Georgia Press Association honors Better Newspaper Contest winners

JEKYLL ISLAND, GA. - The Georgia Press Association honored the winners of the 2018 Freedom of Information Award and the 2018 Better Newspaper Contest on Friday at the Jekyll Island Club during the group's 132nd annual convention.

The Savannah Morning won the prestigious Freedom of Information Award for doing the most during 2017 to uphold the principles of the First Amendment and to protect the public’s right to know. The Morning News was honored specifically for its battle to get its local public hospital and public hospital authority to comply with Georgia’s Open Records Act. In a pending case, the Morning News sued Memorial University Medical Center for documents about the hospital’s proposed sale to one company, about its completed sale to another company, and for the legal bills paid by the hospital regarding the Open Records Act requests from the newspaper.

Judging for the award was done by the University of Georgia’s Grady College of Journalism and Mass Communication. “Public institutions must know that if they keep secrets, the local newspaper will battle them, in court. And that they won’t back down,” said the judge for the award.

Two young journalists were honored as winners of GPA’s Emerging Journalist Awards. Journalists younger than 30 with less than five years of experience writing professionally for a newspaper — one from the state’s daily newspapers and one from the state’s weeklies — were honored for demonstrating excellence and maintaining high standards of quality and ethics. The daily newspaper winner was Shaddi Abusaid of the Marietta Daily Journal. The weekly newspaper winner was Halei Lamb of The Forest-Blade of Statesboro.

Winners in the Georgia Press Association Better Newspaper Contest were honored for their outstanding achievements in newspaper journalism. Entries were judged in seven divisions based on circulation. The daily divisions are Division A (circulation of 18,000 or more), Division B (8,000 to 17,999) and Division C (circulation less than 8,000). Weekly divisions are Division D (circulation of 6,000 to 15,000), Division E (weeklies with circulation of 3,000 to 5,999), Division F (circulation less than 3,000) and Division G (all weekly newspapers of more than 15,000 in circulation and all associate media members of GPA).

The photograph chosen as the Photo of the Year was taken by Clay Neely of The Newnan Times-Herald. It depicts the father of Benjamin Hosch III, a 5-year-old boy who drowned while attending a summer day camp last July. Hosch is speaking at a news conference days after the accident. Neely’s photo won the news photo award for Division C. All first-place winners in photo categories are considered for Photo of the Year.

There were 606 awards presented in 41 categories to 73 newspapers. Judging was done by members of the Kansas and Oklahoma press associations in February and March. Winners by category are:

General Excellence:
Division A: 1st Place, Savannah Morning News;
Division A: 2nd Place, Gwinnett Daily Post, Lawrenceville;
Division A: 3rd Place, The Telegraph, Macon;
Division B: 1st Place, The Brunswick News;
Division B: 2nd Place, Marietta Daily Journal;
Division B: 3rd Place, The Albany Herald;
Division C: 1st Place, The Valdosta Daily Times;
Division C: 2nd Place, The Newnan Times-Herald;
Division C: 3rd Place, Daily Citizen-News, Dalton;
Division D: 1st Place, The Walton Tribune, Monroe;
Division D: 2nd Place, The Post-Searchlight, Bainbridge;
Division D: 3rd Place, The Press-Sentinel, Jesup;
Division E: 1st Place, Lake Oconee News, Greensboro, Staff;
Division E: 2nd Place, Monroe County Reporter, Forsyth;
Division E: 3rd Place (tie), The Dahlonega Nugget;
Division E: 3rd Place (tie), The Jones County News, Gray;
Division F: 1st Place, The Champion, Decatur;
Division F: 2nd Place, The Oconee Enterprise, Watkinsville;
Division F: 3rd Place, Jefferson Reporter/News & Farmer, Louisville;
Division G: 1st Place, Smoke Signals, Big Canoe;
Division G: 2nd Place, Appen Media Group Inc.;
Division G: 3rd Place, Springs Publishing;

Best Online News Project:
Division DAILY: 1st Place, The Telegraph, Macon, Laura Corley;
Division DAILY: 2nd Place, Savannah Morning News;
Division DAILY: 3rd Place, The Valdosta Daily Times, Kristin Patten;
Division WEEKLY: 1st Place, The Journal, Buena Vista, Richard Harris;
Division WEEKLY: 2nd Place, Appen Media Group Inc.;
Division WEEKLY: 3rd Place, The Champion, Decatur, Horace Holloman;

Best Photo Gallery on a Newspaper Website:
Division DAILY: 1st Place, Gwinnett Daily Post, Lawrenceville, Jason Braverman;
Division DAILY: 2nd Place, Marietta Daily Journal, Kelly J. Huff;
Division DAILY: 3rd Place, The Valdosta Daily Times;
Division WEEKLY: 1st Place, Jackson Progress-Argus, Michael Davis;
Division WEEKLY: 2nd Place, Rockdale Citizen, Conyers, Larry Stanford;
Division WEEKLY: 3rd Place, Jackson Progress-Argus, Sherri Ellington;

Albert and Dorothy Jenkins Award
Best Use of Graphics and Illustration:
Division DAILY: 1st Place, The Brunswick News, Tiffany Fields;
Division DAILY: 2nd Place, The Brunswick News, Tiffany Fields;
Division DAILY: 3rd Place, The Valdosta Daily Times, Derrick Davis;
Division WEEKLY: 1st Place, The Dahlonega Nugget, John Bynum;
Division WEEKLY: 2nd Place, The Clayton Tribune;
Division WEEKLY: 3rd Place, The Champion, Decatur, Travis Hudgons;

Best Web Photo:
Division DAILY: 1st Place, The Newnan Times-Herald, Clay Neely;
Division DAILY: 2nd Place, The Valdosta Daily Times, Derrek Vaughn;
Division DAILY: 3rd Place, Savannah Morning News, Will Peebles;
Division WEEKLY: 1st Place, Jackson Progress-Argus, Sherri Ellington;
Division WEEKLY: 2nd Place, The Post-Searchlight, Bainbridge, Powell Cobb;
Division WEEKLY: 3rd Place, Jackson Progress-Argus, Sherri Ellington;

Breaking News Writing:
Division A: 1st Place, Savannah Morning News, Brittini Ray;
Division A: 2nd Place, The Telegraph, Macon, Joe Kovac Jr.;
Division A: 3rd Place, Gwinnett Daily Post, Lawrenceville, Curt Yeomans;
Division B: 1st Place, The Brunswick News, Lauren McDonald;
Division B: 2nd Place, The Albany Herald;
Division B: 3rd Place, The Brunswick News, Wes Wolfe;
Division C: 1st Place, The Union-Recorder, Milledgeville, Billy W. Hobbs;
Division C: 2nd Place, Daily Citizen-News, Dalton, Chris Whitfield;
Division C: 3rd Place, Daily Citizen-News, Dalton, Charles Oliver;
Division D: 1st Place, The Cherokee Tribune, Canton, Shaddi Aubsaid;
Division D: 2nd Place, The Cherokee Tribune, Canton, Madison Hogan;
Division D: 3rd Place, The Press-Sentinel, Jesup, Drew Davis;
Division E: 1st Place, The Dahlonega Nugget, Greg Finan Jr.;
Division E: 2nd Place, Douglas County Sentinel, Douglasville, Ron Daniel;
Division E: 3rd Place, Morgan County Citizen, Madison, Tia Lynn Ivey;
Division F: 1st Place, The Oconee Enterprise, Watkinsville, Michael Prochaska;
Division F: 2nd Place, The Clinch County News, Homerville, Len Robbins;
Division F: 3rd Place, The Champion, Decatur, Horace Holloman;
Division G: 1st Place, Smoke Signals, Big Canoe, Laura Link;
Division G: 2nd Place, Appen Media Group Inc., Kathleen Sturgeon;
Division G: 3rd Place, The Braselton News, Alex Pace;

Business Writing:
Division A: 1st Place, Marietta Daily Journal, Ross Williams;
Division A: 2nd Place, Marietta Daily Journal, Jon Gargis;
Division A: 3rd Place, Marietta Daily Journal, Ricky Leroux;
Division C: 1st Place, Daily Report, Atlanta, Meredith Hobbs;
Division C: 2nd Place, The Newnan Times-Herald, Kandice Bell;
Division C: 3rd Place, Times-Georgian, Carrollton, Arthia Nixon;
Division D: 1st Place, The Cherokee Tribune, Canton, Madison Hogan;
Division D: 2nd Place, The Tifton Gazette, Eve Guevara and Stuart Taylor;
Division D: 3rd Place, The Press-Sentinel, Jesup, Staff;
Division E: 1st Place, The Clayton Tribune, Tommy Culkin;
Division E: 2nd Place, The Dahlonega Nugget;
Division E: 3rd Place, The Blackshear Times, Robert M. Williams Jr.;
Division F: 1st Place, Jefferson Reporter/News & Farmer, Louisville, Parish Howard;
Division F: 2nd Place, Jefferson Reporter/News & Farmer, Louisville, Parish Howard;
Division F: 3rd Place, The Journal, Buena Vista, Richard Harris;
Division G: 1st Place, Springs Publishing, John Ruch;
Division G: 2nd Place, Smoke Signals, Big Canoe, Wayne Tidwell;
Division G: 3rd Place, The Braselton News, Alex Pace;

Community Service:
Division A: 1st Place, Savannah Morning News;
Division A: 2nd Place, The Albany Herald;
Division A: 3rd Place, The Brunswick News;
Division C: 1st Place, The Press-Sentinel, Jesup;
Division C: 2nd Place, The Valdosta Daily Times, Jim Zachary;
Division C: 3rd Place, The News Observer, Blue Ridge;
Division E: 1st Place, The Eatonton Messenger, Shannon Sneed;
Division E: 2nd Place, The Summerville News;
Division E: 3rd Place, Monroe County Reporter, Forsyth;
Division F: 1st Place, The Oconee Enterprise, Watkinsville, Michael Prochaska, Katie Tiller and Kelecey Caulder;
Division F: 2nd Place, Jefferson Reporter/News & Farmer, Louisville;
Division F: 3rd Place, Americus Times-Recorder, Beth Alston;

Editorial Cartoonist:
Division DAILY: 1st Place, The Valdosta Daily Times, Sarah Warrender;
Division DAILY: 2nd Place, Savannah Morning News, Mark Streeter;
Division DAILY: 3rd Place, Savannah Morning News, Mark Streeter;
WEEKLY: 1st Place, The Champion, Decatur, Fitzroy James; 
Division WEEKLY: 2nd Place, The Champion, Decatur, Fitzroy James; 
Division WEEKLY: 3rd Place, The Oconee Enterprise, Watkinsville, Chuck Cunningham;

J.C. Williams Trophy 
Editorial Page: 
Division B: 1st Place, The Brunswick News; 
Division B: 2nd Place, Marietta Daily Journal, Emily Boorstein; 
Division B: 3rd Place, The Albany Herald, Jim Hendricks, Carlton Fletcher and Mary Braswell; 
Division C: 1st Place, Daily Citizen-News, Dalton; 
Division C: 2nd Place, The Newnan Times-Herald; 
Division C: 3rd Place, The Valdosta Daily Times, Kristin Patten; 
Division D: 1st Place, The Press-Sentinel, Jesup; 
Division D: 2nd Place, The Cherokee Tribune, Canton; 
Division D: 3rd Place, The News Observer, Blue Ridge, Glenn Harbison; 
Division E: 1st Place, Monroe County Reporter, Forsyth; 
Division E: 2nd Place, White County News, Cleveland; 
Division E: 3rd Place, The Jones County News, Gray; 
Division F: 1st Place, The Oconee Enterprise, Watkinsville; 
Division F: 2nd Place, The Oconee Enterprise, Watkinsville; 
Division F: 3rd Place, The Jackson Herald, Jefferson, Mike Buffington and Alex Pace;

H.H. Dean Trophy 
Editorial Writing: 
Division B: 1st Place, The Albany Herald, Jim Hendricks, Carlton Fletcher and Mary Braswell; 
Division B: 2nd Place, Athens Banner-Herald, Ed Tant; 
Division B: 3rd Place, The Brunswick News; 
Division C: 1st Place, Daily Citizen-News, Dalton, Jamie Jones; 
Division C: 2nd Place, Daily Citizen-News, Dalton, Jamie Jones; 
Division C: 3rd Place, The Valdosta Daily Times, Jim Zachary; 
Division D: 1st Place, Pickens County Progress, Jasper; 
Division D: 2nd Place, The Tifton Gazette, Stuart Taylor; 
Division D: 3rd Place, The Post-Searchlight, Bainbridge, Staff; 
Division E: 1st Place, The Baldwin Bulletin, Milledgeville, Wil Petty; 
Division E: 2nd Place, Tribune & Georgian, St. Marys; 
Division E: 3rd Place, The Blackshear Times, Robert M. Williams Jr.; 
Division F: 1st Place, Franklin County Citizen Leader, Lavonia, Shane Scoggins; 
Division F: 2nd Place, The Champion, Decatur, John Hewitt; 
Division F: 3rd Place, The Oconee Enterprise, Watkinsville, Michael Prochaska;

Education Writing: 
Division A: 1st Place, Savannah Morning News, Jenel Few; 
Division A: 2nd Place, Savannah Morning News, Jenel Few; 
Division A: 3rd Place, Gwinnett Daily Post, Lawrenceville; 
Division B: 1st Place, Marietta Daily Journal, Shaddi Abusaid; 
Division B: 2nd Place, The Brunswick News, Lauren McDonald; 
Division B: 3rd Place, The Courier Herald, Dublin, Kelly Lenz; 
Division C: 1st Place, LaGrange Daily News, Daniel Evans; 
Division C: 2nd Place, Thomasville Times-Enterprise, Jordan Barela; 
Division C: 3rd Place, The Newnan Times-Herald, Rebecca Leftwich; 
Division D: 1st Place, Rockdale Citizen, Conyers, Grishma Rimal; 
Division D: 2nd Place, The Post-Searchlight, Bainbridge, Jill Holloway; 
Division D: 3rd Place, Columbia County News-Times, Evans, Abigail Remkus; 
Division E: 1st Place, Newton Citizen, Covington, Grishma Rimal; 
Division E: 2nd Place, Lake Oconee News, Greensboro, Mark Engel; 
Division E: 3rd Place, The Blackshear Times, Jason Deal;
Division F: 1st Place, Jackson Progress-Argus, Sherri Ellington;
Division F: 2nd Place, The Champion, Decatur, Scott Belzer;
Division F: 3rd Place, Sylvania Telephone, Enoch Autry;

Enterprise Story:
Division A: 1st Place, The Telegraph, Macon, Amy Leigh Womack and Joe Kovac Jr.;
Division A: 2nd Place, The Brunswick News, Lauren McDonald;
Division A: 3rd Place, The Brunswick News, Larry Hobbs;
Division C: 1st Place, The Valdosta Daily Times, Jill Nolin;
Division C: 2nd Place, The Valdosta Daily Times, John Stephen;
Division C: 3rd Place, The Valdosta Daily Times, John Stephen, Desiree Carver and Thomas Lynn;
Division D: 1st Place, The Tifton Gazette, Eve Guevara;
Division D: 2nd Place, The Cherokee Tribune, Canton, Shannon Ballew, Thomas Hartwell and Madison Hogan;
Division D: 3rd Place, Pickens County Progress, Jasper, Dan Pool;
Division E: 1st Place, Henry Herald, McDonough, Heather Middleton;
Division E: 2nd Place, The Eatonton Messenger, Shannon Sneed;
Division E: 3rd Place, Clayton News, Jonesboro, Chelsea Prince;
Division F: 1st Place, The Champion, Decatur, Horace Holloman;
Division F: 2nd Place, The Jackson Herald, Jefferson, Alex Pace;
Division F: 3rd Place, Jefferson Reporter/News & Farmer, Louisville, Carol McLeod;
Division G: 1st Place, Appen Media Group Inc., Staff;
Division G: 2nd Place, Springs Publishing, Dyana Bagby;
Division G: 3rd Place, Smoke Signals, Big Canoe, Barbara Schneider and Denise Ray;

Feature Photograph:
Division A: 1st Place, Savannah Morning News, Josh Galemore;
Division A: 2nd Place, Savannah Morning News, Josh Galemore;
Division A: 3rd Place, Savannah Morning News, Will Peebles;
Division B: 1st Place, Marietta Daily Journal, Kelly J. Huff;
Division B: 2nd Place, The Courier Herald, Dublin, Payton Towns III;
Division B: 3rd Place, The Albany Herald, Terry Lewis;
Division C: 1st Place, Daily Citizen-News, Dalton, Matt Hamilton;
Division C: 2nd Place, The Moultrie Observer, Kevin C. Hall;
Division C: 3rd Place, Daily Citizen-News, Dalton, Matt Hamilton;
Division D: 1st Place, Rockdale Citizen, Conyers, Larry Stanford;
Division D: 2nd Place, The Press-Sentinel, Jesup, Maggie Dukes;
Division D: 3rd Place, The Northeast Georgian, Cornelia, Christina Santee;
Division E: 1st Place, Lake Oconee News, Greensboro, Wil Petty;
Division E: 2nd Place, White County News, Cleveland, Wayne Hardy;
Division E: 3rd Place, The Blackburn Times, Staff;
Division F: 1st Place, Sylvania Telephone, Enoch Autry;
Division F: 2nd Place, Sylvania Telephone, Enoch Autry;
Division F: 3rd Place, The Oconee Enterprise, Watkinsville, Kelcey Caulder;
Division G: 1st Place, The Braselton News, Wesleigh Sagon;
Division G: 2nd Place, The Braselton News, Wesleigh Sagon;
Division G: 3rd Place, Appen Media Group Inc., Kathleen Sturgeon;

Feature Writing:
Division A: 1st Place, The Telegraph, Macon, Joe Kovac Jr.;
Division A: 2nd Place, Savannah Morning News, Kim Wade;
Division A: 3rd Place, Savannah Morning News, Brittini Ray;
Division B: 1st Place, The Brunswick News, Tyler H. Jones;
Division B: 2nd Place, The Brunswick News, Tyler H. Jones;
Division B: 3rd Place, The Brunswick News, Lindsey Adkison;
Division C: 1st Place, Times-Georgian, Carrollton, Ken Denney;
Division C: 2nd Place, The Valdosta Daily Times, Thomas Lynn;
Division C: 3rd Place, The Newnan Times-Herald, Clay Neely;
Division D: 1st Place, The Walton Tribune, Monroe, Stephen Milligan;
Division D: 2nd Place, Rockdale Citizen, Conyers, Pete Mecca;
Division D: 3rd Place, Rockdale Citizen, Conyers, Beth Slaughter Sexton;
Division E: 1st Place, The Dahlonega Nugget;
Division E: 2nd Place, Times-Courier, Ellijay, Michael Andrews;
Division E: 3rd Place, White County News, Cleveland, Debbie Gilbert;
Division F: 1st Place, Jefferson Reporter/News & Farmer, Louisville, Carol McLeod;
Division F: 2nd Place, Jefferson Reporter/News & Farmer, Louisville, Parish Howard;
Division F: 3rd Place, Banks County News, Homer, Angela Gary;
Division G: 1st Place, Smoke Signals, Big Canoe, Denise Ray;
Division G: 2nd Place, Appen Media Group Inc., Kathleen Sturgeon;
Division G: 3rd Place, Smoke Signals, Big Canoe, Anita Rosen;

Headline Writing:
Division A: 1st Place, The Brunswick News;
Division A: 2nd Place, Gwinnett Daily Post, Lawrenceville, Kristen Hansen, Khari Sampson and Jacee Sellers;
Division A: 3rd Place, Marietta Daily Journal;
Division C: 1st Place, The Newnan Times-Herald;
Division C: 2nd Place, Daily Citizen-News, Dalton;
Division C: 3rd Place, Daily Citizen-News, Dalton;
Division D: 1st Place, Rockdale Citizen, Conyers, Kristen Hansen and Jacee Sellers;
Division D: 2nd Place, The Walton Tribune, Monroe, Patrick Graham;
Division D: 3rd Place, The Braselton News, Alex Pace and Mike Buffington;
Division E: 1st Place, The Eatonton Messenger;
Division E: 2nd Place, Monroe County Reporter, Forsyth;
Division E: 3rd Place, Newton Citizen, Covington, Michael Buckelow, Kristen Hansen and Jacee Sellers;
Division F: 1st Place, The Champion, Decatur, Horace Holloman, Kathy Mitchell and Staff;
Division F: 2nd Place, Jackson Progress-Argus, Kristen Hansen and Khari Sampson;
Division F: 3rd Place, Franklin County Citizen Leader, Lavonia, Shane Scoggins;

Joe Parham Trophy
Humorous Column:
Division A: 1st Place, Springs Publishing, Robin Conte;
Division A: 2nd Place, Appen Media Group Inc., Joe Parker;
Division A: 3rd Place, Savannah Morning News, Jane Fishman;
Division B: 1st Place, Marietta Daily Journal, Dick Yarbrough;
Division B: 2nd Place, The Albany Herald, Jim Hendricks;
Division B: 3rd Place, Rome News-Tribune, Severo Avila;
Division C: 1st Place, The Valdosta Daily Times, Jim Zachary;
Division C: 2nd Place, The Moultrie Observer, Dwain Walden;
Division C: 3rd Place, The Valdosta Daily Times, Dean Poling;
Division D: 1st Place, Rockdale Citizen, Conyers, Darrell Huckaby;
Division D: 2nd Place, Pickens County Progress, Jasper, Caleb Smith;
Division D: 3rd Place, The News Observer, Blue Ridge, Glenn Harbison;
Division E: 1st Place, Lake Oconee News, Greensboro, Mark Smith Jr.;
Division E: 2nd Place, Lake Oconee News, Greensboro, T. Michael Stone;
Division E: 3rd Place, Monroe County Reporter, Forsyth, Will Davis;
Division F: 1st Place, The Clinch County News, Homerville, Len Robbins;
Division F: 2nd Place, Jefferson Reporter/News & Farmer, Louisville, Carol McLeod;
Division F: 3rd Place, Franklin County Citizen Leader, Lavonia, Lisa W. Manus;

Investigative Reporting:
Division A: 1st Place, The Telegraph, Macon, Amy Leigh Womack;
Division A: 2nd Place, Appen Media Group Inc.;
Division A: 3rd Place, Appen Media Group Inc.;
Division B: 1st Place, The Courier Herald, Dublin, Dahlia Allen;
Division B: 2nd Place, The Albany Herald, Cindi Cox;
Division B: 3rd Place, Rome News-Tribune, Spencer Lahr;
Division C: 1st Place, The Valdosta Daily Times, Jill Nolin and Staff;
Division C: 2nd Place, Times-Georgian, Carrollton, Artisia Nixon;
Division C: 3rd Place, The Valdosta Daily Times;
Division D: 1st Place, The Press-Sentinel, Jesup, Derby Waters;
Division D: 2nd Place, The Tifton Gazette, Eve Guevara;
Division D: 3rd Place, The Walton Tribune, Monroe;
Division E: 1st Place, The Eatonton Messenger, Shannon Sneed and Lynn Hobbs;
Division E: 2nd Place, The True Citizen, Waynesboro;
Division E: 3rd Place, The Clayton Tribune, Tommy Culkin;

Hal M. Stanley Trophy
Layout and Design:
Division A: 1st Place, Savannah Morning News, Kat Silva;
Division A: 2nd Place, Savannah Morning News;
Division A: 3rd Place, Savannah Morning News, Kat Silva;
Division B: 1st Place, The Brunswick News;
Division B: 2nd Place, The Brunswick News;
Division B: 3rd Place, Marietta Daily Journal;
Division C: 1st Place, The Valdosta Daily Times, Janine Morris;
Division C: 2nd Place, The Newnan Times-Herald;
Division C: 3rd Place, The Valdosta Daily Times, Caprice Bowman and Janine Morris;
Division D: 1st Place, The Walton Tribune, Monroe;
Division D: 2nd Place, The Post-Searchlight, Bainbridge, Powell Cobb;
Division D: 3rd Place, The Cordele Dispatch;
Division E: 1st Place, The Jones County News, Gray, Josh Lurie;
Division E: 2nd Place, The Dahlonega Nugget;
Division E: 3rd Place, Monroe County Reporter, Forsyth, Brandon Park;
Division F: 1st Place, The Champion, Decatur;
Division F: 2nd Place, Franklin County Citizen Leader, Lavonia;
Division F: 3rd Place, Jackson Progress-Argus;
Division G: 1st Place, Appen Media Group Inc., A.J. McNaughton;
Division G: 2nd Place, Smoke Signals, Big Canoe, Diane Smith;
Division G: 3rd Place, Springs Publishing;

Lifestyle Coverage:
Division A: 1st Place, Gwinnett Daily Post, Lawrenceville;
Division A: 2nd Place, Savannah Morning News;
Division A: 3rd Place, The Albany Herald;
Division C: 1st Place, The Newnan Times-Herald;
Division C: 2nd Place, The Moultrie Observer; Lifestyle Coverage: Division C: 3rd Place, The Valdosta Daily Times;
Division D: 1st Place, Rockdale Citizen, Conyers;
Division D: 2nd Place, Smoke Signals, Big Canoe;
Division D: 3rd Place, The Braselton News;
Division E: 1st Place, Clayton News, Jonesboro;
Division E: 2nd Place, Henry Herald, McDonough;
Division E: 3rd Place, Lake Oconee News, Greensboro;
Division F: 1st Place, The Champion, Decatur, Gale Horton Gay;
Division F: 2nd Place, The Jackson Herald, Jefferson, Angela Gary;

Lifestyle/Feature Column:
Division A: 1st Place, Savannah Morning News, Josh Peacock;
Division A: 2nd Place, Savannah Morning News, Ben Goggins;
Division A: 3rd Place, Savannah Morning News, Diane Churchill;
Division B: 1st Place, Marietta Daily Journal, Katy Ruth Camp;
Division B: 2nd Place, The Brunswick News, Larry Hobbs;
Division B: 3rd Place, The Valdosta Daily Times, Dean Poling;
Division D: 1st Place, The Post-Searchlight, Bainbridge, Jill Holloway;
Division D: 2nd Place, The Press-Sentinel, Jesup, Dink NeSmith;
Division D: 3rd Place, The Press-Sentinel, Jesup, Drew Davis;
Division E: 1st Place, Douglas County Sentinel, Douglasville, Mahdi Al-Husseini;
Division E: 2nd Place, The Hartwell Sun, Vivian Morgan;
Division E: 3rd Place, The Hartwell Sun, Vivian Morgan;
Division G: 1st Place, Springs Publishing, Robin Conte;
Division G: 2nd Place, Smoke Signals, Big Canoe, Bob Anderson;
Division G: 3rd Place, Smoke Signals, Big Canoe, Wayne Crawford;

W. Trox Bankston Trophy

Local News Coverage:
Division A: 1st Place, Savannah Morning News;
Division A: 2nd Place, Gwinnett Daily Post, Lawrenceville;
Division B: 1st Place, The Brunswick News;
Division B: 2nd Place, The Albany Herald;
Division B: 3rd Place, Marietta Daily Journal;
Division C: 1st Place, The Valdosta Daily Times;
Division C: 2nd Place, Daily Citizen-News, Dalton;
Division C: 3rd Place, The Union-Recorder, Milledgeville;
Division D: 1st Place, Columbia County News-Times, Evans;
Division D: 2nd Place, The Walton Tribune, Monroe;
Division D: 3rd Place, The News Observer, Blue Ridge;
Division E: 1st Place, The Clayton Tribune;
Division E: 2nd Place, The Jones County News, Gray;
Division E: 3rd Place, White County News, Cleveland;
Division F: 1st Place, The Champion, Decatur;
Division F: 2nd Place, Jackson Progress-Argus;
Division F: 3rd Place, The Madison County Journal, Danielsville;
Division G: 1st Place, Smoke Signals, Big Canoe;
Division G: 2nd Place, Springs Publishing;
Division G: 3rd Place, Appen Media Group Inc.;

Magazine Commentary:
Division WEEKLY: 1st Place, Springs Publishing, Sally Bethea;
Division WEEKLY: 2nd Place, Lake Oconee News, Greensboro, Larry Mayran;
Division WEEKLY: 3rd Place, The Eatonton Messenger, Hank Segars;

Magazine Cover Design:
Division DAILY: 1st Place, Marietta Daily Journal;
Division DAILY: 2nd Place, The Brunswick News;
Division DAILY: 3rd Place, The Valdosta Daily Times, Derek Schaper;
Division WEEKLY: 1st Place, The Post-Searchlight, Bainbridge, Powell Cobb and Jill Holloway;
Division WEEKLY: 2nd Place, The Leader-Tribune, Ft. Valley;
Division WEEKLY: 3rd Place, Times-Courier, Ellijay, Whitney Crouch and Keli Fredrickson;

Magazine Photography:
Division DAILY: 1st Place, The Valdosta Daily Times, Derek Vaughn;
Division DAILY: 2nd Place, The Brunswick News;
Division DAILY: 3rd Place, The Newnan Times-Herald, Angie Louter;
Division WEEKLY: 1st Place, Fayette County News, Fayetteville, Christopher Fairchild;
Division WEEKLY: 2nd Place, Fayette County News, Fayetteville, Christopher Fairchild;
Division WEEKLY: 3rd Place, The Jones County News, Gray, Milton Heard IV;

Magazine Product:
Division DAILY: 1st Place, The Brunswick News;
Division DAILY: 2nd Place, The Valdosta Daily Times;
Division DAILY: 3rd Place, The Newnan Times-Herald, Sandy Hiser and Sonya Studt;
Division WEEKLY: 1st Place, The Forest-Blade, Swainsboro;
Division WEEKLY: 2nd Place, Lake Oconee News, Greensboro;
Division WEEKLY: 3rd Place, Times-Courier, Ellijay;

Magazine Story:
Division DAILY: 1st Place, The Daily Tribune News, Cartersville, Andrew Houghton;
Division DAILY: 2nd Place, The Moultrie Observer, Wayne Grandy;
Division DAILY: 3rd Place, LaGrange Daily News, Daniel Evans;
Division WEEKLY: 1st Place, Fayette County News, Fayetteville, Christopher Fairchild;
Division WEEKLY: 2nd Place, Americus Times-Recorder, Beth Alston;
Division WEEKLY: 3rd Place, The Walton Tribune, Monroe, Stephen Milligan;

News Photograph:
Division A: 1st Place, The Telegraph, Macon, Woody Marshall;
Division A: 2nd Place, Savannah Morning News, Dash Coleman;
Division A: 3rd Place, Savannah Morning News, Will Peebles;
Division B: 1st Place, The Brunswick News, Bobby Haven;
Division B: 2nd Place, Athens Banner-Herald, Joshua Jones;
Division B: 3rd Place, Marietta Daily Journal, Kelly J. Huff;
Division C: 1st Place, The Newnan Times-Herald, Clay Neely;
Division C: 2nd Place, LaGrange Daily News, Daniel Evans;
Division C: 3rd Place, Times-Georgian, Carrollton, Jessica Gallagher;
Division D: 1st Place, Columbia County News-Times, Evans, Abbigail Remkus;
Division D: 2nd Place, The Tifton Gazette, Shelby Evans;
Division D: 3rd Place, The Post-Searchlight, Bainbridge, Powell Cobb;
Division E: 1st Place, Monroe County Reporter, Forsyth, Will Davis;
Division E: 2nd Place, Morgan County Citizen, Madison, Tia Lynn Ivey;
Division E: 3rd Place, The Hartwell Sun, Bill Powell;
Division F: 1st Place, The Oconee Enterprise, Watkinsville, Katie Tiller;
Division F: 2nd Place, The Champion, Decatur, Travis Hudgons;
Division F: 3rd Place, The Jackson Herald, Jefferson, Wesleigh Sagon;
Division G: 1st Place, Springs Publishing, Phil Mosier;
Division G: 2nd Place, The Braselton News, Alex Pace;
Division G: 3rd Place, The Braselton News, Wesleigh Sagon;

Newspaper Website:
Division DAILY: 1st Place, The Newnan Times-Herald, Jonathan Melville;
Division DAILY: 2nd Place, Athens Banner-Herald;
Division DAILY: 3rd Place, The Valdosta Daily Times, Kristin Patten;
Division WEEKLY: 1st Place, The Post-Searchlight, Bainbridge;
Division WEEKLY: 2nd Place, Springs Publishing;
Division WEEKLY: 3rd Place, The Champion, Decatur, Donna Seay and Staff;

Page One:
Division A: 1st Place, The Brunswick News;
Division A: 2nd Place, Savannah Morning News;
Division A: 3rd Place, Marietta Daily Journal, Philip Clements;
Division C: 1st Place, The Valdosta Daily Times, Janine Morris and Caprice Bowman;
Division C: 2nd Place, LaGrange Daily News;
Division C: 3rd Place, The Newnan Times-Herald;
Division D: 1st Place, The Walton Tribune, Monroe, David Clemons;
Division D: 2nd Place, The Post-Searchlight, Bainbridge;
Division D: 3rd Place, The Cherokee Tribune, Canton, Karah-Leigh Hancock;
Division E: 1st Place, Lake Oconee News, Greensboro;
Division E: 2nd Place, The Dahlonega Nugget;
Division E: 3rd Place, The Jones County News, Gray;
Division F: 1st Place, The Madison County Journal, Danielsville;
Division F: 2nd Place, The Champion, Decatur;
Division F: 3rd Place, The Jackson Herald, Jefferson, Alex Pace;
Division G: 1st Place, Springs Publishing, Rico Figliolini;
Division G: 2nd Place, Smoke Signals, Big Canoe;
Division G: 3rd Place, The Braselton News, Alex Pace;

Photo Essay:
Division A: 1st Place, Savannah Morning News, Steve Bisson;
Division A: 2nd Place, Savannah Morning News, Josh Galemore;
Division A: 3rd Place, The Telegraph, Macon, Beau Cabell;
Division B: 1st Place, The Valdosta Daily Times;
Division B: 3rd Place, The Courier Herald, Dublin, Clay Reynolds and DuBose Porter;
Division D: 1st Place, The Post-Searchlight, Bainbridge, John Simpson;
Division D: 2nd Place, The Press-Sentinel, Jesup;
Division D: 3rd Place, The Post-Searchlight, Bainbridge, Powell Cobb;
Division E: 1st Place, Morgan County Citizen, Madison, Jesse Walker;
Division E: 2nd Place, The Hartwell Sun, Michael Isom and Bill Powell;
Division E: 3rd Place, White County News, Cleveland, Wayne Hardy;
Division F: 1st Place, Sylvania Telephone, Enoch Autry;
Division F: 2nd Place, Donalsonville News, David Maxwell;
Division F: 3rd Place, The Clinch County News, Homerville, Cindy Rewis;
Division G: 1st Place, The Braselton News, Wesley Sagon;
Division G: 2nd Place, The Braselton News, Wesleigh Sagon;
Division G: 3rd Place, Smoke Signals, Big Canoe, Lisa Braswell Crow;

Photo Portfolio:
Division DAILY: 1st Place, Daily Citizen-News, Dalton, Matt Hamilton;
Division DAILY: 2nd Place, Savannah Morning News, Josh Galemore;
Division DAILY: 3rd Place, Savannah Morning News, Josh Galemore;
Division WEEKLY: 1st Place, Tribune & Georgian, St. Marys, Jill Helton;
Division WEEKLY: 2nd Place, Sylvania Telephone, Enoch Autry;
Division WEEKLY: 3rd Place, Fayette County News, Fayetteville, Christopher Dunn;

Religion Writing:
Division A: 1st Place, The Brunswick News, Tyler H. Jones;
Division A: 2nd Place, The Brunswick News, Lindsey Adkison;
Division A: 3rd Place, The Brunswick News, Lindsey Adkison;
Division C: 1st Place, Times-Georgian, Carrollton, Arthia Nixon;
Division C: 2nd Place, The Valdosta Daily Times;
Division C: 3rd Place, Times-Georgian, Carrollton, Arthia Nixon;
Division D: 1st Place, Rockdale Citizen, Conyers;
Division D: 2nd Place, The Press-Sentinel, Jesup;
Division D: 3rd Place, The Post-Searchlight, Bainbridge;
Division E: 1st Place, The Blackshear Times, Robert M. Williams Jr.;
Division E: 2nd Place, The Jones County News, Gray, Debbie Lurie-Smith;
Division E: 3rd Place, The Clayton Tribune, Tommy Culkin;
Division F: 1st Place, The Champion, Decatur, Kathy Mitchell;
Division F: 2nd Place, Jefferson Reporter/News & Farmer, Louisville, Parish Howard;
Division F: 3rd Place, The Champion, Decatur;

Otis A. Brumby Trophy
Serious Column:
Division A: 1st Place, Savannah Morning News, Jane Fishman;
Division A: 2nd Place, Marietta Daily Journal, Judy Elliott;
Division A: 3rd Place, Marietta Daily Journal, Dick Yarbrough;
Division C: 1st Place, The Newnan Times-Herald, W. Winston Skinner;
Division C: 2nd Place, The Valdosta Daily Times, Jim Zachary;
Division C: 3rd Place, The Valdosta Daily Times, Dean Poling;
Division D: 1st Place, The Press-Sentinel, Jesup, Dink NeSmith;
Division D: 2nd Place, The Walton Tribune, Monroe, Patrick Graham;
Division D: 3rd Place, The News Observer, Blue Ridge, Glenn Harbison;
Division E: 1st Place, Monroe County Reporter, Forsyth, Will Davis;
Division E: 2nd Place, The Baldwin Bulletin, Milledgeville, Wil Petty;
Division E: 3rd Place, Lake Oconee News, Greensboro, T. Michael Stone;
Division F: 1st Place, The Champion, Decatur, Gale Horton Gay;
Division F: 2nd Place, The Champion, Decatur, John Hewitt;
Division F: 3rd Place, Banks County News, Homer, Angela Gary;

Special Issues:
Division A: 1st Place, Savannah Morning News;
Division A: 2nd Place, Savannah Morning News, Kat Silva;
Division A: 3rd Place, Savannah Morning News;
Division B: 1st Place, Marietta Daily Journal;
Division B: 2nd Place, The Courier Herald, Dublin;
Division B: 3rd Place, Marietta Daily Journal, Marietta Daily Journal Sports Staff;
Division C: 1st Place, The Newnan Times-Herald;
Division C: 2nd Place, The Valdosta Daily Times, Kristin Patten and Jim Zachary;
Division C: 3rd Place, Daily Report, Atlanta;
Division D: 1st Place, The Post-Searchlight, Bainbridge;
Division D: 2nd Place, The Walton Tribune, Monroe;
Division D: 3rd Place, The Walton Tribune, Monroe;
Division E: 1st Place, The Claxton Enterprise;
Division E: 2nd Place, Lake Oconee News, Greensboro;
Division E: 3rd Place, The Clayton Tribune;
Division F: 1st Place, Donalsonville News, David Maxwell;
Division F: 2nd Place, Donalsonville News, David Maxwell;
Division F: 3rd Place, The Champion, Decatur;
Division G: 1st Place, Smoke Signals, Big Canoe, Melissa Lowrie;
Division G: 2nd Place, Appen Media Group Inc., A.J. McNaughton;
Division G: 3rd Place, Smoke Signals, Big Canoe, Melissa Lowrie;

Sports Column:
Division A: 1st Place, Gwinnett Daily Post, Lawrenceville, Will Hammock;
Division A: 2nd Place, Marietta Daily Journal, John Bednarowski;
Division A: 3rd Place, Savannah Morning News, Nathan Deen;
Division C: 1st Place, Daily Citizen-News, Dalton, Chris Whitfield;
Division C: 2nd Place, The Moultrie Observer, Matthew Brown;
Division C: 3rd Place, LaGrange Daily News, Kevin Eckleberry;
Division D: 1st Place, The Walton Tribune, Monroe, David Johnson;
Division D: 2nd Place, The Post-Searchlight, Bainbridge, Powell Cobb;
Division D: 3rd Place, Columbia County News-Times, Evans, Chris Gay;
Division E: 1st Place, Douglas County Sentinel, Douglasville, Derrick Mahone;
Division E: 2nd Place, Barrow News-Journal, Winder, Chris Bridges;
Division E: 3rd Place, Morgan County Citizen, Madison, Alan Richardson;
Division F: 1st Place, The Oconee Enterprise, Watkinsville, Jeremy Johnson;
Division F: 2nd Place, The Oconee Enterprise, Watkinsville, Ryne Dennis;
Division F: 3rd Place, Franklin County Citizen Leader, Lavonia, Lisa W. Manus;

Sports Coverage Story:
Division A: 1st Place, Gwinnett Daily Post, Lawrenceville, Will Hammock;
Division A: 2nd Place, Savannah Morning News, Dennis Knight;
Division A: 3rd Place, Savannah Morning News, Nathan Deen;
Division B: 1st Place, Athens Banner-Herald, Nicole Saavedra;
Division B: 2nd Place, The Albany Herald, Ron Seibel;
Division B: 3rd Place, The Brunswick News, Buddy Hughes;
Division C: 1st Place, The Daily Tribune News, Cartersville, Andrew Houghton;
Division C: 2nd Place, Daily Citizen-News, Dalton;
Division C: 3rd Place, The Daily Tribune News, Cartersville, Jason Greenberg and Andrew Houghton;
Division D: 1st Place, The Walton Tribune, Monroe, Stephen Milligan;
Division D: 2nd Place, The Post-Searchlight, Bainbridge, Powell Cobb;
Division D: 3rd Place, The Walton Tribune, Monroe, Brett Fowler;
Division E: 1st Place, Henry Herald, McDonough;
Division E: 2nd Place, Lake Oconee News, Greensboro, Justin Hubbard;
Division E: 3rd Place, The Dahlonega Nugget, Greg Finan Jr.; Sports Coverage Story:
Division F: 1st Place, The Oconee Enterprise, Watkinsville, Jeremy Johnson;
Division F: 2nd Place, Walker County Messenger, Lafayette, Scott Herpst;
Division F: 3rd Place, The Champion, Decatur, Carla Parker;

Sports Feature Photograph:
Division A: 1st Place, Savannah Morning News, Josh Galemore;
Division A: 2nd Place, Savannah Morning News, Josh Galemore;
Division A: 3rd Place, The Telegraph, Macon, Jason Vorhees;
Division B: 1st Place, Marietta Daily Journal, Kelly J. Huff;
Division B: 2nd Place, Marietta Daily Journal, Kelly J. Huff;
Division B: 3rd Place, Rome News-Tribune, Jeremy Stewart;
Division C: 1st Place, The Union-Recorder, Milledgeville, Keith Barlow;
Division C: 2nd Place, LaGrange Daily News, Kevin Eckleberry;
Division C: 3rd Place, LaGrange Daily News, Kevin Eckleberry;
Division D: 1st Place, The Walton Tribune, Monroe, Brett Fowler;
Division D: 2nd Place, The Walton Tribune, Monroe, Cassie Jones;
Division D: 3rd Place, The Walton Tribune, Monroe, Brett Fowler;
Division E: 1st Place, The Clayton Tribune, Trevor McNaboe;
Division E: 2nd Place, The Forest-Blade, Swainsboro, Staff;
Division E: 3rd Place, The Dahlonega Nugget, Greg Finan Jr.;
Division F: 1st Place, The Oconee Enterprise, Watkinsville, Ryne Dennis;
Division F: 2nd Place, Walker County Messenger, Lafayette, Scott Herpst;
Division F: 3rd Place, The Jackson Herald, Jefferson, Ben Munro;

Sports Feature Story:
Division A: 1st Place, Savannah Morning News, Nathan Deen;
Division A: 2nd Place, Gwinnett Daily Post, Lawrenceville, Will Hammock;
Division A: 3rd Place, Gwinnett Daily Post, Lawrenceville, Christine Troyke;
Division B: 1st Place, The Courier Herald, Dublin, Rodney Manley;
Division B: 2nd Place, Athens Banner-Herald, Marc Weiszer;
Division B: 3rd Place, The Albany Herald, Chaunte’l Powell;
Division C: 1st Place, Daily Citizen-News, Dalton, Jacob Hoag;
Division C: 2nd Place, Times-Georgian, Carrollton, Corey Cusick;
Division C: 3rd Place, The Valdosta Daily Times, Derrick Davis;
Division D: 1st Place, The Tifton Gazette, Becky Taylor;
Division D: 2nd Place, The Tifton Gazette, Becky Taylor;
Division D: 3rd Place, The Walton Tribune, Monroe, David Johnson;
Division E: 1st Place, The Forest-Blade, Swainsboro, Halei Lamb;
Division E: 2nd Place, The Hartwell Sun, David Butler;
Division E: 3rd Place, Fayette County News, Fayetteville, Christopher Dunn;
Division F: 1st Place, The Jackson Herald, Jefferson, Ben Munro;
Division F: 2nd Place, The Oconee Enterprise, Watkinsville, Ryne Dennis;
Division F: 3rd Place, Franklin County Citizen Leader, Lavonia, Lisa W. Manus;

Sports Photograph:
Division A: 1st Place, Savannah Morning News, Josh Galemore;
Division A: 2nd Place, The Telegraph, Macon, Jason Vorhees;
Division A: 3rd Place, Savannah Morning News, Josh Galemore;
Division B: 1st Place, Athens Banner-Herald, Joshua Jones;
Division B: 2nd Place, Marietta Daily Journal, Kelly J. Huff;
Division B: 3rd Place, Rome News-Tribune, Jeremy Stewart;
Division C: 1st Place, The Valdosta Daily Times, Derrick Davis;
Division C: 2nd Place, The Valdosta Daily Times, Glendon Poe;
Division C: 3rd Place, Daily Citizen-News, Dalton, Matt Hamilton;
Division D: 1st Place, The Tifton Gazette, Becky Taylor;
Division D: 2nd Place, The Walton Tribune, Monroe, Melinda Pease;
Division D: 3rd Place, The Press-Sentinel, Jesup, Eric Denty;
Division E: 1st Place, Lake Oconee News, Greensboro, Justin Hubbard;
Division E: 2nd Place, The Jones County News, Gray, Chuck Thompson;
Division E: 3rd Place, Tribune & Georgian, St. Marys, Andy Diffenderfer;
Division F: 1st Place, The Lanier County Advocate, Lakeland, Dwayne Culpepper;
Division F: 2nd Place, Walker County Messenger, Lafayette, Scott Herpst;
Division F: 3rd Place, The Jackson Herald, Jefferson, Ben Munro;
Division G: 1st Place, Springs Publishing, Phil Mosier;
Division G: 2nd Place, Appen Media Group Inc., Joe Parker;
Division G: 3rd Place, Springs Publishing, Steve Miller;

Sports Section or Pages:
Division A: 1st Place, Gwinnett Daily Post, Lawrenceville;
Division A: 2nd Place, The Brunswick News;
Division A: 3rd Place, The Albany Herald;
Division C: 1st Place, The Valdosta Daily Times;
Division C: 2nd Place, The Valdosta Daily Times;
Division C: 3rd Place, LaGrange Daily News, Kevin Eckleberry;
Division D: 1st Place, The Tifton Gazette, Becky Taylor;
Division D: 2nd Place, Smoke Signals, Big Canoe;
Division D: 3rd Place, The Post-Searchlight, Bainbridge;
Division E: 1st Place, White County News, Cleveland;
Division E: 2nd Place, Monroe County Reporter, Forsyth, Richard Dumas;
Division E: 3rd Place, Barrow News-Journal, Winder;
Division F: 1st Place, The Oconee Enterprise, Watkinsville, Ryne Dennis and Jeremy Johnson;
Division F: 2nd Place, Walker County Messenger, Lafayette, Scott Herpst;
Division F: 3rd Place, Franklin County Citizen Leader, Lavonia;

Spot News Photo:
Division A: 1st Place, The Telegraph, Macon, Jason Vorhees;
Division A: 2nd Place, Savannah Morning News, Dash Coleman;
Division A: 3rd Place, Savannah Morning News, Steve Bisson;
Division B: 1st Place, The Brunswick News, Bobby Haven;
Division B: 2nd Place, The Albany Herald, Jon Gosa;
Division B: 3rd Place, Athens Banner-Herald, Joshua Jones;
Division C: 1st Place, The Daily Tribune News, Cartersville, Jason Greenberg;
Division C: 2nd Place, The Valdosta Daily Times, Terry Richards;
Division C: 3rd Place, The Newnan Times-Herald, Clay Neely;
Division D: 1st Place, The Northeast Georgian, Cornelia, Christina Santee;
Division D: 2nd Place, The Northeast Georgian, Cornelia, Christina Santee;
Division D: 3rd Place, The Post-Searchlight, Bainbridge, Brandon O’Connor;
Division E: 1st Place, The Jones County News, Gray, Josh Lurie;
Division E: 2nd Place, The Dahlonega Nugget, Greg Finan Jr.;
Division E: 3rd Place, The Jones County News, Gray, Josh Lurie;
Division F: 1st Place, The Champion, Decatur, Scott Belzer;
Division F: 2nd Place, The Clinch County News, Homerville, Len Robbins;
Division F: 3rd Place, Sylvania Telephone, Enoch Autry;
Division G: 1st Place, Springs Publishing, Phil Mosier;
Division G: 2nd Place, Smoke Signals, Big Canoe, Jacob Vansant;
Division G: 3rd Place, Smoke Signals, Big Canoe, Phil Anderson