Reflect. Refocus. Reignite.

ARKANSAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

2021 BETTER NEWSPAPER EDITORIAL CONTEST

Winners
## News Story

### Smaller Dailies

**First Place**  
Times-Herald, Forrest City  
Tamara Johnson  
Two officers shot at Walmart

**Second Place**  
Paragould Daily Press  
Gary Exelby  
BLM peaceful protest comes to Paragould

**Third Place**  
Saline Courier, Benton  
Dana Guthrie  
Your baby is safe

**Honorable Mention**  
Log Cabin Democrat, Conway  
Jeanette Anderton  
Crash leaves some longing for traffic light

### Smaller Weeklies

**First Place**  
Spring River Chronicle, Hardy  
Tammy Curtis  
Fulton County Judge to resign after conviction

**Second Place**  
Spring River Chronicle, Hardy  
Tammy Curtis  
A community mourns

**Third Place**  
Washington County Enterprise-Leader, Lincol  
Lynn Kutter  
Archeologists search for battle artifacts

**Honorable Mention**  
Spring River Chronicle, Hardy  
Tammy Curtis  
Marijuana dispensary/grow facility to open near Hardy

### Larger Dailies

**First Place**  
Arkansas Democrat-Gazette, Little Rock  
Tony Holt  
Arkansans’ killer executed by U.S.

**Second Place**  
Texarkana Gazette  
Lynn LaRowe  
Alleged abductor was doing CPR on unborn baby when pulled over

**Third Place**  
The Sentinel-Record, Hot Springs  
Cassidy Kendall  
Community bids farewell to fallen officer

**Honorable Mention**  
Texarkana Gazette  
Karl Richter  
A&P’s fate hot topic of debate

### Larger Weeklies

**First Place**  
Madison County Record, Huntsville  
Rod Harrington  
Suspect of 1977 homicide dies in prison

**Second Place**  
Madison County Record, Huntsville  
Rod Harrington  
School bus driver arrested, accused of driving intoxicated

**Third Place**  
The Leader, Jacksonville  
Rick Kron  
City clerk casts vote

### Medium Weeklies

**First Place**  
Carroll County News, Berryville  
Scott Loftis  
Fired in GF, Eureka Springs chief’s son hired by ESPD

**Second Place**  
Advance-Monticellonian, Monticello  
Melissa Orrell  
Community comes together for historic rally

**Third Place**  
Carroll County News, Berryville  
Scott Loftis  
Documents, news reports contradict CAPC director’s resume
Feature Story

Smaller Dailies
First Place
The Daily Citizen, Searcy
Greg Geary
Camping out for COVID patient

Second Place
El Dorado News-Times
Marvin Richards, Jr.
Sue Worsham leaves a mighty legacy

Third Place
El Dorado News-Times
Caitlan Butler
Thrower's mother speaks out, seeks community's help

Honorable Mention
The Courier, Russellville
Hannah Butler
Dove has his own tune

Smaller Weeklies
First Place
Spring River Chronicle, Hardy
Tammy Curtis
Bringing Brady back

Second Place
The Helena World
Andrew Bagley
CHS graduate James is a hero on front lines

Third Place
The Helena World
Philly Rains
Dog fighting locally is grisly, gruesome, gambling-driven

Honorable Mention
Washington County Enterprise-Leader, Lincoln
Lynn Kutter
Cowboy doc hangs up stethoscope

Larger Dailies
First Place
Northwest Arkansas Democrat-Gazette, Fayetteville
Lara Jo Hightower
Pandemic Academics

Second Place
Texarkana Gazette
Aaron Brand
Reporter writes of his ‘Race Against Time’ to uncover truth

Third Place
Pine Bluff Commercial
Staff
Closing schools took life out of Alzheimer's, residents recall

Honorable Mention
Northwest Arkansas Democrat-Gazette, Fayetteville
Laurinda Joenks
Program helps parolees succeed

Larger Weeklies
First Place
Hot Springs Village Voice
Misty Castile
How Mountain Pine revived its defunded police department

Second Place
Hot Springs Village Voice
Misty Castile
How Arkansas failed a generation of students

Third Place
Stone County Leader, Mountain View
Steve Watkins
Odell Jackson: Making sense of life through music

Medium Weeklies
First Place
Herald-Leader, Siloam Springs
Graham Thomas
The ballad of the Butler Creek boys

Second Place
Carroll County News, Berryville
Robert Cox
Wilson retires after 48 years of service

Third Place
Wynne Progress
David Owens
Passing scissors

Honorable Mention
Advance-Monticellonian, Monticello
Melissa Orrell
Meet Monticello's newest doctors
Best Series Reporting

Smaller Dailies
First Place
*Camden News*
Patric Flannigan
CFSD vs. Bradshaw

Second Place
*Malvern Daily Record*
Sarah Perry, Gerren Smith
Breast cancer awareness month

Third Place
*Malvern Daily Record*
Sarah Perry
Hot Springs officer killed

Larger Dailies
First Place
*Arkansas Democrat-Gazette*, Little Rock Staff
*Northwest Arkansas Democrat-Gazette*, Fayetteville Staff
Covid Classroom – Back to School

Second Place
*Arkansas Democrat-Gazette*, Staff
Little Rock protests near Capitol

Third Place
*Texarkana Gazette*
Neil Abeles
Feral hogs in Cass County

Smaller Weeklies
First Place
*Washington County Enterprise-Leader*, Lincoln
Mark Humphrey
Dream within reach - State basketball finals canceled

Second Place
*Spring River Chronicle*, Hardy
Tammy Curtis
Humphrey’s Ford Bridge

Third Place
*The Helena World*
Andrew Bagley
Security guard caught on video

Medium Weeklies
First Place
*Nashville News-Leader*
John Robert Schirmer
School virus cases

Second Place
*Carroll County News*, Berryville
Scott Loftis, Samantha Jones
Lacey Ekberg and CAPC

Third Place
*Advance-Monticellonian*, Monticello
Melissa Orrell
Missing Wilmar man found

Larger Weeklies
First Place
*The Leader*, Jacksonville
Jeffrey Smith
Beebe City Council candidate

Second Place
*The Leader*, Jacksonville
Rick Kron
DNA test, lawsuit

Third Place
*Madison County Record*, Huntsville
Rod Harrington, Ellen Kreth
Huntsville School District CTE

Honorable Mention
*Madison County Record*, Huntsville
Ellen Kreth, Rhonda Bletsh
Huntsville City Council, Bashum building
# Investigative Reporting

## All Newspapers

**First Place**
The Leader, Jacksonville
Rick Kron
Jacksonville Police Department pay scheme
Winner of the IF Stone Award

**Second Place**
Arkansas Democrat-Gazette, Little Rock
Ginny Monk
Children in Peril

**Third Place**
Carroll County News, Berryville
Scott Loftis
Ekberg investigation

## Beat Reporter

### Smaller Dailies

**First Place**
The Daily Citizen, Searcy
Greg Geary
Police and fire beat

**Second Place**
El Dorado News-Times
Caitlan Butler
Union County beat

**Third Place**
The Daily Citizen, Searcy
Ally Ham
Quorum Court beat

### Smaller Weeklies

**First Place**
The Helena World
Andrew Bagley
School District Beat

**Second Place**
Washington County Enterprise-Leader, Lincoln
Lynn Kutter
City beat

**Third Place**
Washington County Enterprise-Leader, Lincoln
Lynn Kutter
School beat

### Larger Dailies

**First Place**
Texarkana Gazette
Lynn LaRowe
Courts beat

**Second Place**
The Sentinel-Record, Hot Springs
David Showers
City, county beat

**Third Place**
Arkansas Democrat-Gazette, Little Rock
Ginny Monk
Evictions beat

### Larger Weeklies

**First Place**
The Leader, Jacksonville
Rick Kron
City beat

**Second Place**
Daily Record, Little Rock
Dwain Hebda
Business beat

**Third Place**
Stone County Leader, Mountain View
Lori Freeze
City beat

### Medium Weeklies

**First Place**
Nashville News-Leader
John Robert Schirmer
School beat

**Second Place**
Herald-Leader, Siloam Springs
Janelle Jessen
City beat

**Third Place**
Wynne Progress
David Owens
City Council beat
Smaller Dailies  
First Place  
The Daily Citizen, Searcy  
Greg Geary  

Second Place  
The Daily Citizen, Searcy  
Ally Ham  

Third Place  
Saline Courier, Benton  
Elisha Morrison  

Larger Dailies  
First Place  
Arkansas Democrat-Gazette, Little Rock  
Jeannie Roberts  

Second Place  
Northwest Arkansas Democrat-Gazette, Fayetteville  
Dave Perozek  

Third Place  
Northwest Arkansas Democrat-Gazette, Fayetteville  
Stacy Ryburn  

Honorable Mention  
Texarkana Gazette  
Aaron Brand  

Smaller Weeklies  
First Place  
Spring River Chronicle, Hardy  
Tammy Curtis  

Second Place  
Washington County Enterprise-Leader, Lincoln  
Lynn Kutter  

Third Place  
Washington County Enterprise-Leader, Lincoln  
Mark Humphrey  

Larger Weeklies  
First Place  
Stone County Leader, Mountain View  
Edie Sutterfield  

Second Place  
Stone County Leader, Mountain View  
Steve Watkins  

Third Place  
Madison County Record, Huntsville  
Rod Harrington  

Medium Weeklies  
First Place  
Wynne Progress  
David Owens  

Second Place  
Carroll County News, Berryville  
Samantha Jones  

Third Place  
Herald-Leader, Siloam Springs  
Janelle Jessen
Sports News Story

Smaller Dailies
First Place
The Daily Citizen, Searcy
Jordan Woodson
AGFC, waterways threatened

Second Place
Saline Courier, Benton
Tony Lenahan
Panthers paused

Third Place
Harrison Daily Times
Rodney Beaver
Community spirit evident after Tornado

Honorable Mention
Saline Courier, Benton
Tony Lenahan
3-Peat complete

Smaller Weeklies
First Place
The Helena World
Andrew Bagley
Allegations of sexual misconduct

Second Place
Washington County Enterprise-Leader, Lincoln
Mark Humphrey
Clark ignites outburst

Third Place
Washington County Enterprise-Leader, Lincoln
Mark Humphrey
Abshire plays his grace card

Medium Weeklies
First Place
Herald-Leader, Siloam Springs
Graham Thomas
Returning to Europe

Second Place
Wynne Progress
David Owens
Coaches respond to season stoppage

Third Place
Carroll County News, Berryville
Scott Loftis
Tigers' time

Honorable Mention
Herald-Leader, Siloam Springs
Graham Thomas
Panthers make it personal

Larger Dailies
First Place
Arkansas Democrat-Gazette, Little Rock
Bob Holt
Sutton, UA Basketball's trail blazer, dies at 84

Second Place
Arkansas Democrat-Gazette, Little Rock
George Stoia
Wolves beat odds

Third Place
Northwest Arkansas Democrat-Gazette, Fayetteville
Henry Apple
Inactivity throws financial curveball

Second Place
Madison County Record, Huntsville
Rod Harrington
Prosecutor won't press charges against coach

Third Place
The Leader, Jacksonville
Ray Benton
Owls get first football victory
Smaller Dailies
First Place
Harrison Daily Times
Jeff Brasel
Tradition doesn't graduate

Second Place
Saline Courier, Benton
Tony Lenahan
Nice start

Third Place
Saline Courier, Benton
Tony Lenahan
Living the dream

Honorable Mention
The Daily Citizen, Searcy
Greg Geary
Canceled marathons

Smaller Weeklies
First Place
Montgomery County News, Mount Ida
Dewayne Holloway
Living the dream

Second Place
Spring River Chronicle, Hardy
Angelia Roberts
Bringing in the big one

Third Place
Washington County Enterprise-Leader, Lincoln
Mark Humphrey
Bull by any other name

Honorable Mention
Washington County Enterprise-Leader, Lincoln
Mark Humphrey
Star City ain't going to hold no ace

Larger Dailies
First Place
Arkansas Democrat-Gazette, Little Rock
George Stoia
Living with grief

Second Place
Texarkana Gazette
Josh Richert
Burge found her passion in shooting

Third Place
Arkansas Democrat-Gazette, Little Rock
George Stoia
Identity change

Larger Weeklies
First Place
The Leader, Jacksonville
Ray Benton
Cabot senior believes it's blessing to receive

Second Place
The Leader, Jacksonville
Ray Benton
Every day is a good story for Titan star

Third Place
Madison County Record, Huntsville
Rhonda Bletsh
Young Huntsville bull rider working his way to a rodeo camp

Medium Weeklies
First Place
Herald-Leader, Siloam Springs
Graham Thomas
Jared's journey

Second Place
Herald-Leader, Siloam Springs
Graham Thomas
Like father, like son

Third Place
Nashville News-Leader
John Robert Schirmer
Playing during a pandemic
Sports Column

**Smaller Dailies**

**First Place**
*Harrison Daily Times*
Jeff Brasel
Young not on bench this season

**Second Place**
*The Daily Citizen, Searcy*
Steve Watts
Football's back, and we need it

**Third Place**
*The Daily Citizen, Searcy*
Steve Watts
Thanks, Wildcats, for normalcy

**Larger Dailies**

**First Place**
*Northwest Arkansas Democrat-Gazette, Fayetteville*
Rick Fires
Red Heads pioneers in women's hoops

**Second Place**
*Northwest Arkansas Democrat-Gazette, Fayetteville*
Flip Putthoff
Raccoon hunter shows rookies

**Third Place**
*The Sentinel-Record, Hot Springs*
Bob Wisener
Missed titles cost Akers dearly at UT

**Honorable Mention**
*Texarkana Gazette*
Josh Richert
Professional athletes are just people, too

**Smaller Weeklies**

**First Place**
*Washington County Enterprise-Leader, Lincoln*
Mark Humphrey
Injury reveals father's heart

**Second Place**
*Newton County Times, Jasper*
Jeff Brasel
Good teammates are important

**Third Place**
*The Helena World*
Andrew Bagley
Saying goodbye to my coach

**Medium-Larger Weeklies**

**First Place**
*The Leader, Jacksonville*
Ray Benton
Gwatney coach has priorities right

**Second Place**
*The Leader, Jacksonville*
Ray Benton
Arkansas should protect female athletes

**Third Place**
*Carroll County News, Berryville*
Scott Loftis
Losses near and far
Editorial Writing

**Smaller Dailies**
First Place
*The Daily Citizen, Searcy*
Steve Watts
Humans still greatest threat

Second Place
*Log Cabin Democrat, Conway*
Jeanette Anderton
Our View: Peaceful protestors are welcome, armed militia is not

Third Place
*The Daily Citizen, Searcy*
Steve Watts
More Mayberry moments needed

**Smaller Weeklies**
First Place
*Spring River Chronicle, Hardy*
Tammy Curtis
Look the real fear square in the eye

Second Place
*Spring River Chronicle, Hardy*
Mack Thompson
Don’t follow the herd

Third Place
*The Helena World*
Andrew Bagley
School board defies description

**Larger Dailies**
First Place
*Northwest Arkansas Democrat-Gazette, Fayetteville*
Greg Harton
Way off target

Second Place
*Arkansas Democrat-Gazette, Little Rock*
Courtney Lanning
Complicated issue

Third Place
*Northwest Arkansas Democrat-Gazette, Fayetteville*
Greg Harton
The public loses

**Medium-Larger Weeklies**
First Place
*Stone County Leader, Mountain View*
Lori Freeze
Compromise should be goal

Second Place
*The Leader, Jacksonville*
Jonathan Feldman
Trailer park needs our help

Third Place
*Madison County Record, Huntsville*
Shannon Hahn, Ellen Kreth, Rod Harrington
Too many questions and not enough answers
Smaller Dailies
First Place
Saline Courier, Benton
Josh Briggs
Being black should not be a death sentence

Second Place
Saline Courier, Benton
Tony Lenahan
A thank you to Asa

Third Place
Paragould Daily Press
Steve Gillespie
Trump would poll higher without his embellishments

Larger Dailies
First Place
Northwest Arkansas Democrat-Gazette, Fayetteville
Lowell Grisham
A game changer

Second Place
Arkansas Democrat-Gazette, Little Rock
Philip Martin
The take-out cop

Third Place
Arkansas Democrat-Gazette, Little Rock
John Brummett
Focus on good ol’ Joe

Smaller Weeklies
First Place
Washington County Enterprise-Leader, Lincoln
Maylon Rice
Putting people’s faces on the Covid-19 numbers

Second Place
Washington County Enterprise-Leader, Lincoln
Maylon Rice
Asa shows concern for others over politics in Covid battle

Third Place
Pacesetting Times, Horseshoe Bend
Linda Smith
How was the vaccine developed

Larger Weeklies
First Place
Daily Record, Little Rock
Wesley Brown
Brown on Business: Covid-19

Second Place
The Leader, Jacksonville
Garrick Feldman
Saving hospital his father built

Third Place
Madison County Record, Huntsville
Ellen Kreth
McEnany out of touch with cancer survivors

Medium Weeklies
First Place
Carroll County News, Berryville
Samantha Jones
Peacefully non-comply with Ballinger’s mask stance

Second Place
Carroll County News, Berryville
Scott Loftis
Poor marks for Asa

Third Place
Herald-Leader, Siloam Springs
Devin Houston
Ruth Bader Ginsburg
General Interest Column

Smaller Dailies
First Place
*The Courier*, Russellville
Randal Seyler
*Not OK Boomer: Talking ‘bout my generation*

Second Place
*Camden News*
Patric Flannigan
*Fear of being unprepared touches many aspects of life*

Third Place
*Paragould Daily Press*
Steve Gillespie
*What local newspapers do*

Larger Dailies
First Place
*Arkansas Democrat-Gazette*, Little Rock
Philip Martin
*What’s goin’ on?*

Second Place
*Texarkana Gazette*
Christy Busby Worsham
*Mask and makeup*

Third Place
*Pine Bluff Commercial*
Sandra Hope
*Coffee and nostalgia*

Smaller Weeklies
First Place
*Spring River Chronicle*, Hardy
Mack Thompson
*The greatest medal*

Second Place
*Pacesetting Times*, Horseshoe Bend
Glynda Lomax
*About Life: Time*

Third Place
*The Helena World*
Sandra Bagley
*Called to serve...Will you be first or last?*

Honorable Mention
*Spring River Chronicle*, Hardy
Mack Thompson
*The cake*

Medium Weeklies
First Place
*Advance-Monticellonian*, Monticello
Melissa Orrell
*I hugged my dad today and I will not forget it*

Second Place
*Carroll County News*, Berryville
Scott Loftis
*January always makes me blue*

Third Place
*Carroll County News*, Berryville
Samantha Jones
*Global connection*

Larger Weeklies
First Place
*The Leader*, Jacksonville
Rick Kron
*Controversial chief has cancer*

Second Place
*Hot Springs Village Voice*
Sandy Johansen
*Domestic Violence – loathe it, learn from it, don’t repeat it*

Third Place
*The Leader*, Jacksonville
Rick Kron
*How we all cheat death at times*

Honorable Mention
*Hot Springs Village Voice*
Misty Castile
*Unsure how to talk to domestic violence victims*
Humorous Column

**Smaller Dailies**
*First Place*
Paragould Daily Press  
Steve Gillespie  
We're all different

*Second Place*
Paragould Daily Press  
Steve Gillespie  
Disclaimers!? Oh fiddly-dee!

*Third Place*
Malvern Daily Record  
Alexis Meeks  
Everyone's entitled to one good scare

**Larger Dailies**
*First Place*
Northwest Arkansas Democrat-Gazette, Fayetteville  
Gary Smith  
Pull the car over, now

*Second Place*
Northwest Arkansas Democrat-Gazette, Fayetteville  
Lisa Kelley-Gibbs  
Love story different in Vilonia

*Third Place*
Texarkana Gazette  
Les Minor  
Editor debarked for not knowing trees

**Smaller Weeklies**
*First Place*
Spring River Chronicle, Hardy  
Tammy Curtis  
Dethroning the ice witch

*Second Place*
Washington County Enterprise-Leader, Lincoln  
Mark Humphrey  
Welcome to my teasing clan

*Third Place*
Spring River Chronicle, Hardy  
Tammy Curtis  
The things of which I vowed to never speak

**Honorable Mention**
South Arkansas Sun, Hampton  
Jeri Shire  
Tales from the Shire

**Medium Weeklies**
*First Place*
Nashville News-Leader  
Louie Graves  
Riding & bowling. Confused about PBR at arena in North Little Rock

*Second Place*
Nashville News-Leader  
Louie Graves  
My splendid idea. A way to get rid of those extra food container tops

*Third Place*
Carroll County News, Berryville  
Samantha Jones  
Work it out

**Larger Weeklies**
*First Place*
The Leader, Jacksonville  
Rick Kron  
Dictionaries dump a few words

*Second Place*
Stone County Leader, Mountain View  
Lori Freeze  
Shopper needs voice-assist app

*Third Place*
Madison County Record, Huntsville  
Rod Harrington  
Children have special wishes
Freelance Recognition

**Smaller Dailies**
**First Place**
The Courier, Russellville
Ken Heard
Bail bondsmen deal with pandemic, holidays

**Second Place**
The Daily Citizen, Searcy
Tara Thomas
Water nearly ran out

**Third Place**
The Daily Citizen, Searcy
Amanda Hourt
HULA students return to U.S. from Peru

**Larger Dailies**
**First Place**
Northwest Arkansas Democrat-Gazette, Fayetteville
Victoria Burnett
Families come first

**Second Place**
Northwest Arkansas Democrat-Gazette, Fayetteville
Victoria Burnett
A mother’s love

**Third Place**
The Sentinel-Record, Hot Springs
Corbet Deary
When social distancing is a must

**Smaller Weeklies**
**First Place**
Spring River Chronicle, Hardy
Angelia Roberts
The call

**Second Place**
The Helena World
Philly Rains
Phillips laments end of Italy trip

**Third Place**
Washington County Enterprise-Leader, Lincoln
Maylon Rice
Accident helped local woman finish family history

**Medium Weeklies**
**First Place**
The Leader, Jacksonville
Ernie Dumas
Portis made us glad we’re Arkies

**Second Place**
Madison County Record, Huntsville
Preston Tolliver
Smith to retire from city post

**Third Place**
Madison County Record, Huntsville
Rhonda Bletsh
Benefit to help logger who so often helps others
Best Headline Writing

Smaller Dailies
First Place
Log Cabin Democrat, Conway
Jeanette Anderton
Some prefer wool over their eyes to a mask over their mouth, nose

Second Place
Batesville Daily Guard
Sara Greene
Neighbors make stink

Third Place
Malvern Daily Record
Alexis Meeks
Lions get ready to pounce

Larger Dailies
First Place
Northwest Arkansas Democrat-Gazette, Fayetteville
Staff
City gets gruff with two billy goats

Second Place
Texarkana Gazette
Les Minor
Stylists want governor out of their hair

Third Place
Texarkana Gazette
Les Minor
Big blow a no show

Honorable Mention
Texarkana Gazette
Les Minor
A pane in the glass

Smaller Weeklies
First Place
Spring River Chronicle, Hardy
Tammy Curtis
Pride or Prejudice?

Second Place
The Helena World
Rick Kennedy
Simpson wants to cloud Sunshine Law

Third Place
The Helena World
Rick Kennedy
A nightmare on Seventh Street

Honorable Mention
Spring River Chronicle, Hardy
Tammy Curtis
What in the hail?

Larger Weeklies
First Place
Stone County Leader, Mountain View
Lori Freeze
On school millage -- 'should have' is now

Second Place
The Leader, Jacksonville
Jonathan Feldman
Honey more than plastic bear

Third Place
The Leader, Jacksonville
Jonathan Feldman
Sherwood may put brakes on freestyle

Medium Weeklies
First Place
Herald-Leader, Siloam Springs
Graham Thomas
Grass is greener with the lawn tools

Second Place
Wynne Progress
Blake Fussell, David Owens
Wynne teams cook Ricebirds at home

Third Place
Nashville News-Leader
John Robert Schirmer
Face mask, hand sanitizer, social distancing
Back to school time takes on a whole new look in Covid-19
Single News Photo

Smaller Dailies
First Place
*The Daily Citizen*, Searcy
Al Fowler
Camping out for COVID patient

Second Place
*El Dorado News-Times*
Caitlan Butler
El Dorado residents gather to declare Black lives matter

Third Place
*Harrison Daily Times*
Lee H. Dunlap
Woman killed; probe ongoing Tuesday

Honorable Mention
*Harrison Daily Times*
James L. White
Chief: No working smoke detectors found

Larger Dailies
First Place
*Northwest Arkansas Democrat-Gazette*, Fayetteville
Charlie Kaijo
Nurse Julie Palmer consoles Luca’Brasi Means

Second Place
*The Sentinel-Record*, Hot Springs
Richard Rasmussen
Log truck overturns

Third Place
*The Sentinel-Record*, Hot Springs
Richard Rasmussen
End of watch

Honorable Mention
*Northwest Arkansas Democrat-Gazette*, Fayetteville
David Gottschalk
Thousands peacefully protest in Fayetteville

Smaller Weeklies
First Place
*Montgomery County News*, Mount Ida
Dewayne Holloway
Highway 27 was blocked

Second Place
*Washington County Enterprise-Leader*, Lincoln
Lynn Kutter
A place for books

Third Place
*Spring River Chronicle*, Hardy
Tammy Curtis
Divers recover body of Paragould woman

Honorable Mention
*Pacesetting Times*, Horseshoe Bend
Karen Sherrell
Ground search

Medium Weeklies
First Place
*Nashville News-Leader*
John Robert Schirmer
Sunday morning

Second Place
*Advance-Monticellonian*, Monticello
Melissa Orrell
Light up Monticello

Third Place
*Herald-Leader*, Siloam Springs
Janelle Jessen
Crossing the line

Honorable Mention
*Wynne Progress*
Brock Meeler
Arts station

Larger Weeklies
First Place
*Madison County Record*, Huntsville
Rod Harrington
More positive tests in county

Second Place
*Stone County Leader*, Mountain View
Rusty Fraser
Roper residence fire

Third Place
*Madison County Record*, Huntsville
Rod Harrington
Teen unhurt in accident
Single Feature Photo

**Smaller Dailies**

**First Place**
*Paragould Daily Press*
Gary Exelby
Great-Grandfather’s Day

**Second Place**
*The Daily Citizen, Searcy*
Sha Johnson
A winning year

**Third Place**
*El Dorado News-Times*
Caitlan Butler
Pow Wow

**Honorable Mention**
*Saline Courier, Benton*
Dana Guthrie
Chic Chick

**Smaller Weeklies**

**First Place**
*The Helena World*
Philly Rains
Wallace candlelight vigil

**Second Place**
*Montgomery County News, Mount Ida*
Dewayne Holloway
Graduation COVID style

**Third Place**
*Spring River Chronicle, Hardy*
Brittany Ward
Oh My!

**Honorable Mention**
*Washington County Enterprise-Leader, Lincoln*
Lynn Kutter
Celebrating 100 Days

**Larger Dailies**

**First Place**
*Arkansas Democrat-Gazette, Little Rock*
Stephen Swofford
Ballet performance goes on

**Second Place**
*Arkansas Democrat-Gazette, Little Rock*
Tommy Metthe
Enamored with Rexy

**Third Place**
*Northwest Arkansas Democrat-Gazette, Fayetteville*
Andy Shupe
Lights of the Ozarks returns

**Honorable Mention**
*Arkansas Democrat-Gazette, Little Rock*
Staton Breidenthal
Busy as a bee

**Larger Weeklies**

**First Place**
*The Leader, Jacksonville*
Deborah Horn
Honoring fallen Arkansans

**Second Place**
*Madison County Record, Huntsville*
Rod Harrington
Drive-thru kindergarten graduation

**Third Place**
*Stone County Leader, Mountain View*
Lori Freeze
Visiting at the window

**Honorable Mention**
*Stone County Leader, Mountain View*
Lori Freeze
Bee on iris

**Medium Weeklies**

**First Place**
*Carroll County News, Berryville*
David Bell
Winter wonderland

**Second Place**
*Carroll County News, Berryville*
David Bell
Green Forest Christmas parade

**Third Place**
*Herald-Leader, Siloam Springs*
Marc Hayot
Time to see Santa
Single Sports Action Photo

**Smaller Dailies**
First Place
*Harrison Daily Times*
Jeff Brasel
Last two minutes of first kind to Northark

Second Place
*Harrison Daily Times*
Jeff Brasel
Mercy was rule at Berryville

Third Place
*Saline Courier, Benton*
Shaun McKelvin
Defense optional

Honorable Mention
*Batesville Daily Guard*
Dalton Lamons
Lady Pioneers' defense contains Lady Hurricanes

**Larger Dailies**
First Place
*Arkansas Democrat-Gazette, Little Rock*
Stephen Swofford
Inaugural girls state wrestling tournament

Second Place
*Arkansas Democrat-Gazette, Little Rock*
Tommy Metthe
Defense tames high-powered Colts

Third Place
*Newton County Times, Jasper*
Staff
Deer, YS split high school wins

Honorable Mention
*Arkansas Democrat-Gazette, Little Rock*
Tommy Metthe
Wolves blow by Bears in flash

**Smaller Weeklies**
First Place
*Newton County Times, Jasper*
Jeff Brasel
Omaha scores win in fourth quarter comeback

Second Place
*Pacesetting Times, Horseshoe Bend*
Bobby Stapleton
Throwing caution to the wind

Third Place
*Newton County Times, Jasper*
Staff
Deer, YS split high school wins

Honorable Mention
*Newton County Times, Jasper*
Staff
Wolves blow by Bears in flash

**Larger Weeklies**
First Place
*Stone County Leader, Mountain View*
Lori Freeze
Team roping

Second Place
*The Leader, Jacksonville*
David Scollie
Titans blow by Parkview

Third Place
*Stone County Leader, Mountain View*
Lori Freeze
Basketball dunk

**Medium Weeklies**
First Place
*Herald-Leader, Siloam Springs*
Bud Sullins
Lady Panthers surge in second half

Second Place
*Advance-Monticellonian, Monticello*
Jeff Young
Football jump

Third Place
*Carroll County News, Berryville*
Charles Chappell
Blocked punt

Honorable Mention
*Arkansas Democrat-Gazette, Little Rock*
Tommy Metthe
Rude awakening

Honorable Mention
*Nashville News-Leader*
John Robert Schirmer
Lauren Carver keeps the ball in possession

Honorable Mention
*Pacesetting Times, Horseshoe Bend*
Bobby Stapleton
Fighting all the way
### Smaller Dailies

**First Place**
Malvern Daily Record  
Gerren Smith  
Panthers secure 40-point conference victory

**Second Place**
Harrison Daily Times  
Jeff Brasel  
Capitol gain

**Third Place**
Malvern Daily Record  
Gerren Smith  
Senior night games memorable

### Smaller Weeklies

**First Place**
Pacesetting Times, Horseshoe Bend  
Leanna Hoskins  
Toughest in the state

**Second Place**
Washington County Enterprise-Leader, Lincoln  
Mark Humphrey  
Lincoln play day standings

**Third Place**
Montgomery County News, Mount Ida  
Dewayne Holloway  
Here we come

### Larger Dailies

**First Place**
Arkansas Democrat-Gazette, Little Rock  
Tommy Metthe  
Battle-tested Kirby shows chops

**Second Place**
Northwest Arkansas Democrat-Gazette, Fayetteville  
Andy Shupe  
Just for kicks

**Third Place**
Arkansas Democrat-Gazette, Little Rock  
Tommy Metthe  
On-point attack

### Medium Weeklies

**First Place**
Nashville News-Leader  
John Robert Schirmer  
Before the game

**Second Place**
Wynne Progress  
Teresa Lee  
9/11 Tribute

**Third Place**
Herald-Leader, Siloam Springs  
Bud Sullins  
Homegrown talent

### Larger Weeklies

**First Place**
The Leader, Jacksonville  
David Scollie  
Cabot pair wins state title

**Second Place**
The Leader, Jacksonville  
David Scollie  
Wildcats trying to overcome odds

**Third Place**
The Leader, Jacksonville  
David Scollie  
Lady Panthers win at Central

### Honorable Mention

Northwest Arkansas Democrat-Gazette, Fayetteville  
Andy Shupe  
Washington County fair
Best Picture Page/Photo Essay

**Smaller Dailies**

**First Place**  
*Harrison Daily Times*  
James L. White, Samantha Harness, staff  
Pruitt Bridge

**Second Place**  
*The Daily Citizen, Searcy*  
Al Fowler, staff  
Protesters speak up with signs

**Third Place**  
*Times-Herald, Forrest City*  
Katie West  
Polar Plunge

**Larger Dailies**

**First Place**  
*Texarkana Gazette*  
Kelsi Brinkmeyer  
Meet the teacher

**Second Place**  
*Arkansas Democrat-Gazette, Little Rock*  
Tommy Metthe  
Nadal masters Oaklawn again

**Third Place**  
*Arkansas Democrat-Gazette, Little Rock*  
Tommy Metthe  
Twister damage surveyed in Jonesboro

**Smaller Weeklies**

**First Place**  
*Washington County Enterprise-Leader, Lincoln*  
Mark Humphrey  
Who's the boss

**Second Place**  
*Washington County Enterprise-Leader, Lincoln*  
Mark Humphrey  
Hog heaven for state basketball fans

**Third Place**  
*The Helena World*  
Rick Kennedy  
Scenes of a storm

**Larger Weeklies**

**First Place**  
*Stone County Leader, Mountain View*  
Rusty Fraser  
Sylamore 50K Run

**Second Place**  
*Stone County Leader, Mountain View*  
Lori Freeze  
Community honors Briley

**Third Place**  
*The Leader, Jacksonville*  
Jeffrey Smith  
World War II Bomber

**Medium Weeklies**

**First Place**  
*Carroll County News, Berryville*  
David Bell  
Meet the teacher

**Second Place**  
*Wynne Progress*  
David Owens, Teresa Lee  
Welcome back Jackets & T-Birds

**Third Place**  
*Herald-Leader, Siloam Springs*  
Marc Hayot  
Time to see Santa
2021 Arkansas Press Association
Photo of the Year

Nurse Julie Palmer consoles Luca'Brasi Mean

Northwest Arkansas Democrat-Gazette, Fayetteville
Charlie Kaijo
Nurse Julie Palmer consoles Luca'Brasi Mean
Best Front Page Design

**Smaller Dailies**

**First Place**
*Saline Courier, Benton*
Staff

**Second Place**
*The Daily Citizen, Searcy*
Steve Watts, Wendy Jones, staff

**Third Place**
*Times-Herald, Forrest City*
Staff

**Larger Dailies**

**First Place**
*The Sentinel-Record, Hot Springs*
Mark Gregory, Jason Wilson

**Second Place**
*Arkansas Democrat-Gazette, Little Rock*
Terry Austin

**Third Place**
*Northwest Arkansas Democrat-Gazette, Fayetteville*
Staff

**Smaller Weeklies**

**First Place**
*Washington County Enterprise-Leader, Lincoln*
Monica Hooper

**Second Place**
*South Arkansas Sun, Hampton*
Larry Killian, Zach Killian

**Third Place**
*The Helena World*
Staff

**Larger Weeklies**

**First Place**
*The Leader, Jacksonville*
Staff

**Second Place**
*Madison County Record, Huntsville*
Shannon Hahn, Opal Dennis, Rod Harrington

**Third Place**
*Daily Record, Little Rock*
Karen Dunphy

**Medium Weeklies**

**First Place**
*Carroll County News, Berryville*
Brad Stout

**Second Place**
*Wynne Progress*
Staff

**Third Place**
*Nashville News-Leader*
John Robert Schirmer, Louie Graves, John Balch
# Best Graphic Design Portfolio

### All Dailies
**First Place**
*Harrison Daily Times*
Samantha Harness

**Second Place**
*Northwest Arkansas Democrat-Gazette*, Fayetteville
Chris Swindle

**Third Place**
*Times-Herald*, Forrest City
Katie West

### Smaller Weeklies
**First Place**
*Pacesetting Times*, Horseshoe Bend
Carrie Johnson

**Second Place**
*Spring River Chronicle*, Hardy
Tammy Curtis

**Third Place**
*The Helena World*
Staff

### Medium-Larger Weeklies
**First Place**
*Daily Record*, Little Rock
Karen Dunphy

**Second Place**
*The Leader*, Jacksonville
Christy Hendricks

**Third Place**
*Stone County Leader*, Mountain View
Lori Freeze

# Best Website

### All Dailies
**First Place**
*Northwest Arkansas Democrat-Gazette*, Fayetteville
www.nwaonline.com

**Second Place**
*Arkansas Democrat-Gazette*, Little Rock
Staff
www.ArkansasOnline.com

**Third Place**
*Saline Courier*, Benton
Staff
Salinecourier.com

### All Weeklies
**First Place**
*Madison County Record*, Huntsville
Shannon Hahn, Opal Dennis, Rod Harrington
www.mcrecordonline.com/

**Second Place**
*The Leader*, Jacksonville
Christy Hendricks
www.ArkansasLeader.com

**Third Place**
*The Helena World*
John Dalencourt, Rick Kennedy
www.HelenaWorld.org
Coverage of Agriculture and Business

**Smaller Dailies**

*First Place*
*Paragould Daily Press*
*Gary Exelby*

*Second Place*
*The Daily Citizen, Searcy*
*Greg Geary, Ally Ham*

*Third Place*
*Saline Courier, Benton*
*Elisha Morrison*

**Smaller Weeklies**

*First Place*
*Washington County Enterprise-Leader, Lincoln*
*Mark Humphrey, Lynn Kutter*

*Second Place*
*Spring River Chronicle, Hardy*
*Tammy Curtis*

*Third Place*
*The Helena World*
*Andrew Bagley, Philly Rains, Rick Wright*

**Larger Dailies**

*First Place*
*Arkansas Democrat-Gazette, Little Rock*
*Stephen Steed, Nathan Owens, Noel Oman*

*Second Place*
*Northwest Arkansas Democrat-Gazette, Fayetteville*
*Doug Thompson, Stacy Ryburn, Laurinda Joenks*

*Third Place*
*The Sentinel-Record, Hot Springs*
*Steven Mross, Cassidy Kendall, David Showers*

**Smaller Weeklies**

*First Place*
*Washington County Enterprise-Leader, Lincoln*
*Mark Humphrey, Lynn Kutter*

*Second Place*
*Spring River Chronicle, Hardy*
*Tammy Curtis*

*Third Place*
*The Helena World*
*Andrew Bagley, Philly Rains, Rick Wright*

**Larger Weeklies**

*First Place*
*Madison County Record, Huntsville*
*Rod Harrington*

*Second Place*
*Stone County Leader, Mountain View*
*Staff*

*Third Place*
*The Leader, Jacksonville*
*Garrick Feldman, Jeffrey Smith*
Coverage of Education

Smaller Dailies
First Place
The Daily Citizen, Searcy
Ally Ham, Greg Geary

Second Place
Paragould Daily Press
Gary Exelby

Third Place
Harrison Daily Times
Donna Braymer, Terrie Ivie Smith, James L. White

Larger Dailies
First Place
Northwest Arkansas Democrat-Gazette, Fayetteville
Dave Perozek, Lara Jo Hightower

Second Place
Arkansas Democrat-Gazette, Little Rock
Staff

Third Place
Texarkana Gazette
Aaron Brand, Christy Busby Worsham

Smaller Weeklies
First Place
Spring River Chronicle, Hardy
Tammy Curtis

Second Place
Washington County Enterprise-Leader, Lincoln
Lynn Kutter, Mark Humphrey

Third Place
The Helena World
Andrew Bagley, Terri Hall

Medium Weeklies
First Place
Nashville News-Leader
John Robert Schirmer

Second Place
Carroll County News, Berryville
Haley Schichtl, Samantha Jones

Third Place
Wynne Progress
David Owens

Larger Weeklies
First Place
Stone County Leader, Mountain View
Staff

Second Place
The Leader, Jacksonville
John Hofheimer, Rick Kron

Third Place
Madison County Record, Huntsville
Rod Harrington, Gracie Kreth
Coverage of Election and Politics

**Smaller Dailies**
First Place
*The Daily Citizen*, Searcy
Greg Geary, Ally Ham

Second Place
*Harrison Daily Times*
James L. White, staff

Third Place
*Paragould Daily Press*
Gary Exelby

**Smaller-Medium Weeklies**
First Place
*The Helena World*
Andrew Bagley

Second Place
*Wynne Progress*
David Owens

Third Place
*Spring River Chronicle*, Hardy
Tammy Curtis

**Larger Dailies**
First Place
*Northwest Arkansas Democrat-Gazette*, Fayetteville
Doug Thompson, Laurinda Joenks

Second Place
*Arkansas Democrat-Gazette*, Little Rock
Frank Lockwood, Lisa Hammersly

Third Place
*The Sentinel-Record*, Hot Springs
David Showers, Steven Mross, Tanner Newton

**Larger Weeklies**
First Place
*The Leader*, Jacksonville
Jonathan Feldman, Rick Kron, Jeffrey Smith

Second Place
*Madison County Record*, Huntsville
Rod Harrington

Third Place
*Stone County Leader*, Mountain View
Staff
Coverage of Health and Medical

**Smaller Dailies**
First Place  
*The Daily Citizen*, Searcy  
Greg Geary, Ally Ham

Second Place  
*Saline Courier*, Benton  
Elisha Morrison, Dana Guthrie

Third Place  
*Paragould Daily Press*  
Gary Exelby

**Larger Dailies**
First Place  
*Arkansas Democrat-Gazette*, Little Rock  
Staff

Second Place  
*Northwest Arkansas Democrat-Gazette*, Fayetteville  
Alex Golden, Doug Thompson, Laurinda Joenks

Third Place  
*Texarkana Gazette*  
Aaron Brand, Karl Richter

**Smaller Weeklies**
First Place  
*Spring River Chronicle*, Hardy  
Tammy Curtis

Second Place  
*The Helena World*  
Andrew Bagley, Terri Hall, and Philly Rains

Third Place  
*Washington County Enterprise-Leader*, Lincoln  
Lynn Kutter

**Medium Weeklies**
First Place  
*Nashville News-Leader*  
Louie Graves, John Robert Schirmer

Second Place  
*Wynne Progress*  
David Owens

Third Place  
*Carroll County News*, Berryville  
Samantha Jones, Scott Loftis

**Larger Weeklies**
First Place  
*Madison County Record*, Huntsville  
Rod Harrington, Anne Greene

Second Place  
*Stone County Leader*, Mountain View  
Staff

Third Place  
*The Leader*, Jacksonville  
Rick Kron, John Hofheimer

**Honorable Mention**  
*Advance-Monticellonian*, Monticello  
Melissa Orrell
General Excellence

Smaller Dailies
First Place
The Daily Citizen, Searcy
Second Place
Harrison Daily Times
Third Place
Saline Courier, Benton
Honorable Mention
Paragould Daily Press

Larger Dailies
First Place
Arkansas Democrat-Gazette, Little Rock
Second Place
Northwest Arkansas Democrat-Gazette, Fayetteville
Third Place
Texarkana Gazette

Smaller Weeklies
First Place
Spring River Chronicle, Hardy
Second Place
Washington County Enterprise-Leader, Farmington
Third Place
The Helena World

Medium Weeklies
First Place
Carroll County News, Berryville
Second Place
Nashville News-Leader
Third Place
Herald-Leader, Siloam Springs

Larger Weeklies
First Place
The Leader, Jacksonville
Second Place
Stone County Leader, Mountain View
Third Place
Madison County Record, Huntsville

1233 entries from 33 APA Member Newspapers.