



#AMA2023



# APA Media AWARDS

Print | Digital | Magazine



'Pelham player defies gravity on stellar catch' by Jeremy Raines - Photo of the Year

Shelby County Reporter

*'Pelham player defies gravity on stellar catch'*  
by: Jeremy Raines



Editorial Contest

DIVISION A

GENERAL EXCELLENCE

1st: The Anniston Star

FOI-FIRST AMENDMENT AWARD

1st: Montgomery Advertiser

Execution records

by: Brian Lyman, Evan Mealins, Paige O. Windsor

BEST NEWSPAPER WEBSITE

1st: The Anniston Star

www.annistonstar.com

BEST LOCAL NEWS COVERAGE

1st: The Anniston Star

by: Bill Wilson, Sherry Kughn, Brian Graves

BEST SPOT NEWS STORY

1st: Montgomery Advertiser

Residents feel devastation of Montgomery tornado that killed mother, 8-year-old son

by: Alex Gladden, Mickey Welsh, Jake Crandall

2nd: The Tuscaloosa News

Tutwiler comes tumbling down: UA dorm demolished on the Fourth of July

by: Mark Hughes Cobb

3rd: Montgomery Advertiser

Tense night as Montgomery board renames Lee, Jeff Davis high schools

by: Jemma Stephenson

BEST IN-DEPTH NEWS COVERAGE

1st: Montgomery Advertiser

Inmate dies in Montgomery County prison, sister believes he was denied oxygen

by: Evan Mealins, Keith Sharon

2nd: Montgomery Advertiser


In Lowndes County, 80% of homes lack reliable sewage systems. These women got tired of waiting.

by: Hadley Hitson





Tuscaloosanews.com


NEWS

**Tutwiler comes tumbling down: UA dorm demolished on the Fourth of July**

**Mark Hughes Cobb**  
The Tuscaloosa News

Published 7:48 a.m. CT July 4, 2022 | Updated 2:17 p.m. CT July 4, 2022





**Tutwiler Demolition**  
The old Tutwiler residence hall on the University of Alabama campus was imploded July 4, 2022. Gary Cosby Jr., The Tuscaloosa News

As of 6:59 a.m. Monday, the southern University of Alabama skyline looked much as it had for more than 50 years. In the distance, curved rooftops of the athletic buildings and Coleman Coliseum rose above tree lines; further east, DCH Regional Medical Center stands out. Nestled between scatterings of trees sit rows of dorms, instructional buildings, businesses and more, few of them rising more than three floors.

Roughly 24 seconds after 7, following a controlled demolition of several hundred pounds of dynamite placed strategically throughout the building, all 13 floors of Julia Tutwiler Hall, the freshman dorm for UA women since 1968, fell inward to a fragmented pile of rubble, towers of smoke billowing out to obscure the collapsing view.

3rd: Montgomery Advertiser

Uniontown residents feel like they're screaming for help, but no one is coming

by: Hadley Hitson

BEST BUSINESS STORY OR COLUMN

1st: Montgomery Advertiser

How the expansive Black Belt shaped Alabama history

by: Hadley Hitson, Mickey Welsh

2nd: The Tuscaloosa News

Well done: How Archibald's BBQ built a 60-year legacy of sizzling success

by: Jason Morton

3rd: The Tuscaloosa News

First look: Li-Cycle opens lithium-ion battery recycling plant in Tuscaloosa

by: Mark Hughes Cobb

BEST FEATURE STORY COVERAGE

1st: Montgomery Advertiser

How newly freed slaves created the South's public school systems

by: Brian Lyman

The Tuscaloosa News Best Spot News Story

2nd: Montgomery Advertiser

The journey of Jackson Giles

by: Brian Lyman

3rd: Montgomery Advertiser

Magnet fishing a 'dirty job' that this Montgomery couple loves doing together

by: Shannon Heupel

BEST NEWS FEATURE STORY COVERAGE

1st: The Tuscaloosa News

'My come-to-Jesus moment': How a battle with PTSD led a Tuscaloosa veteran to his purpose

by: Gary Cosby Jr.

2nd: Montgomery Advertiser

A year after I-65 crash kills 10, Tallapoosa Girls Ranch director embraces ranch family

by: Jemma Stephenson

3rd: Montgomery Advertiser

In rural areas with few healthcare options, squeeze on reproductive care easy to miss

by: Hadley Hitson

BEST HUMOROUS COLUMN

1st: The Tuscaloosa News

Spinning a filly tale, of horses and hitches

by: Mark Hughes Cobb

BEST EDITORIAL COLUMN OR COMMENTARY

1st: The Tuscaloosa News

Is abolishing concealed carry permits a good idea for Alabama?

by: Gary Cosby Jr.

2nd: The Tuscaloosa News

How Christian conservatives were seduced by politics

by: Gary Cosby Jr.

3rd: The Tuscaloosa News

Honesty must be essential part of Critical Race Theory debate

by: Gary Cosby Jr.

BEST SPORTS NEWS IN-DEPTH COVERAGE

1st: The Anniston Star

No trophy for you: ASUN says it won't honor JSU football champion, but school would claim crown anyway

by: Mark Edwards

The Anniston Star Best Sports News In-Depth Coverage

**84°**  
June 6, 2022

**The Anniston Star**



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No trophy for you: ASUN says it won't honor JSU football champion, but school would claim crown anyway

By Mark Edwards, Senior Editor, mcedwards@annistonstar.com Sep 1, 2022



JSU Athletics Director Greg Seitz chats with ASUN Commissioner Ted Gumbart during Gumbart's visit to Jacksonville State University on Aug. 5, 2022. / Photo by Stephen Green/The Anniston Star  
Photo by Stephen Green / The Anniston Star

Jacksonville State isn't eligible for the ASUN Conference football championship after all.

The Gamecocks had believed all along they could compete for the crown this year despite being in transition to the FBS, but the ASUN released a statement on social media Wednesday saying if JSU wins the most conference games this year, it won't be recognized as the league champion.

That won't stop JSU from celebrating if the Gamecocks have the best record in the ASUN.

"We still plan to be competitive every week," JSU athletics director Greg Seitz said, "and if we are fortunate enough to finish first, we will treat it as we would any of our 24 other conference football champions."

Wednesday's ASUN statement read, "Jacksonville State is competing in the 2022 ASUN football conference and its league games will all be counted in the ASUN standings. Prior to the start of the season, JSU began its transition process from FCS to FBS level play and is ineligible to participate in the FCS playoffs and is ineligible to earn the ASUN Conference championship."

BEST SPORTS SINGLE EVENT STORY

1st: Montgomery Advertiser

Bryan Harsin fired as Auburn football coach as new AD steps in

by: Bennett Durando

2nd: The Anniston Star

Clutch performer: When JSU needed a game-winning shot, it was K.J. all the way

by: Mark Edwards

Editorial Contest

# DIVISION A

## BEST SPORTS FEATURE STORY

**1st: Montgomery Advertiser**  
*Untold stories of Harvey Updyke’s last confessions*  
by: Bennett Durando

**2nd: Montgomery Advertiser**  
*What’s it like to get swatted by Auburn basketball’s Walker Kessler? Let me tell you*  
by: Bennett Durando

## BEST LOCAL SPORTS COLUMN

**1st: The Anniston Star**  
*Chances are, Hugh Freeze will embarrass Auburn University, too*  
by: Mark Edwards

## BEST FEATURE PHOTO

**1st: The Tuscaloosa News**  
*Excited Award Winner*  
by: Gary Cosby Jr.

**2nd: The Tuscaloosa News**  
*Back To School*  
by: Gary Cosby Jr.

**3rd: Montgomery Advertiser**  
*Alabama’s transgender youth speak out bill banning gender-affirming care*  
by: Mickey Welsh

## BEST NEWS PHOTO

**1st: The Tuscaloosa News**  
*Goodbye Deputy Johnson*  
by: Gary Cosby Jr.

**2nd: The Tuscaloosa News**  
*Honoring Autherine Lucy Foster*  
by: Gary Cosby Jr.

**3rd: The Tuscaloosa News**  
*Funeral March for Deputy Johnson*  
by: Gary Cosby Jr.

## BEST SPOT NEWS PHOTO

**1st: Montgomery Advertiser**  
*Waiting for help after fatal tornado*  
by: Mickey Welsh

**2nd: The Tuscaloosa News**  
*Woman In Red Surveys Tornado Damage*  
by: Gary Cosby Jr.

**3rd: The Tuscaloosa News**  
*School Buses Destroyed by Fire*  
by: Gary Cosby Jr.

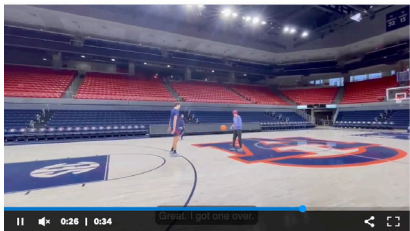
## Montgomery Advertiser Best Sports Feature Story

**Montgomery Advertiser**

**What's it like to get swatted by Auburn basketball's Walker Kessler? Let me tell you | Durando**

**Bennett Durando**  
Montgomery Advertiser

Published 6:01 a.m. CT Feb. 17, 2022 | Updated 2:23 p.m. CT Oct. 2, 2022



**Watch:** Trying to score over Auburn basketball's elite shot blocker, Walker Kessler Auburn best writer Bennett Durando tried (and failed) to score over Auburn center Walker Kessler, college basketball's best shot blocker in years. Video by Mariene Navon, Auburn Athletics

AUBURN — Walker Kessler was the last player in the Auburn basketball practice gym Monday, working on his 3-pointer, when I approached him with a proposition. I was there to challenge the 7-foot-1 sophomore in an area he doesn't need to fine-tune much: shot-blocking.

An empty gym was the ideal stage for my humiliation. The circumstances were less ideal. Kessler finished his routine with three straight 3-pointers then made a bet with a team manager: If Kessler could make a half-court shot in one try, the manager must run a suicide. Kessler swished it.

He was feeling himself.

## BEST SPORTS PHOTO

**1st: The Tuscaloosa News**  
*Gymnastics Jubilation*  
by: Gary Cosby Jr.

**2nd: Montgomery Advertiser**  
*Big hit at SEC baseball tournament*  
by: Jake Crandall

**3rd: Montgomery Advertiser**  
*Coach Eddie Robinson celebrates Magic City Classic win*  
by: Mickey Welsh

## BEST PHOTO ESSAY

**1st: Montgomery Advertiser**  
*Tallapoosa Girls Ranch a year after I-65 crash that killed 10*  
by: Jake Crandall

## BEST HEADLINE

**1st: The Tuscaloosa News**  
*Well done: How Archibald's BBQ built a 60-year legacy of sizzling success*  
by: Ken Roberts

**2nd: The Tuscaloosa News**  
*Mane event: Budweiser Clydesdales to visit Tuscaloosa next week*  
by: Ken Roberts

**3rd: The Tuscaloosa News**  
*What a gourd idea: Pumpkin-carving contest aims to pump up Crimson Tide fans*  
by: Ken Roberts

## ONLINE BREAKING NEWS COVERAGE

**1st: Montgomery Advertiser**  
*Mother and son dead after EF-2 tornado hits Montgomery*  
by: Marty Roney, Brad Harper, Alex Gladden, Evan Mealins

## BEST PODCAST SERIES

**1st: Montgomery Advertiser**  
*The Iron Bowl of Podcasts*  
by: Bennett Durando, Nick Kelly

## Montgomery Advertiser Best Feature Photo



## The Tuscaloosa News Best Spot News Photo





## GENERAL EXCELLENCE

- 1st: The Outlook (Alexander City)**  
**2nd: The Cullman Times**  
**3rd: The Clanton Advertiser**

## FOI-FIRST AMENDMENT AWARD

- 1st: The Cullman Tribune**  
*The protest that wasn't*  
by: Amy Leonard  
**2nd: The Clanton Advertiser**  
*Importance of voting*  
by: Joyanna Love

## BEST NEWSPAPER WEBSITE

- 1st: The Outlook (Alexander City)**  
[www.alexcityoutlook.com](http://www.alexcityoutlook.com)  
**2nd: The Clanton Advertiser**  
[www.clantonadvertiser.com](http://www.clantonadvertiser.com)  
**3rd: The Cullman Tribune**  
[www.cullmantribune.com](http://www.cullmantribune.com)  
by: Dustin Isom, Noah Galilee

## BEST PRODUCTION AND PRINTING

- 1st: Jackson County Sentinel**  
**(Scottsboro)**  
**2nd: The Cullman Tribune**  
by: Dustin Isom, Noah Galilee  
**3rd: The Clanton Advertiser**

## BEST PUBLIC SERVICE

- 1st: The Clanton Advertiser**  
*The importance of voting*  
by: Joyanna Love  
**2nd: The Cullman Tribune**  
*Obituary Listings*  
by: Dustin Isom, Noah Galilee

## BEST EDITORIAL PAGE OR SECTION

- 1st: The Outlook (Alexander City)**  
**2nd: The Valley Times-News (Lanett)**  
**3rd: The Selma Times-Journal**  
by: James Jones

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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2022

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Daily Mountain Eagle - Ed Howell

This roof blew off Sumiton Mini Storage onto a residential area next door after storms Tuesday night.

### Overnight storms impact parts of Walker County

Tornadoes fueled by record highs wrecked homes around South / A6

From Staff Reports

Storms late Tuesday into early Wednesday morning caused straight-line wind damage and thousands of power outages in Walker County.

One of the most visible signs of damage Wednesday morning was in downtown Sumiton on Main Street, particularly next to Kountry Karpets. Sumiton Mini Storage had a flat roof lifted, which went next door and slammed against a home.

No one was injured.

Crews were at the site Wednesday morning to clean up the damage, as roof metal and insulation littered the area. Another unused house at the site did not appear to be affected.

Jonathan Dodd, medical director and men's recovery

See STORMS, A6



Daily Mountain Eagle - Ed Howell

Crews on Wednesday were seen cleaning up roof debris in a residential area after the roof blew off of Sumiton Mini Storage next door during storms on Tuesday night. More photos of the damage can be found on A6.

Daily Mountain Eagle  
Best Spot News Story

The Clanton Advertiser

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### From skeptic to success: Ricky Venegas shares his boiled peanuts story

Published 11:35 am Monday, May 16, 2022

By Joyanna Love



Boiled peanuts are a Southern classic, but it takes time for some people to warm up to the snack. (JOYANNA LOVE | ADVERTISER)

The Clanton Advertiser  
Best Business Story or Column

## BEST LIFESTYLE/ FAMILY PAGES

- 1st: The Outlook (Alexander City)**  
**2nd: The Clanton Advertiser**  
**3rd: Daily Mountain Eagle (Jasper)**  
by: Jennifer Cohron

## BEST SPORTS COVERAGE

- 1st: The Cullman Times**  
by: Jake Winfrey, Amanda Shavers, Nick Johnston  
**2nd: The Fort Payne Times-Journal**  
by: Glendon Poe  
**3rd: Jackson County Sentinel**  
**(Scottsboro)**  
by: Jason Bowen

## BEST LOCAL ECONOMIC COVERAGE

- 1st: The Cullman Times**  
by: Patrick Camp, Benjamin Bullard  
**2nd: The Outlook (Alexander City)**  
**3rd: The Cullman Tribune**

## BEST LOCAL EDUCATION COVERAGE

- 1st: The Clanton Advertiser**  
by: Joyanna Love, Carey Reeder  
**2nd: The Outlook (Alexander City)**  
**3rd: The Valley Times-News (Lanett)**

## BEST LOCAL NEWS COVERAGE

- 1st: The Cullman Times**  
**2nd: Daily Mountain Eagle (Jasper)**  
by: Ed Howell  
**3rd: The Valley Times-News (Lanett)**

## BEST USE OF PHOTOGRAPHS/ EDITORIAL CONTENT

- 1st: The Outlook (Alexander City)**  
**2nd: The Cullman Tribune**  
by: Dustin Isom, Noah Galilee  
**3rd: The Outlook (Alexander City)**

## BEST LAYOUT AND DESIGN

- 1st: The Clanton Advertiser**  
**2nd: Jackson County Sentinel**  
**(Scottsboro)**  
by: Elizabeth Law  
**3rd: The Outlook (Alexander City)**

## BEST SPOT NEWS STORY

- 1st: The Fort Payne Times-Journal**  
*Jeff Cook dies*  
by: Steven Stiefel  
**2nd: Daily Mountain Eagle (Jasper)**  
*Overnight storms impact east, south Walker communities*  
**3rd: The News-Courier (Athens)**  
*Tractor trailer strikes power line down near Whitt's in downtown Athens*  
by: Nicolle Sartain

The Fort Payne Times-Journal  
Best Spot News Story

TIMES-JOURNAL

DEKALB COUNTY'S OLDEST NEWSPAPER | ONLY \$1

### Alabama's Jeff Cook remembered

*Hometown hero dies after long illness*

**Staff Reports**  
reporter@timesjournal.com

Jeff Cook, 73, founding member and legendary guitarist of the country music supergroup Alabama, is being remembered as an exceptionally talented and larger-than-life personality who had a profound impact on both his hometown and the music industry.

Cook died Monday, surrounded by his family and close friends in Destin, Fla.

They say he passed away peacefully, ending a decade-long struggle against declining health that robbed him of his ability to perform but never together. He could play any instrument he chose, but his harmonies I'll miss the most. I'm thankful we got to create music together for over 50 years! Wish we could play "My Home's in Alabama" one more time. I'm lost in a way I can't describe." To Lisa, thanks for loving him and being there for him to the end. Play on, Jeff. Love you!"

Toddy Gentry said, "Closer than brothers, we lived together more than with our immediate families. Don't think I've known anyone who loved playing more. Jeff, along with me and Randy,

broke his spirit as he courageously faced his battle with Parkinson's disease with a positive attitude. Cook performed for as long as he could, then told the group that the show must go because he never wanted "the music to stop or the party to end."

See Cook » Page A9

**Performers react to death of a legend**

**Staff Reports**  
reporter@timesjournal.com

Reactions to Jeff Cook's death have poured in from some of the biggest names in the music industry, including his band-mates.

Randy Owen released a statement Thursday, saying, "He lived to play our music. We created

him to the end. Play on, Jeff. Love you!"

Toddy Gentry said, "Closer than brothers, we lived together more than with our immediate families. Don't think I've known anyone who loved playing more. Jeff, along with me and Randy,

together. He could play any instrument he chose, but his harmonies I'll miss the most. I'm thankful we got to create music together for over 50 years! Wish we could play "My Home's in Alabama" one more time. I'm lost in a way I can't describe." To Lisa, thanks for loving him and being there for him to the end. Play on, Jeff. Love you!"

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See Legend » Page A10



Bernie Blank / Times-Journal

Flowers and a funeral wreath decorate the bronze statue of Alabama guitarist Jeff Cook in downtown Fort Payne while the sign at the Alabama Fan Club and Museum is dedicated to his memory



## BEST IN-DEPTH NEWS COVERAGE

**1st: The News-Courier (Athens)**  
*North Alabama after Dobbs decision*  
by: Taylor Lane  
**2nd: The News-Courier (Athens)**  
*Election contest for district seat*  
by: C.P. Bailey, Taylor Lane, Nicolle Sartain  
**3rd: The Valley Times-News (Lanett)**  
*CCSD announces consolidation plan*  
by: staff

BEST BUSINESS STORY  
OR COLUMN

**1st: The Cullman Times**  
*Lazy: ‘An easy excuse for the decision makers’*  
by: Patrick Camp

**2nd: The Cullman Tribune**  
*Exceptional expertise and wisdom found at Hinkle Shoe Shop*  
by: Amy Leonard

**3rd: The Clanton Advertiser**  
*From skeptic to success: Ricky Vengas shares his boiled peanuts story*  
by: Joyanna Love

BEST FEATURE STORY  
COVERAGE

**1st: The Cullman Times**  
*‘I wanted to live life like he did’*  
by: Benjamin Bullard

**2nd: The Cullman Times**  
*‘She always made her own way’*  
by: Benjamin Bullard

**3rd: Jackson County Sentinel (Scottsboro)**  
*Battling Through*  
by: Peggy M. Himburg

BEST NEWS FEATURE  
STORY COVERAGE

**1st: The News-Courier (Athens)**  
*‘There is no Europe without Ukraine’*  
by: Nicolle Sartain

**2nd: The Selma Times-Journal**  
*Emma Smith’s death impacted community*  
by: James Jones

**3rd: The Gadsden Times**  
*DNA Search Angel*  
by: Donna Thornton

BEST EDITORIAL

**1st: The Valley Times-News (Lanett)**  
*School site decision not easy, but the right one*  
by: staff

**2nd: The News-Courier (Athens)**  
*Our View: Broadband — at the speed of governmental bureaucracy*  
by: Editorial board

**3rd: The Fort Payne Times-Journal**  
*Tuberville comments are disappointing*  
by: Steven Stiefel

BEST HUMOROUS  
COLUMN

**1st: The Fort Payne Times-Journal**  
*We don’t deserve man’s best friend*  
by: Steven Stiefel

**2nd: Jackson County Sentinel (Scottsboro)**  
*Throw me a landline*  
by: David Carroll

**3rd: Jackson County Sentinel (Scottsboro)**  
*What they really mean*  
by: David Carroll

*School site decision not easy, but the right one*

Sometimes when making a difficult decision, there are two good choices. And sometimes that can make the decision even more difficult. From our outside perspective, we believe the Chambers County School Board and Superintendent Casey Chambley agonized over the location of a new consolidated high school. The cities of Valley and LaFayette had both come forward with possible locations, available land and reasoning on why the school should be built there. Ultimately, the school board chose the Valley site. The reasons cited for the decision include the population of Valley being larger, meaning more CCSD students are much closer to the Valley site. That means there’s less travel involved for most students. Less travel means reduced costs for the district as well. The LaFayette site had more land available, but the access to Ram Stadium and the convenience of Valley ended up being important deciding factors. We know everyone has an opinion about this decision, and what it means for each city moving forward. And we know some are understandably upset that the school will be in Valley. But we also believe this was the correct decision. Anyone from Chambers County could make an argument for either site, but it’s important to take of your Ram-colored or Bulldog-shaded glasses and see the full picture. This isn’t about one student or about history or legacy. It’s about the future. The board had to look at the big picture and think about all 3,000 plus students enrolled in CCSD. They had to take every argument, every angle, all the data and make this extremely difficult decision about the future of the school district. It’s also important to remember that for 52 years no one had taken this necessary step, one required by a court order. This could not be ignored. There was no option to keep the status quo. Changes had to be made or the situation was possibly going to get much more serious. We think it’s fair to say the school system’s feet was to the fire. Anyone arguing that CCSD should have things as they are now – or rethink consolidation entirely – is misinformed and doesn’t understand what’s happening. An order agreed upon in 1993 called for the “construction and operation of a single, consolidated high school in the district.” Yes, for those of you that remember 1993, those were the pre-internet days when Facebook and Google weren’t even a thing yet. We read a column somewhere that said the school district should slow down this decision. We laughed. After 30 years since that 1993 order, don’t you think it’s been long enough? What would another year do? How would that solve any of the problems with unitary status that have been around since 1970? Instead, CCSD has finally taken a major step that, if approved by a federal judge, will finally allow it to move past the court order that has been over the school system for decades. And while both sites were worthy of strong consideration, the Valley site won out for a few simple reasons. Ultimately, it does not make sense for the school system to pay substantially more to transport students to LaFayette. CCSD said it would’ve cost the district more than \$6.4 million to transport students to LaFayette while only \$3.9 million to transport students to the Valley site, so a savings of \$2.3 million annually. Money ultimately isn’t everything, and it won’t be the only deciding factor either. LaFayette also has a much smaller percentage of the overall CCSD student body. According to CCSD, 33% of students are in the LaFayette zone, while 67% are in the Valley zone. Again, that means putting the high school in Valley displaces less students. That doesn’t mean we don’t feel for the city of LaFayette. It’s hard to say what losing a high school might mean for the city’s economy overall. Small towns are often centered around their high schools, and LaFayette is certainly no exception. The new STEAM Academy ensures that LaFayette High will still be used, and there will still be young people in the city, learning and furthering their education. At the same time, the loss of Friday night football, weekday basketball and other athletic and academic ventures means less people eating out and spending money around town. That’s going to be a lot for LaFayette to overcome. But the decision is made now, and it’s time to move forward, assuming a federal judge gives it a stamp of approval. We know this was a tough decision, one that had to be made, one way or the other. We appreciate Chambley and the board for sorting through all of the data and making the choice they believe will be best for the future of students in Chambers County.

The Valley Times-News  
Best Editorial

BEST HUMAN INTEREST  
COLUMN

**1st: The Cullman Tribune**  
*My brain lied to me-Suicide Prevention Awareness Month*  
by: Amy Leonard

**2nd: The Fort Payne Times-Journal**  
*A mentor worth remembering*  
by: Steven Stiefel

**3rd: Jackson County Sentinel (Scottsboro)**  
*Is it really that bad*  
by: David Carroll

BEST EDITORIAL  
COLUMN OR  
COMMENTARY

**1st: Jackson County Sentinel (Scottsboro)**  
*If it’s illegal for me, then*  
by: Anita McGill

**2nd: The Clanton Advertiser**  
*Each person is a vital piece*  
by: Joyanna Love

**3rd: The Fort Payne Times-Journal**  
*Younger generations need to know*  
by: Steven Stiefel

BEST SPORTS NEWS  
IN-DEPTH COVERAGE

**1st: The Fort Payne Times-Journal**  
*Fort Payne’s Ibsen attributes coaching, nutrition to championship run*  
by: Glendon Poe

**2nd: The Clanton Advertiser**  
*Sports writer honored*  
by: Carey Reeder

**3rd: Jackson County Sentinel (Scottsboro)**  
*Gridiron Changes*  
by: Jason Bowen

BEST SPORTS SINGLE  
EVENT STORY

**1st: The Cullman Times**  
*‘MEANS THE WORLD TO US’: Cullman caps incredible season with 6A state title*  
by: Jake Winfrey

**2nd: The Cullman Tribune**  
*Prep Basketball: State Champs!*  
by: Nick Griffin

**3rd: The Fort Payne Times-Journal**  
*The Dynasty Grows*  
by: Glendon Poe

BEST SPORTS FEATURE  
STORY

**1st: The Outlook (Alexander City)**  
*Local athlete named to AISA Lineman of the Year watchlist*  
by: Henry Zimmer



The News-Courier - Best Feature Photo

ON THE COURT

Local and non-Scottsboro teams go head-to-head on the basketball court.

ON TRACK

Find out how Scottsboro athletes fared in the last Southern Interscholastic Technology Race.

Gridiron

CHANGES

Grant Smith (21) and Pugh will continue to be region foes with Hank Farmer (34), Kayden Gilley and North Sand Mountain during the 2022-23 seasons.

Prep football coaches talk new regions, 2022-23 schedules

BY JASON BOWEN  
jason.bowen@jcsentinel.com

The Alabama High School Athletic Association recently released its high school football regions for the 2022-23 season.

The latest round of AHSAA realignment led to some head-scratching changes, one school seeing its region change three times in the same week, scheduling adventures and a three-county region containing region foes.

Now that the process is complete, Jackson County high school football coaches breakdown their former zone regions and schedules.

**Class 6A Region 7** – After two-year stints in Class 6A, Scottsboro will return to Class 6A, going from one of the smallest 6A schools to one of 5A's largest.

Scottsboro head coach Cito Hall and the news in Class 6A gives the Vikings no guarantees. There are some really good teams in 6A, and at some point every region is bound to get upsets. But the numbers are high, and it's a "big difference."

But also, that the Vikings are moved to compete in a more localized Class 6A Region 7. Many of the Southern's new region opponents are old ones, as it is joined in the seven-team region by Arabi, Bosa, Cornsilla, Douglas, and others.

**FOOTBALL SCHEDULES**  
Get head and assistant coaches' views on the 2022-23 season.

**CLASS 6A REGION 7**  
The biggest difference is when you get to the playoffs, that's the biggest one, well, because you're not having to worry about playing teams like in 6A, since there's a 400-student difference. There are some really good teams in 6A, and at some point every region is bound to get upsets. But the numbers are high, and it's a "big difference."

But also, that the Vikings are moved to compete in a more localized Class 6A Region 7. Many of the Southern's new region opponents are old ones, as it is joined in the seven-team region by Arabi, Bosa, Cornsilla, Douglas, and others.

FROM LEFT: Jackson coach Chris Hemmen, Pugh coach Luke Pugh, Scottsboro coach Cito Hall, North Jackson coach Jon Hally, Woodville coach Matt Sanders, 2022-23 South Valley coaches.

Jackson County Sentinel  
Best Sports News In-Depth  
Coverage

**2nd: The Outlook (Alexander City)**  
*Reeltown’s Rodeo Kids*  
by: Henry Zimmer

**3rd: The Cullman Times**  
*Crimson Crash Course*  
by: Benjamin Bullard

BEST LOCAL SPORTS  
COLUMN

**1st: The Clanton Advertiser**  
*Alabama roars again in Talladega*  
by: Carey Reeder



# Editorial Contest DIVISION B

## BEST FEATURE PHOTO

### 1st: The Cullman Tribune

*Fairview's Bradley Smith honors his mother who died of cancer*  
by: Martha Needham

### 2nd: The News-Courier (Athens)

*iAcademy Dog*  
by: Nicolle Sartain

### 3rd: Daily Mountain Eagle (Jasper)

*Strike up the band*  
by: Ron Harris

## BEST NEWS PHOTO

### 1st: The Cullman Times

*Memorial Day*  
by: Amanda Shavers

### 2nd: The Cullman Times

*A smooth start*  
by: Patrick Camp

### 3rd: The Fort Payne Times-Journal

*Northeast Shines at Holiday Gala*  
by: Steven Stiefel

## BEST SPOT NEWS PHOTO

### 1st: The Cullman Tribune

*'I'm going to call you Lola' Senior receives robotic dog*  
by: Amy Leonard

### 2nd: The Fort Payne Times-Journal

*A boy joins the band*  
by: Steven Stiefel

### 3rd: The Fort Payne Times-Journal

*Rosies remember the last world war*  
by: Steven Stiefel

## BEST SPORTS PHOTO

### 1st: Jackson County Sentinel (Scottsboro)

*Statement Win*  
by: Jason Bowen

### 2nd: Jackson County Sentinel (Scottsboro)

*Wildchamps*  
by: Jason Bowen

### 3rd: The Cullman Tribune

*An airborne bull rider at the Cowboy Church of Morgan County's Red, White & Bulls Event*  
by: Martha Needham

## BEST PHOTO ESSAY

### 1st: The Gadsden Times

*Barbarian Challenge Gallery*  
by: Jesse Jarrold-Grapes

### 2nd: Daily Mountain Eagle (Jasper)

*Kiwanis Club hosts Track and Field Day*  
by: Ron Harris

### 3rd: The Fort Payne Times-Journal

*Wreaths Across America*  
by: Steven Stiefel

## BEST USE OF GRAPHICS OR ILLUSTRATIONS

### 1st: The Outlook (Alexander City)

*Freeze Warning infographic*

### 2nd: Jackson County Sentinel (Scottsboro)

*Gas Prices*  
by: Elizabeth Law

### 3rd: Jackson County Sentinel (Scottsboro)

*Impact of Covid*  
by: Elizabeth Law

## BEST HEADLINE

### 1st: The Outlook (Alexander City)

*Driving into the news*

### 2nd: The News-Courier (Athens)

*Quacking the case: Public notices Big Spring Park dwindling duck population*

### 3rd: The Clanton Advertiser

*Students prepping for hot career keeping community cool*  
by: Joyanna Love

## BEST SPECIAL SECTION NEWSPRINT

### 1st: The Outlook (Alexander City)

*Dadeville Magazine*  
by: staff

### 2nd: The Cullman Times

*Community Heroes featuring rapid responders*  
by: Benjamin Bullard, Patrick Camp, Amanda Shavers

### 3rd: The Clanton Advertiser

*Progress 2022: Centers of Community*  
by: staff

## BEST NICHE PUBLICATION

### 1st: The Outlook (Alexander City)

*Lake Martin: We Make It Great Here!*

### 2nd: The News-Courier (Athens)

*Blitz Magazine 2022*

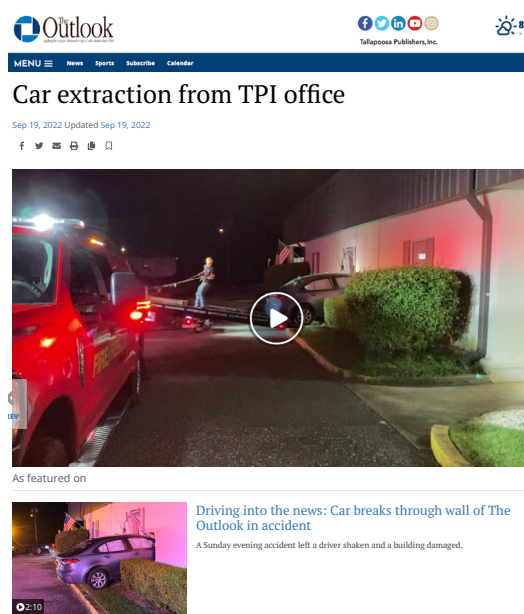
### 3rd: The Cullman Times

*Salute to Industry*

## CREATIVE USE OF MULTIMEDIA

### 1st: The Outlook (Alexander City)

*150 years of history*



The Outlook  
Online Breaking News  
Coverage

## ONLINE BREAKING NEWS COVERAGE

### 1st: The Cullman Tribune

*Jason Crawford guilty of murder*  
by: Amy Leonard, Noah Galilee

### 2nd: The Outlook (Alexander City)

*Car extraction from TPI office*  
by: staff

### 3rd: The Cullman Tribune

*CPD investigates death of infant*  
by: staff

## BEST USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA

### 1st: The Outlook (Alexander City)

*City Council live broadcasts*

### 2nd: Jackson County Sentinel (Scottsboro)

*Snow much fun*

### 3rd: Jackson County Sentinel (Scottsboro)

*Back to School*

## BEST PODCAST SERIES

### 1st: The Outlook (Alexander City)

*The Weekly Outlook*

## BEST USE OF VIDEO (SHORTER THAN 2 MINUTES)

### 1st: The Outlook (Alexander City)

*TPI - who are we?*

by: staff

### 2nd: The Cullman Tribune

*Budweiser Clydesdales*

by: Janet Chandler

### 3rd: The Outlook (Alexander City)

*Southern Star Farms hosts holiday market*  
by: Abigail Murphy

## BEST USE OF VIDEO (LONGER THAN 2 MINUTES)

### 1st: The Outlook (Alexander City)

*TPI Talk with David Boleware*

by: staff

### 2nd: The Outlook (Alexander City)

*Dyslexia Awareness Month*

by: Abigail Murphy

### 3rd: The Cullman Tribune

*Cullman County Child Development Center Graduation*  
by: Amy Leonard

## GENERAL EXCELLENCE

- 1st: Shelby County Reporter**  
(Columbiana)
- 2nd: Birmingham Business Journal**
- 3rd: The Choctaw Sun-Advocate**  
(Gilbertown)

## FOI-FIRST AMENDMENT AWARD

- 1st: Lagniappe (Mobile)**  
*Alabama spends millions on police body camera videos the public can't see*  
by: staff
- 2nd: The Choctaw Sun-Advocate**  
(Gilbertown)  
*Meetings must be held in person*  
by: Dee Ann Campbell
- 3rd: Shelby County Reporter**  
(Columbiana)  
*Briarwood principal firing*  
by: Alec Etheredge

## BEST NEWSPAPER WEBSITE

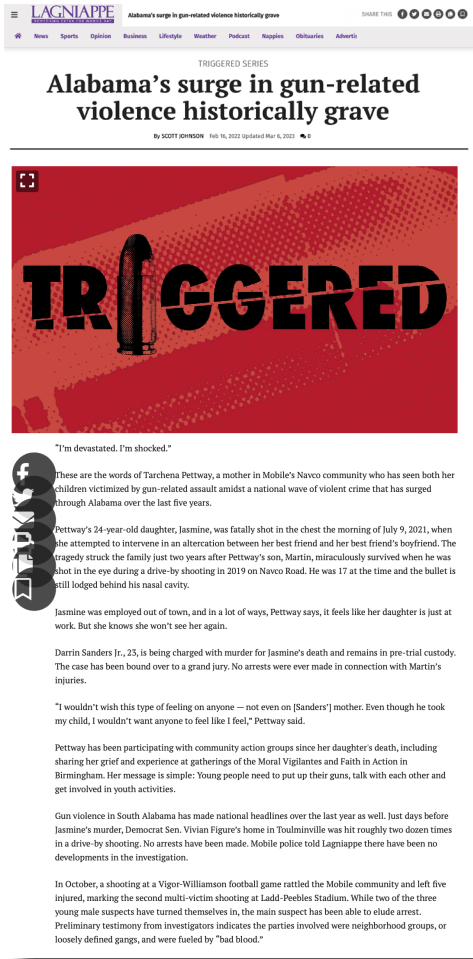
- 1st: The Alabama Baptist**  
[www.thealabamabaptist.org](http://www.thealabamabaptist.org)
- 2nd: Shelby County Reporter**  
(Columbiana)  
[www.shelbycountyreporter.com](http://www.shelbycountyreporter.com)
- 3rd: Birmingham Business Journal**  
[www.bizjournals.com/birmingham](http://www.bizjournals.com/birmingham)

## BEST PRODUCTION AND PRINTING

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

## BEST PUBLIC SERVICE

- 1st: Shelby County Reporter**  
(Columbiana)  
*Chelsea school system vote*  
by: Alec Etheredge, Emily Sparacino
- 2nd: Birmingham Business Journal**  
*Leadership in Diversity programming*  
by: staff
- 3rd: Lagniappe (Mobile)**  
*Triggered — Alabama's gun violence epidemic*  
by: Scott Johnson



## Lagniappe Best Public Service

## BEST EDITORIAL PAGE OR SECTION

- 1st: Shelby County Reporter**  
(Columbiana)
- 2nd: The Choctaw Sun-Advocate**  
(Gilbertown)
- 3rd: Call News (Citronelle)**

## BEST LIFESTYLE/FAMILY PAGES

- 1st: Shelby County Reporter**  
(Columbiana)
- 2nd: Citizen of East Alabama**  
(Phenix City)  
by: Denise DuBois and staff
- 3rd: The Choctaw Sun-Advocate**  
(Gilbertown)

## BEST SPORTS COVERAGE

- 1st: Call News (Citronelle)**  
by: staff
- 2nd: Shelby County Reporter**  
(Columbiana)  
by: Alec Etheredge
- 3rd: Lagniappe (Mobile)**  
by: Tommy Hicks

## BEST LOCAL ECONOMIC COVERAGE

- 1st: Birmingham Business Journal**  
by: Joshua Mann, A.J. O'Leary, Illyshia Parker
- 2nd: Citizen of East Alabama**  
(Phenix City)
- 3rd: Call News (Citronelle)**

## BEST LOCAL EDUCATION COVERAGE

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

## BEST LOCAL NEWS COVERAGE

- 1st: The Choctaw Sun-Advocate**  
(Gilbertown)  
by: Dee Ann Campbell
- 2nd: Shelby County Reporter**  
(Columbiana)
- 3rd: The Mountain Valley News**  
(Rainsville)

## BEST USE OF PHOTOGRAPHS/EDITORIAL CONTENT

- 1st: Shelby County Reporter**  
(Columbiana)  
by: Connor Bucy and Jamie Dawkins
- 2nd: Birmingham Business Journal**
- 3rd: Call News (Citronelle)**

## BEST LAYOUT AND DESIGN

- 1st: Shelby County Reporter**  
(Columbiana)  
by: Connor Bucy, Jamie Dawkins
- 2nd: Birmingham Business Journal**  
by: Laurie Lawrence
- 3rd: The Choctaw Sun-Advocate**  
(Gilbertown)  
by: Dee Ann Campbell

## BEST SPOT NEWS STORY

- 1st: Shelby County Reporter**  
(Columbiana)  
*A Close Call*  
by: Alec Etheredge
- 2nd: Shelby County Reporter Helena**  
*police investigating double homicide*  
by: Michelle Love
- 3rd: Call News (Citronelle)**  
*Body Found*  
by: Willie Gray, John O'Dell

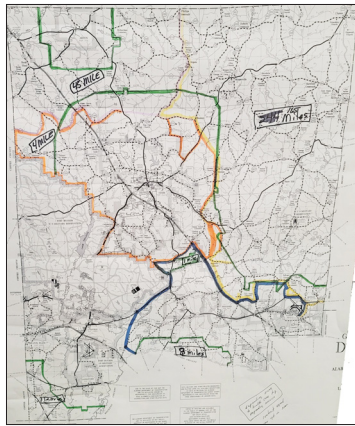
## Municipalities Upset Over Inequitable Disbursement of ARPA Funds to Area EMS

By Christina Faulkner

Municipalities in Dale County are displeased with a disbursement of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds intended for Emergency Medical Service (EMS) providers in the county. The disbursement was authorized via a resolution passed by the Dale County Commission during the May 10 commission meeting. According to the resolution, the disbursement will be paid quarterly and is based on the square mileage of the unincorporated portion of the county for which each EMS provider will provide contracted services. However, some municipalities say this is unfair, as they and their citizens are left out of the funding.

After receiving almost \$10 million dollars in ARPA funding designed to mitigate the negative economic and financial impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Dale County Commission voted to partner with the Association of County Commissioners' (ACCA) Investing in Alabama Counties (IAC) fund.

However, in a later interview, Brasfield said, "In the end, it's a County Commission decision.



The above map shows crudely drawn lines depicting the designated service areas for each of the EMS providers in the county. Photo by Christina Faulkner.

Association met later that week to determine who would cover which areas of the unincorporated

the expenditure of ARPA funds with each of the participating EMS providers receiving \$717.50

for each square mile to which they agreed to cover.

See EMS on Page 16A

## The Southern Star Best In-Depth News Coverage

## BEST IN-DEPTH NEWS COVERAGE

- 1st: Birmingham Business Journal**  
*World Games BHM 2022*  
by: staff



**2nd: Lagniappe (Mobile)**

*Lawsuits allege investments funded Mobile couple's 'lavish' lifestyle*

by: Scott Johnson

**3rd: The Southern Star (Ozark)**

*Community Concern of EMS ARPA Distribution*

by: Christina Faulkner

## BEST BUSINESS STORY OR COLUMN

**1st: Birmingham Business Journal**

*Not Your Average Joe*

by: A.J. O'Leary

**2nd: Lagniappe (Mobile)**

*'We move with the oysters' — Alabama's prolific tongers are raking 'em in*

by: Scott Johnson

**3rd: Birmingham Business Journal**

*Woodlawn on the Rise*

by: Illyshia Parker

## BEST FEATURE STORY COVERAGE

**1st: Lagniappe (Mobile)**

*Fighting for hearts and minds*

by: Brady Petree

**2nd: Birmingham Business Journal**

*Answers Beneath Antarctic Ice*

by: Cara Clark

**3rd: Lagniappe**

*Still Standing - Bankhead Tunnel remains undefeated after 80 years of determined drivers*

by: Kyle Hamrick

## BEST NEWS FEATURE STORY COVERAGE

**1st: Shelby County Reporter (Columbiana)**

*Tracking an ongoing issue*

by: Meg Herndon

**2nd: The Choctaw Sun-Advocate (Gilbertown)**

*We Need Answers*

by: Dee Ann Campbell

**3rd: Shelby County Reporter**

*Community unites to honor Chayse Jones*

by: Alec Etheredge

## BEST EDITORIAL

**1st: The Choctaw Sun-Advocate (Gilbertown)**

*Eye to Eye, Face to Face*

by: Dee Ann Campbell

**2nd: Shelby County Reporter (Columbiana)**

*Hitting too close to home*

by: Alec Etheredge

**3rd: Shelby County Reporter**

*Facing fears is about more than ourselves*

by: Alec Etheredge

## BEST HUMOROUS COLUMN

**1st: Call News (Citronelle)**

*My 50 Year Reunion? Groovy Baby*

by: Emmett Burnett

**2nd: Lagniappe (Mobile)**

*Generationally speaking*

by: Ashley Trice

**3rd: The Mountain Valley News (Rainsville)**

*Granny Was Eccentric*

by: Neal Wooten

## Shelby County Reporter Best Sports Single Event Story



Peyton Grillo, a team manager for the Thompson basketball team, got his first start for the Warriors and drained the game's first shot against Helena on Tuesday night, Feb. 1.

## 'The best day ever'

*Basketball manager with autism makes a splash*

By ALEC ETHEREDGE  
Managing Editor

**ALABASTER** — Overcome with emotions, Peyton Grillo stood up and walked to the locker room just seconds after hitting the shot of his life for the Thompson Warriors.

The team manager for the

Thompson basketball team, Grillo is also on the autism spectrum. That didn't stop him from making his first start on autism awareness night inside Warrior Arena on Tuesday, Feb. 1 to celebrate Shooting 2 Change.

Taking on county rival Helena, the Warriors won the tip and ran a play Grillo

came up with and creatively named "stick."

With guard Justin Pegues dribbling at the top of the circle, Grillo ran into the paint, went baseline and found himself behind the three-point line.

Pegues kicked the ball to him, Grillo lined up his shot and let it fly. Seconds later,

players and students mobbed him after finding the bottom of the net on the first shot of the game for a 3-0 lead.

"That was unbelievable. I'm not a real emotional guy, but I started to feel like I was going to get some tears even though I didn't," Grillo

See BASKETBALL, Page 8A

## BEST HUMAN INTEREST COLUMN

**1st: The Advertiser-Gleam (Guntersville)**

*Sara Says - Reaching out matters a lot*

by: Sara Watkins

**2nd: Shelby County Reporter (Columbiana)**

*Braxton's special purpose*

by: Alec Etheredge

**3rd: The Montgomery Independent**

*From The Booster Seat To The Driver's Seat - They Grow Up Fast*

by: Jeff Martin

## BEST EDITORIAL COLUMN OR COMMENTARY

**1st: Shelby County Reporter (Columbiana)**

*Sharon Yeager's impact was endless*

by: Alec Etheredge

**2nd: Shelby County Reporter**

*Decision needs transparency*

by: Alec Etheredge

**3rd: Shelby County Reporter**

*Chelsea needs a school system*

by: Alec Etheredge

## BEST SPORTS NEWS IN-DEPTH COVERAGE

**1st: Call News (Citronelle)**

*Saraland TRO denied Huge Win for Spartan program Saraland cleared*

by: Jimmy Wigfield

**2nd: Shelby County Reporter (Columbiana)**

*World Games Coverage*

by: staff

**3rd: Birmingham Business Journal**

*World Games coverage*

by: staff

## BEST SPORTS SINGLE EVENT STORY

**1st: Call News (Citronelle)**

*Spartans Want That Crown*

by: Jimmy Wigfield

**2nd: Shelby County Reporter (Columbiana)**

*Best Day Ever*

by: Alec Etheredge

**3rd: Lagniappe (Mobile)**

*Curtis 'relieved' to set record as UMS-Wright tops Headland*

by: Brady Petree

## BEST SPORTS FEATURE STORY

**1st: Shelby County Reporter (Columbiana)**

*Best Day Ever*

by: Alec Etheredge

**2nd: Shelby County Reporter**

*Looking forward*

by: Alec Etheredge

**3rd: Birmingham Business Journal**

*USFL players talk Birmingham*

by: Ashlee Woods

## BEST LOCAL SPORTS COLUMN

**1st: Lagniappe (Mobile)**

*Lifetime memories are made at state basketball tournament*

by: Randy Kennedy

**2nd: Shelby County Reporter (Columbiana)**

*The importance of autism awareness*

by: Alec Etheredge



## Local law enforcement asking state for help to deal with mentally ill

By Dee Ann Campbell  
Sun-Advocate Publisher

BUTLER — "Somebody needs to give us some answers."

Butler Police Chief Jimmy Huckeba sat in his office in late May and talked about an issue that has become one of the most difficult problems faced by his department — how to handle mentally ill individuals and who to call for help when his officers need it.

"There is nowhere to take these

people and we end up trying to deal with them over and over again," he said. "I'm tired of not being able to get people the help they need. We are NOT the answer. Somebody needs to tell us who is responsible."

The problem, he said, is a lack of available beds in mental health facilities, a lack of assistance for officers and county jails that are trying to deal with the problem, and a system that keeps placing the mentally ill back into communities without adequately addressing their problems — and back into the hands of local law enforcement.

Huckeba's concern about the issue led to a meeting with state and regional mental health officials who gathered at Butler City Hall last Wednesday. Included in the meeting was Commissioner of the Alabama Department of Mental Health (ADMH) Kimberly Boswell, along with West Alabama Mental Health Director Patricia Moore, and other state and regional staff members, along with Sheriff Scott Lolley and Officer Blake Richardson of Clarke County.

See ANSWERS, page 4

## The Choctaw Sun-Advocate Best News Feature Story Coverage

3rd: Lagniappe

Players take the biggest hit in failed MLFB venture

by: Tommy Hicks

BEST FEATURE PHOTO

1st: Shelby County Reporter (Columbiana)

Bull riding

by: Keith McCoy

2nd: Shelby County Reporter

Jake Crooks

by: Keith McCoy

3rd: The Choctaw Sun-Advocate (Gilbertown)

Veteran Salute

by: Annie Hutchinson

BEST NEWS PHOTO

1st: Shelby County Reporter (Columbiana)

A close call

by: Alec Etheredge

2nd: Shelby County Reporter

Melting their hearts: Puppies on ice

by: Dawn Harrison

3rd: Call News (Citronelle)

Oh What a feeling

by: Bonita Roberts

BEST SPOT NEWS PHOTO

1st: The Choctaw Sun-Advocate (Gilbertown)

Murder arrest

by: Dee Ann Campbell

2nd: Call News (Citronelle)

Too Close For Comfort

by: Mike Kittrell

3rd: The Southern Star (Ozark)

Firefighting in Tight Spaces

by: Adam Kameron

BEST SPORTS PHOTO

1st: Shelby County Reporter (Columbiana)

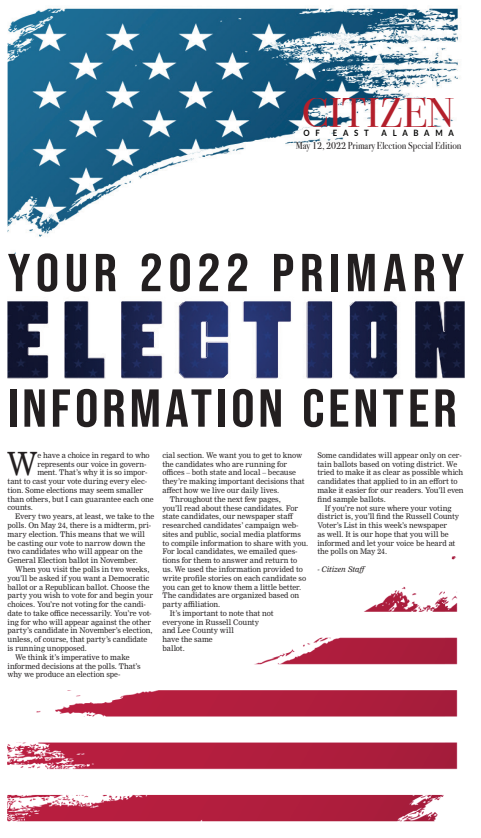
Pelham player defies gravity on stellar catch

by: Jeremy Raines

2nd: Birmingham Business Journal

Sumo wrestling in Birmingham!

by: Bob Farley



The Citizen of East Alabama Best Special Section

3rd: Shelby County Reporter

Brady Dunn gets horizontal on dunk

by: Keith McCoy

BEST PHOTO ESSAY

1st: Birmingham Business Journal

World Games sports

by: Bob Farley

2nd: Shelby County Reporter (Columbiana)

Unbelieva-Bull

by: staff

3rd: Birmingham Business Journal

Breast cancer survivors

by: Bob Farley

BEST USE OF GRAPHICS OR ILLUSTRATIONS

1st: Birmingham Business Journal

Migration Nation

by: Laurie Lawrence

2nd: Birmingham Business Journal

Alabama's \$49M Roadblock

by: Laurie Lawrence

3rd: Shelby County Reporter (Columbiana)

Changing directions

by: Connor Bucy

BEST HEADLINE

1st: Citizen of East Alabama (Phenix City)

Red Devils steal the spotlight from MGM

by: Mark Clark

2nd: Birmingham Business Journal

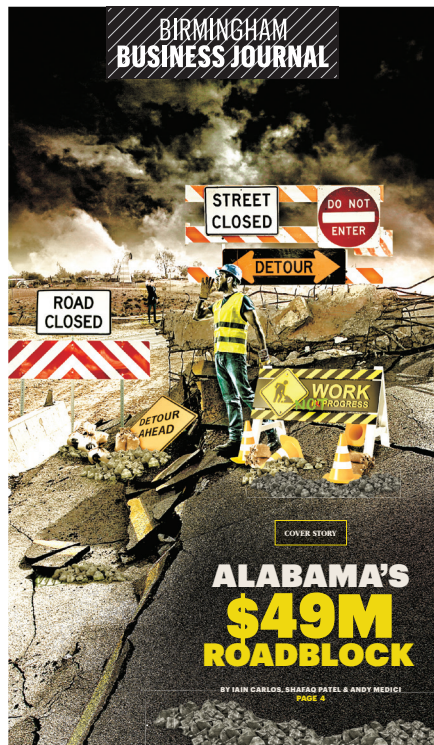
Not your average Joe: A roast to toast

by: Cara Clark

3rd: Shelby County Reporter (Columbiana)

A real go 'Gitter'

by: Alec Etheredge



Birmingham Business Journal Best Use of Graphics/ Illustrations

BEST SPECIAL SECTION

1st: Birmingham Business Journal Education Guide

by: staff

2nd: Citizen of East Alabama (Phenix City)

2022 Primary Election Information Center

by: Denise DuBois, Toni Shah

3rd: Shelby County Reporter (Columbiana)

Thompson Football

by: Alec Etheredge, Connor Bucy

BEST NICHE PUBLICATION

1st: Shelby County Reporter (Columbiana)

Football Magazine

by: Alec Etheredge, Connor Bucy

2nd: Birmingham Business Journal

Book of Lists

3rd: Shelby County Reporter Profile

CREATIVE USE OF MULTIMEDIA

1st: Lagniappe (Mobile)

Downtown standoff ends with suicide

by: staff

2nd: Shelby County Reporter (Columbiana)

Thompson state championship video

by: Alec Etheredge

3rd: Shelby County Reporter

Crumbl opening video

by: Alec Etheredge

ONLINE BREAKING NEWS COVERAGE

1st: Shelby County Reporter (Columbiana)

Helena double homicide

by: Michelle Love, Alec Etheredge

2nd: Shelby County Reporter

Saint Stephens Episcopal shooting

by: Alec Etheredge, Emily Sparacino

3rd: Lagniappe (Mobile)

Downtown standoff ends in suicide

by: staff



BEST USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA

**1st: Shelby County Reporter (Columbiana)**  
*Instagram Reels*  
**2nd: Shelby County Reporter**  
*Instagram photos*  
**3rd: Shelby County Reporter**  
*Shelby County Facebook Live Pregame Show*  
by: Alec Etheredge

BEST PODCAST SERIES

**1st: Lagniappe (Mobile)**  
*Lagnia-POD*  
by: staff  
**2nd: Shelby County Reporter (Columbiana)**  
*Shelby County Facebook Live Pregame Show*  
by: Alec Etheredge  
**3rd: Shelby County Reporter**  
*The Shelby County Football Show*  
by: Alec Etheredge

BEST USE OF VIDEO (SHORTER THAN 2 MINUTES)

**1st: Shelby County Reporter (Columbiana)**  
*Peyton Grillo sinks 3-pointer*  
by: Alec Etheredge

The Mountain Valley News  
Best Use of Video  
(Longer than 2 minutes)



**2nd: Shelby County Reporter**  
*Monster Walk*  
by: Meg Herndon  
**3rd: Shelby County Reporter**  
*Thompson Vestavia quarterfinal recap*  
by: Alec Etheredge

BEST USE OF VIDEO (LONGER THAN 2 MINUTES)

**1st: The Alabama Baptist**  
*Moving the TAB story to the next season*  
by: Sam Evans  
**2nd: The Mountain Valley News (Rainsville)**  
*The Coach Robi Coker Show Championship Edition*  
by: Arlan Blevins  
**3rd: Shelby County Reporter (Columbiana)**  
*Thompson wins fourth championship in a row*  
by: Alec Etheredge

BEST COMMUNITY EVENT

**1st: Shelby County Reporter (Columbiana)**  
*Election forums*  
by: Keith McCoy  
**2nd: Birmingham Business Journal**  
*Mentoring Monday 2022*  
by: Stephanie Rebman  
**3rd: Shelby County Reporter**  
*Soccer Media Days*  
by: staff

Editorial Contest  
DIVISION D

GENERAL EXCELLENCE

**1st: The Observer (Opelika)**  
**2nd: The Clay Times-Journal (Lineville)**  
**3rd: The Greenville Standard**

FOI-FIRST AMENDMENT AWARD

**1st: The Clay Times-Journal (Lineville)**  
*911 has failed the whole county*  
**2nd: The Perry County Herald**  
*Marion city government*  
**3rd: Sumter County Record-Journal (Livingston)**  
*Are nude dancers performing in Livingston? Nude dancing ordinance*  
by: Tommy McGraw

BEST NEWSPAPER WEBSITE

**1st: The Observer (Opelika)**  
[www.opelikaobserver.com](http://www.opelikaobserver.com)  
**2nd: Selma Sun**  
[www.selmasun.com](http://www.selmasun.com)  
**3rd: The Lowndes Signal (Fort Deposit)**  
[www.lowndessignal.com](http://www.lowndessignal.com)

BEST PRODUCTION AND PRINTING

**1st: The Luverne Journal**  
**2nd: The Demopolis Times**  
**3rd: The Observer (Opelika)**

BEST PUBLIC SERVICE

**1st: The Clay Times-Journal (Lineville)**  
*911 has failed the whole county*  
**2nd: The Perry County Herald**  
*Municipal accountability reporting*  
by: John Allan Clark  
**3rd: The Lowndes Signal (Fort Deposit)**  
*ALDOT Intersection Creates Problems for Lowndes County Residents*

Selma Sun  
Best Newspaper Website

BEST EDITORIAL PAGE OR SECTION

**1st: The Greenville Standard**  
**2nd: Washington County News (Chatom)**  
**3rd: The Leader (Linden)**

The Greenville Standard  
Best Editorial Page or Section



**BEST LIFESTYLE/  
FAMILY PAGES**  
**1st:** The Greenville Standard  
**2nd:** The Observer (Opelika)

**BEST SPORTS  
COVERAGE**  
**1st:** Washington County  
News (Chatom)  
**2nd:** The Wetumpka Herald  
**3rd:** The Baldwin Times  
by: Cole McNanna

**BEST LOCAL  
ECONOMIC  
COVERAGE**  
**1st:** Selma Sun  
**2nd:** The Tuskegee News  
**3rd:** The Observer (Opelika)

**BEST LOCAL  
EDUCATION  
COVERAGE**  
**1st:** The Tallassee Tribune  
**2nd:** Washington County News  
(Chatom)  
**3rd:** Selma Sun

**BEST LOCAL NEWS  
COVERAGE**  
**1st:** The Leader (Linden)  
by: Tommy Campbell, Dee Ann Campbell  
**2nd:** Washington County News  
(Chatom)  
**3rd:** The Tallassee Tribune

**BEST USE OF  
PHOTOGRAPHS/  
EDITORIAL CONTENT**  
**1st:** The Greenville Standard  
**2nd:** The Greenville Advocate  
**3rd:** The Observer (Opelika)

**BEST LAYOUT AND  
DESIGN**  
**1st:** The Observer (Opelika)  
**2nd:** The Luverne Journal  
**3rd:** The Greenville Standard

The Lowndes Signal - Best Public Service

# The Lowndes Signal

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## INTERSECTION PROVES PROBLEMATIC

### Local officials at odds with ALDOT over Lowndesoro junction

By SHANE DUNAWAY  
THE SELMA TIMES-JOURNAL

Efforts to resolve problems at a dangerous intersection in Lowndes County appear to have stoked discontent between local officials and the Alabama Department of Transportation.

A proposed plan by ALDOT seeks to have residents from Lowndesboro who wish to travel east on U.S. Highway 80 turn right off Alabama Highway 97 towards Selma, then perform a "U-turn" instead of making a left turn at the intersection. The inverse applies to residents of Hayneville seeking to go westbound on Selma, as they would have to turn east towards Montgomery and make a similar turn.

Lowndesboro Mayor Anne Spooner said there's been a considerable amount of disagreement from her residents in regards to how ALDOT wants to proceed and the issue has become a "bone of contention" for the rural community.

"We had the public hearing, and yet, they seem to have already made up their mind about what they want to do even though they've given us until May 1 to send in written comments and questions," she said. "I don't know if they're going to change their mind or not, or how they really handle this."

She added travelers speeding on Highway 80 make the intersection dangerous, especially those traveling eastbound who have to crest a hill less

SEE INTERSECTION 3

Get Involved!  
PUBLIC INPUT NEEDED  
VISIT ALDOT WEBSITE  
US-80 INTERSECTION  
IMPROVEMENTS

SHANE DUNAWAY / THE SELMA TIMES-JOURNAL  
ALDOT input on intersection:  
The Alabama Department of Transportation sought input from local residents regarding the intersection of U.S. Highway 80 and Alabama Highway 97.

**BEST SPOT NEWS STORY**  
**1st:** Washington County News  
(Chatom)  
Storms Smash County  
by: Jason Boothe, Willie Gray  
**2nd:** The Clay Times-Journal (Lineville)  
Murder on the Mountain  
by: Tammy Andrews  
**3rd:** The Leader (Linden)  
Freddie Armstead death  
by: Tommy Campbell

**BEST IN-DEPTH NEWS  
COVERAGE**  
**1st:** The Leader (Linden)  
Life in prison  
by: Tommy Campbell  
**2nd:** The Clay Times-Journal (Lineville)  
Animal Shelter overcomes many obstacles  
by: Tammy Andrews  
**3rd:** The Leader  
Man convicted of murdering  
by: Tommy Campbell

**BEST BUSINESS STORY  
OR COLUMN**  
**1st:** The Baldwin Times  
Culinary mad scientists ferment up a  
spicy storm in Orange Beach  
by: Melanie LeCroy  
**2nd:** The Baldwin Times  
Local restaurants, food trucks riding roller  
coaster of food cost uncertainty

The Clay Times-Journal - Best Spot News Story

"Devoted to the upbuilding of Clay County"

# The Clay Times-Journal

Volume 112, Number 47 Thursday, August 18, 2022 1 Section, 12 Pages

## MURDER ON THE MOUNTAIN

### Suspects in custody after bizarre robbery attempt goes awry

By Tammy Andrews  
Clay Times-Journal

On Sunday, August 14, 2022 at approximately 11:30 a.m., 911 dispatched Clay County Rescue Squad and Shinbone Valley Volunteer Fire department to NFS 600-3 near Cheaha Mountain for a 22-year-old male who had been shot in the back. There were no other details on this call that were known at the time it was dispatched. Upon arrival at the scene, sheriff's deputies and responding emergency personnel found the girlfriend of the shooting victim, 20-year-old Mikayla Paulus, performing CPR on her long-time boyfriend, Adam Simjee, who had been shot.

Lifesaver 4 responds to an established landing zone on Hwy 281 near Cheaha State Park on Sunday. Law enforcement pieces together as to what had happened that led to the shootings and death of this young man.

Sheriff Studdard said it took them a while to sort through all of this information and still haven't sorted through all of it. Sheriff Studdard said there was a lack of communication at this location because cell phones weren't working and radios couldn't get out, so they were limited in their ability to coordinate with other agencies. However, in the past 48 hours, the investigation reveals that Mikayla and Adam were driving down National Forestry Road 600-3, when they were flagged down by a black female, later identified as Yasmine Hider. Hider asked the couple if

Murder. See page 7A



by: Melanie LeCroy  
**3rd:** The Courier (Daphne/Fairhope)  
The mushroom man: Love of nature  
spawns new business in Baldwin County  
by: Allison Marlow

**BEST FEATURE STORY  
COVERAGE**  
**1st:** St. Clair News-Aegis (Pell City)  
'His voice on this earth' Michelle Tumlin  
dedicates nonprofit to her son Houston  
by: Jamie Browder  
**2nd:** Selma Sun  
Bright Spot on Broad Street goes dark  
by: Todd Prater  
**3rd:** The Tallassee Tribune  
Tallassee High School choir performs in  
capitol rotunda  
by: Cliff Williams

**BEST NEWS FEATURE  
STORY COVERAGE**  
**1st:** The Clay Times-Journal (Lineville)  
911 has failed the whole county  
**2nd:** The Clay Times-Journal  
Murder on the Mountain  
**3rd:** The Onlooker (Foley)  
A life and a crime swept under the rug:  
Lynching victim remembered in weekend  
Bay Minette ceremony  
by: Allison Marlow

**BEST EDITORIAL**  
**1st:** The Observer (Opelika)  
Tenacious Wise Men  
by: Greg Markley  
**2nd:** The Leader (Linden)  
A big thank you...  
by: Tommy Campbell  
**3rd:** The Greenville Standard  
Do you vote; an opinion  
by: Bruce Branum

**BEST HUMOROUS  
COLUMN**  
**1st:** The Observer (Opelika)  
Turkey is Dead, Santa is too Skinny  
by: Wendy Hodge  
**2nd:** The Observer  
Intervention  
by: Wendy Hodge  
**3rd:** The Leader (Linden)  
Of curling irons  
by: Dee Ann Campbell

**BEST HUMAN INTEREST  
COLUMN**  
**1st:** The Clay Times-Journal (Lineville)  
A tribute to my friend  
by: Tammy Andrews  
**2nd:** The Observer (Opelika)  
My Mother's Hands  
by: Wendy Hodge





BEST PHOTO ESSAY

- 1st: The Observer (Opelika)**  
*Dancers Dazzle*  
by: John Hillsman, Michelle Key
- 2nd: The Onlooker (Foley)**  
*Steer wrestling practice with Drew Clukey*  
by: Micah Green
- 3rd: The Observer**  
*Auburn Keeps Rollin*

BEST USE OF GRAPHICS OR ILLUSTRATIONS

- 1st: The Observer**  
*Election Undetermined*  
by: Michelle Key
- 2nd: The Observer**  
*Sno\*Pelika*  
by: Michelle Key, Robert Noles
- 3rd: The Observer**  
*OPD Spreads Love*  
by: Michelle Key, Robert Noles

BEST HEADLINE

- 1st: The Greensboro Watchman**  
*Snowball chance in Hale?*  
by: John Allan Clark
- 2nd: The Moundville Times**  
*Why is the chicken across the road?*  
by: Travis Vaughn
- 3rd: The Clay Times-Journal (Lineville)**  
*Holy Smokes*  
by: Tammy Andrews

BEST SPECIAL SECTION

- 1st: The Clay Times-Journal (Lineville)**  
*Honoring our First Responders*
- 2nd: Sumter County Record-Journal (Livingston)**  
*Black History Special*
- 3rd: The Lowndes Signal (Fort Deposit)**  
*AISA Class A State Championship*

BEST NICHE PUBLICATION

- 1st: The Clay Times-Journal (Lineville)**  
*At Home in Clay County-Spring edition*
- 2nd: The Greenville Advocate**  
*There's No Place Like Home*
- 3rd: The Luverne Journal**  
*Crenshaw Connections*

The Observer  
Best Use of Graphics or Illustrations



CREATIVE USE OF MULTIMEDIA

- 1st: Selma Sun**  
*Center Stage*

Selma Sun - Best Community Event



- by: Todd Prater, Cindy Fisher, Chico Cleveland
- 2nd: The Observer (Opelika)**  
*Ali Rauch from Chamber of Commerce Sits Down with The Lee County Listener*  
by: Sam DiChiara, Garrett Martinez

ONLINE BREAKING NEWS COVERAGE

- 1st: The Moundville Times**  
*Son murders father*  
by: Travis Vaughn, Kasey DeCastr
- 2nd: The Moundville Times**  
*Ginger Holmes missing*  
by: Travis Vaughn, Kasey DeCastr
- 3rd: Sumter County Record-Journal (Livingston)**  
*Car fatality*  
by: Herman Ward, Tommy McGraw, Kasey DeCastr

BEST USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA

- 1st: The Baldwin Times**  
*GCM Sports*  
by: Cole McNanna
- 2nd: The Observer (Opelika)**  
*Social Media*
- 3rd: Selma Sun**  
*Center Stage*  
by: Todd Prater, Chico Cleveland

BEST PODCAST SERIES

- 1st: Selma Sun**  
*Spotlight Podcast*  
by: Todd Prater

BEST USE OF VIDEO (SHORTER THAN 2 MINUTES)

- 1st: Selma Sun**  
*Expand Interpretive Center*  
by: Cindy Fisher, Chico Cleveland
- 2nd: The Clay Times-Journal (Lineville)**  
*Exclusive halftime report*  
by: Breanna Minter
- 3rd: Selma Sun**  
*Uniontown mural*  
by: Cindy Fisher, Chico Cleveland

BEST USE OF VIDEO (LONGER THAN 2 MINUTES)

- 1st: Selma Sun**  
*Spotlight newscast*  
by: Todd Prater, Cindy Fisher, Chico Cleveland
- 2nd: The Onlooker (Foley)**  
*Media Day-Elberta High School Warriors*  
by: Cole McNanna
- 3rd: The Observer (Opelika)**  
*OMS Threats Press Conference*  
by: Kendyl Hollingsworth

BEST COMMUNITY EVENT

- 1st: The Demopolis Times**  
*Christmas on the River*  
by: Andrea Burroughs
- 2nd: Selma Sun**  
*Cleanup Day*  
by: Cindy Fisher



GENERAL EXCELLENCE

- 1st: Vestavia Voice  
2nd: The Redstone Rocket (Huntsville)  
3rd: Birmingham Times

FOI-FIRST AMENDMENT AWARD

- 1st: Hoover Sun  
*Hoover council at odds over changes in video recordings*  
by: Jon Anderson

BEST NEWSPAPER WEBSITE

- 1st: Birmingham Times  
[www.birminghamtimes.com](http://www.birminghamtimes.com)  
2nd: The Auburn Plainsman  
[www.theplainsman.com](http://www.theplainsman.com)  
3rd: The Trussville Tribune  
[www.trussvilletribune.com](http://www.trussvilletribune.com)

BEST PRODUCTION AND PRINTING

- 1st: Vestavia Voice  
by: Melanie Viering, Ted Perry  
2nd: The Redstone Rocket (Huntsville)  
3rd: Birmingham Times

BEST PUBLIC SERVICE

- 1st: 280 Living (Birmingham)  
*Keeping Kids Safe*  
by: Leah Ingram Eagle  
2nd: 280 Living  
*Shelby County officials work to combat human trafficking*  
by: Leah Ingram Eagle  
3rd: Iron City Ink (Birmingham)  
*The World Games*  
by: Jesse Chambers, Eric Taunton

BEST EDITORIAL PAGE OR SECTION

- 1st: The Auburn Plainsman  
by: Catherine Haynes, staff

BEST SPORTS COVERAGE

- 1st: Vestavia Voice  
by: Kyle Parmley, Erin Nelson

- 2nd: The Redstone Rocket (Huntsville)  
3rd: Hoover Sun  
by: Kyle Parmley, Erin Nelson

BEST LOCAL ECONOMIC COVERAGE

- 1st: The Homewood Star  
by: Neal Embry, Eric Taunton, Erin Nelson  
2nd: Vestavia Voice  
by: Neal Embry, Erin Nelson, Eric Taunton  
3rd: The Redstone Rocket (Huntsville)



TAKING THE WORLD STAGE



Iron City Ink - Best Public Service

BEST LOCAL EDUCATION COVERAGE

- 1st: 280 Living (Birmingham)  
by: Leah Eagle  
2nd: Vestavia Voice  
by: Neal Embry, Eric Taunton, Erin Nelson  
3rd: The Homewood Star  
by: Neal Embry, Eric Taunton, Erin Nelson

BEST LOCAL NEWS COVERAGE

- 1st: Birmingham Times  
2nd: The Homewood Star  
by: Neal Embry, Eric Taunton, Erin Nelson  
3rd: Vestavia Voice  
by: Neal Embry, Eric Taunton, Erin Nelson

Cahaba Sun  
Best Spot News Story

BEST USE OF PHOTOGRAPHS/ EDITORIAL CONTENT

- 1st: The Redstone Rocket (Huntsville)

BEST LAYOUT AND DESIGN

- 1st: Birmingham Times  
by: Kathryn Sessor-Dorne'  
2nd: Vestavia Voice  
by: Melanie Viering, Ted Perry  
3rd: Hoover Sun  
by: Melanie Viering, Ted Perry

BEST SPOT NEWS STORY

- 1st: 280 Living (Birmingham)  
*It's a no go*  
by: Leah Eagle  
2nd: Vestavia Voice  
*Lawsuit filed against school board, city and superintendent over open records requests*  
by: Neal Embry  
3rd: Cahaba Sun (Trussville)  
*Pattie Neill resigns as superintendent*  
by: Gary Lloyd

BEST IN-DEPTH NEWS COVERAGE

- 1st: Birmingham Times  
*Birmingham homicides*  
by: Barnett Wright  
2nd: The Homewood Star  
*Homewood firefighters raise concerns over pay; city leaders vow to find solution*  
by: Neal Embry, Eric Taunton, Melanie Viering  
3rd: Vestavia Voice  
*'A big step forward': Superintendent shares plans for future of city schools*  
by: Neal Embry, Erin Nelson



People Business Community School House Sports Columns Sights Calendar S

Pattie Neill resigns as superintendent

BY GARY LLOYD, KYLE PARMLEY NOVEMBER 1, 2023 9:59 PM



Trussville City Schools Superintendent Dr. Pattie Neill speaks at a Hewitt Trussville High School commencement ceremony.

TRUSSVILLE — Pattie Neill resigned as Trussville City Schools' superintendent Nov. 1.

"I am proud of the accomplishments of the students, educators, and staff of Trussville City Schools during the time I have served as Superintendent over the last 10 years," Neill wrote in her resignation letter. "I believe this is the perfect time for new leadership to continue the mission of Trussville City Schools, and I have decided to step down in my duties as Superintendent."

BEST BUSINESS STORY OR COLUMN

- 1st: The Homewood Star  
*A Story to Tell: Timothy Hontzas of Johnny's Restaurant a finalist for James Beard Award*  
by: Neal Embry, Erin Nelson  
2nd: The Redstone Rocket (Huntsville)  
*Blinking restaurant machine doesn't deserve tip*  
by: Jonathan Stinson  
3rd: The Homewood Star  
*Homewood Antiques and Marketplace out of Edgewood space after more than a decade*  
by: Neal Embry

BEST FEATURE STORY COVERAGE

- 1st: Iron City Ink (Birmingham)  
*Breaking the color line in death*  
by: Solomon Crenshaw Jr.  
2nd: Iron City Ink  
*Still on the march*  
by: Nick Patterson  
3rd: Vestavia Voice  
*Rising country music star and Vestavia Hills native Trey Lewis shares journey to sobriety, fame*  
by: Neal Embry, Erin Nelson





**2nd: Hoover Sun**  
*Doused in beer at The World Games*  
by: Erin Nelson

**3rd: Village Living (Mountain Brook)**  
*Spartans soccer win state title*  
by: Erin Nelson

BEST PHOTO ESSAY

**1st: Hoover Sun**  
*The World Games Softball*  
by: Erin Nelson, Ted Perry

**2nd: 280 Living (Birmingham)**  
*Snapshots: Fanfare and halftime performances*  
by: staff

**3rd: Hoover Sun**  
*A Day of Remembrance*  
by: Erin Nelson, Ted Perry

BEST USE OF GRAPHICS OR ILLUSTRATIONS

**1st: Hoover Sun**  
*Transparency*  
by: Ted Perry

**2nd: The Redstone Rocket (Huntsville)**  
*Seven decades of big stories and events*

**3rd: The Redstone Rocket**  
*How we got to where we are...*

BEST HEADLINE

**1st: The Homewood Star**  
*Hopping to the Bahamas: Samford professor receives grant to research little-known frog*  
by: Melanie Viering

**2nd: The Homewood Star**  
*Turning the page: Longtime special projects librarian retires*  
by: Ted Perry

**3rd: Hoover Sun**  
*Hoover painter makes big splash with tiny art*  
by: Jon Anderson

**BEST SPECIAL SECTION - NEWSPRINT**

**1st: The Redstone Rocket (Huntsville)**  
*70th Anniversary*

**2nd: Birmingham Times**  
*Black History in the Arts*

**3rd: The Redstone Rocket (Huntsville)**  
*Breast Cancer Awareness*

BEST NICHE PUBLICATION

**1st: The Redstone Rocket (Huntsville)**  
*2022 Base Guide*

**2nd: Vestavia Voice**  
*Under the Lights*  
by: Kyle Parmley, Gary Lloyd, staff

**3rd: The Redstone Rocket**  
*SMD symposium*

CREATIVE USE OF MULTIMEDIA


**1st: The Trussville Tribune**  
*Tribune Sports Live*  
by: Bobby Mathews, Zack Steele

A24 • November 2022

280 Living

**SNAPSHOTS:**

Fanfare and halftime performances in full swing as the regular football season wraps up in October. Photos by Laura Chramer, Todd Lester and Erin Nelson







Above: Birmingham cheerleaders lead players and cheer during homecoming festivities during halftime of the Lions football game versus Gates of Lone Pine Stadium on Oct. 13. The Eagles beat the Lions in triple overtime, 31-28. Below: Birmingham fans enjoy the game.

The Trussville Tribune's first anniversary celebration was held at the Trussville High School on Sept. 18. The Trussville Tribune's first anniversary celebration was held at the Trussville High School on Sept. 18.

Above: An Oak Mountain band member performs during a game between Hoover and Oak Mountain on Sept. 18 at Homewood Park.

Left: The Sports Park marching band performs at halftime during a game between Sports Park and Chelton on Oct. 7 at Chelton High School Stadium. Right: A Chelton color guard member performs during the Sports Park and Chelton game.

The Trussville Tribune  
Best Use of Video (Shorter than 2 minutes)

**2nd: The Trussville Tribune**  
*Tribune Unscripted*  
by: Scott Buttram, Brannon Dawkins, Ron Burkett

**3rd: Vestavia Voice**  
*Chopt Creative Salad Co.*  
by: Ingrid Schnader

ONLINE BREAKING NEWS COVERAGE

**1st: Vestavia Voice**  
*Saint Stephen's Episcopal Church Shooting*  
by: Neal Embry, Erin Nelson

**2nd: The Homewood Star**  
*Homewood Police Lawsuits*  
by: Neal Embry, Eric Taunton

BEST USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA

**1st: Village Living (Mountain Brook)**  
*Instagram*  
by: Erin Nelson

**2nd: 280 Living (Birmingham)**  
*Instagram*  
by: Erin Nelson, Leah Ingram Eagle

**3rd: Hoover Sun**  
*Hoover's Most Eligible Bachelor and Bachelorette*  
by: Jon Anderson

BEST USE OF VIDEO (SHORTER THAN 2 MINUTES)

**1st: The Redstone Rocket (Huntsville)**  
*Korean War Veterans Take Honor Flight To D.C.*  
by: Erin Elise Enyinda

**2nd: The Redstone Rocket**  
*Patton Road Track closed until May 17*  
by: staff

**3rd: The Redstone Rocket**  
*Veteran enjoys belated 100th birthday celebration*  
by: Jonathan Stinson

BEST USE OF VIDEO (LONGER THAN 2 MINUTES)

**1st: The Trussville Tribune**  
*Meet the Hewitt-Trussville Mountain Bike team.*  
by: Brannon Dawkins

**2nd: The Redstone Rocket (Huntsville)**  
*2022 Black History Month – Three Soldiers share their stories*  
by: Jonathan Stinson

**3rd: The Redstone Rocket**  
*Earth Day 2022*  
by: Jonathan Stinson

### BEST REGULARLY SCHEDULED SPECIAL SECTION

**1st: The Decatur Daily**  
*Living 50 Plus*

### BEST CLASSIFIED DISPLAY AD

**1st: The Decatur Daily**  
*Real Estate Experts*

### BEST SIGNATURE PAGE

**1st: The Decatur Daily**  
*Best of the Best 2022*

### BEST NICHE PUBLICATION

**1st: The Decatur Daily**  
*Explore Decatur-Morgan*



**Caitlin Fite**  
AGENT

**Where did you grow up?** My name is Caitlin Moody Fite and I grew up in Decatur, AL. You may notice that I have a familiar maiden name, as I am the daughter of Mark Moody, and I am also a Decatur local.

**What do you like about your job?** I have always been used to an exciting and fast paced work environment growing up with a REALTOR® for a father as well as my first job being a runner at an attorney's office.

**What did you do before Real Estate?** I have been around real

**Q & A with Caitlin Fite**

estate my entire life and growing up I thought it was not fun. But as I grew up, I realized it is what I was meant to do. I know all the ends and outs of a real estate transaction. After working in a real estate attorney's office, doing everything for closings and then completing mortgages for two years.

**What do you enjoy doing when you're not working?** Outside of work, I am a wife and love to be involved with helping my community as a Sunday School teacher at First Bible Church. I

want to be a part of anything that involves helping others. I love spending time with my husband and our Chocolate Lab.

**What separates you from your competitors?** I was the recipient of the 2019 Morgan County Association of REALTORS® Rising Star Award. Just in the almost 4 years I have been licensed, I have been in my companies' Top 10 Multi-Million Dollar Producers list at MarMac Real Estate.

For all your buying and selling needs give me a call 256-466-0756!



**Getting to know Who's Who 2022**

**Contact info:**

**MARMAC**  
256-466-0756  
caitlin@marmac.us

**Follow me on:**

Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, Twitter, YouTube

The Decatur Daily

*The Local*

**Real Estate Experts**



**Lois Dawes**  
Meet the Team  
404-886-8888 — 256-227-0841  
lois@loisdawes.com



**Tiffany Pack**  
REALTOR  
256-468-7427  
Tiffany@tiffanypack.com



**Melike Fisk**  
REALTOR  
256-345-2323  
Melike@melikefisk.com



**Mark Moody**  
Broker/Owner  
256-250-6009  
mark@marmac.us  
www.marmac.us

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exp@exprealty.com

Contact one of these knowledgeable agents today for free, friendly advice!

The Decatur Daily  
Best Classified Display Ad

### ADVERTISING SWEEPSTAKES AWARD

**1st: The Fort Payne Times-Journal**  
**2nd: The Outlook (Alexander City)**  
**3rd: The Selma Times-Journal**

### BEST CLASSIFIED PAGE OR SECTION

**1st: The Fort Payne Times-Journal**  
by: Sydney Lockhart, Emily Wooten  
**2nd: The Outlook (Alexander City)**  
**3rd: The Cullman Times**  
by: Debbie Miller, staff

### BEST SINGLE AD 1/2 PAGE & UNDER, BLACK & WHITE

**1st: The Fort Payne Times-Journal**  
*Akins Furniture*  
by: LaShawna Rains, Emily Wooten  
**2nd: The Fort Payne Times-Journal**  
*Vintage 1889*  
by: LaShawna Rains, Emily Wooten  
**3rd: The Fort Payne Times-Journal**  
*Cole Surgical*  
by: Lorie Holder, Emily Wooten

### BEST SINGLE AD 1/2 PAGE & UNDER, COLOR

**1st: Daily Mountain Eagle (Jasper)**  
*Complete Health*  
by: staff  
**2nd: Jackson County Sentinel (Scottsboro)**  
*Corey Hixon*  
by: Elizabeth Law  
**3rd: Jackson County Sentinel**  
*Town of Skyline*  
by: Elizabeth Law

### BEST SINGLE AD OVER 1/2 PAGE, BLACK & WHITE

**1st: The Cullman Tribune**  
*Subscribe Today*  
by: Dustin Isom, Noah Galilee, Janet Chandler  
**2nd: The Fort Payne Times-Journal**  
*Rainsville Technology Inc.*

by: LaShawna Rains, Emily Wooten  
**3rd: The Clanton Advertiser**  
*City of Clanton*  
by: Zack Bates

### BEST SINGLE AD OVER 1/2 PAGE, COLOR

**1st: The Outlook (Alexander City)**  
*Lake Martin Signature Construction*  
by: Audra Spears  
**2nd: The Clanton Advertiser**  
*Breast Cancer Pink Ribbon Page*  
by: Zack Bates  
**3rd: The Outlook (Alexander City)**  
*Tallapoosa County BOE*

### BEST REGULARLY SCHEDULED SPECIAL SECTION

**1st: The Fort Payne Times-Journal**  
*Writing Tomorrow's History*  
**2nd: The Selma Times-Journal**  
*Visit Selma*  
**3rd: The Outlook (Alexander City)**  
*We Make It Great Here! Progress 2022*  
by: Audra Spears, Betsy Iler, Kenneth Boone

### BEST ONE TIME SPECIAL SECTION

**1st: Jackson County Sentinel (Scottsboro)**  
*Christmas Coloring Book*

Jackson County Sentinel  
Best Single Ad 1/2 page & under, color

CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2022

THE TOWN OF SKYLINE, HOME OF THE VIKINGS

**SKYLINE**

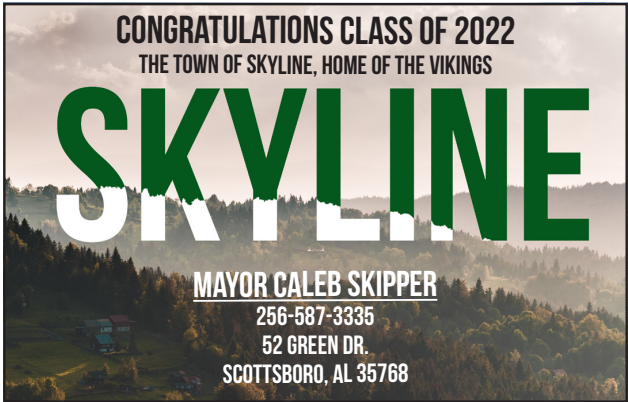
**SKYLINE**

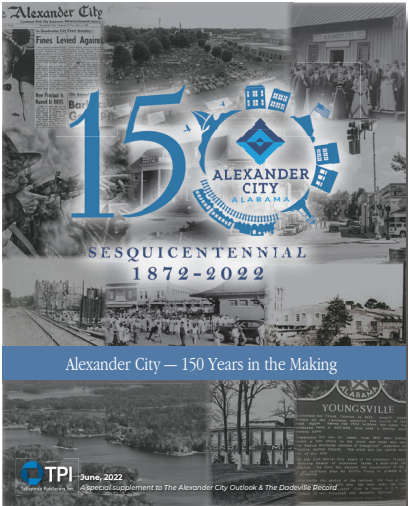
**MAYOR CALEB SKIPPER**

256-587-3335

52 GREEN DR.

SCOTTSBORO, AL 35768





The Outlook  
Best One Time Special Section

**2nd: The Outlook (Alexander City)**  
*150th Alexander City*  
**3rd: The Selma Times-Journal**  
*Breast Cancer Awareness*

### BEST IN-PAPER PROMOTION OF NEWSPAPER

**1st: The Outlook (Alexander City)**  
*Sports Extra*  
by: Audra Spears  
**2nd: The Outlook**  
*Today A Reader*  
by: Audra Spears  
**3rd: The Outlook**  
*What We Do*  
by: Audra Spears



BEST ADVERTISING CAMPAIGN

- 1st: The Fort Payne Times-Journal**  
*First State Bank Magazine Series*  
by: Linda Stiefel, Emily Wooten
- 2nd: The Fort Payne Times-Journal**  
*First State Bank Testimonial Series*  
by: Linda Stiefel, Emily Wooten
- 3rd: The Fort Payne Times-Journal**  
*First State Bank Playoff Series*  
by: Linda Stiefel, Emily Wooten

BEST ORIGINAL/ CREATIVE IDEA

- 1st: The Fort Payne Times-Journal**  
*First State Bank Field featured art*  
by: Linda Stiefel, Emily Wooten
- 2nd: The Fort Payne Times-Journal**  
*Out of this World*  
by: Emily Wooten, Nita Stevens
- 3rd: The Cullman Times**  
*Football 2022*  
by: Heather Casillas, staff

BEST CLASSIFIED DISPLAY AD

- 1st: The Fort Payne Times-Journal**  
*Crossville Health*  
by: Sydney Lockhart, Emily Wooten
- 2nd: The Fort Payne Times-Journal**  
*Southern Properties*  
by: Emily Wooten
- 3rd: The Cullman Times**  
*Quality Staffing*  
by: Heather Casillas, Glenda Smith

BEST SIGNATURE PAGE

- 1st: The Fort Payne Times-Journal**  
*Fort Payne Holiday Open House*



- 2nd: The Selma Times-Journal**  
*Administrative Professionals*  
by: Tina Yelverton, Bill Tomey
- 3rd: The Outlook (Alexander City)**  
*Shelter Pets*

BEST NICHE PUBLICATION

- 1st: The Outlook (Alexander City)**  
*Lake Martin Calendar*  
by: Kenneth Boone, Audra Spears
- 2nd: The Fort Payne Times-Journal**  
*Boom Days event brochure and Map*
- 3rd: The Outlook (Alexander City)**  
*Lake Martin-The Official Visitor's Guide*  
by: Audra Spears

BEST USE OF HUMOR

- 1st: The Outlook (Alexander City)**  
*Southern Star Farm*
- 2nd: The Fort Payne Times-Journal**  
*Prissy dog grooming*  
by: Sydney Lockhart, Emily Wooten
- 3rd: The Fort Payne Times-Journal**  
*Sniffing out the Holiday Joy Trail*  
by: Sydney Lockhart, Emily Wooten

BEST PRESENTATION OF ONLINE ADVERTISING

- 1st: The Fort Payne Times-Journal**  
[www.times-journal.com](http://www.times-journal.com)
- 2nd: The Cullman Tribune**  
[www.cullmantribune.com](http://www.cullmantribune.com)
- by: Dustin Isom
- 3rd: The Cullman Times**  
[www.cullmantimes.com](http://www.cullmantimes.com)
- by: Katherine Miller, staff

The Fort Payne Times-Journal  
Best Advertising Campaign

BEST INNOVATIVE ONLINE ADVERTISING - SINGLE AD

- 1st: The Fort Payne Times-Journal**  
*Northeast Alabama Community College, Begin Your Future Here*  
by: Linda Stiefel, Emily Wooten
- 2nd: The Fort Payne Times-Journal**  
*Out of this World ON-Line*  
by: Emily Wooten, Nita Stevens
- 3rd: Daily Mountain Eagle (Jasper)**  
*Manchester Auto Parts*

ONLINE REVENUE BUILDER

- 1st: The Fort Payne Times-Journal**  
*TJ Online Subscriptions*  
by Emily Wooten, Nita Stevens
- 2nd: The Outlook (Alexander City)**  
*Why Pay?*  
by Audra Spears
- 3rd: The Outlook (Alexander City)**  
*Extend Your Storefront*  
by staff



The Selma Times-Journal  
Best Signature Page

Advertising Contest  
DIVISION C

ADVERTISING SWEEPSTAKES AWARD

- 1st Place: Shelby County Reporter**  
(Columbiana)
- 2nd: Citizen of East Alabama**  
(Phenix City)
- 3rd: The Choctaw Sun-Advocate**  
(Gilbertown)

BEST CLASSIFIED PAGE OR SECTION

- 1st Place: The Sand Mountain Reporter**  
(Albertville)  
by Jonathan Bottomlee, John Morris, Abigail Cline
- 2nd: Shelby County Reporter**  
(Columbiana)
- 3rd: The Southern Star**  
(Ozark)

BEST SINGLE AD 1/2 PAGE & UNDER, BLACK & WHITE

- 1st Place: The Choctaw Sun-Advocate**  
(Gilbertown)  
*Bimbos Valentine*  
by Dee Ann Campbell
- 2nd: The Sand Mountain Reporter**  
(Albertville)  
*Foodland Seafood*  
by Jonathan Bottomlee, John Morris, Abigail Cline
- 3rd: Shelby County Reporter**  
(Columbiana)  
*Bolton Headstone*

BEST SINGLE AD 1/2 PAGE & UNDER, COLOR

- 1st Place: The Choctaw Sun-Advocate**  
(Gilbertown)  
*Gibson Body Shop*  
by Dee Ann Campbell
- 2nd: The Choctaw Sun-Advocate**  
(Gilbertown)  
*Gilbertown Egg Hunt*  
by Dee Ann Campbell
- 3rd: Citizen of East Alabama**  
(Phenix City)  
*Clean Eat*  
by Bradley Beasley

BEST SINGLE AD OVER  
1/2 PAGE, BLACK &  
WHITE

**1st: Shelby County Reporter  
(Columbiana)**  
*CPAP Plus*

**2nd: Shelby County Reporter**  
*Pelham Palooza*

**3rd: Shelby County Reporter**  
*Chamber Small Business*

BEST SINGLE AD OVER  
1/2 PAGE, COLOR

**1st: Citizen of East Alabama  
(Phenix City)**  
*East Alabama Advertising*  
by: Bradley Beasley

**2nd: Citizen of East Alabama**  
*BEAM*  
by: Bradley Beasley

**3rd: The Sand Mountain Reporter  
(Albertville)**  
*Sand Mountain Park*  
by: Jonathan Bottomlee, John Morris,  
Abigail Cline

BEST REGULARLY  
SCHEDULED SPECIAL  
SECTION

**1st: Shelby County Reporter  
(Columbiana)**  
*Graduation*

**2nd: Shelby County Reporter**  
*Football Magazine*

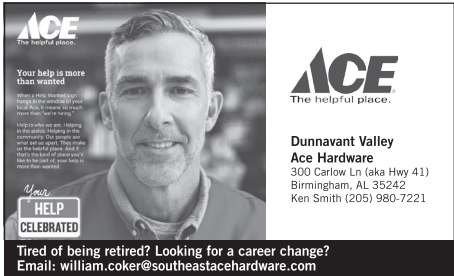
**3rd: Citizen of East Alabama  
(Phenix City)**  
*Gametime Winter 2022*  
by: Bradley Besley

BEST ONE TIME SPECIAL  
SECTION

**1st: Citizen of East Alabama  
(Phenix City)**  
*State Champs CHS Baseball*  
by: Bradley Beasley

**2nd: Shelby County Reporter  
(Columbiana)**  
*Profile*

**3rd: Shelby County Reporter**  
*Thompson*



Shelby County Reporter  
Best Classified Display Ad



The Choctaw Sun-Advocate  
Best Online Revnue Builder



The Sand Mountain Reporter  
Best Original/Creative Idea

BEST ADVERTISING  
CAMPAIGN

**1st: The Sand Mountain Reporter  
(Albertville)**  
*Sand Mountain Toyota Horizons*  
by: John Morris, Jonathan Bottomlee

**2nd: Shelby County Reporter  
(Columbiana)**  
*Coosa Valley MRI*

**3rd: The Choctaw Sun-Advocate  
(Gilbertown)**  
*Kids Deserve Better*  
by: Dee Ann Campbell

BEST ORIGINAL/  
CREATIVE IDEA

**1st: Shelby County Reporter  
(Columbiana)**  
*Compact brain ad*

**2nd: The Sand Mountain Reporter  
(Albertville)**  
*D&S Lock & Key*  
by: Jonathan Bottomlee, John Morris,  
Abigail Cline

**3rd: The Sand Mountain Reporter**  
*Extreme Concepts Christmas*  
by: Jonathan Bottomlee, John Morris,  
Abigail Cline

BEST CLASSIFIED  
DISPLAY AD

**1st: Shelby County Reporter  
(Columbiana)**  
*Lawn Mower for sale*

**2nd: Shelby County Reporter**  
*Birmingham Water Works career fair*

**3rd: Shelby County Reporter**  
*Ace Hardware*

BEST SIGNATURE PAGE

**1st: Shelby County Reporter  
(Columbiana)**  
*Thompson*

**2nd: The Choctaw Sun-Advocate  
(Gilbertown)**  
*Late-Night Shopping*  
by: Dee Ann Campbell

**3rd: Shelby County Reporter**  
*Veterans Day*

BEST NICHE PUBLICATION

**1st: Citizen of East Alabama**

**(Phenix City)**  
*Discover East Alabama*  
by: Bradley Beasley

**2nd: Shelby County Reporter  
(Columbiana)**  
*Visitor's Guide*

**3rd: Shelby County Reporter**  
*Profile*

BEST USE OF HUMOR

**1st: Shelby County Reporter  
(Columbiana)**  
*Lawn Mower For Sale*

**2nd: The Choctaw Sun-Advocate  
(Gilbertown)**  
*Gibson Body Shop*  
by: Dee Ann Campbell

**3rd: Shelby County Reporter**  
*Vulcan Mosquito*

BEST PRESENTATION OF  
ONLINE ADVERTISING

**1st: Shelby County Reporter  
(Columbiana)**  
[www.shelbycountyreporter.com](http://www.shelbycountyreporter.com)

**2nd: Citizen of East Alabama  
(Phenix City)**  
[www.citizenofeastalabama.com](http://www.citizenofeastalabama.com)  
by: Bradley Beasley

BEST INNOVATIVE  
ONLINE ADVERTISING -  
SINGLE AD

**1st: Shelby County Reporter  
(Columbiana)**  
*Buck Creek Family Dental Back to School*

**2nd: Shelby County Reporter**  
*Home Plate Cooking Stop Worrying  
About Dinner*

**3rd: Shelby County Reporter**  
*Buck Creek Family Dental Best Of*

ONLINE REVENUE BUILDER

**1st: The Choctaw Sun-Advocate  
(Gilbertown)**  
*SunTV Football*  
by: Dee Ann Campbell

**2nd: Shelby County Reporter  
(Columbiana)**  
*Digital Subscriptions*  
by: Meg Herndon

**3rd: Shelby County Reporter**  
*Shelby County Reporter Daily Email*



Advertising Contest  
**DIVISION D**

**ADVERTISING  
SWEEPSTAKES AWARD**

- 1st:** The Wetumpka Herald  
**2nd:** The Greenville Standard  
**3rd:** The Tallassee Tribune

**BEST CLASSIFIED PAGE  
OR SECTION**

- 1st:** The Wetumpka Herald  
**2nd:** The Tallassee Tribune  
**3rd:** The Dadeville Record

**BEST SINGLE AD  
1/2 PAGE & UNDER,  
BLACK & WHITE**

- 1st:** The Clay Times-Journal (Lineville)  
*Goat Man*  
by: Tammy Andrews  
**2nd:** The Clay Times-Journal  
*Wadley Depot*  
by: Tammy Andrews, Breanna Minter  
**3rd:** The Luverne Journal  
*Barns and Bins*  
by: staff

**BEST SINGLE AD 1/2  
PAGE & UNDER, COLOR**

- 1st:** The Dadeville Record  
*Tallapoosa Tourism*  
**2nd:** The Clay Times-Journal (Lineville)  
*Huddleston first responder*  
by: Tammy Andrews  
**3rd:** The Lowndes Signal (Ft. Deposit)  
*Blackbelt Unincorporated Waste Water  
Program*

The Luverne Journal  
Best Advertising  
Campaign

**BEST SINGLE AD OVER  
1/2 PAGE, COLOR**

- 1st:** The Wetumpka Herald  
*Coosa Cleaver*  
by: Marilyn Hawkins  
**2nd:** The Wetumpka Herald  
*Elmore Community Hospital*  
by: Marilyn Hawkins  
**3rd:** The Dadeville Record  
*S&S Discount Tire Pros*

**BEST REGULARLY  
SCHEDULED SPECIAL  
SECTION**

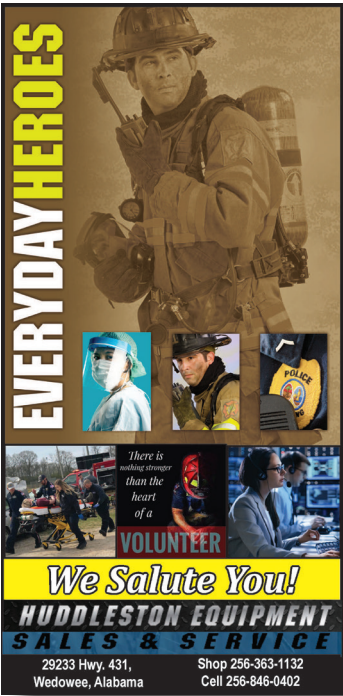
- 1st:** The Wetumpka Herald  
*Letters to Santa*  
**2nd:** The Greenville Advocate  
*The Playbook*  
**3rd:** The Clay Times-Journal (Lineville)  
*Valentines-then and now*

**BEST ONE TIME SPECIAL  
SECTION**

- 1st:** The Greenville Advocate  
*Butler County Medical Resource Guide*  
**2nd:** The Observer (Opelika)  
*OHS Awards*  
by: Michelle Key  
**3rd:** The Demopolis Times  
*Coloring for a Cause*  
by: Christi Kennedy

**BEST IN-PAPER  
PROMOTION OF  
NEWSPAPER**

- 1st:** The Wetumpka Herald  
*Be A Paper Reader*  
by: Audra Spears  
**2nd:** The Wetumpka Herald  
*We're On Mobile Too!*  
by: Audra Spears



The Clay Times-Journal  
Best Single Ad 1/2 page  
and under, color

**BEST ADVERTISING  
CAMPAIGN**

- 1st:** The Luverne Journal  
*Crenshaw Community Hospital*  
**2nd:** The Luverne Journal  
*Need Braces?*  
**3rd:** The Greenville Advocate  
*GracePoint*

**BEST ORIGINAL/  
CREATIVE IDEA**

- 1st:** The Luverne Journal  
*Snaps with Santa*  
**2nd:** The Lowndes Signal  
*(Ft. Deposit)*  
*Lowndes Academy*

**3rd:** The Greenville Standard  
*Christmas Sale*

**BEST CLASSIFIED  
DISPLAY AD**

- 1st:** The Observer (Opelika)  
*Hanwha's Hiring*  
by: Michelle Key  
**2nd:** The Greenville Standard  
*Housemate Wanted*  
by: Bruce Branum  
**3rd:** The Greenville Standard  
*Dental Assistant Wanted*  
by: Bruce Branum

**BEST SIGNATURE PAGE**

- 1st:** The Demopolis Times  
*Veterans Day*  
by: Christi Kennedy  
**2nd:** The Wetumpka Herald  
*Shelter Pets*  
by: Audra Spears, Marilyn Hawkins,  
Sheryl Jennings  
**3rd:** The Luverne Journal  
*Flying Squadron*

The Wetumpka Herald  
Best In-Paper Promotion  
of Newspaper





CRENSHAW

COMMUNITY HOSPITAL

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Dr. Stephen L. Coleman

*To Luverne, AL*

Dr. Coleman is board certified in internal medicine and gastroenterology

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300 Green Street, Wetumpka, AL

THE WETUMPKA HERALD

Advertising Contest

# DIVISION D

**BEST NICHE PUBLICATION**

**1st: The Wetumpka Herald**  
*Itsy the Elf & Friends Elf Adventures*  
by: Audra Spears, Marilyn Hawkins, Sheryl Jennings

**2nd: Hartselle Enquirer**  
*Hartselle Visitor Guide*

**3rd: The Greenville Advocate**  
*Greenville Magazine*

**BEST USE OF HUMOR**

**1st: The Greenville Advocate**  
*Camellia Collision Center*

**2nd: The Greenville Standard**  
*Stuckey's Barber Shop*  
by: Bruce Branum

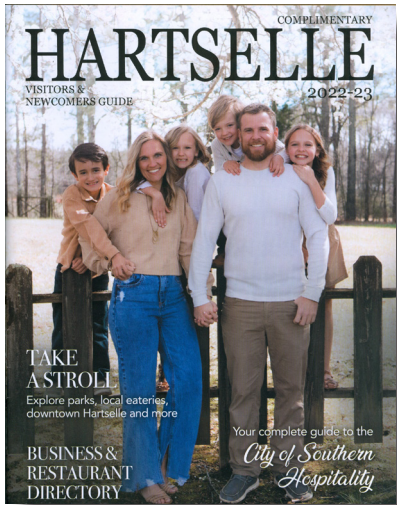
**3rd: The Wetumpka Herald**  
*Bell Family Chiropractic*  
by: Marilyn Hawkins

**BEST PRESENTATION OF ONLINE ADVERTISING**

**1st: The Tallassee Tribune**  
[www.tallasseetribune.com](http://www.tallasseetribune.com)

**2nd: The Wetumpka Herald**  
[www.thewetumpkaherald.com](http://www.thewetumpkaherald.com)

**3rd: The Greenville Standard**  
[www.thegreenvillestandard.com](http://www.thegreenvillestandard.com)



The Hartselle Enquirer  
Best Niche Publication



The Greenville Standard  
Best Original/Creative Idea

**BEST INNOVATIVE ONLINE ADVERTISING - SINGLE AD**

**1st: The Greenville Standard**  
*The Greenville Standard*  
by: Bruce Branum

**2nd: The Wetumpka Herald**  
*Wexford Health*

**3rd: The Wetumpka Herald**  
*1220 Cafe*

Advertising Contest

# DIVISION E

**ADVERTISING SWEEPSTAKES AWARD**

**1st: Vestavia Voice**

**2nd: The Redstone Rocket (Huntsville)**

**BEST CLASSIFIED PAGE OR SECTION**

**1st: The Redstone Rocket (Huntsville)**

**BEST SINGLE AD 1/2 PAGE & UNDER, BLACK & WHITE**

**1st: The Redstone Rocket (Huntsville)**  
*The Fret Shop*  
by: Donna Counts, Rhonda Stennett

**BEST SINGLE AD 1/2 PAGE & UNDER, COLOR**

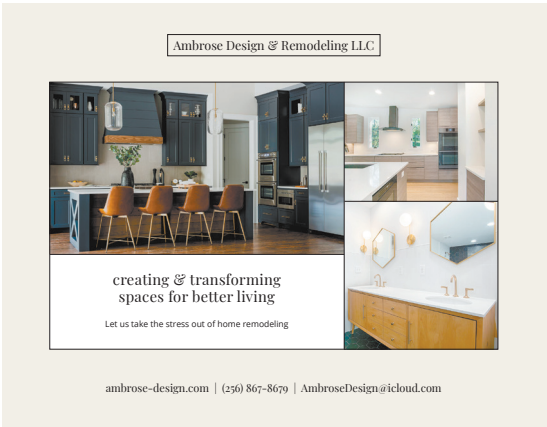
**1st: The Redstone Rocket (Huntsville)**  
*Meyer and Lee*  
by: Donna Counts, Rhonda Stennett

**2nd: Vestavia Voice**  
*Ambrose Design & Remodeling LLC*  
by: Ted Perry

**BEST SINGLE AD OVER 1/2 PAGE, COLOR**

**1st: Vestavia Voice**  
*Kaffeeplas*  
by: Ted Perry

**2nd: The Redstone Rocket (Huntsville)**  
*Gibson's Bar-B-Q*  
by: Donna Counts, Rhonda Stennett



Vestavia Voice- Best Single Ad 1/2 page & under, color

**BEST REGULARLY SCHEDULED SPECIAL SECTION**

**1st: Vestavia Voice**  
*Women in Business*

**BEST ONE TIME SPECIAL SECTION**

**1st: Vestavia Voice**  
*280 Living Real Estate Guide*

**BEST IN-PAPER PROMOTION OF NEWSPAPER**

**1st: Vestavia Voice**  
*Football Sponsorship*  
by: Emily VanderMey

**BEST ADVERTISING CAMPAIGN**

**1st: Vestavia Voice**  
*Vulcan Termite*  
by: Emily VanderMey

**BEST ORIGINAL/ CREATIVE IDEA**

**1st: Vestavia Voice**  
*flip-flops and what nots*  
by: Emily VanderMey

**BEST SIGNATURE PAGE**

**1st: The Redstone Rocket (Huntsville)**  
*Restaurant page*  
by: Donna Counts, Rhonda Stennett

**BEST NICHE PUBLICATION**

**1st: Vestavia Voice**  
*Under the Lights-High School Football Preview*  
by: Kyle Parmley, Ted Perry, Erin Nelson

**BEST USE OF HUMOR**

**1st: Vestavia Voice**  
*Joe Falconer Realtysouth*  
by: Ted Perry



Magazine Contest

# DIVISION M

## MAGAZINE OF THE YEAR

- 1st: Vestavia Hills Magazine**  
**2nd: Huntsville Magazine**  
**3rd: Jackson Magazine**



## BEST SINGLE FEATURE STORY

- 1st: Mountain Brook Magazine**  
*Meet Two-Lap Cap*  
by: Rick Lewis, Evelyn Adams  
**2nd: Jackson Magazine**  
*Sleep in Heavenly Peace*  
by: Danielle Kirkland, Elizabeth Law  
**3rd: Live Lee (Opelika)**  
*Crafting Something Good*  
by: Hannah Lester

## BEST PERSONALITY PROFILE

- 1st: Live Lee (Opelika)**  
*Merry and Bright*  
by: Kendyl Hollingsworth  
**2nd: Huntsville Magazine**  
*The Grammy Award-Winning Kelvin Wooten*  
by: Cameron Cook, Takara Swoopes, Dokk Savage  
**3rd: Lake Martin Living**  
*Longineau Parsons*  
by: Betsy Iler

## BEST BUSINESS FEATURE

- 1st: Huntsville Magazine**  
*The stars align for Huntsville's Orion amphitheater*  
by: Erin Coggins  
**2nd: Vestavia Hills Magazine**  
*Evoking Emotion*  
by: Michelle Love, Blair Ramsey  
**3rd: Community Matters (Cullman)**  
*Marigold Moon*  
by: Sara Gladney

## BEST PHOTO ESSAY

- 1st: Homewood Life Magazine**  
*The Cutting Edge*  
**2nd: Vestavia Hills Magazine**  
*The Force is Strong*  
**3rd: Vestavia Hills Magazine**  
*Spark of an Idea*  
by: Lauren H. Dowdle, Blair Ramsey

## BEST SINGLE PHOTOGRAPH

- 1st: Jackson Magazine**  
*Sunset*  
by: Kevin Terrell

- 2nd: Huntsville Magazine**  
*Chef James Boyce Feels at Home at Cotton Row*  
by: Dokk Savage  
**3rd: Homewood Life Magazine**  
*The Cutting Edge*

## BEST INDIVIDUAL WEBSITE

- 1st: Huntsville Magazine**  
[www.huntsvillemagazine.com](http://www.huntsvillemagazine.com)  
by: Takara Swoopes, CJ Byrd  
**2nd: Birmingham Parent**  
[www.birminghamparent.com](http://www.birminghamparent.com)  
by: Tom Gonzales, Carol Muse Evans  
**3rd: Lake Magazine (Lake Martin)**  
[www.lakemagazine.life](http://www.lakemagazine.life)  
by: Angela Mullins, Audra Spears

## BEST SINGLE AD

- 1st: Vestavia Hills Magazine**  
*Mantooth Interiors*  
**2nd: Community Matters (Cullman)**  
*Winter Wonderland*  
by: Janet Chandler, Dustin Isom  
**3rd: Cullman magazine**  
*Coca-Cola*  
by: Cullman Design Team

## BEST ADVERTISING CAMPAIGN OR SERIES

- 1st: DeKalb Living**  
*First State Bank*  
by: Linda Stiefel, Emily Wooten  
**2nd: Live Lee (Opelika)**  
*Glynn Smith Chevrolet*  
by: Michelle Key  
**3rd: Vestavia Hills Magazine**  
*Village Drug Co.*

## BEST HOUSE AD OR SELF-PROMOTION

- 1st: Jackson Magazine**  
*6 Issues a Year*  
by: Elizabeth Law  
**2nd: DeKalb Living**  
*Bridal*  
by: Emily Wooten  
**3rd: Community Matters (Cullman)**  
*Subscribe Today*  
by: Dustin Isom

## BEST OVERALL DESIGN

- 1st: Huntsville Magazine**  
by: Takara Swoopes, CJ Byrd  
**2nd: Vestavia Hills Magazine**  
**3rd: Cullman magazine**  
by: Kayla Harrison

## BEST COVER PHOTO OR ILLUSTRATION

- 1st: Lake Magazine (Lake Martin)**  
*Easy Rider*  
by: Kenneth Boone  
**2nd: Lake Magazine (Lake Martin)**  
*John Thompson*  
by: Kenneth Boone  
**3rd: Live Lee (Opelika)**  
*A Year to Remember*  
by: John Pyles, Hannah Lester, Michelle Key

## BEST THEMED ISSUE

- 1st: Jackson Magazine**  
*The Wedding Issue*  
**2nd: Cullman magazine**  
*Holiday*  
**3rd: Lake Magazine (Lake Martin)**  
*Swimsuit & Lifestyle Issue*  
by: Kenneth Boone, Betsy Iler, Audra Spears

## BEST TRAVEL FEATURE

- 1st: Live Lee (Opelika)**  
*Signed, Sealed, Delivered*  
by: Kendyl Hollingsworth  
**2nd: Lake Magazine (Lake Martin)**  
*Celebrate at the lake*  
by: Breanna Manley, Betsy Iler, Audra Spears  
**3rd: Vestavia Hills Magazine**  
*Chattanooga Like a Local*  
by: Christiana Roussel

## BEST CULINARY FEATURE

- 1st: Vestavia Hills Magazine**  
*Hometown Flavors*  
by: Elizabeth Sturgeon, Keith McCoy  
**2nd: Vestavia Hills Magazine**  
*Pinks 'N Sweets*  
by: Madoline Markham, Mary Fehr  
**3rd: Vestavia Hills Magazine**  
*Pour Forth*  
by: Elizabeth Sturgeon, Blair Ramsey



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Media  
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Print | Digital | Magazine



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# TIPS FOR SUCCESS



APA  
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- Set aside copies of your best 2023 work now!
- When ready to submit entries in contest portal, check that entry titles and bylines are entered correct.
- Be sure you are submitting entries considering the category description and guidelines.
- Remember that General Excellence and Advertising Excellence are categories that consider points from other categories - the more categories won, the higher points towards GE and AE.
- Many entries require the use of a paywall. Consider uploading a pdf or other version instead or in addition to. Some categories have over 20 entries and for judges, it can be tedious to have to log in to 20+ newspaper websites.



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