**Staff**

The Chatham News

Siler City

December 6 & 13, 2012 editions

Great community news coverage

always brings letters like those in this

paper. Nice locally engineered opinion

pages as well.

2nd Place

**Staff**

The State Port Pilot

Southport

Best community coverage

Covering community news with a nice

flair. Lots for the reader to digest.

3rd Place

**Staff**

The Chronicle

Winston-Salem

Community coverage

The Chronicle is quite innovative.

### SPECIAL SECTION

1st Place

**Staff**

The Alamance News

Graham

Alamance Business Report

2nd Place

**Staff**

The State Port Pilot

Southport

N.C. Fourth of July Festival

Program 2013

3rd Place

**Staff**

Cherokee Scout

Murphy

Peaks & Valleys

### BEST NICHE PUBLICATION

1st Place

**Staff**

Montgomery Herald

Troy

Discover Montgomery County

Great directory to the community that

local residents would find useful as well

as visitors. Design makes it easy to read.

2nd Place

**Staff**

The State Port Pilot

Southport

Cape Fear Coast Fall 2013

Beautifully designed ads, nice pop out

quotes and "go and do."

3rd Place

**Staff**

The Mebane Enterprise

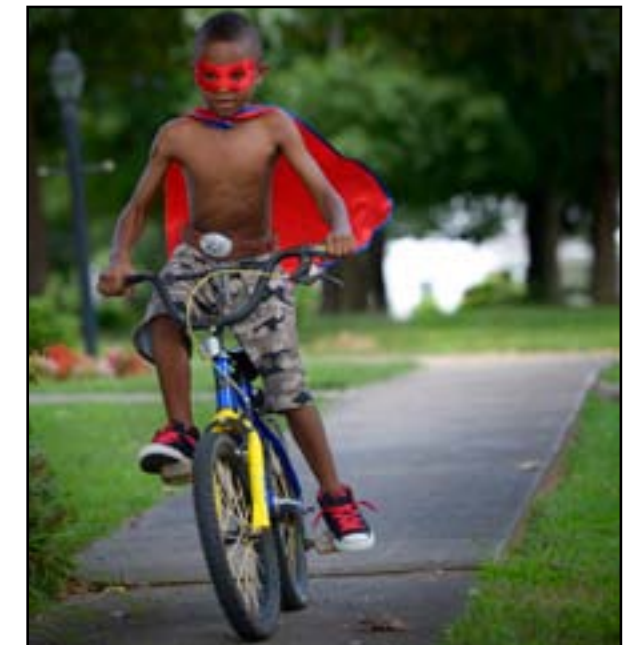
Mebane

North Carolina's Eastern Living

Magazine

Attractive cover design, interesting

stories.



*Image by Scott Muthersbaugh,  
Hugh Morton Photographer of the Year  
Daily Newspaper Winner*



**Salisbury Post**



# SPECIALTY DIVISION

## GENERAL EXCELLENCE

1st Place  
Staff

Triangle Business Journal  
Raleigh  
November 16 & 23, 2012 issues



2nd Place  
Liz Irwin

The Mecklenburg Times  
Charlotte  
Higher-rise education



## APPEARANCE & DESIGN

1st Place

Dathan Kazsuk

Triangle Business Journal  
Raleigh  
May 10 & 17, 2013 editions



# SPECIAL AWARDS

## Duke University/Green-Rossiter Award for Distinguished Newspaper Work in Higher Education

Community Division

Kristy Bailey

The Alamance News  
Graham

State rescinds \$954,000 for ACC building projects; do-over required

Daily Division

Jane Stancill, Dan Kane, J. Andrew Curliss

The News & Observer  
Raleigh

Friday was esteemed nationally, revered in N.C.

## Henry Lee Weathers Freedom of Information Award

Under 20,000 circulation

Corey Friedman, Jon Jimison

The Wilson Times  
Wilson

Justice out of sight?; Town: Pay our wages if you want public records; Opening the door

Over 20,000 circulation

Bruce Henderson, Cameron Steele, Gavin Off

The Charlotte Observer  
Charlotte

NC sheriffs wage fight over gun records

## Media and the Law Awards

Nondaily Newspaper Article

Andrew Kasper

Smoky Mountain News  
Waynesville

Daily Newspaper Article

Jon Jimison

The Wilson Times  
Wilson

Best Series (daily or nondaily)

Gary Wright, Cleve Wootson and Fred Clasen-Kelly

The Charlotte Observer  
Charlotte

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# THE LASSITER AWARD REP. MARILYN AVILA



N.C. Rep. Marilyn Avila receives the prestigious NCPA Lassiter Award in 2014 to honor her strong and courageous battle to keep government open to the people. Avila's work in the N.C. House of Representatives in 2013 alone makes her richly deserving of the award. On many occasions, she rallied support against strong political headwinds within her own Republican House caucus to amend anti-newspaper public notice legislation by replacing the bad bills with the NCPA-backed Florida-Tennessee statewide compromise legislation.

# NORTH CAROLINIAN OF THE YEAR CHARLIE ROSE



"Charlie Rose is a shining reflection of his N.C. roots," said NCPA Board President Les High, who nominated Rose for North Carolinian of the Year. "He has set incredibly high standards in journalism, raised the task of interviewing to an art form and been a standard-bearer for the best of broadcast journalism." The North Carolinian of the Year is one of the highest honors the NCPA bestows. It celebrates a person who has brought honor and recognition to North Carolina and who reflects pride in his or her North Carolina ties.

# COMMUNITY AND PUBLIC SERVICE AWARDS

## COMMUNITY NEWSPAPERS



**1st Place**  
**Caitlin Bowling, Becky Johnson**  
Smoky Mountain News  
Waynesville  
Lake Junaluska's crossroads  
A well-presented series that outlined a decision to be made by a lake community and a larger municipality. Use of sidebars like "The Players" made it easy to follow the issue. Good follow-up. Nice work.

**2nd Place**  
**Staff**  
Carteret County News-Times  
Morehead City  
Fumigation plan dropped in face of public opposition  
After learning about the plan from a citizen, the newspaper did a good job presenting the issue. That prompted public officials to seek more public input. The newspaper editorialized, but didn't take a position.

**3rd Place**  
**Ken Fortenberry**  
News@Norman  
Denver  
School district management  
A clear first rate and effort. News@norman exposed numerous problems in the school district and the coverage resulted in reforms.

## DIVISION E continued from page 29

### (Sports Coverage continued)

**2nd Place**  
**Staff**  
The Daily Tar Heel  
Chapel Hill  
SportsMonday and SportsFriday, Sept. 16 & 20, 2013  
A near dead-heat for first. Love the page's flow and the artwork. The writing is crisp and clean.

**3rd Place**  
**Staff**  
Salisbury Post  
Salisbury  
February 16 & 17, 2013 editions

### NEWS SECTION DESIGN

**1st Place**  
**Staff**  
The Gaston Gazette  
Gastonia  
Gazette News Section  
Love this front page! This one is definitely a winner!

**2nd Place**  
**Staff**  
The Star  
Shelby  
The aging crisis; Hundreds to lose benefits

**3rd Place**  
**Staff**  
The Daily Reflector  
Greenville  
Board approves incentives for teachers

### FEATURE SECTION DESIGN

**1st Place**  
**Kenneth Fine**  
The Goldsboro News-Argus  
Goldsboro  
Goldsboro News-Argus

**2nd Place**  
**Steve Cagle**  
The Daily Reflector  
Greenville  
Raptor Rescue

**3rd Place**  
**Sarah Campbell**  
Salisbury Post  
Salisbury  
Brides go back to basics

### BEST COMMUNITY COVERAGE

**1st Place**  
**Staff**  
The Goldsboro News-Argus  
Goldsboro  
Goldsboro News-Argus

Very thorough coverage of the community, but what put it at the top was the series on increasing violence in Goldsboro. The two installments were insightful and very well-written.

**2nd Place**  
**Staff**  
The Gaston Gazette  
Gastonia  
Fix me, please  
One of the liveliest front pages I've ever seen. Nice localization of bigger topics. Extra points for the "Christmas Wishes" campaign.

**3rd Place**  
**Staff**  
Salisbury Post  
Salisbury  
Sept. 1 & 27, 2013 editions  
Solid local coverage throughout. Staff photography was excellent. A newspaper that takes seriously its commitment to covering local news and features.

### SPECIAL SECTION

**1st Place**  
**Staff**  
The Daily Tar Heel  
Chapel Hill  
Daily Tar Heel mail home edition for new students  
Excellent presentation and comprehensive content. The depth of the content, facts and stories rivals what is found in the metro paper entries.

**2nd Place**  
**Staff**  
The Gaston Gazette  
Gastonia  
Discover Gaston  
Wonderful splashy cover! Well organized, great reproduction. Mix of stories and "fast facts" makes this edition accessible to readers.

**3rd Place**  
**Staff**  
Salisbury Post  
Salisbury  
Graduates 2013  
Attention to community comes through clear in this section. The content is compelling. Names, photos, profiles and more are impressive.

### BEST NICHE PUBLICATION

**1st Place**  
**Jeff Zehr, Diane Norman**  
Times-News  
Hendersonville  
Mountain traditions  
Gorgeous photography dominates this cleanly designed publication. Love the type treatment.

## DAILY NEWSPAPERS UNDER 25,000 CIRCULATION



**1st Place**  
**Nash Dunn, Chad Killebrew**  
The Dispatch  
Lexington  
Economic Development  
Commission series  
Economic development commissions often operate with less scrutiny than elected boards. The research for this series provided the public with detailed information as well as highlighting some concerns. Reforms followed.

**2nd Place**  
**Staff**  
The Wilson Times  
Wilson  
Hidden hunger  
Good example of starting the ball rolling through reporting... and keeping it rolling by showing results.

## DAILY NEWSPAPERS OVER 25,000 CIRCULATION



**1st Place**  
**John Ramsey**  
The Fayetteville Observer  
Fayetteville  
Bitter pills  
Multi-faceted, in-depth study. Use of statistics and graphics clearly shined a spotlight on the problem. More than numbers, though, the series covered every aspect of the problem and humanized it as well. This entry had everything, including a list of results --- and that's what community service is about.

**2nd Place**  
**John Railey**  
Winston-Salem Journal  
Winston-Salem  
Delivering help to sterilization victims  
This newspaper went to bat to obtain compensation for victims of forced sterilization. It would have been easy to rationalize that scarce editorial resources should go to something impacting a larger group. Looking out for those who lack the power to look out for themselves is something all newspapers should remember. This paper didn't give up until it got results.

**3rd Place**  
**Staff**  
The Charlotte Observer  
Charlotte  
0-78  
The headline says it all. A citizen never prevailed in a complaint against the PD. The Observer's detailed look at a Citizens Review Board resulted in awareness of the problem and proposed changes. We suspect the paper won't give up on this until changes are adopted.



## DIVISION F continued from page 35

*(News Section Design continued)*

3rd Place

**Staff**

The News & Observer

Raleigh

Case cited by Cline ends in plea

### FEATURE SECTION DESIGN

1st Place

**Staff**

News & Record

Greensboro

News & Record Feature Section Design

2013

2nd Place

**Staff**

Winston-Salem Journal

Winston-Salem

Soups to savor

3rd Place

**Staff**

The News & Observer

Raleigh

Home & Garden

### BEST COMMUNITY COVERAGE

1st Place

**Staff**

StarNews

Wilmington

September 4 & 11, 2013 editions

*This paper put the focus on local news: seven of the eight front-page stories were generated by its staff and were focused on local issues. This paper's photography and design are terrific and the reporting was solid. An exceptional newspaper that serves its community well.*

2nd Place

**Staff**

News & Record

Greensboro

Best Community Coverage

*Feature sections were all very local and had tremendous use of art. Very good writing and reporting. Love the interactive nature of asking for economic development ideas.*

3rd Place

**Staff**

The Fayetteville Observer

Fayetteville

Best Community Coverage

*Does the little things well: The Business Observer column is a great little feature that ties the paper to its community.*

### SPECIAL SECTION

1st Place

**Staff**

The Charlotte Observer

Charlotte

Living Here

*In-depth guide to a major metro area. Plenty of facts presented and includes stories offering insights to the area that a neighbor might provide. This is what a major metro daily should offer readers.*

2nd Place

**Tammy Miller, Sherry Jones**

StarNews

Wilmington

Voter Guide 2012

*Voters need this kind of help and the edition is packed with pertinent political information. Solid design and useful to readers.*

3rd Place

**Staff**

The Fayetteville Observer

Fayetteville

Discover Fayetteville

*Tons of work produced a treasure trove of information. Nicely organized, easy to read.*

### BEST NICHE PUBLICATION

1st Place

**Staff**

The Charlotte Observer

Charlotte

Carolina Bride July/September 2013

*Clean, elegant design and high-quality photography. Lovely, moving photos in the Wedding Stories section are enhanced by sophisticated layout. From front to back, an easy winner.*

2nd Place

**Staff**

The Charlotte Observer

Charlotte

Carolina Bride April/June 2013

*The people who put this publication together clearly know what they're doing. Page design, typography, photography, clever headlines, ads that enhance, not detract - it all adds up to a gorgeous product.*

3rd Place

**Staff**

The Charlotte Observer

Charlotte

SouthPark

*The boulevard, fashion and music pages are wonderful. Very creative and lively.*

# The Fayetteville Observer

NORTH CAROLINA'S OLDEST NEWSPAPER



## We salute our winners

Congratulations to our staff, winners of 20 awards in this year's NCPA News, Editorial and Photojournalism Contest. They make **The Fayetteville Observer** and **fyobserver.com** the place to go for news – and much more.

### FIRST PLACE

**News enterprise reporting:** John Ramsey

**Serious columns:** Bill Kirby Jr.

**Public service award:** John Ramsey

**Graphics:** Mariano Santillan

**Multimedia project:** John Ramsey, Andrew Craft, Raul Rubiera, Mariano Santillan

**Illustration/photo illustration:** Justin Morrison

### SECOND PLACE

**News feature:** Chick Jacobs

**General excellence for web sites:** Staff

**Sports feature writing:** Chick Jacobs

**Illustration/photo illustration:** Justin Morrison

### THIRD PLACE

**Feature photography:** Cindy Burnham

**Best community coverage:** Staff

**General news reporting:** Greg Phillips, Drew Brooks, Henry Cuningham, Ali Rockett

**Sports feature photo:** Andrew Craft

**News feature:** Paul Woolverton

**Editorial page:** Tim White

**Special section:** Staff

**Sports coverage:** Staff

**Sports feature writing:** Greg Barnes

**Feature writing:** Greg Phillips

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# Jobs well done

The News & Observer Publishing Company is proud to salute the journalists recognized by the NCPA for their excellent work.



## The News & Observer

**Green-Rossiter Award**, "Outstanding reporting on higher education," **Jane Stancil, Dan Kane, J. Andrew Curliss**

**First**, general news reporting, "2013 legislative session," **John Frank, Lynn Bonner**

**First**, sports feature photo, "Fans welcome Canes home," **Chris Seward**

**First**, online breaking news, "After audit, pressure mounts for changes at Rural Center," **J. Andrew Curliss**

**First**, general excellence for web sites, newsobserver.com, **Staff**

**First**, criticism, "Book Review: Atheist calls for abolishing religion," **John Murawski**

**Second**, news enterprise, "Sustained examination of tax policy in N.C.," **Dan Kane, J. Andrew Curliss, John Frank**

**Second**, serious columns, "Raleigh uproots 83-year-old widow," **Josh Shaffer**

**Second**, investigative reporting, "Investigation of N.C. Rural Center," **J. Andrew Curliss**

**Second**, general news photography, "Early voters flock to poll," **Corey Lowenstein**

**Second**, appearance & design, **Staff**

**Second**, sports photography, "Broken," **Chuck Liddy**

**Second**, editorial pages, **Ned Barnett, Jim Jenkins, Burgetta Wheeler**

**Second**, online breaking news, "Fiery debate in N.C. Senate, then approval of abortion restrictions," **John Frank, Annalise Frank, Craig Jarvis, Lynn Bonner**

**Second**, sports coverage, "A close call/unstoppable," **Andrew Carter, Chris Wright, Luke DeCock, Joe Giglio**

**Second**, criticism, "Finding a long-lost rocker," "Bennet can still send it to the moon," "Focus on homegrown art," **David Menconi**

**Third**, feature section design, "Dream homes for kids," **Staff**

**Third**, news enterprise reporting, "N.C.'s coastal counties," **John Murawski**

**Third**, news section design, "Case cited by Cline ends in plea," **Staff**

**Third**, investigative reporting, "UNC academic fraud scandal," **Dan Kane, J. Andrew Curliss, John Drescher**



## Chapel Hill News

**First**, feature writing, "Lincoln dressmaker has local ties," **Gloria Lloyd**

## Durham News

**First**, general news photography, "Vigil remembers Ocampo," **Mark Schultz**

**Second**, feature photography, "The flight of the butterfly," **Harry Lynch**

**Third**, use of photographs, **Mark Schultz, Jim Kenny**

## Eastern Wake News

**Second**, general news photography, "Donation music to their ears," **Aaron Moody**

## Garner-Cleveland Record

**First**, sports coverage, **D. Clay Best** and **Staff**

## North Raleigh News

**Third**, best community coverage, **Staff**

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