



## ALABAMA PRESS ASSOCIATION

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### **APA Better Newspaper Contest Award Winners Announced**

**Birmingham, AL (July 8, 2017)** – The winners of the 2017 Alabama Press Association Better Newspaper Contest were announced this evening. This year, seventy-four newspapers submitted 2,753 entries in the annual contest, and the Georgia Press Association judged the entries.

The awards ceremony took place at the close of APA's 146th Annual Summer Convention at the Perdido Beach Resort in Orange Beach, AL. Enclosed is a list of all the award winners.

### **Alabama Press Association 2017 Better Newspaper Contest Winners**

#### **General Excellence**

##### **Division A**

1st Place TimesDaily (Florence)  
2nd Place The Tuscaloosa News  
3rd Place Montgomery Advertiser

##### **Division B**

1st Place The Opelika-Auburn News  
2nd Place The Outlook (Alexander City)  
3rd Place The Selma Times-Journal

##### **Division C**

1st Place Shelby County Reporter (Columbiana)  
2nd Place The Monroe Journal (Monroeville)  
3rd Place Call News (Citronelle)

### Division D

1st Place The Southeast Sun (Enterprise)  
2nd Place The Greenville Advocate  
3rd Place The Brewton Standard

### Division E

1st Place Hoover Sun  
2nd Place The Madison Record  
3rd Place Vestavia Voice

## **Best Public Service**

### Division A

1st Place Alabama Media Group for “Gov. Robert Bentley had affair, says fired Alabama top cop” by John Archibald, staff  
2nd Place Alabama Media Group for “Front Line on Mental Health” by staff  
3rd Place Alabama Media Group for “How a breakdown in our ethics, laws and oversight imperils state government” by Kyle Whitmire

### Division B

1st Place The Outlook (Alexander City) for “Drivers Beware” by Mitch Sneed  
2nd Place The Selma Times-Journal for “Sellers' Remorse?” by Justin Averette  
3rd Place The Outlook (Alexander City) for “Tracking missing city golf course funds” by Mitch Sneed, Kenneth Boone

### Division C

1st Place Shelby County Reporter for “Finding shelter” by Briana Harris  
2nd Place Call News (Citronelle) for “School Choices” by Mark R. Kent  
3rd Place The Monroe Journal (Monroeville) for Frisco City Council coverage by Bo Bolton, Mike Qualls, Josh Dewberry

### Division D

1st Place The Greenville Advocate for “Move Over” by Andy Brown  
2nd Place The Greenville Advocate for “Amendment One” by Andy Brown  
3rd Place The Southeast Sun (Enterprise) for “Are you prepared?” by Cassie Gibbs, Laura Fezie

### Division E

1st Place 280 Living (Birmingham) for “Election coverage” by Erica Techo, Jon Anderson  
2nd Place Hoover Sun for “Heroin use in suburban Alabama” by Erica Techo  
3rd Place Vestavia Voice for “Middle School Alignment” by Emily Featherston

## **FOI – First Amendment Award**

### Division A

1st Place The Tuscaloosa News for “McKendrick Resignation” by Drew Taylor  
2nd Place Alabama Media Group for “How a breakdown in our ethics, laws and oversight imperils state government” by Kyle Whitmire  
3rd Place TimesDaily (Florence) for “Gov. Robert Bentley” by Mary Sell, Robert Palmer, Tom Smith

Division B

- 1st Place The Opelika-Auburn News for “Community College Merger” by Meagan Hurley  
2nd Place The Daily Home (Talladega) for “ID of person killed in officer-involved shooting should be public” by Elsie Hodnett, Chris Norwood, Anthony Cook  
3rd Place The Selma Times-Journal for “Public records come with stipulations” by Justin Fedich

Division C

- 1st Place Shelby County Reporter (Columbiana) for “Sex offender” edition by Stephen Dawkins  
2nd Place Birmingham Business Journal for “Big money comes to Birmingham” by Brent Godwin  
3rd Place Shelby County Reporter (Columbiana) for “Mayor barred from finance industry” by Neal Wagner

Division D

- 1st Place Sumter County Record-Journal (Livingston) for “Emelle Mayor gives up salary” by Tommy McGraw  
2nd Place The Moundville Times for “Chief fired” by Travis Vaughn  
3rd Place Franklin County Times (Russellville) for “Knowing Your Neighbors - Sex Offenders” by staff

Division E

- 1st Place Vestavia Voice for “Vestavia City Council Discrimination Settlement” by Emily Featherston  
2nd Place Hoover Sun for “Hoover Sportsplex Development and Resulting Transparency Demands” by Jon Anderson  
3rd Place The Homewood Star for “Homewood pursues \$110 million bond for schools, parks, public safety projects” by Sydney Cromwell

**Most Improved**

Division A

TimesDaily (Florence)

Division B

The Clanton Advertiser

Division C

Shelby County Reporter (Columbiana)

Division D

The Brewton Standard

Division E

280 Living (Birmingham)

## **Best Production and Printing**

### **Division A**

1st Place      The Tuscaloosa News  
2nd Place      The Decatur Daily  
3rd Place      Montgomery Advertiser

### **Division B**

1st Place      The Outlook (Alexander City)  
2nd Place      The Daily Home (Talladega)  
3rd Place      The Daily Sentinel (Scottsboro)

### **Division C**

1st Place      Shelby County Reporter (Columbiana)  
2nd Place      Birmingham Business Journal  
3rd Place      The Monroe Journal (Monroeville)

### **Division D**

1st Place      The Greenville Standard  
2nd Place      The Greenville Advocate  
3rd Place      Hartselle Enquirer

### **Division E**

1st Place      The Redstone Rocket (Huntsville)  
2nd Place      The Madison Record  
3rd Place      Courier Journal (Florence)

## **Best Newspaper Website**

### **Division A**

1st Place      The Tuscaloosa News for [tuscaloosanews.com](http://tuscaloosanews.com)  
2nd Place      Montgomery Advertiser for [montgomeryadvertiser.com](http://montgomeryadvertiser.com)  
3rd Place      TimesDaily (Florence) for [TimesDaily.com](http://TimesDaily.com)

### **Division B**

1st Place      The Daily Mountain Eagle (Jasper) for [MountainEagle.com](http://MountainEagle.com)  
2nd Place      The Troy Messenger for [troymessenger.com](http://troymessenger.com)  
3rd Place      The Daily Home (Talladega) for [annistonstar.com/the\\_daily\\_home](http://annistonstar.com/the_daily_home)

### **Division C**

1st Place      The Monroe Journal (Monroeville) for [monroejournal.com](http://monroejournal.com)  
2nd Place      Birmingham Business Journal for [bizjournals.com/Birmingham](http://bizjournals.com/Birmingham)  
3rd Place      The Choctaw Sun-Advocate (Gilbertown) for [choctawsun.org](http://choctawsun.org)

### Division D

- 1st Place      The Brewton Standard for [brewtonstandard.com](http://brewtonstandard.com)  
2nd Place      Hartselle Enquirer for [hartselleenquirer.com](http://hartselleenquirer.com)  
3rd Place      The Clay Times Journal (Lineville) for [claytimesjournal.com](http://claytimesjournal.com)

### Division E

- 1st Place      St. Clair Times (Pell City) for [annistonstar.com/the\\_st\\_clair\\_times](http://annistonstar.com/the_st_clair_times)  
2nd Place      The Trussville Tribune for [trussvilletribune.com](http://trussvilletribune.com)  
3rd Place      Madison Weekly News for [madisonweeklynews.com](http://madisonweeklynews.com)

## **Photograph of the Year**

The Outlook (Alexander City) for “Brawl at City Hall” by Mitch Sneed

## **Story of the Year**

Alabama Media Group for “Former students share harrowing stories of life inside Alabama’s worst religious private school” by Anna Claire Vollers

## **Category 1 – Best Editorial Page or Section**

### Division A

- 1st Place      The Anniston Star  
2nd Place      Montgomery Advertiser  
3rd Place      The Tuscaloosa News

### Division B

- 1st Place      The Outlook (Alexander City)  
2nd Place      The Opelika-Auburn News  
3rd Place      The Daily Home (Talladega)

### Division C

- 1st Place      Birmingham Business Journal  
2nd Place      Call News (Citronelle)  
3rd Place      Shelby County Reporter (Columbiana)

### Division D

- 1st Place      The Dadeville Record  
2nd Place      The Tuskegee News  
3rd Place      Auburn Villager

### Division E

- 1st Place      The Cherokee Post (Centre)  
2nd Place      Courier Journal (Florence)

## **Category 2 – Best Lifestyle/Family Pages**

### **Division A**

1st Place The Anniston Star  
2nd Place TimesDaily (Florence)  
3rd Place Montgomery Advertiser

### **Division B**

1st Place The Selma Times-Journal  
2nd Place The Opelika-Auburn News  
3rd Place The Troy Messenger

### **Division C**

1st Place Shelby County Reporter (Columbiana)  
2nd Place The Monroe Journal (Monroeville)  
3rd Place The Citizen of East Alabama (Phenix City)

### **Division D**

1st Place The Southeast Sun (Enterprise)  
2nd Place The Brewton Standard  
3rd Place Hartselle Enquirer

### **Division E**

1st Place The Madison Record  
2nd Place Village Living (Mountain Brook)  
3rd Place Hoover Sun

## **Category 3 – Best Sports Coverage**

### **Division A**

1st Place The Tuscaloosa News  
2nd Place Montgomery Advertiser  
3rd Place TimesDaily (Florence)

### **Division B**

1st Place The Opelika-Auburn News  
2nd Place The Dothan Eagle  
3rd Place The Selma Times-Journal

### **Division C**

1st Place The Choctaw Sun-Advocate (Gilbertown)  
2nd Place Call News (Citronelle)  
3rd Place Call News (Citronelle)

Division D

1st Place The Demopolis Times  
2nd Place The Southeast Sun (Enterprise)  
3rd Place The Greenville Advocate

Division E

1st Place Madison Weekly News  
2nd Place The Madison Record  
3rd Place The Franklin Free Press (Russellville)

**Category 4 – Best Local Economic Coverage**

Division A

1st Place TimesDaily (Florence)  
2nd Place The Anniston Star  
3rd Place The Decatur Daily

Division B

1st Place The Opelika-Auburn News  
2nd Place The Selma Times-Journal  
3rd Place The Clanton Advertiser

Division C

1st Place The Monroe Journal (Monroeville)  
2nd Place The Blount Countian (Oneonta)  
3rd Place The Citizen of East Alabama (Phenix City)

Division D

1st Place Franklin County Times (Russellville)  
2nd Place The Southeast Sun (Enterprise)  
3rd Place The Greenville Standard

Division E

1st Place Hoover Sun  
2nd Place 280 Living (Birmingham)  
3rd Place Village Living (Mountain Brook)

**Category 5 – Best Local Education Coverage**

Division A

1st Place The Tuscaloosa News  
2nd Place The Decatur Daily  
3rd Place Montgomery Advertiser

Division B

1st Place The Opelika-Auburn News  
2nd Place The Troy Messenger  
3rd Place The Outlook (Alexander City)

Division C

1st Place Shelby County Reporter (Columbiana)  
2nd Place The Choctaw Sun-Advocate (Gilbertown)  
3rd Place The Monroe Journal (Monroeville)

Division D

1st Place Franklin County Times (Russellville)  
2nd Place The Dadeville Record  
3rd Place The Greenville Advocate

Division E

1st Place Vestavia Voice  
2nd Place The Homewood Star  
3rd Place Madison Weekly News

**Category 6 – Best Local News Coverage**

Division A

1st Place TimesDaily (Florence)  
2nd Place The Anniston Star  
3rd Place Montgomery Advertiser

Division B

1st Place The Outlook (Alexander City)  
2nd Place The Dothan Eagle  
3rd Place The Fort Payne Times-Journal

Division C

1st Place The Monroe Journal (Monroeville)  
2nd Place Shelby County Reporter (Columbiana)  
3rd Place Call News (Citronelle)

Division D

1st Place The Southeast Sun (Enterprise)  
2nd Place The Greenville Standard  
3rd Place The Greenville Advocate

Division E

1st Place Vestavia Voice  
2nd Place Hoover Sun  
3rd Place The Cherokee Post (Centre)

**Category 7 – Best Use of Photographs/Editorial Content**

Division A

1st Place Montgomery Advertiser  
2nd Place TimesDaily (Florence)  
3rd Place The Decatur Daily



Division B

1st Place The Outlook (Alexander City)  
2nd Place The Selma Times-Journal  
3rd Place The Opelika-Auburn News

Division C

1st Place Call News (Citronelle)  
2nd Place The Sand Mountain Reporter (Albertville)  
3rd Place The Monroe Journal (Monroeville)

Division D

1st Place The Southeast Sun (Enterprise)  
2nd Place The Greenville Advocate  
3rd Place The Greenville Standard

Division E

1st Place Village Living (Mountain Brook)  
2nd Place Hoover Sun  
3rd Place St. Clair Times (Pell City)

**Category 8 – Best Layout and Design**

Division A

1st Place The Anniston Star  
2nd Place The Tuscaloosa News  
3rd Place Montgomery Advertiser

Division B

1st Place The Fort Payne Times-Journal  
2nd Place The Daily Sentinel (Scottsboro)  
3rd Place The Opelika-Auburn News

Division C

1st Place Shelby County Reporter (Columbiana)  
2nd Place Call News (Citronelle)  
3rd Place The Citizen of East Alabama (Phenix City)

Division D

1st Place The Dadeville Record  
2nd Place The Greenville Advocate  
3rd Place The Greenville Standard

Division E

1st Place The Birmingham Times  
2nd Place Vestavia Voice  
3rd Place Hoover Sun

## **Category 9 – Best Spot News Story**

### **Division A**

- 1st Place Alabama Media Group for “‘Challenged’ teen kept in basement 2 years remains gravely ill” by Carol Robinson
- 2nd Place The Tuscaloosa News for “Stand up, Harper Lee’s passing, ‘Mockingbird’ impact lives on” by Mark Hughes Cobb
- 3rd Place The Tuscaloosa News for “Tornado Heartbreak, help and healing” by Angel Coker

### **Division B**

- 1st Place The Outlook (Alexander City) for “Judge Admits Sexting” by Mitch Sneed
- 2nd Place The Troy Messenger for “Captured” by Jessica Stuff, Stacy Graning
- 3rd Place The Outlook (Alexander City) for “Fight breaks out at council meeting” by Mitch Sneed

### **Division C**

- 1st Place The Advertiser-Glean (Guntersville) for “Rooster catchers end N’town crowing” by Cindy McGregor
- 2nd Place Call News (Citronelle) for “House of Horror” by Willie Gray
- 3rd Place The Monroe Journal (Monroeville) for “Fire claims 83 year old” by Josh Dewberry

### **Division D**

- 1st Place The Dadeville Record for “Two arrested after dog shot, woman takes stick to shooter” by Mitch Sneed
- 2nd Place The Moulton Advertiser for “Father, son murdered in Hillsboro” by Jeff Edwards
- 3rd Place The Southeast Sun (Enterprise) for “FAA, NTSB take over crash investigation” by Jan Murray

### **Division E**

- 1st Place Vestavia Voice for “Fire destroys two businesses in Olde Towne shopping center” by Erica Techo
- 2nd Place The Franklin Free Press (Russellville) for “Tharptown to get new cafeteria” by John Pilati
- 3rd Place The Franklin Free Press (Russellville) for “PCRS Ambulance Service” by John Pilati

## **Category 10 – Best In-Depth News Coverage**

### **Division A**

- 1st Place The Anniston Star for “Recovering: Five years after the deadly storms of 2011” by Zach Tyler
- 2nd Place The Decatur Daily for “Knee deep in surgery” by David Elwell
- 3rd Place The Tuscaloosa News for “Tuscaloosa’s Road to Recovery” by staff

### **Division B**

- 1st Place The Selma Times-Journal for “Sellers’ Remorse?” by Justin Averette
- 2nd Place The Daily Home (Talladega) for “Brian Ogle Assault” by Denise Sinclair, Chris Norwood, David Atchison

3rd Place The Selma Times-Journal for “Selma Police Department Strike” coverage by Justin Averette, Daniel Evans

#### Division C

1st Place Birmingham Business Journal for “Big Money Comes to Birmingham” by Brent Godwin  
2nd Place Shelby County Reporter (Columbiana) for “Spill has national impact” by Graham Brooks  
3rd Place The Lagniappe (Mobile) for “Mobile County Soccer Complex” by Jason Johnson

#### Division D

1st Place Opelika Observer for “Changing city streets” by Nickolaus Hines  
2nd Place Sumter County Record-Journal (Livingston) for “York Police cut back” by Herman Ward, Jr.  
3rd Place Opelika Observer for “When free is not free; An in-depth look at downtown Opelika's 'free' wireless internet” by Nickolaus Hines

#### Division E

1st Place St. Clair Times (Pell City) for Prison Series by Gary Hanner, David Atchison, Tim Lockette  
2nd Place St. Clair Times (Pell City) for “A Cautionary Tale” by Gary Hanner  
3rd Place The Franklin Free Press (Russellville) for “Ambulance dispute” by John Pilati

### **Category 11 – Best Business Story or Column**

#### Division A

1st Place TimesDaily (Florence) for “Telemedicine bridges gap” by Jennifer Edwards  
2nd Place Alabama Media Group for “How Jay Grinney navigated HealthSouth through its - and his - darkest days” by Kelly Poe  
3rd Place The Decatur Daily for “Rentals create concerns” by Bayne Hughes

#### Division B

1st Place The Selma Times-Journal for “Sellers’ Remorse?” by Justin Averette  
2nd Place The Opelika-Auburn News for “Round House Closes” by Tyra Jackson  
3rd Place The Daily Home (Talladega) for “Pokemon good for business” by Elayne Smith

#### Division C

1st Place Birmingham Business Journal for “Big Money Comes to Birmingham” by Brent Godwin  
2nd Place Birmingham Business Journal for “Birmingham's New Real Estate Reality” by Brent Godwin  
3rd Place Birmingham Business Journal for “Will More Airlines Ever Land at BHM?” by Michael Seale

#### Division D

1st Place Washington County News (Chatom) for “Farmers vs Drought” by Jason Boothe  
2nd Place Opelika Observer for “Virtual reality arcade to open downtown” by Morgan Bryce  
3rd Place Opelika Observer for “We all scream for ice cream; O-Town Ice Cream to open downtown later this month” by Rebekah Martin

### Division E

- 1st Place Village Living (Mountain Brook) for “Getting the Pig back home” by Ana Good  
2nd Place The Homewood Star for “The Midas Touch” by Sydney Cromwell  
3rd Place The Franklin Free Press (Russellville) for “Renaissance in Russellville” by John Pilati

## **Category 12 – Best Feature Story Coverage**

### Division A

- 1st Place Montgomery Advertiser for “Finding Freedom Within: From projects, prison and parole to hope of a new life on the outside” by Kelsey Davis  
2nd Place Alabama Media Group for “The 93-year journey of Kool Korner sandwich shop's forever-young Ildefonso Ramirez” by Bob Carlton  
3rd Place Montgomery Advertiser for “Mother Put Baby in Oven Set on Broil: Thriving After Childhood Horror” by Marty Roney

### Division B

- 1st Place The Opelika-Auburn News for “It Was About Love” by Tom Green  
2nd Place The Daily Sentinel (Scottsboro) for “Keeping Beesy” by Danielle Kirkland  
3rd Place The Clanton Advertiser for “Sibling dogs share bond” by Anthony Richards

### Division C

- 1st Place The Lagniappe (Mobile) for “Baldwin County Cancer Cluster” by Jane Nicholes  
2nd Place Call News (Citronelle) for “Pride In Louisiana – Devastation” by Rhonda Gray  
3rd Place Shelby County Reporter (Columbiana) for “Building a miracle” by Neal Wagner

### Division D

- 1st Place The Greenville Standard for “PTSD” by Mollie S. Waters  
2nd Place The Moulton Advertiser for “Drug dog retired after successful career with sheriff's department” by Jeff Edwards

### Division E

- 1st Place Cahaba Sun (Trussville) for “Nguyens find Trussville in journey to freedom” by Chris Megginson  
2nd Place The Redstone Rocket (Huntsville) for “Santa given gift of life through early detection” by Amy Tolson  
3rd Place The Trussville Tribune for John Floyd feature “Reflections on 50 years of Southern Living” by Kris Robinette

## **Category 13 – Best News Feature Story Coverage**

### Division A

- 1st Place Alabama Media Group for “Former students share harrowing stories of life inside Alabama’s worst religious private school” by Anna Claire Vollers  
2nd Place Montgomery Advertiser for “MLK Day: Conversations with Dr. King” by Andrew Yawn  
3rd Place The Tuscaloosa News for “A Search for Peace” by Stephanie Taylor

### Division B

- 1st Place The Dothan Eagle for “We made it!” by Lance Griffin  
2nd Place The Opelika-Auburn News for “Dog Imaging” by Sara Falligant  
3rd Place The Daily Home (Talladega) for “A heart to deal with it” by David Atchison

### Division C

- 1st Place Shelby County Reporter (Columbiana) for “Motion to adjourn” by Emily Sparacino  
2nd Place The Choctaw Sun-Advocate (Gilbertown) for “Running from the Flames” by Dee Ann Campbell  
3rd Place The Sand Mountain Reporter (Albertville) for “Presidential audience” by Jay Beard

### Division D

- 1st Place The Baldwin Times for “Baldwin County Drug Series” by Cliff McCollum, John Underwood  
2nd Place Auburn Villager for “Muslim community reaches out to Auburn” by Allison Blankenship  
3rd Place Auburn Villager for “The ties that bind” by Allison Blankenship

### Division E

- 1st Place St. Clair Times (Pell City) for “After the storm” by Gary Hanner  
2nd Place Vestavia Voice for feral cat infestation coverage by Emily Featherston  
3rd Place The Redstone Rocket (Huntsville) for “Week of activities remembers heroes” by Amy Tolson

## **Category 14 – Best Editorial**

### Division A

- 1st Place The Decatur Daily for “State AG hiding info from public” by Eric Fleischauer  
2nd Place The Tuscaloosa News for “Legislature sends a message: Eat cake” by Jim Rainey  
3rd Place Alabama Media Group for “Police must be trained to deal with the mentally ill” by John Hammontree

### Division B

- 1st Place The Selma Times-Journal for “Time for city to change language in information policy” by staff  
2nd Place The Outlook (Alexander City) for “Stop pointing fingers and fix city's financial mess” by Mitch Sneed, Kenneth Boone  
3rd Place The Selma Times-Journal for “Council put eggs in one basket and lost” by staff

### Division C

- 1st Place Birmingham Business Journal for “Shouldn't Alabamians be a little more angry?” by Ty West  
2nd Place The Alabama Baptist for “Mocking the Alabama Supreme Court” by Bob Terry  
3rd Place Birmingham Business Journal for “Don't let lawmakers take the easy way out again” by Ty West

### Division D

- 1st Place The Baldwin Times for “Gov. Bentley, tear down your wall” by GCM Editorial Board  
2nd Place The Dadeville Record for “Local elections show that every vote matters” by staff  
3rd Place The Greenville Advocate for “Move Over, It's the Law” by Andy Brown

### Division E

- 1st Place The Franklin Free Press (Russellville) for “Taking a stand for our nation's flag” by John Pilati
- 2nd Place The Cherokee Post (Centre) for “His reader’s knew: Tim was a treasure” by Scott Wright
- 3rd Place Courier Journal (Florence) for “Lunacy Abounds Among the 1%” by Tom Magazzu

## **Category 15 – Best Humorous Column**

### Division A

- 1st Place The Anniston Star for "Cursive, foiled again!" by Lisa Davis
- 2nd Place Alabama Media Group for “The bra struggle is real, y'all. Here's what men just don't understand” by Kelly Kazek
- 3rd Place Montgomery Advertiser for “Goin' batty: Whit Strikes Again” by Marty Roney

### Division B

- 1st Place The Daily Home (Talladega) for “Minnows and a marriage license: \$11, please” by Julia Harwell Segars
- 2nd Place The Enterprise Ledger for “From Harambe to ‘Hallelujah,’ see ya ‘16” by Kyle Mooty
- 3rd Place The Troy Messenger for “Memories of an Olympic Feat” by Jaine Treadwell

### Division C

- 1st Place The Sand Mountain Reporter (Albertville) for “The mean old pee can lady” by Huck Treadwell
- 2nd Place Call News (Citronelle) for “My Lines Feel Dirty: Swearing off HGTV” by Emmett Burnett
- 3rd Place The Sand Mountain Reporter (Albertville) for “It’s column day” by James Jimenez

### Division D

- 1st Place The Baldwin Times for “Elliott gets McMillan's goat, mayor gets his” by Cliff McCollum
- 2nd Place The Baldwin Times for “Namaste over there, away from the yoga” by Cliff McCollum
- 3rd Place Washington County News (Chatom) for “What Our Ladies Really Mean” by Danny Daniels

### Division E

- 1st Place Courier Journal (Florence) for “Disaster (Un)preparedness” by Jim Fisher
- 2nd Place The Franklin Free Press (Russellville) for “Super Bowl of dog shows a bucket list event” by John Pilati
- 3rd Place Courier Journal (Florence) for “Check This Out” by Jim Fisher

## **Category 16 – Best Human Interest Column**

### Division A

- 1st Place Alabama Media Group for “I've just been diagnosed with Parkinson's disease” by Mike Oliver
- 2nd Place Alabama Media Group for “Death fishing for Ted, saying goodbye to a wild and crusty pirate” by Ben Raines
- 3rd Place The Tuscaloosa News for “Be wary when kids are quiet” by Lydia Seabol Avant

### Division B

- 1st Place The Opelika-Auburn News for “Based entirely on a true story” by Troy Turner  
2nd Place The Outlook (Alexander City) for “Gift of tomatoes came at the perfect time” by Mitch Sneed  
3rd Place The Troy Messenger for “Wayfaring stranger” by Jaine Treadwell

### Division C

- 1st Place Call News (Citronelle) for “I Am Okra” by Emmett Burnett  
2nd Place The Monroe Journal (Monroeville) for “Philippe Sky Walker” by Pete Black  
3rd Place The Choctaw Sun-Advocate (Gilbertown) for “Dance Like Everybody is Watching” by Dee Ann Campbell

### Division D

- 1st Place The Dadeville Record for “Face your past and do the next right thing” by Mitch Sneed  
2nd Place The Wilcox Progressive Era (Camden) for "Christmas With My Poppa" by Ethan Van Sice  
3rd Place The Dadeville Record for “Not everyone schedules their own heart attack” by David Granger

### Division E

- 1st Place The Cherokee Post (Centre) for “Going Global” by Cheryl Lewis  
2nd Place Courier Journal (Florence) for “Silent and Listen” by Steve Shelton  
3rd Place Courier Journal (Florence) for “Love Them Through” by Cathy Turner

## **Category 17 – Best Editorial Column or Commentary**

### Division A

- 1st Place Alabama Media Group for “If we want better police, we must start with ourselves” by John Hammontree  
2nd Place The Anniston Star for “Lovin' the dirty politics in Anniston” by Phillip Tutor  
3rd Place Alabama Media Group for “Selma justice? Last suspect in civil rights slaying dies a pillar of the community” by John Archibald

### Division B

- 1st Place The Opelika-Auburn News for “Pause in merger isn’t enough” by Troy Turner  
2nd Place The Daily Home (Talladega) for “Rising from the Rubble: Remembering what's important on the day we promised not to forget” by Anthony Cook  
3rd Place The Opelika-Auburn News for “Pointing to Heaven in which direction?” by Troy Turner

### Division C

- 1st Place The Lagniappe (Mobile) for “Hidden Agenda” by Ashley Trice  
2nd Place The Lagniappe (Mobile) for “Damn the Torpedoes” by Rob Holbert  
3rd Place Birmingham Business Journal for “Why the \$60M historic tax credit budget nightmare is impossible” by Ty West

### Division D

- 1st Place The Tuskegee News for “So much for representing Alabama values” by Guy Rhodes  
2nd Place The Wilcox Progressive Era (Camden) for “White Privilege?” by Ethan Van Sice  
3rd Place Hartselle Enquirer for “Where's the Golden Egg” by Clif Knight

### Division E

- 1st Place The Franklin Free Press (Russellville) for “Special session all bark, no bite” by staff  
2nd Place Courier Journal (Florence) for “Tubman No Token Representative” by Tom Magazzu  
3rd Place The Franklin Free Press (Russellville) for “Political pandering wastes time, money”  
by John Pilati

## **Category 18 – Best Sports News In-Depth Coverage**

### Division A

- 1st Place Alabama Media Group for “Woman recants domestic violence claim that factored into Jovon Robinson’s dismissal at Auburn” by James Crepea  
2nd Place The Tuscaloosa News for “A Coach to leave Alabama” by Aaron Suttles, Andrew Bone  
3rd Place TimesDaily (Florence) for “It’s official: UNA will move to Division I, ASUN” by Jennifer Edwards, Gregg Dewalt, Jeff McIntyre

### Division B

- 1st Place The Opelika-Auburn News for “The recruitment of Jake Bentley” by Dana Sulonen  
2nd Place The Dothan Eagle for “Signing Day 2016” by David Munde, Jeremy Wise, Ken Rogers  
3rd Place The Selma Times-Journal for “Schools cancel games with Marion amid outbreak” by Daniel Evans

### Division C

- 1st Place The Monroe Journal (Monroeville) for “Monroe Academy championship run” by Josh Dewberry, Mike Qualls  
2nd Place The Randolph Leader (Roanoke) for “Handley High School football state championship” by Tim Altork  
3rd Place Shelby County Reporter (Columbiana) for “Blind faith” by Baker Ellis

### Division D

- 1st Place The Wetumpka Herald for “Letters: Foshee offered money, ‘sexual favors’ to special education teacher” by Cory Diaz  
2nd Place The Greenville Advocate for “The Big Hit” by Jonathan Bryant  
3rd Place The Brewton Standard for “The 2016 All-County Team” by Corey Williams

### Division E

- 1st Place The Franklin Free Press (Russellville) for “2016 Baseball Playoff Preview” by Mike Self  
2nd Place Hoover Sun for “Hoover Football goes to Texas” by Kyle Parmley  
3rd Place 280 Living (Birmingham) “Oak Mountain High School distance runner recovers after unexpected diagnosis” by Sam Chandler



## **Category 19 – Best Sports Single Event Story**

### **Division A**

- 1st Place The Tuscaloosa News for “24 points in fourth quarter seal CFP title” by Tommy Deas  
2nd Place Montgomery Advertiser for “A-plus: Autauga forges family bond, wins championship”  
by Stacy Long  
3rd Place The Tuscaloosa News for “Berry coach back after suspension” by Joey Chandler

### **Division B**

- 1st Place The Dothan Eagle for “Sanders' last-second kick lifts Rebels to victory” by David  
Mundee  
2nd Place The Cullman Times for “Tizapa’s clutch OT kick lifts Bearcats to 6A title over Daphne”  
by Jake Winfrey  
3rd Place The Cullman Times for “Malcom, 47, remembered for support of anything and  
everything Hanceville” by Rob Ketcham

### **Division C**

- 1st Place Call News (Citronelle) for “Jags Shake Up Football” by Tommy Hicks  
2nd Place Call News (Citronelle) for “LeFlore Girls Win Title” by Mark R. Kent  
3rd Place The Citizen of East Alabama (Phenix City) for “Career night brings end to Central's  
season” by Mark Clark

### **Division D**

- 1st Place The Moulton Advertiser for “LCHS earns close win over ELHS in crazy finish” by  
J.R. Tidwell  
2nd Place Hartselle Enquirer for “The Streak is Over” by Caleb Suggs  
3rd Place The Southeast Sun (Enterprise) for “Brown honored by NBHS rushing record” by Casey  
Strickland

### **Division E**

- 1st Place The Trussville Tribune for “Dreams Dashed” by David Knox  
2nd Place Madison Weekly News for “Champs Again” by Bob Labbe  
3rd Place Madison Weekly News for “They Did It” by Bob Labbe

## **Category 20 — Best Sports Feature Story**

### **Division A**

- 1st Place Montgomery Advertiser for “Turner Entrusts Son to His Friend” by Paul Payne  
2nd Place TimesDaily (Florence) for “Smile still shines” by Alex Byington  
3rd Place The Tuscaloosa News for “The Life of Snake” by Aaron Suttles

### **Division B**

- 1st Place The Opelika-Auburn News for “Unbreakable Spirit” by Erik Bacharach  
2nd Place The Opelika-Auburn News for “The Turnaround of D.J. Smith” by Erik Bacharach  
3rd Place The Opelika-Auburn News for “You’ll Never Forget The Fire” by Josh Vitale

### Division C

- 1st Place Shelby County Reporter (Columbiana) for “Double the trouble” by Baker Ellis  
2nd Place The Sand Mountain Reporter (Albertville) for “Blessed to be back” by Shannon J. Allen  
3rd Place The Montgomery Independent for “Basketball will return to Garrett Coliseum” by Tim Gayle

### Division D

- 1st Place The Eufaula Tribune for “Eufaula Roots” by Kyle Mooty  
2nd Place The Southeast Sun (Enterprise) for “Dedicated Describer - Gold recounts memories of broadcast career” by Casey Strickland  
3rd Place Auburn Villager for “‘Superfans’ bring spirit to JHS” by Brian Woodham

### Division E

- 1st Place Iron City Ink (Birmingham) for “Star in the Making” by Sam Chandler  
2nd Place The Homewood Star for “The Red Caboose is on a Roll” by Kyle Parmley  
3rd Place Cahaba Sun (Trussville) for “Cullen manages more than the headsets” by Kyle Parmley

## **Category 21 — Best Local Sports Column**

### Division A

- 1st Place TimesDaily (Florence) for “AHSAA, Muscle Shoals responses ring hollow” by Gregg Dewalt  
2nd Place Alabama Media Group for “Growing friction between UAB football coach Bill Clark and AD Mark Ingram” by Kevin Scarbinsky  
3rd Place The Anniston Star for “Reinstate Harrell, give title rings to all White Plains players” by Joe Medley

### Division B

- 1st Place The Dothan Eagle for “Arnie's visit” by Ken Rogers  
2nd Place The Opelika-Auburn News for “Turtle Power the force guiding Auburn softball” by Dana Sulonen  
3rd Place The Opelika-Auburn News for “Gus Malzahn going back to being a head coach” by Dana Sulonen

### Division C

- 1st Place The Advertiser-Glean (Guntersville) for “Lake & fishing rejuvenated her” by Anthony Campbell  
2nd Place Shelby County Reporter (Columbiana) for “Postseason chances” by Baker Ellis  
3rd Place Shelby County Reporter (Columbiana) for “Hornets hope to continue improving” by Baker Ellis

### Division D

- 1st Place Auburn Villager for “Scouting AU's rank in SEC” by Mark Murphy  
2nd Place Auburn Villager for “The lost rivalry between Auburn, Florida” by Brian Woodham  
3rd Place Washington County News (Chatom) for “Snake Finally In Hall” by Tommy Hicks

### Division E

- 1st Place The Franklin Free Press (Russellville) for “Fright Night” by Mike Self  
2nd Place Madison Weekly News for “The King is Gone” by Bob Labbe  
3rd Place Madison Weekly News for “The Facts” by Bob Labbe

## **Category 22 – Best Feature Photo**

### **Division A**

- 1st Place Montgomery Advertiser for “Fishy Business” by Mickey Welsh  
2nd Place The Decatur Daily for “Worshiper” by John Godbey  
3rd Place Alabama Media Group for “Superhero window washers thrill patients at Children's of Alabama” by Joe Songer

### **Division B**

- 1st Place The Outlook (Alexander City) for “Supermoon Spectacular” by Kenneth Boone  
2nd Place The Outlook (Alexander City) for “Big Times At Timbergut” by Cliff Williams  
3rd Place The Daily Home (Talladega) for “Farm Day” by Bob Crisp

### **Division C**

- 1st Place The Monroe Journal (Monroeville) for “A mother's love” by Josh Dewberry  
2nd Place Shelby County Reporter (Columbiana) for “Discovering nature” by Keith McCoy  
3rd Place The Choctaw Sun-Advocate (Gilbertown) for “Ah, Success!” by Dee Ann Campbell

### **Division D**

- 1st Place The Greenville Advocate for “Ride to Recovery” by Jonathan Bryant  
2nd Place The Dadeville Record for “Tuesday morning practice fishing” by Cliff Williams  
3rd Place The Wilcox Progressive Era (Camden) for “Fire destroys Shell Creek Mansion” by Ethan Van Sice

### **Division E**

- 1st Place Iron City Ink (Birmingham) for “Canvas in a Cup” by Shay Allen  
2nd Place Hoover Sun for “Ready to run” by Sarah Finnegan  
3rd Place The Homewood Star for “JROTC student saluting in stairwell” by Sarah Finnegan

## **Category 23 – Best News Photo**

### **Division A**

- 1st Place The Decatur Daily for “Mother and Son” by Jeronimo Nisa  
2nd Place Alabama Media Group for “Memorial Day observed at The Alabama National Cemetery” by Joe Songer  
3rd Place The Anniston Star for “Community prayers” by Bill Wilson

### **Division B**

- 1st Place The Troy Messenger for “Paying Tribute” by Jonah Enfinger  
2nd Place The Opelika-Auburn News for “The Gift of Life” by Todd Van Emst  
3rd Place The Troy Messenger for “Service dog pays tribute” by Jonah Enfinger

### **Division C**

- 1st Place The Blount Countian (Oneonta) for “A warm welcome home” by Nicole Singleton  
2nd Place Shelby County Reporter (Columbiana) for “Saluting service” by Dawn Harrison  
3rd Place Call News (Citronelle) for “Candlelight Vigil: United In Loss” by Bonita Roberts

### Division D

- 1st Place Hartselle Enquirer for “The Streak is Over” by Tom Chappell  
2nd Place The Brewton Standard for “We need her home” by Stephanie Snodgrass  
3rd Place The Moulton Advertiser for “Graduation Day” by J.R. Tidwell

### Division E

- 1st Place The Redstone Rocket (Huntsville) for “Boot presentation” by Bryan Bacon  
2nd Place The Trussville Tribune for “Freedom Fest photo” by Ron Burkett  
3rd Place Village Living (Mountain Brook) for “Taste of Mountain Brook - Fire hose” by Sarah Finnegan

## **Category 24 – Best Spot News Photo**

### Division A

- 1st Place Montgomery Advertiser for “Pensacola Tornado Neighborhood Clean-Up” by Mickey Welsh  
2nd Place The Decatur Daily for “Standoff” by Crystal Vander Weit  
3rd Place TimesDaily (Florence) for “House fire” by Allison Carter

### Division B

- 1st Place The Outlook (Alexander City) for “Brawl at City Hall” by Mitch Sneed  
2nd Place The Cullman Times for “Prayers on the scene” by Tiffeny Owens  
3rd Place The Opelika-Auburn News for “Tallassee Mill Fire” by Todd Van Emst

### Division C

- 1st Place Shelby County Reporter (Columbiana) for “Train hits truck, closes highway” by Gary Waters  
2nd Place The Monroe Journal (Monroeville) for “Storms hit Lenox” by Josh Dewberry  
3rd Place The Monroe Journal (Monroeville) for “Three homes burn” by Josh Dewberry

### Division D

- 1st Place The Moundville Times (Moundville) for “Fire Destroys” by Mike Goodall  
2nd Place Hartselle Enquirer (Hartselle) for “Tornado Damage” by Jennifer Weddington  
3rd Place The Eufaula Tribune (Eufaula) for “Bike Giveaway” by Kyle Mooty, Penny Carter

### Division E

- 1st Place 280 Living (Birmingham) for “Voters enter a polling location on Nov. 8” by Sarah Finnegan  
2nd Place The Redstone Rocket (Huntsville) for “State update” by Bryan Bacon  
3rd Place The Homewood Star for “Election day line at Homewood Library” by Sydney Cromwell

## **Category 25 – Best Sports Photo**

### Division A

- 1st Place Alabama Media Group for “Baseball pileup” by Julie Bennett  
2nd Place The Anniston Star for “Special team” by Trent Penny  
3rd Place The Tuscaloosa News for “Unnecessary Roughness” by Gary Cosby, Jr.

### Division B

- 1st Place The Cullman Times for “See you Monday” by Rob Ketcham  
2nd Place The Daily Home (Talladega) for “Emily Gamino” by Bob Crisp  
3rd Place The Cullman Times for “Mirror, Mirror on the ball” by Amanda Shavers-Davis

### Division C

- 1st Place The Randolph Leader (Roanoke) for “Upside down basketball player” by Tim Altork  
2nd Place Call News (Citronelle) for “St. Paul's, St. Luke's Win Titles” by Tom Ewart  
3rd Place Call News (Citronelle) for “Jags Shake Up Football” by Bobby McDuffie

### Division D

- 1st Place Auburn Villager for “Kyle Davis catch” by John Wild  
2nd Place Opelika Observer for “Dawgs Defense” by Robert Noles  
3rd Place The Wetumpka Herald for “Stanhope Elmore's Alex Johnson tags out Brew Tech's Jeff Wright on the foot” by Cory Diaz

### Division E

- 1st Place Hoover Sun for “Hoover Football Champs – Gatorade” by Sarah Finnegan  
2nd Place The Homewood Star for “Homewood High School baseball player jumps over opponent” by Scott Butler  
3rd Place The Madison Record for “James Clemens crushes” by staff

## **Category 26 – Best Photo Essay**

### Division A

- 1st Place The Decatur Daily for “Spelling Bee” by Crystal Vander Weit  
2nd Place The Decatur Daily for “Special Swimmers” by Crystal Vander Weit  
3rd Place TimesDaily (Florence) for “Pegasus closes” by Allison Carter

### Division B

- 1st Place The Troy Messenger for “Paying Tribute/Lifeflight service” by Jonah Enfinger  
2nd Place The Daily Home (Talladega) for “Rodeo page” by Bob Crisp  
3rd Place The Clanton Advertiser for “Under the Big Peach” by Keith McCoy

### Division C

- 1st Place Call News (Citronelle) for “Devastation” by Rhonda Gray, Doug Dimitry  
2nd Place The Alabama Baptist for “The Value of the Church” by Neisha Roberts  
3rd Place The Monroe Journal (Monroeville) for “Back in time” by Josh Dewberry

### Division D

- 1st Place The Wilcox Progressive Era (Camden) for “The Bluelight Spotlight” by Ethan Van Sice  
2nd Place The Dadeville Record for “Dadeville High School Homecoming” by Cliff Williams  
3rd Place The Southeast Sun (Enterprise) for “Road to Success - EHS honors graduates of 2016” by Laura Fezie

### Division E

- 1st Place Hoover Sun for “Celebrate Hoover Day” by Ron Burkett  
2nd Place The Homewood Star for “Homewood basketball championship” by Kyle Parmley, Frank Couch  
3rd Place 280 Living (Birmingham) for “Friday Night Lights” by Ted Melton, Todd Lester, Todd Kwarcinski

## **Category 27 — Best Use of Graphics or Illustrations**

### **Division A**

- 1st Place The Tuscaloosa News for “Defining Moment” by staff  
2nd Place Alabama Media Group for “Top 10 Bentley 'Luv Guv' beer names: Can you do better?” by J.D. Crowe  
3rd Place The Tuscaloosa News for “Living by Mom's Rules” by staff

### **Division B**

- 1st Place The Daily Sentinel (Scottsboro) for “Late shift heartache” by Elizabeth Law  
2nd Place The Troy Messenger for “Learn to Work” by Perry Brown  
3rd Place The Selma Times-Journal for “Falling Slightly” by Justin Averette

### **Division C**

- 1st Place Shelby County Reporter (Columbiana) for “Finding shelter” by Layken Rubin  
2nd Place Birmingham Business Journal for “Inside the future of UAB's campus” by Derek Morrow  
3rd Place Shelby County Reporter (Columbiana) for “How did Shelby County vote?” by Jamie Dawkins

### **Division D**

- 1st Place The Southeast Sun (Enterprise) for “Elite 11 - Winning Combinations” by Laura Fezie  
2nd Place Washington County News (Chatom) for “Season Review” by Maggie Andrews  
3rd Place The Greenville Advocate for “Danger Gun Laws” by Andy Brown

### **Division E**

- 1st Place The Homewood Star for “The Midas Touch, local businesses spreading success” by Kristin Williams  
2nd Place Hoover Sun for “Christmas: What to do in Hoover” by Kristin Williams  
3rd Place The Redstone Rocket (Huntsville) for “Veterans Day 2016” by Bryan Bacon, Kelley Lane

## **Category 28 – Best Headline**

### **Division A**

- 1st Place TimesDaily (Florence) for “Her future is Fulbright” by Kris Hasse  
2nd Place The Tuscaloosa News for “To Russia with Gloves” by staff  
3rd Place TimesDaily (Florence) for “To be frank, courthouse commotion for weenies” by Connor Bucy

### **Division B**

- 1st Place The Selma Times-Journal for “Safelite Replaced” by Justin Averette  
2nd Place The Fort Payne Times-Journal for “Hole in 117” by staff  
3rd Place The Dothan Eagle for “Here's the kicker: Wicksburg's newest player is a seventh-grade girl” by staff

### **Division C**

- 1st Place Birmingham Business Journal for “Not enough cooks in the kitchen” by staff  
2nd Place The Sand Mountain Reporter (Albertville) for “Knapp time ends” by Shannon J. Allen  
3rd Place Shelby County Reporter (Columbiana) for “Party animals” by staff

#### Division D

- 1st Place Washington County News (Chatom) for “Elude In The Nude” by Doug Dimitry  
2nd Place The Greenville Advocate for “Fast and Furriest “ by Jonathan Bryant  
3rd Place The Dadeville Record for “Can't bear to stay away” by staff

#### Division E

- 1st Place Vestavia Voice for “Every Bunny Needs Somebody” by Emily Featherston  
2nd Place The Redstone Rocket (Huntsville) for “No mystery on the diamond: Butler did it” by staff  
3rd Place Courier Journal (Florence) for “Give That Man a Star” by Tom Magazzu

### **Category 29 — Best Special Section – Newsprint**

#### Division A

- 1st Place The Tuscaloosa News for “College Football” by staff  
2nd Place The Tuscaloosa News for “FOCUS 2016” by staff  
3rd Place Montgomery Advertiser for “College Football Gameday Preseason Section” by staff

#### Division B

- 1st Place The Cullman Times for “Profile” by staff  
2nd Place The Outlook (Alexander City) for “Gridiron Guide” by staff  
3rd Place The Fort Payne Times-Journal for “We are DeKalb: Learning” by staff

#### Division C

- 1st Place Birmingham Business Journal for “Education Guide“ by staff  
2nd Place Call News (Citronelle) for “Fall Outdoors Guide” by staff  
3rd Place Call News (Citronelle) for “Football Preview - Believe The Hype” by staff

#### Division D

- 1st Place The Southeast Sun (Enterprise) for “Fort Rucker Appreciation” by staff  
2nd Place The Brewton Standard for “The Zone - Football 2016” by Corey Williams

#### Division E

- 1st Place The Redstone Rocket (Huntsville) for “Veterans Day 2016” by staff  
2nd Place St. Clair Times (Pell City) for “Pigskin Preview 2016” by Gary Hanner, Lavonte Young, Shane Dunaway  
3rd Place The Redstone Rocket (Huntsville) for “Breast Cancer Awareness” by staff

### **Category 30 — Best Special Section – Glossy**

#### Division A

- 1st Place TimesDaily (Florence) for “Shoals Woman, November 2016” by Sherhonda Allen  
2nd Place TimesDaily (Florence) for “Shoals Woman, August 2016” by Sherhonda Allen  
3rd Place Montgomery Advertiser for “334: Newcomers Guide” by staff

### Division B

- 1st Place The Daily Sentinel (Scottsboro) for “Gridiron Guide” by staff  
2nd Place The Clanton Advertiser for “Our New Hospital” by staff  
3rd Place The Daily Home (Talladega) for “Graduation magazine: A time to remember - Class of 2016” by Buddy Roberts and staff

### Division C

- 1st Place Shelby County Reporter (Columbiana) for “Profile 2016” by staff  
2nd Place Shelby County Reporter (Columbiana) for “Shelby County Football 2016” by Alec Etheredge  
3rd Place Shelby County Reporter (Columbiana) for “Visitors Guide 2016” by staff

### Division D

- 1st Place The Red Bay News for “Baymont Community & Life” by staff  
2nd Place The Greenville Advocate for “Profile Magazine” by staff  
3rd Place The Atmore Advance for “@MORE Magazine” by staff

### Division E

- 1st Place The Madison Record for “Madison FYI” by staff  
2nd Place The Redstone Rocket (Huntsville) for “75th Anniversary” by staff  
3rd Place 280 Living (Birmingham) for “Chelsea Magazine” by staff

## **Category 31 — Best Niche Publication**

### Division A

- 1st Place The Tuscaloosa News for “Faces of Hope” by staff  
2nd Place The Tuscaloosa News for “Bama Still Rolling” by staff  
3rd Place TimesDaily (Florence) for “Explore the Shoals” by staff

### Division B

- 1st Place The Cullman Times for “Classic Cullman” by staff  
2nd Place The Outlook (Alexander City) for “Lake Martin Living, Oct. 2016” by staff  
3rd Place The Opelika-Auburn News for “2017 Calendar” by Jessica Henderson, Todd Van Emst

### Division C

- 1st Place Shelby County Reporter (Columbiana) for “Hoover's Magazine, April 2016” by staff  
2nd Place The Monroe Journal (Monroeville) for “Fall Discover” by Glenda Price, Barbara Qualls, Josh Dewberry  
3rd Place The Sand Mountain Reporter (Albertville) for “Land + Lake” magazine by staff

### Division D

- 1st Place Franklin County Times (Russellville) for “Franklin Living” by staff  
2nd Place The Baldwin Times for “Big Beautiful Baldwin” by staff  
3rd Place The Greenville Advocate for “Humane Society Pet Calendar” by Tracy Salter, Angie Long

### Division E

- 1st Place Hoover Sun for “Football Magazine” by staff  
2nd Place Courier Journal (Florence) for “Kidsville News!” by staff  
3rd Place The Madison Record for “Progress” by staff



## **Category 32 — Creative Use of Multimedia**

### **Division A**

- 1st Place TimesDaily (Florence) for "9-11 Memorial Stair Climb" by Matt McKean  
2nd Place Alabama Media Group for "The Hand in the Trunk" by Robert Clay  
3rd Place Alabama Media Group for "5-Star linebacker Ben Davis announces his commitment" by Justin King, Laura Goldman

### **Division B**

- 1st Place The Selma Times-Journal for "Battle of Selma" by Justin Fedich  
2nd Place The Selma Times-Journal for "2016 Bridge Crossing Jubilee" by Justin Fedich  
3rd Place The Opelika-Auburn News for "Garrison Brooks: Once in a Generation" by Dana Sulonen, Will Sammon

### **Division C**

- 1st Place Shelby County Reporter (Columbiana) for Special Sections on website by staff  
2nd Place Shelby County Reporter (Columbiana) for Videos of big sports plays by Alec Etheredge  
3rd Place Birmingham Business Journal for "Campaign Central" by Tim Steere

### **Division D**

- 1st Place The Southeast Sun (Enterprise) for "Organist recalls musical journey" by Cassie Gibbs, Michelle Mann  
2nd Place The Greenville Advocate for "General multimedia" by staff  
3rd Place Franklin County Times (Russellville) for "Franklin Living" by staff

### **Division E**

- 1st Place Hoover Sun for "Baylor and Ruby" by Sydney Cromwell, Cherie Olivier  
2nd Place 280 Living (Birmingham) for "Beth Alcazar firearms trainer" by Erica Techo, Cherie Olivier, Frank Couch  
3rd Place The Homewood Star for "A union of ukuleles" by Erica Techo, Cherie Olivier

## **Category 33 — Online Breaking News Coverage**

### **Division A**

- 1st Place Alabama Media Group for "Gov. Robert Bentley had affair, says fired Alabama top cop" by John Archibald and staff  
2nd Place The Decatur Daily for "Tornado damages Neel as storm strikes area" by staff  
3rd Place TimesDaily (Florence) for "Standoff at Super 8 Motel in Killen" by Tom Smith, Matt McKean, Jim Hannon

### **Division B**

- 1st Place The Selma Times-Journal for "Man dies during standoff at Selma Police Department" by Blake Deshazo  
2nd Place The Opelika-Auburn News for "Opelika Black Bear" by Meagan Hurley, Jim Little, Todd Van Emst  
3rd Place The Opelika-Auburn News for "Toomer's Tree Fire" by staff

### Division C

- 1st Place Birmingham Business Journal for “Coverage of a series of deals at the Cahaba Grand” by Brent Godwin, Rachael Gamlin
- 2nd Place Shelby County Reporter (Columbiana) for “Gas pipeline explosion” by Graham Brooks
- 3rd Place Shelby County Reporter (Columbiana) for “Colonial Pipeline spill” by Graham Brooks

### Division D

- 1st Place The Brewton Standard for “Brooke Bridges” by Stephanie Snodgrass
- 2nd Place The Southeast Sun (Enterprise) for “Missing child's body found” by Cassie Gibbs
- 3rd Place Sumter County Record-Journal (Livingston) for “Sheriff Impeached” by Tommy McGraw

### Division E

- 1st Place Hoover Sun for “Burning car rescue” by Erica Techo
- 2nd Place Hoover Sun for “Lake Cyrus Shooting” by Erica Techo
- 3rd Place Vestavia Voice for “Municipal Election Results coverage” by Emily Featherston

## **Category 34 — Best Use of Social Media**

### Division A

- 1st Place Alabama Media Group for “Southern Girls Project” by staff
- 2nd Place Alabama Media Group for “Alabama’s best BBQ sandwich” by staff
- 3rd Place Alabama Media Group for “Five-year anniversary of the April 27, 2011, tornadoes” by staff

### Division B

- 1st Place The Opelika-Auburn News for “Opelika Black Bear” by Meagan Hurley, Jim Little, Todd Van Emst
- 2nd Place The Selma Times-Journal for “Selma Mayor Forum” by Justin Averette
- 3rd Place The Selma Times-Journal for “Gridiron Cover Contest” by Daniel Evans

### Division C

- 1st Place Birmingham Business Journal for general Social Media by staff
- 2nd Place Shelby County Reporter (Columbiana) for “Spotted” photo galleries by staff
- 3rd Place Citizen East of Alabama (Phenix City) for general Social Media by Denise DuBois

### Division D

- 1st Place The Southeast Sun (Enterprise) for “Air ambulance crash” by Jan Murray
- 2nd Place The Brewton Standard for general Social Media by Corey Williams
- 3rd Place The Brewton Standard for general Social Media by Stephanie Snodgrass

### Division E

- 1st Place Hoover Sun for general Social Media by staff
- 2nd Place Madison Weekly News for general Social Media by John Few
- 3rd Place The Trussville Tribune for general Social Media by staff

## **Category 35 – Best Magazine Periodical**

### **Division A**

- 1st Place The Tuscaloosa News for “Tuscaloosa” magazine by staff  
2nd Place Alabama Media Group for “Birmingham Magazine” by Julia Sayers, Laura Buchanan, Kelsey Freeman

### **Division B**

- 1st Place The Daily Sentinel (Scottsboro) for “Legacy” by staff  
2nd Place The Outlook (Alexander City) for “Lake Martin Living” by staff  
3rd Place The Fort Payne Times-Journal for “DeKalb Living” magazine by staff

### **Division C**

- 1st Place Shelby County Reporter (Columbiana) for “Hoover's Magazine” by staff  
2nd Place Shelby County Reporter (Columbiana) for “Shelby Living” by staff  
3rd Place The Sand Mountain Reporter (Albertville) for “Land + Lake” by staff

### **Division D**

- 1st Place The Brewton Standard for “Brewton: the magazine” by staff  
2nd Place The Greenville Advocate for “Camellia Magazine” by staff  
3rd Place Franklin County Times (Russellville) for “Franklin Living” by staff

### **Division E**

- 1st Place The Madison Record for “Madison Living” by staff

###