



WINNERS' CIRCLE

2016 TEXAS BETTER NEWSPAPER CONTEST RESULTS
A PUBLICATION OF THE TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

Winners' Circle

TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

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Contents

Results by Newspaper.....	3
Advertising	4
Column Writing.....	6
Editorials.....	7
General Excellence.....	8
Feature Writing.....	10
Headline Writing.....	12
Feature Photo.....	14
News Photo.....	16
News Writing.....	18
Page Design.....	20
Special Sections.....	22
Community Service.....	23
Sports Coverage.....	24
Best Website	26
Sweepstakes Winners.....	26
Sports Photos.....	27

About the Cover Photo

FEATURE PHOTO, DIVISION 2, 2ND PLACE

STUART VILLANUEVA | THE DAILY NEWS

TAKING A WHIRL ON THE FAIRGROUNDS — Lacey Byrket, 11, left, and Madison Raanes, 13, both of Santa Fe, hang upside-down momentarily while riding the Ring of Fire at the Galveston County Fair and Rodeo in Hitchcock on April 18, 2015.

About the Texas Better Newspaper Contest

This year 148 newspapers submitted 1,530 entries in the Texas Better Newspaper Contest. The contest is broken down into 10 divisions in which newspapers compete against papers of similar circulation size.

Division 1 is reserved for the five metro dailies with the highest circulation in Texas, which compete only in the General Excellence category. The remaining newspapers compete under a unique division system in which the total number of entrants is divided into divisions based on frequency of publication and descending circulation.

This year 31 dailies entered and there were 15-16 newspapers each in Divisions 2-3. Semi-weeklies numbered 26 with 13 newspapers each in Divisions 4-5. There were 91 weeklies with 19 in Division 6 and 18 each in Divisions 7-10.

First place winners receive plaques and second through fourth place winners earn certificates. Sweepstakes points are earned for each division, except Division 1, based on point accumulation in contest categories (excluding Community Service, Special Sections and Best Website) - 1st Place: 100 points; 2nd Place: 75 points; 3rd Place: 50 points; and 4th Place: 25 points. The awards were announced June 18, 2016, at La Torretta Lake Resort & Spa in Montgomery, Texas.

The Winners' Circle is an annual publication saluting the Better Newspaper Contest winners. Judges' comments on first through fourth place winners are reprinted along with samples of winning entries. The 2016 contest was judged by the Oklahoma Press Association as part of the annual Better Newspaper Contest swap.


2016 Better Newspaper Contest Results by Newspaper

Albany News 1st Column Writing 2nd Editorial 2nd Headline Writing 3rd General Excellence 3rd Sports Coverage 4th Sports Photo	Burnet Bulletin 1st News Photo 3rd Sports Photo 4th Headline Writing 4th Page Design 4th Routine Special Section 4th Sports Coverage	4th Headline Writing 4th Page Design	Goldthwaite Eagle 1st Sports Photo 2nd Feature Photo 2nd Routine Special Section 3rd Feature Writing 3rd Headline Writing 3rd Page Design 4th Advertising 4th Column Writing	Kyle, Hays Free Press 1st Community Service 1st Headline Writing 2nd Best Website 2nd News Writing 2nd Sports Coverage 3rd General Excellence 4th Advertising 4th Editorial 4th Feature Photo	3rd Sports Coverage 4th Advertising	Springtown Epigraph 1st Editorial 1st News Photo 4th Feature Photo 4th Headline Writing 4th News Writing
Alice Echo-News Journal 3rd Best Website 4th Column Writing Alpine Avalanche 1st Page Design 4th Routine Special Section	The Canadian Record 1st Editorial 1st Feature Writing 1st Headline Writing 1st News Photo 1st Page Design 2nd Best Website 2nd Feature Photo 2nd News Writing 4th Advertising 4th Community Service 4th Sports Coverage	The Dublin Citizen 1st Routine Special Section 2nd Column Writing 2nd Feature Writing 3rd Feature Photo 3rd Headline Writing	Goliad Advance-Guard 1st News Writing 2nd Sports Coverage 3rd Feature Writing	La Grange, The Fayette County Record 1st Advertising 1st Blue Moon Special Section 1st Community Service 2nd Column Writing 2nd General Excellence 4th News Writing	New Braunfels, Herald-Zeitung 1st News Photo 2nd Editorial 3rd General Excellence 3rd Headline Writing 3rd Page Design 4th Feature Photo 4th Routine Special Section	Taylor Press 1st Advertising 1st Column Writing 2nd News Writing 2nd Routine Special Section 3rd Community Service 3rd Sports Coverage 4th News Photo 4th Sports Photo
Athens Daily Review 2nd Routine Special Section 3rd Column Writing 4th Advertising	Castroville News Bulletin 1st General Excellence 3rd Advertising	East Bernard Express 3rd General Excellence 3rd News Photo 3rd Sports Coverage 4th Feature Photo	Gonzales Inquirer 1st Headline Writing 1st News Photo 2nd Feature Writing 3rd Column Writing 4th General Excellence	La Vernia News 3rd Blue Moon Special Section	Odessa American 2nd Advertising 2nd Sports Coverage	Tyler Morning Telegraph 1st Editorial 1st Feature Photo 2nd Community Service 3rd Sports Photo 4th Best Website
Austin Business Journal 1st Best Website 1st Feature Writing 1st News Writing	Cedar Park, Hill Country News Weekender 1st Headline Writing 2nd Column Writing 2nd Editorial 2nd Sports Coverage 2nd Sports Photo 4th Page Design	Eastland County Today 3rd Column Writing	Granbury, Hood County News 1st Feature Writing 1st News Writing 1st Routine Special Section 2nd Best Website 2nd News Photo 2nd Page Design 3rd Column Writing 3rd Editorial 3rd Sports Coverage 4th Headline Writing 4th Sports Photo	Lake Travis View 1st Feature Writing 2nd General Excellence 2nd Headline Writing 2nd Sports Coverage	The Orange Leader 3rd Editorial	Uvalde Leader-News 1st Column Writing 3rd General Excellence 4th Advertising
Azle News 1st Editorial 1st News Writing 2nd News Photo 3rd Blue Moon Special Section 3rd Sports Coverage 4th Page Design	Childress, The Red River Sun 3rd Advertising	Edna, Jackson County Herald-Tribune 3rd Editorial 3rd Sports Photo	Greenville, Herald-Banner 1st Feature Writing 3rd News Photo	Lamesa Press Reporter 2nd News Photo 2nd Sports Photo 4th Feature Photo	Ozona Stockman 2nd Editorial 2nd Feature Writing 3rd Community Service 4th News Photo 4th Page Design	Van Alstyne Leader 2nd News Writing 3rd Editorial
The Bay City Tribune 1st Feature Photo 2nd Advertising 2nd Blue Moon Special Section 2nd Community Service 2nd Editorial 3rd Page Design	Clarendon Enterprise 1st Feature Photo 1st Routine Special Section 3rd News Photo 3rd Sports Photo	Eldorado Success 1st Blue Moon Special Section 1st Page Design 2nd Advertising 2nd Feature Writing 2nd News Photo 3rd Column Writing 3rd Sports Photo	Hearne, Robertson County News 2nd Column Writing 4th Sports Coverage	Lampasas Dispatch Record 1st News Writing 1st Sports Coverage 2nd Editorial 2nd General Excellence 3rd Feature Photo 3rd Headline Writing 4th Feature Writing	The Paris News 1st Page Design	Vernon Daily Record 3rd Community Service 4th Column Writing 4th Editorial 4th News Photo
The Bastrop Advertiser 1st Best Website 1st General Excellence 2nd Column Writing 2nd Feature Photo 2nd Page Design 2nd Sports Coverage 3rd News Photo 4th Headline Writing 4th News Writing	Cleburne Times-Review 2nd General Excellence	Fairfield, Freestone County Times 2nd Advertising 2nd Sports Photo 4th News Writing	Hico News Review 1st Advertising 1st Column Writing 1st General Excellence 2nd Feature Photo	The Liberty Hill Independent 1st Advertising 3rd Best Website 4th Editorial	Pearsall, Frio-Nueces Current 2nd Routine Special Section	Victoria Advocate 1st Advertising 1st Feature Writing 1st General Excellence 1st Sports Coverage 1st Sports Photo 2nd News Writing 3rd Best Website 3rd Routine Special Section 4th Blue Moon Special Section 4th News Photo
Baytown Sun 1st Advertising 1st Headline Writing 2nd Column Writing 2nd Editorial 4th Community Service 4th General Excellence 4th Sports Photo	Cleveland Advocate 1st Feature Photo	Farmersville Times 2nd Advertising 2nd Sports Photo 4th News Writing	Houston, Jewish Herald-Voice 1st Blue Moon Special Section 2nd Feature Writing 2nd General Excellence 2nd Headline Writing 2nd News Photo 3rd Routine Special Section 4th Column Writing	Longview News-Journal 3rd News Writing 4th Page Design 4th Sports Photo	Port Aransas South Jetty 3rd Column Writing 3rd Feature Photo 3rd News Photo 3rd News Writing	Waxahachie Daily Light 2nd News Photo 2nd Page Design 2nd Sports Photo 3rd News Writing 4th Feature Photo 4th Feature Writing 4th Headline Writing
Big Lake Wildcat 1st General Excellence 1st News Photo 1st Sports Coverage 1st Sports Photo 2nd Feature Photo 2nd Headline Writing 3rd Advertising 3rd Page Design 3rd Routine Special Section 4th News Writing	The Clifton Record 1st Column Writing 1st Sports Coverage 2nd Headline Writing 4th Sports Photo	Floresville, Wilson County News 4th News Photo	Huntsville Item 1st Feature Photo 2nd Headline Writing 3rd Sports Coverage 4th News Writing	Lubbock Avalanche-Journal 1st Headline Writing 2nd Page Design 3rd Feature Writing 3rd News Photo	The Port Arthur News 4th Column Writing	Whitehouse, Tri County Leader 3rd Column Writing 4th General Excellence
Beeville Bee-Picayune 3rd Feature Photo 4th General Excellence	Clute, The Facts 3rd Column Writing 3rd Editorial 4th General Excellence 4th Headline Writing 4th News Writing	Fort Worth Business Press 1st General Excellence 3rd Feature Writing	Ingram, West Kerr Current 2nd News Writing	Lufkin Daily News 1st Column Writing 1st News Writing 2nd Feature Writing 3rd Advertising 3rd Feature Photo 4th Editorial 4th Sports Coverage	The Presidio International 1st Column Writing 1st Feature Photo 3rd Feature Writing 3rd Headline Writing	Westlake Picayune 1st Sports Coverage 3rd Feature Photo 3rd General Excellence 3rd Headline Writing 3rd News Writing 4th Editorial
Big Lake Wildcat 1st General Excellence 1st News Photo 1st Sports Coverage 1st Sports Photo 2nd Feature Photo 2nd Headline Writing 3rd Advertising 3rd Page Design 3rd Routine Special Section 4th News Writing	Columbus, Colorado County Citizen 1st Page Design 3rd News Photo 4th Routine Special Section	Fredericksburg Standard-Radio Post 1st Editorial 1st Page Design 1st Routine Special Section 1st Sports Coverage 4th General Excellence 4th Sports Photo	Iowa Park Leader 1st Feature Photo 1st Sports Photo 2nd News Photo 2nd Page Design 3rd Advertising	Lytle, Leader News 1st Advertising 2nd Page Design	Princeton Herald 1st Sports Photo 3rd Page Design 4th Sports Coverage	The Van Horn Advocate 1st Editorial 3rd News Writing 4th Feature Writing
Boerne Star 4th Routine Special Section	Commerce Journal 2nd General Excellence	Galveston County Daily News 1st Routine Special Section 2nd Best Website 2nd Column Writing 2nd Feature Photo 2nd General Excellence 2nd Headline Writing 2nd News Photo 3rd Blue Moon Special Section 3rd Sports Coverage 4th Advertising 4th Feature Writing	Katy Times 2nd Sports Coverage	Lytle, Medina Valley Times 4th News Photo	Royse City Herald Banner 1st News Writing 4th Column Writing	Wharton Journal-Spectator 2nd Feature Writing
The Bowie News 4th Blue Moon Special Section 4th Sports Coverage	Cooper Review 2nd News Photo 3rd Advertising	Georgetown, Williamson County Sun/Sunday Sun 1st Editorial 2nd Feature Photo 2nd Headline Writing 3rd Sports Photo 4th News Photo 4th Page Design	The Irving Rambler 2nd Editorial 4th Feature Photo	Marble Falls, The Highlander 1st Headline Writing 3rd Advertising 4th Feature Writing	Sachse News 4th Feature Photo 4th News Photo	Whitewright Sun 1st Advertising 1st Feature Writing
Brookshire, The Times Tribune 4th Advertising 4th Editorial	Coppell, Citizens' Advocate 3rd Editorial	Gladewater Mirror 2nd Column Writing 2nd Routine Special Section 3rd Editorial 4th Feature Writing	Kerrville, Hill Country Community Journal 1st Sports Photo 2nd Blue Moon Special Section 2nd Editorial	Marfa, The Big Bend Sentinel 1st Headline Writing 2nd Feature Writing 2nd News Writing 3rd Feature Photo 3rd General Excellence	San Marcos Daily Record 1st Blue Moon Special Section The Sealy News 2nd Community Service 3rd News Photo	Wichita Falls, Times Record News 1st Best Website
Brownwood Bulletin 2nd Feature Writing 3rd Advertising 3rd Feature Photo 3rd Page Design 3rd Sports Photo 4th Sports Coverage	Cuero Record 1st Feature Photo 2nd General Excellence 3rd Routine Special Section 4th Blue Moon Special Section 4th Headline Writing	Glen Rose Reporter 1st Sports Coverage 3rd News Writing 4th Best Website 4th Feature Writing	Kilgore News Herald 1st Feature Photo 1st Feature Writing 1st Page Design 2nd Headline Writing 3rd Advertising 3rd Blue Moon Special Section 3rd General Excellence 3rd News Writing	Marshall News Messenger 1st News Writing 2nd Feature Photo 3rd Editorial 4th Page Design	Seguin Gazette 1st Editorial 1st News Photo 1st Sports Coverage 3rd General Excellence 3rd Headline Writing	Wimberley View 1st Feature Writing 1st News Photo 3rd News Writing 4th General Excellence
Bullard Banner News 4th General Excellence 4th Headline Writing 4th Sports Coverage 4th Sports Photo	Decatur, Wise County Messenger 1st General Excellence 1st News Photo 1st Page Design 1st Sports Coverage 2nd Sports Photo 3rd Headline Writing 3rd News Writing 4th Best Website	Kingsville Record & Bishop News 3rd Routine Special Section 3rd Sports Photo	Mineola Monitor 1st General Excellence 3rd Page Design 4th Column Writing	Mount Vernon Optic-Herald 4th Editorial	Silton, San Patricio County News 1st News Writing 3rd Feature Writing 4th Sports Photo	Woodville, Tyler County Booster 2nd Advertising 2nd Column Writing
Burleson Star 1st Sports Photo 3rd Page Design 4th Advertising	Del Rio News-Herald 3rd Feature Writing		Murphy Monitor 1st Headline Writing 2nd Page Design 2nd Sports Photo	Snyder Daily News 1st Column Writing		The Wylie News 1st Advertising 2nd Feature Photo 2nd Page Design 2nd Sports Photo 3rd Headline Writing
	Denton Record-Chronicle 1st Community Service					
	Deport Times-Blossom Times 4th Column Writing					
	Dripping Springs, The News-Dispatch 2nd General Excellence					

Advertising

DIVISION 9, 1ST PLACE

What did
Abraham Lincoln,
Napoleon
and
Ponce DeLeon
all have in
common?
None of them
subscribed to The Hico News Review,
and now they're all dead.



Coincidence?

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The Hico News Review

DIVISION 6, 1ST PLACE

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DIVISION 3, 1ST PLACE



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FIREBALLS ALL NIGHT
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\$100 CASH PRIZE IN
EACH CATEGORY
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LIVE 9:30PM

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DIVISION 2

1. **Victoria Advocate** – Amberley Gutierrez, Dayna Wiles, Camille Easton, Darla Walker
2. **Odessa American** – Gene Bustamante
3. **Lufkin Daily News**
4. **Galveston County Daily News** – Treasure Trove/Ditch the Itch/StarFine

DIVISION 3

1. **Baytown Sun** – Brenda Burr
2. **Nacogdoches Daily Sentinel** – Meagan Rice
3. **Brownwood Bulletin** – Horizons/Barn Dance/Camp Bowie; Amber Kennamer, Melissa Horton, Sarah Fleming, Matthew Hinman
4. **Athens Daily Review** – Vicky Cole

DIVISION 4

1. **The Fayette County Record** – Back Porch BBQ/4th of July Fireworks/Linke Floors, John Castaneda
2. **The Bay City Tribune**
3. **The Highlander, Marble Falls** – Sally McBryde
4. **Uvalde Leader-News** – ACE/Cecil/Griffith, Gloria Resma

DIVISION 5

1. **Taylor Press** – #TAYLORFLOOD, Richard Stone
2. **The Messenger, Grapeland** – Nicole Langston, Ansel Bradshaw, Meghan Fannett
3. **Kilgore News Herald** – Ben Valencia, James Draper
4. **Burleson Star** – Jon Lewis

DIVISION 6

1. **The Wylie News** – Gandy Orthodontics/Big Daddy's/Cloud Nine
2. **Tyler County Booster** – Business of the Week/Memorial Day/Southern Chrysler; Beth Faircloth, Becky Byley, Kelli Barnes
3. **The Red River Sun** – Ginger Wilson
4. **Hays Free Press** – Santa Claus is coming/Budafest/Weiner

Gump; David White, Christine Thorpe, Cyndy Slovak-Barton: Weiner Gump was a fantastic ad!

DIVISION 7

1. **Leader News, Lytle** – City of Lytle/Lytle State Bank/Snow Day, Michael Casarez
2. **Freestone County Times** – Ace Bail Bonds/C&C Wild Game/Redemption Meat, Megan Hempel
3. **Castroville News Bulletin** – Castroville Chevrolet/Castroville State Bank/Tire Roundup, Michael Casarez
4. **Goldthwaite Eagle** – Mills County State Bank/General Store, Steven Bridges

DIVISION 8

1. **The Liberty Hill Independent** – Best of the West Shooting Sports/Indian Mound Ranch Market/Hug a Bug, Rachel Viator
2. **Farmersville Times**
3. **Iowa Park Leader** – First Baptist Church/Chisum/First Bank, Kari Collins
4. **The Canadian Record** – Ray Weeks

DIVISION 9

1. **Hico News Review** – 6 Man Ad/Jerry Truck/Lincoln Napoleon, Jerry McAdams
2. **Franklin Advocate** – Ace Hardware/Crossroads Nursing/Smokin' Gun, Dennis Phillips
3. **Cooper Review** – Dodge/Enloe State Bank/Sky is Limit Hoity Toity, Cindy Roller
4. **Murphy Monitor** – Cox's/Heal 360/Woddbridge

DIVISION 10

1. **Whitewright Sun** – Roger Palmer
2. **Eldorado Success** – Randy Mankin, Kathy Mankin, Lupe Elizondo
3. **Big Lake Wildcat** – 4th Of July/MJ Heating & Cooling/FUNtier Days, J.L. Mankin
4. **The Times Tribune, Brookshire** – Lillie Ruby

Advertising

DIVISION 5, 1ST PLACE



JOIN US IN DOWNTOWN TAYLOR FOR

#FINALFLOODFRIDAY

5 PM FRIDAY AUG. 21

ON FOURTH STREET BETWEEN TALBOT AND MAIN

We began the **#TAYLORFLOOD** project to help raise money for the victims of the Memorial Day floods and to introduce the rest of the state to how much Taylor cares for its neighbors.

Along the way, we've raised more than \$7,000 for flood victims. We still have a handful of **#TAYLORFLOOD** t-shirts left and, if we can get donations for these last few, we will come close to our goal. Stop by Cherry Tree Creative or Frills on Fourth to get one of these exclusive **#TAYLORFLOOD** t-shirts before they are all gone.

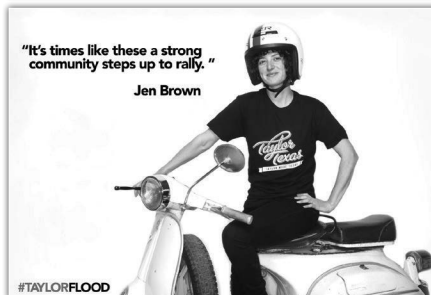
We began the project with portraits of locals talking about the importance of community. Let's end this project with a portrait of everyone who contributed.

Wear your **#TAYLORFLOOD** t-shirt and please join us in downtown Taylor on Friday, Aug. 21 as we try to qualify for a Guinness World Record but, more importantly, demonstrate just how much we care about our town and our neighbors.

The Austin Disaster Relief Network and the Taylor Ministerial Alliance will make sure the money goes where the need is the greatest.

The Texas Beer Company will be there with a taste of what they will be brewing downtown. Pioneer Coffee will bring iced coffee. Granite Publications will bring bottled water and the City of Taylor will help with traffic control.

See you for **#FINALFLOODFRIDAY!**



DIVISION 8, 1ST PLACE

THE MARKET AT INDIAN MOUND RANCH

EGGS & PRODUCE

Produce • Eggs • Honey • Baked Goods • Canned Goods • Jams • Jellies • Crafts • Hand Soaps

Join us for our End-of-Season Farmer's Market
Oct 3rd, 9am-3pm (or until sold out)

featuring Mama Grace's Kitchen,
Jackass Honey Farms, and Many Others!

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garage sale and estate sale!

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DIVISION 2, 1ST PLACE

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Saturday, October 3

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Friday, October 2

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- Jarrod Birmingham
- Kyle Park

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- Jaime y Los Chamacos
- Charlie Robison
- Kevin Fowler
- Fireworks (Weather Permitting)

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FIREWORKS



Column Writing

DIVISION 2

Good writing. Good leadership. Several could have been among the top four.

1. **Lufkin Daily News** – *Gary Stallard*: Beautiful tribute to vets and a reminder for all of us.
2. **Galveston County Daily News** – *Leonard Woolsey*: Gave many a walk down memory lane. Well done.
3. **The Facts, Clute** – *Michael Morris*: Told readers to put up or shut up. Well done.
4. **The Port Arthur News** – *Rich Macke*: Strong voice for the community

DIVISION 3

1. **Snyder Daily News** – *Bill Crist*: The first column is a substantive, well-argued piece. The second is a well-done slice-of-life column.
2. **Baytown Sun** – *Jim Finley*: Good use of humor.
3. **Athens Daily Review** – *Rich Flowers*: Fun, slice-of-life columns.
4. **Vernon Daily Record** – *Daniel Walker*: Intern column was engaging and authentic. War-dead column was solid.

DIVISION 4

This category has such a depth of exceptional writing that choosing among them was particularly difficult. The Opinion page is the heart of the newspaper. These writers are certainly keeping their publications “heart healthy.”

1. **Uvalde Leader-News** – *Craig Garnett*: Craig Garnett takes the news and talks to us about its importance and its impact. We might not always like what he says, but his writing is clear and precise. His writing tells us more than just the who, what and when. It makes us an eyewitness seeing things we might not see ourselves if we were in the room. His readers look for his column and

know him by name.

2. **The Fayette County Record** – *Regina Keilers, Paul “Tex” Parker*: Two exceptional columns, both of which are very well written and make you try to read faster to know the outcome. Emotional and reminding us of important life lessons.
3. **Hood County News** – *Roger Enlow, Rick Mauch*: Mauch’s column on Jax Madrigal’s T-ball season is a definite classic. It takes us on the field and let’s us enjoy his happiness, but gently reminds us the future is dark. So well done. Enlow’s bean cooking makes us nostalgic as well as providing us a smile. Good work.
4. **El Campo Leader-News** – *Jay Strasner, Shannon Crabtree*: Sometimes we forget how we stand on the shoulders of people who came before us. The Ann Leach column serves to remind us to not forget those leaders. The well written Vietnam Wall column reminds us we never know what impact a stranger’s word might have and how long those words endure. Wonderful reminder of why we can so easily exercise our freedoms.

DIVISION 5

1. **Taylor Press** – *Richard Stone*: These are both excellent columns. I love Richard Stone’s writing style and use of humor while staying on point. I think just about every newspaper editor can relate to the social media column.
2. **The Bastrop Advertiser** – *John Gosse-link*: I appreciated the humor in both of these pieces and loved the ending of the Christmas tree decoration story. I’m sure the community looks forward to John’s columns.
3. **Gonzales Inquirer** – *José Torres*: The writer made convincing arguments that I’m sure weren’t popular with some readers.

4. **Alice Echo-News Journal** – *Melissa Cantu-Trevino*: These are excellent columns on important issues. The writer’s personal narrative was compelling.

DIVISION 6

I have always said judging is subjective; and to all the entries, I say congratulations. All were well written and are an asset to all the newspapers they represent.

1. **Pleasanton Express** – *Robbie Rambles, Robbie Hamby*: I appreciate personal columns about personal experiences with a touch of humor. Robbie Hamby has done a good job with the columns, Swipe right and Two weddings, and some backed up plumbing in the Pleasanton Express. She gets my first place vote. Congratulations!
2. **Tyler County Booster** – *Jim Powers*: Powers gets my nod for second place. I like the humor and I like the style. I can relate to the time period in Better Living Through Chemistry and Slide Rules, antonomous drones and moral ambiguity. I have a personal column I have written for 40 years and Jim’s is similar. Personal opinion, but a judge sometimes can’t help but be partial. Good job, Jim.
3. **Port Aransas South Jetty** – *Mary Judson*: Mary Henkle Judson did a great job with her column Bacon for your bun. Good humor, short and sweet. Keep up the good work.
4. **Jewish Herald-Voice** – *Alice Adams*: Great columns by Alice Adams, “Requiem for a ponytail” and “Are you a patient patient?” This has been a very difficult category.

DIVISION 7

1. **The Clifton Record** – *Brett Voss*: Your engagement of the audience as if in conversation allows the overwhelming evidence of humor, joy, tears and intrigue all at once.

Well, well written and most enjoyable to read.

2. **Robertson County News** – *Dennis Phillips*: Extremely patriotic; your flag is raised high; there’s an air of a ‘call-to-arms.’ Very well written with a common-sense approach.
3. **Eastland County Today** – *Country Boy’s Journal; Jon Glenn, Margaret Hetrick, Amy O’Brien-Glenn*
4. **Goldthwaite Eagle** – *Brian Whitt*

DIVISION 8

1. **Albany News** – *Kathryn Stapp*: Wonderfully witty and shameless. The writer looks into her own personal struggles and finds compelling humor to share with her readers.
2. **The Dublin Citizen** – *Paul Gaudette, Sarah Dykowski*: Both writers present well organized and thoughtful insight into every day life.
3. **Wood County Democrat** – *Larry Tucker*
4. **Mineola Monitor** – *Josh Land, Doris Newman*

DIVISION 9

1. **Hico News Review** – *Jerry McAdams*: I really like the slightly wry, yet approachable writing on topics that no doubt connect well with the readers in Hico.
2. **Gladewater Mirror** – *Suzanne Bardwell*: Excellent topics, good writing. I am sure subscribers enjoyed them as much as I did.
3. **Tri County Leader** – *Suzanne Loudamy*
4. **Deport Times-Blossom Times** – *Nanalee Nichols*

DIVISION 10

1. **The Presidio International** – *Sasha von Oldershausen*
2. **Hill Country News Weekender** – *Mike Eddleman*
3. **Eldorado Success** – *Randy Mankin*
4. **Royce City Herald Banner** – *Jim Hardin*

DIVISION 4, 1ST PLACE



CRAIG GARNETT

“It feels like a divorce. After 34 years, the person who has washed, combed and clipped my hair on a regular basis is gone. No parting jokes, no last pat on the back or dates for future grooming. In the blink of an eye, it is over.”

DIVISION 10, 1ST PLACE

SASHA von OLDERSHAUSEN

“For most, running an ultra-marathon requires months of training and hundreds of hours of conditioning to build up the endurance to accomplish such a feat. Or, if you’re Jeff Matheis, you just wing it.

I met Jeff because he needed a ride. He had signed up to compete in the “Big Bend 50 Event” 50-mile race, located in Big Bend Ranch State Park. And while Jeff, a Marfa resident, operates under a go-big-or-go-home philosophy, he’s not necessarily the kind of guy who makes plans. Days before the event, he still hadn’t figured out how he would actually get there.”

DIVISION 6, 1ST PLACE



Robbie Hamby

Robbie Rambles

“Handsome as he was, it was obviously not a love connection.

I should have been clued in when he mentioned he had an unfulfilled fantasy...to go LARPing.

Now if you don’t know what that is, please mark your spot and take a moment to go look it up.

Done?
Yeah...LARPing.”

Editorials

DIVISION 10, 1ST PLACE

Robert Morales

“We’ve said it before, and we’ll say it again, it’s time to change the Texas constitution to opt for a full-time legislature, a well-paid legislature that doesn’t depend on wealthy persons who can stay away from their jobs and their towns for more than months.”

DIVISION 8, 1ST PLACE

Laurie Ezzell Brown

“One may draw his own conclusions as to why Rep. King chose not to push his bill through the House, but writing a bill which so directly benefits his own family’s business holdings arguably represents a serious conflict of interest.”

DIVISION 3, 1ST PLACE

Our Voice

“We’re eventually going to get to the bottom of this, and we suspect some aren’t going to like when we do. Until then, this school board run amok has officially been put on notice.”

DIVISION 5, 1ST PLACE

Kay Boothe

“Small town media is perhaps one of the last bastions of honor in an often maligned industry. Our livelihood is not dependent on economic giants like Sanderson Farms. Mom and Pop stores, you, and your neighbors keep us in business, as they have for the last 119 years. Politics change, population centers shift and hometown newspapers are struggling nationwide.

But in East Texas we support our own.”

DIVISION 2

1. **Tyler Morning Telegraph** – *Roy Maynard*: “Baker’s leadership” and “marriage” are well-written editorials that rely on serious argument and engaging prose to make a point.

2. **New Braunfels, Herald-Zeitung** – *Chris Lykins*: “Restitution” is a powerfully written, well-done editorial that will engage readers of almost any background.

3. **The Facts, Clute** – *Michael Morris, Yvonne Mintz*: “Racial divide” and “council members” are well written editorials that raise points worth airing.

4. **Lufkin Daily News** – *Andy Adams*: “Rotten decision” and “continuing education” are solid editorials that highlight government problems that deserve greater scrutiny.

DIVISION 3

It is refreshing to see that these newspapers are taking their editorial opportunities seriously and using them to not only address community issues, but also fulfill their leadership role by encouraging discussions of controversial issues and nudging leaders to do the right thing.

1. **Seguin Gazette** – *Derek Kuhn*: These are the kind of editorials that are both informative and gutsy. They spur discussions among readers around the area and draw new readers to the paper. Whether readers agree or not, the editorials are a must read in order for readers to be part of the discussion. Good sharing of “insider” information.

2. **Baytown Sun** – *David Bloom*: It would be safe to say that unexplained high water bills are important to everyone in the area. Good explanation of facts and helps puts pressure on the city to do the right thing and actually explain the issue rather than dismiss the community’s outrage.

3. **Marshall News Messenger** – *Cait Shields*: Well written and clear explanation of controversial bond issue. The editorial pulls no punches in placing blame on past inaction and detailing the needs in a clear fashion. Pushing readers to examine not just the money but focus on long-term needs.

4. **Vernon Daily Record** – *Daniel Walker*: Good overall explanation of a major issue facing all towns. Water rights may not be on the top of reader’s minds, but this extremely in-depth explanation of past decisions that led to the current problem is a reader service.

Linking it to Oklahoma’s actions stirs emotions and attention.

DIVISION 4

Call me old school, but I learned through education and mentoring in my days as a cub reporter those many years ago that an editorial was an un-bylined piece written by a member of the editorial staff, a publisher, or as a collaboration. It should reflect the opinion of the publication – it should present a problem from both sides and, if possible, offer one or more solutions. Some entries here nailed this, but other entries more closely resembled personal columns than they did editorials.

1. **Williamson County Sun/Sunday Sun** – *Linda Scarbrough*: Well thought out and carefully crafted.

2. **The Bay City Tribune**

3. **Hood County News** – *Kathy Cruz*

DIVISION 5

An interesting set of entries that ran the gambit from absolute excellence to a piece better suited to a Sunday School bulletin than a newspaper. (And lest one think that I am showing an anti-religion bias in that comment, let me point out that I am a lifelong

Christian and was once a licensed minister besides.) It’s a pity there weren’t more entries submitted in this category; I can’t help thinking, based on the quality of writing I’ve seen in the other categories I’ve judged, that there must be some “hidden gems” out there of the same caliber as the first place winner here. Alas...

1. **The Messenger, Grapeland** – *Will Johnson, Kay Boothe, Nicole Langston*: “The Story That Never Should Have Been” was worthy of the First Place award all by itself as far as I’m concerned. As a news editor for a small town paper myself who has had similar experiences over the course of an almost 30-year career, this one truly hit home. The sports piece didn’t move me personally nearly as much but was still very well written and worthy of high marks. Well done!!!

2. **Lampasas Dispatch Record** – *David Lowe, Gail Lowe*: The reservoir editorial was good, but the gun control piece was rather weak by comparison and hardly a sufficient enough argument to change the minds of those who feel differently than the writer.

3. **The Orange Leader** – *Dawn Burleigh, Bobby Tingle*: The “shop local” piece was a fine piece of editorial writing and probably merits a higher placement. The Nativity piece, however, was extremely weak; it should have been entered in a “personal columns” category instead of as an editorial.

DIVISION 6

1. **Fredericksburg Standard-Radio Post** – *Ken Esten Cooke*: Good topics and well written editorials. Readers should be well informed from these editorials.

2. **Hill Country Community Journal** – *Tammy Prout*: Good job. The Remembering a friend article was more of a column than editorial, and for that reason I had to drop to second place. Keep in in Kerville was excel-

lent.

3. **Citizens’ Advocate, Coppell** – *Jean Murph*: Jean Murph’s two submission were well written and probably well received to the readers. Good job of getting the points across.

4. **Hays Free Press** – *Cyndy Slovak-Barton*: I really liked the “Water could be more costly than whiskey”. The second entry, “Dripping should rethink onion as disposal site” was also well done.

DIVISION 7

1. **Azle News** – *Mark Campbell*

2. **The Irving Rambler** – *Stacey Starkey*

3. **Jackson County Herald-Tribune** – *Chris Lundstrom*

4. **Mount Vernon Optic-Herald** – *Susan Reeves*

DIVISION 8

1. **The Canadian Record** – *Laurie Ezzell Brown, Ben Antillon*

2. **Albany News** – *Donnie Lucas*

3. **Meridian Tribune** – *Chris Kyle, Brett Voss*

4. **The Liberty Hill Independent** – *Charley Wilkison*

DIVISION 9

1. **Springtown Epigraph** – *Mark K. Campbell*

2. **Ozona Stockman** – *Melissa Perner*

3. **Gladewater Mirror** – *Suzanne Bardwell*

4. **Westlake Picayune** – *Ed Allen*

DIVISION 10

1. **The Van Horn Advocate** – *Robert Morales*

2. **Hill Country News Weekender** – *Mike Eddleman*: The editorial on textbooks was the best of the category.

3. **Van Alstyne Leader** – *Rodney Williams*

4. **The Times Tribune, Brookshire** – *Lillie Ruby*

General Excellence

DIVISION 8, 1ST PLACE



DIVISION 9, 1ST PLACE



DIVISION 10, 1ST PLACE



DIVISION 2

1. **Victoria Advocate** – The design is intuitive, easily navigable and, above all beautiful. The writing is sharp. The entire newspaper communicates a clear purpose and a team effort.
2. **Galveston County Daily News**
3. **New Braunfels, Herald-Zeitung**
4. **The Facts, Clute**

DIVISION 3

1. **Nacogdoches Daily Sentinel** – The layout of this newspaper knocked our socks off. The inviting design is a work of art and is accentuated by skilled writing.
2. **Cleburne Times-Review** – An accessible layout makes the Times-Review stand out, but it is the consistently creative and engaging writing across the staff that makes this newspaper truly stand out.
3. **Seguin Gazette**
4. **Baytown Sun**

DIVISION 4

- Texas has some darn good newspapers! Very tough to pick the top four. All entries had excellent qualities.
1. **Wise County Messenger**
 2. **The Fayette County Record**
 3. **Uvalde Leader-News**
 4. **Beeville Bee-Picayune**

DIVISION 5

Too many of the papers in this category are guilty of the same sin: Page 1 ads, a BIG “no-

no” in my book. On the positive side, there is a lot of good writing to be found in all of these papers, and I’ll be the first to admit that I’m a little jealous of the advertising space some of you are able to sell. There are some weak spots to be sure, but all in all I’d have to say from the evidence at hand that the community newspaper is still very much alive and well in Texas - something you should all be proud of! Well done, everyone.

1. **The Bastrop Advertiser** – Overall the strongest entry of the lot. Front page is a nice mixture of the traditional (I love those old-style mastheads!) and the contemporary (creative design, strong photos and good use of color). A few of the inside pages could have used a little sprucing up visually, but overall an excellent package - one made all the better by the solid writing and obvious commitment to serving your community. You set the bar high for the category. Kudos all around!
2. **Lampasas Dispatch Record** – This could have been the strongest Page 1 design in the category, but I am most decidedly NOT a fan of ads on Page 1. Aside from that, it’s an attractive looking, well-written paper.
3. **Kilgore News Herald** – Here’s another example of a good looking front page that is unfortunately marred by the presence of Page 1 ads. Writing is professional and serves the publication well. Inside pages could use a little work in terms of layout and design, but overall pretty good.

4. **Gonzales Inquirer** – EXCELLENT use of color and graphics, but the text pages by comparison are visually dull. Not much creativity in terms of layout or headline fonts. Writing is strong for the most part. All in all, an above-average publication.

DIVISION 6

1. **Fort Worth Business Press** – Nice in-depth reporting. Best writing in the division. Great photography. Nice design. Great community coverage.
2. **Jewish Herald-Voice** – Comprehensive storm coverage sets this paper apart. Great stories on storm victims and the recovery process. Reflects the community it serves.
3. **Hays Free Press** – Nice in-depth business coverage. Good page 1 and sports stories. Nice photography.
4. **Fredericksburg Standard-Radio Post** – Lots of good information contained in these editions. Learned a lot about the community by reading this paper.

DIVISION 7

1. **Castroville News Bulletin**
2. **Cuero Record**
3. **The Big Bend Sentinel**
4. **Wimberley View**

DIVISION 8

1. **Mineola Monitor**
2. **The News-Dispatch**
3. **Albany News**
4. **Wood County Democrat**

DIVISION 9

1. **Hico News Review** – Enjoyable paper to read, great sense of humor, enjoyed the speciality columns, sports and school coverage.
2. **Lake Travis View** – Very appealing and professional paper, love how it is displayed and layout; great community coverage.
3. **Westlake Picayune** – Loved the layout and design of the paper. Great school coverage. Lots to read and great sports section
4. **Tri County Leader** – Loved the colorful layout and nice speciality sections and community coverage; great articles.

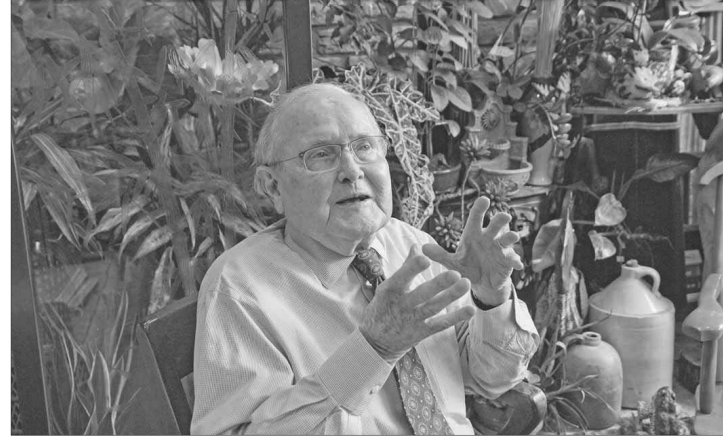
DIVISION 10

- This was a case of strengths and weaknesses. Almost every entry had some area they outperformed the other entries. In the end it came down to which was closer to the top in every category.
1. **Big Lake Wildcat** – The combination of writing, photography and design is what puts this entry over the top.
 2. **Commerce Journal** – I like the variety of stories along with good photography, writing and design.
 3. **East Bernard Express** – An overall solid product. The best headlines of the bunch.
 4. **Bullard Banner News** – The sheer number of local stories and variety of stories is impressive. Good photos and design.

Feature Writing

DIVISION 4, 1ST PLACE

Up On The Farm



LIVING A CHILD'S DREAM: Ed Shipman and his wife Gloria founded Happy Hill Farm children's home in 1975 and it has become one of the most prominent facilities of its kind in the state. It has grown from one mobile home to 500 acres that includes 13 homes, a school, gymnasium, football stadium, agriculture facility, chapel and much more. At 83, Shipman is still involved with the farm, which has 200 children in its program.

After four decades, positivity still springs eternal at children's home

BY RICK MAUCH

STAFF WRITER

Ed Shipman's eyes roam around his office, a virtual cornucopia of memories. He's got something to say, but he's in no hurry to break the moment of serenity. Each glance at another shelf takes him back to a different time.

Finally, in his friendly, how-can-I-snake-you-day-better kind of way, he speaks. Perhaps it was imaginary, but for a second it seemed as though he was fighting back a tear or two.

"Man, there are so many memories in here," said Shipman, now 83. "So many memories. This room is filled with so much love, and I cherish each and every item."

The shelves are lined with more books than some small libraries, almost every one a gift from a child or a special friend. Ditto for the drawings that feature people, places and unforgettable moments from four decades of life at Happy Hill Farm. There's even assorted candies in a variety of jars that have special meaning.

"To tell you who gave what and the story behind each item would take more time than we have left in this world," said Shipman with a chuckle. "Let's

just say these things can never be replaced."

Neither can what he and his wife Gloria started in 1975, Happy Hill Farm. For 40 years the farm, located on Highway 144 between Granbury and Glen Rose, has provided an assortment of children, particularly from challenged backgrounds, a place to call home, a place of belonging, and a place to grow while finding their place in this crazy and often cruel world.

"This little formula we concocted has worked for the most part," said Shipman.

IN THE BEGINNING He didn't set out in life with the idea of starting a children's home. In fact, when his life changed forever in 1974, Ed and wife Gloria were quite comfortable. He was working as a minister and they were living a nice life, raising their two teenage sons, 16-year-old Chuck and 14-year-old Todd.

Then Ed got a call from a local minister asking for help. As a result, the Shipmans took in two teenage runaway sisters until a permanent home could be found.

It was during the search for a home for the girls, visiting facilities for children throughout the state, that Ed received "the call" concerning his real reason



THE LITTLE RED SCHOOLHOUSE: Lucas Shipman, youth pastor for Happy Hill Farm, stands in front of a replica of the Little Red Schoolhouse, the first school at the farm when it opened four decades ago. The farm now features North Central Texas Academy, which has students from all over the world attending.

DIVISION 9, 1ST PLACE

Teen survives lightning strike

Family counts blessings, urges caution during electrical storms.

By Rachel Rice

rrice@acnnews.com

Two sounds come to mind when Misty Villareal remembers the stormy Memorial Day that shook her family in their Dripping Springs home. She remembers a deafening bang, all of the lights went out – and then a guttural scream. It didn't even sound like her daughter.

"It was animalistic," Villareal said of the noise 16-year-old Macie Martinez made. "It was so scary – I couldn't see if she'd been cut open. But I could see fear on her face."

It was around 3:30 p.m. when the Villareal home was struck by lightning. Villareal and her husband, Anthony, were in their walk-in pantry with Martinez, playing games and waiting out the storm. Martinez, a Lake Travis High School junior, went into the kitchen to get an applesauce from the refrigerator. It was at that moment, standing with her right hand on the fridge handle, that the bolt's electricity coursed through the home's circuitry and traveled through Martinez's body.

"I don't remember screaming," Martinez said. "I do remember I couldn't let go. ... I



Macie Martinez demonstrates how she was holding the refrigerator open when the house was struck by lightning on Memorial Day. Martinez said she was unable to let go of the fridge handle for several seconds.

Lightning continued on A6

DIVISION 2

1. Victoria Advocate – Laura Garcia, Bianca Montes, Kimiko Fieg, Frank Tilley, Yi-Chin Lee: Good photos, good use of timeline. Two very different, but very salient stories. Good sense of place in second story.

2. Lufkin Daily News – Escaping Cuba; Steve Knight, Jessica Cooley: Interesting local take on national news story. Compelling tale with lots of good details.

3. Lubbock Avalanche-Journal – Ted Dotts dying/Xavier Ramirez' heart attack, Sarah Rafique, Nick Talbot: Sensitive exploration of a tough topic.

4. Galveston County Daily News – Marissa Barnett, Laura Elder: Good photos, well-written as well.

DIVISION 3

Most of these stories had good subject matter and writers made good effort to tell a story behind the story.

1. Herald-Banner, Greenville – Carol Ferguson: A recipe for success: Good storytelling combined with good writing.

2. Brownwood Bulletin – Andrew Valderas

3. Del Rio News-Herald – Brian Argabright

4. Waxahachie Daily Light – Neal White, Shelly Conlon

DIVISION 4

1. Hood County News – Up on the farm/Mighty mites, Rick Mauch

2. Wharton Journal-Spectator – An angel here for a minute/Unforgettable prom night, Natalie Frels

3. El Campo Leader-News – Shannon Crabtree, Quala Matocha

4. The Highlander, Marble Falls – Glynis Crawford Smith, Emily Hilley-Sierzchula

DIVISION 5

Shakesbeard could be a national winner! Very well done by all aspects of feature writing. Others could learn from this entry.

My only suggestion would be to have entries marked so that I didn't have to keep going back and forth to find what feature I needed to read.

1. Kilgore News Herald – James Draper: The subject matter made this entry first place. The writing made me want to read on also for first place. The layout and design of this feature was by far the most outstanding. Excellent job.

2. Gonzales Inquirer – Erik McCowan, Rob Ford: This entry finished runner-up for several reasons. First of all it was very eye catching and written well, capturing the readers attention. Secondly, the use of the photos with the feature were great, by far better than others being judged. Keep up the good work!

3. The Light & Champion, Center – Steve Snyder: Coming in third place, this entry was written very well, very clean, very easy to read. The subject matter was not really one of complete interest compared to others in the category. Very nice work!

4. Lampasas Dispatch Record – Storied Wagon Wheel Ranch to be sold/High-tech horse care, David Lowe, Jeff Lowe: Subject matter was very interesting reading. The way it was presented in the layout and design was good as well. My only criticism would be for you to have a local photo taken by yourself rather than submitted photos for this feature. Good job!

DIVISION 6

1. Austin Business Journal – Jan Buchholz

2. Jewish Herald-Voice – Always on the run/Going above the rim and beyond, Matt Samuels

3. Fort Worth Business Press – Samantha Calimbahin

DIVISION 7

1. Wimberley View – Gary Zupancic, Mark Caul

2. The Big Bend Sentinel – Film reveals Giant directors take on racism of the times/Last of the Webb brothers closes shop in Marfa, Sarah Vasquez

3. Goldthwaite Eagle – Brian Whitt

DIVISION 8

1. The Canadian Record – Laurie Ezzell Brown: Great storytelling. Great details, great quotes, nicely told. Compelling visuals conveyed in antique store story.

2. The Dublin Citizen – Making Movie Man/The bricks beneath us, Paul Gaudette: Good sense of place, interesting explanations, vivid characters.

3. Goliad Advance-Guard – Coy Slavik: Excellent closing quotes for both pieces.

4. Glen Rose Reporter – Travis M. Smith: Interesting stories, good details.

DIVISION 9

1. Lake Travis View – Teen survives lightning strike/High-flying teen hoses gravity, Rachel Rice: Rice's evocative writing can take the reader into the body of a woman wracked by lightening or a man speeding through space propelled by water.

2. Ozona Stockman – 'A good fire:' prescribe burn helps ranch/Teaching, learning about King's dream; Melissa Perner

3. San Patricio County News – Familiar Face/Town Pride, Jason Jansky

4. Gladewater Mirror – Astronaut Musgrave/Last Easter Service, Suzanne Bardwell

DIVISION 10

1. Whitewright Sun – Boil order has surprising affects/Popular mayor honored; Kimberly Palmer, Roger Palmer: I thought both stories were well written and informative, I liked the layout of the Boil story and the use of the color and titles and questions. I enjoyed reading about the mayor. I can see why he is so well loved by the town.

2. Eldorado Success – Randy Mankin, Kathy Mankin: Very interesting story about Andy and his journey. Loved the photo of him pointing out the story of him from his first visit. Coach Mitchell was also an interesting story and well written and encouraging to read. He will be missed, but can't imagine him not being involved somehow in the future.

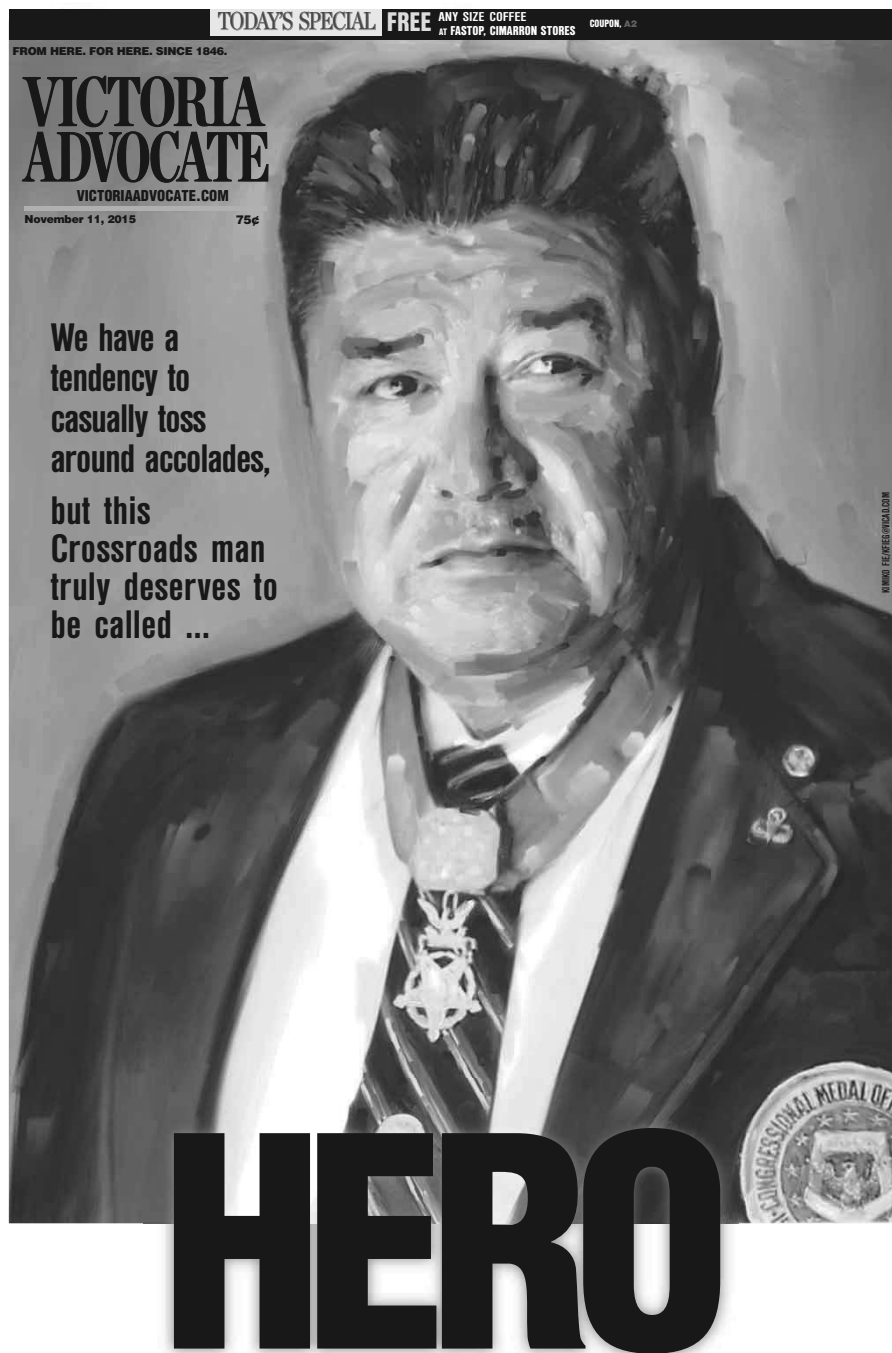
3. The Presidio International – With nowhere else to turn/When life gives you lemons, recycle; Sasha von Oldershausen: This had to have been a hard story to write, but a very necessary subject to discuss. I can tell that a lot of work went into telling this story. I also loved the determination of Elvira, and so glad that I was able to read her story.

4. The Van Horn Advocate – Juarez/Shane and Lacreia put the L&S in Supercenter; Lisa Morton, Robert Morales: I liked how the story was told through the eyes of the writer but also as a tourist. It was also fun to read about the L & S Supercenter, such an interesting man to write about.

FeatureWriting

DIVISION 2, 1ST PLACE

DIVISION 5, 1ST PLACE



BY BIANCA R. MONTES
BMONTES@VICAD.COM

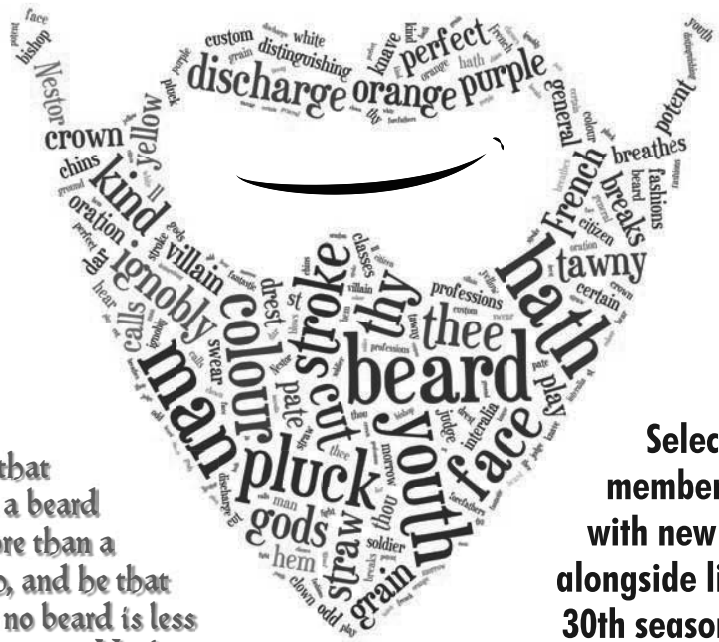
EL CAMPO – Yvette Benavidez Garcia carefully turned the pages of a tattered scrapbook filled with news clippings her father collected over the years.

She smiled, reading the notes he wrote alongside the now-yellowed paper. Musings, she called them – an insight into a part of his life that he rarely shared with her – the Vietnam War.

This month marks the 17th year since the decorated war hero died, a year his daughter hopes will bring his final accolade.

SEE BENAVIDEZ, A4

The Shakesbeard.



“He that bath a beard is more than a youth, and he that bath no beard is less than a man. He that is more than a youth is not for me, and he that is less than a man, I am not for him.”

William Shakespeare, 'Much Ado About Nothing'

Select TSF cast members wrestle with new whiskers alongside lines from 30th season's shows

Finally, Rick Higginbotham says, he's gotten past the itching stage. His bushy goatee is a summer-only affectation, a 'Shakesbeard,' an essential and shared element of multiple costumes and characters during the 30th season of the Texas Shakespeare Festival at Kilgore College. It's distinguishing, he quips. "You find yourself stroking it more and doing contemplative-type things," the White Oak thespian explained this week, giving the salt-and-pepper whiskers an amused scratch. "I don't know if it's possible to feel older than I actually am ... More seasoned, more experienced maybe."

One of the costume department's first tasks is to check each actor's hair color against a 'wig ring' and its multi-colored swatches.

“Then the designers go through with their renderings and those pictures we took on the day they arrived and decide what they need for the show,” Winkelman said. Each actor juggles three, four or more characters in the course of a 10-week summer season including multiple plays. It limits the options of their base-palette. “If one character needs for them to be clean-shaven – because sometimes a character needs to be clean-shaven because they’re playing a small boy or a person in a period that is clean-shaven – then we’ll add an artificial beard onto a person should they need one.

"If that actor can wear a beard in every play they're in, we say 'Please keep beard as-is' or we shape it or we say 'Grow a beard.'"

The allocation of razors and shaving cream is a painstaking process, she added, one that has to be signed-off on by TSF Founder and Artistic Director Raymond Caldwell.

Take, for example, Micah Goodding.

In three plays Goodding portrays five characters for the 2015 season. This summer, heat notwithstanding, the beard stays.

"I had a similar look last year, and I trimmed it down for

See SHAKESBEARD, Page 6B



NEWS HERALD photo, illustration by JAMES DRAPER

Texas Shakespeare Festival actor Micah Gooding uses makeup to "dirty" his beard before appearing as three characters in this season's staging of "Man of La Mancha." The thickness of the 'Shakesbeard' won't last long past the summer season.

HeadlineWriting

DIVISION 2, 1ST PLACE



Down in the Pumps

DIVISION 2

1. **Lubbock Avalanche-Journal** – *Fried and True/Blood, Sweat and Tiers/Down in the Pumps, Lloyd Strong*: This entry's ability to turn a phrase is what earned it top honors. The headline writers cleverly used known phrases and made them their own. Excellent job!
2. **Galveston County Daily News** – *Anthony Oppermann, Kimberly Worner*: Good play on words to draw the reader in. Strong effort!
3. **New Braunfels, Herald-Zeitung** – *Travis Webb*: This overall good collection of headlines was highlighted by Brewed awakening.
4. **The Facts, Clute** – *Joshua Cook, Michael Morris*

DIVISION 3

1. **Baytown Sun** – *Doyle Barlow*: The headline writers ability to take a well-known phrase and make it their own earns this entry the top honor. The headlines were witty and added some light-hearted flair. Excellent effort!
2. **Huntsville Item** – *Tom Waddill, Joshua Yates*: This entry is a collection of very good headlines. Highlight: Its the most wonderful thyme of the year.
3. **Seguin Gazette** – *Derek Kuhn, Tucker Stephenson*
4. **Waxahachie Daily Light** – *Neal White*

DIVISION 4

1. **The Highlander, Marble Falls** – *Lisa*

Treiber-Walter: A very bold and witty collection of headlines ... best of the bunch!

2. **Williamson County Sun/Sunday Sun** – *Michael Freeman*: A strong effort.
3. **Wise County Messenger**
4. **Hood County News** – *New plan, Stan/Hole-hearted efforts/Shell-shocked, Roger Enlow*

DIVISION 5

1. **Gonzales Inquirer** – *Valerie Reddell, Erik McCowan, Rob Ford, José Torres*
2. **Kilgore News Herald** – *James Draper, Chelsea Katz, Bill Woodall*
3. **Lampasas Dispatch Record** – *When buzzards come to roost/A blast from the past/Lampasas sends Exporters packing; Derek Moy, Jeff Lowe*
4. **The Bastrop Advertiser** – *Go Green sees red, calls it quits/Sheriff race off and running/12 groups seeking piece of hotel-tax pie*

DIVISION 6

1. **Hays Free Press** – *Shaken & Stirred/It's About Thyme/Audio Amigos; Moses Leos III, Cyndy Slovak-Barton, David White, Christine Thorpe*
2. **Jewish Herald-Voice** – *Learning Curve/Chai rise for Passover/Buried Jewish treasures; Matt Samuels, Vicki Samuels*
3. **The Wylie News** – *Boots n' barbecue/A dose of reality/Frisco foes fricasseed*
4. **Burnet Bulletin** – *Lisa Treiber-Walter*

DIVISION 7

1. **The Big Bend Sentinel** – *No need to scramble for eggs in Presidio County/Everything better with blooming bluebonnets/Rocket scientists really - enlighten Marfa students*
2. **The Clifton Record** – *Milken/Non-Hostile/And the river...; Brett Voss, Simone Wichers-Voss*
3. **Goldthwaite Eagle** – *Oh Mudder!/EGG-stravaganza; Steven Bridges*
4. **Cuero Record** – *Not their first rodeo/Beaten by a beak/Tiny house, big dreams; Elizabeth Rodriguez, Glenn Rea, Sonya Timpona*

DIVISION 8

- Top tier did an excellent job with these headlines. In the modern time with so many news options, readers sometimes need something to entice them and nothing does that better than a creative headline. Reading these motivates me to be this creative at my newspaper.
1. **The Canadian Record** – *Laurie Ezzell Brown, Cathy Ricketts*: Excellent heads. Many times, stories lend themselves to easy, creative heads but the paper still has to execute. Made me want to read the stories. Great Job!!
 2. **Albany News** – *Melinda Lucas*: Very well done. These heads drew immediate attention to the stories, always the job of a headline. Very well done!!
 3. **The Dublin Citizen** – *Patching eases Pat-*

rick woes/Storm clouds have silver lining/Homecoming heartbreak; Tesha Shafer, Paul Gaudette: I liked the alliteration in the heads. Very creative. Well done!!

4. **The News-Dispatch** – *Troubled waters/Settling the dust?/Needmore Water?; Moses Leos III, Cyndy Slovak-Barton*: Nicely done. These heads enticed me to read the stories. Well done!!

DIVISION 9

1. **Murphy Monitor** – *City hits a Grand Slam/City continues to brew over potential event/The "raining" queen; David Jenkins*: This entry hit a Grand Slam! The best of the bunch.
2. **Lake Travis View** – *Bring Home Bacon/Weight of the world/Residents revved over track*: This strong collection of headlines featured a good use of word play and cleverness.
3. **Westlake Picayune** – *Golden Summer-sett/In Hog Pursuit/Dogs-eye view, Ed Allen*
4. **Springtown Epigraph** – *Mark Campbell*

DIVISION 10

1. **Hill Country News Weekender** – *No cop, no stop? Traffic lights can snatch, too/Bug out-Mosquito outbreak swarms county/All is well; Ashley Sava*
2. **Big Lake Wildcat** – *J.L. Mankin*
3. **The Presidio International** – *Like water for chilies/When life gives you lemons, recycle/A pipeline runs through it*
4. **Bullard Banner News** – *Micah McCartney*

HeadlineWriting

DIVISION 9, 1ST PLACE



Roosevelt Joubert/Murphy Monitor

The “raining” queen

DIVISION 4, 1ST PLACE

‘Dam it?’

Lakes stakeholders asked to help prevent upstream blockage

DIVISION 7, 1ST PLACE

No need to scramble for eggs in Presidio County

By SARAH M. VASQUEZ
PRESIDIO COUNTY – Don’t worry, Presidio County residents, your egg and chorizo burritos are safe for now. News about the national egg shortage quickly spread as the avian flu started a chain of events that affected an abundance of producer’s chickens that provide eggs to restaurants and grocers.

DIVISION 6, 1ST PLACE

Shaken and stirred

Surprise tax causes stir for Buda bar owners

DIVISION 10, 1ST PLACE



No cop, no stop?

Traffic lights can snatch, too

By ASHLEY SAVA
News Editor

Those who are thinking of running that light at South Bagdad Road and Municipal Drive and Vista Ridge Drive in Leander should think twice. Police installed “tattle tale lights” at this popular intersection.

FeaturePhotos

DIVISION 6, 1ST PLACE

Battle of the Bell



Staff photo by ANDREW BUCKLEY

Wildcats head coach Marcus Shulz takes an ice water shower thanks to players and coaches as the final seconds tick off of Splendora's 7-0 victory over Tarkington to take the Battle of the Bell on Aug. 28, 2015, at Splendora High School.

DIVISION 5, 1ST PLACE



NEWS HERALD photo by CHELSEA KATZ

DIVISION 2, 1ST PLACE



DIVISION 7, 1ST PLACE



Cuero High School held homecoming at halftime of the Gobbler's game against the Smithville Tigers on Friday night, Sept. 11. Zech Hopkins, left, and Kerstin Timpone were named homecoming king and queen by their peers. Hopkins is the son of Robert Hopkins and Geri Armstrong. Timpone is the daughter of J. and Sonya Timpone and Dean and Erika Plummer. PHOTO BY ROBERT PROCTOR/THE CUERO RECORD

FeaturePhotos

DIVISION 8, 1ST PLACE



DIVISION 2

- 1. Tyler Morning Telegraph** – *Andrew D. Brosig, Sarah A. Miller*: Great feature photos capture action and emotion through the use of composition. These photos are composed well, use interesting techniques, like reflections, and catch emotions in great still life-type imagery.
- 2. Galveston County Daily News** – *Stuart Villanueva*: Nice composition and strong subject matter make this collection compelling.
- 3. Lufkin Daily News** – *Andy Adams*: Good composition, good subjects; but didn't hit all the marks on all five photos.
- 4. New Braunfels, Herald-Zeitung** – *Laura McKenzie*: Good composition, but needed to be stronger in all five photos to take the top prizes.

DIVISION 3

- 1. Huntsville Item** – *Joshua Yates*: Powerful wounded warrior photo. Great action shot on the jump rope shot. Awesome shots in the dark, you can see all faces and feel the emotion of what is taking place. Well done.
- 2. Marshall News Messenger** – *Caleb Brabham, Les Hassell, Michael Cavazos*: great action shots on the splash, splash photos. nice perspective on boat ride shot, does not look like boat was rocking.
- 3. Brownwood Bulletin** – *Andrew Valderas*: Great emotion shot with flag, nice feature and presentation of dance photos, vintage photos were crisp and told a story by themselves.
- 4. Waxahachie Daily Light** – *Scott Dorsett*: Great use of photos with headlines and info on them.

DIVISION 4

- 1. The Bay City Tribune** – *Casey Kile, Brandon Cox*: Cox has a solid command of lighting, focus, depth of field and most of all timing, to catch his subjects at their best.
- 2. Williamson County Sun/Sunday Sun** – *Andy Sharp*
- 3. Beeville Bee-Picayune** – *Jason Collins*
- 4. El Campo Leader-News** – *Jay Strasner*,

Blair Bunge, Jody Larimer

DIVISION 5

- 1. Kilgore News Herald** – *James Draper, Chelsea Katz*: These are excellent photos that pop off the page. I loved the layout of the church steeple.
- 2. The Bastrop Advertiser** – *Fran Hunter, Terry Hagerty*: These photographers captured the spirit of the community. I've seen plenty of rodeo photos, but yours is one of the best and most unique shots.
- 3. Lampasas Dispatch Record** – Great work. The night swimming photo is beautiful.
- 4. Lamesa Press Reporter** – *Russel Skiles, Regina Crutcher*: Great photos and presentation.

DIVISION 6

- 1. Cleveland Advocate** – *Jason Fochtman, Michael Minasi, Andrew Buckley, Vanesa Brashier*: Great composition and angles. Great timing! Funeral pictures tastefully done.
- 2. The Wylie News** – Favorite are the cars, decoration day (perfect composition) and the bronc. Composition/angle of runners picture could have been slightly better.
- 3. Port Aransas South Jetty** – *Dan Parker*: Great photos!
- 4. Hays Free Press** – *Moses Leos III*: Composition is good. Cutlines are good.

DIVISION 7

- 1. Cuero Record** – *Robert Proctor, Elizabeth Rodriguez, Sonya Timpone*: Lots of drama and emotion, and good presentation.
- 2. Goldthwaite Eagle** – *James Taylor*: Fun photos, the kind readers will frame and keep.
- 3. The Big Bend Sentinel** – *Sarah Vasquez, John Daniel Garcia, Barbara Richerson*: Undeterred by black and white reproduction, the images are striking.
- 4. The Irving Rambler** – *John Starkey*: Fun, colorful and full of local activity.

DIVISION 8

Wow, what an unbelievable category to

judge. This category had 15 submissions (that I judged) and I believe there were about 10 papers who could've tied for third or fourth. When judging, I awarded a score between 1-10 for each of the newspapers five photo submissions. In the end what made the difference was consistency over the five submissions. Although a couple of papers had stronger single photos submitted than even the top four, the remaining three or four images kind of fell flat leaving me wanting more. Remember to try to stay consistent with your images.

1. Iowa Park Leader – *Kevin Hamilton, Sherrie Williams*: After deliberating who to award first place to for several hours, I finally decided your publication did deserve the honor. It was still extremely close. Though second place actually had a single image that was the best out of the whole category in my opinion, I feel all five of your submissions were the best collection overall. Way to think outside of the box and capture images in a way that really draws the reader in.

2. The Canadian Record – *Laurie Ezzell Brown*: This was very tough for me to choose between first and second. Although individually I gave the Fall Foliage Festival photo the highest score in the category, the paper I ultimately awarded first place to did just a slightly better job with quality throughout. Don't get me wrong, though, your submissions were still fantastic.

3. The Dublin Citizen – *Paul Gaudette, Tesha Shafer*: In a category where about five other photos could've easily taken third place honors I felt compelled to award it to your paper based on the bonfire picture. With so many other papers submitting images at the same level as your publication, I chose to award third based on a "wow" factor image. To me the bonfire photo provided that one wow factor image the others lacked.

4. Sachse News – *Patty Montagno, Charlene Loggins, Chad Engbrock*: Great collection of photos. I do, however, feel some of the other

papers that did not place had a stronger single photo submitted. But as the old saying goes, "slow and steady wins the race." Your five photo submissions, though they lacked that one "wow" factor photo, had consistent quality throughout.

DIVISION 9

- 1. Clarendon Enterprise** – *Roger Estlack, Matthew Martinez, Morgan Wheatly*
- 2. Hico News Review** – *Kelsey Johnson, Jerry McAdams, Traci Till, Jerry McAdams*
- 3. Westlake Picayune** – *Jay Janner, Ed Allen*
- 4. Springtown Epigraph** – *Natalie Gentry, Mark K. Campbell*

DIVISION 10

Overall, a pretty good lot. But, I would urge photographers in this group to look at the winner's photographs because they really stood out for their interesting lighting and composition. Generally, a lot of photos, especially those of children, suffered from being taken from the wrong angle: Get down on the kids' level! Others were simply not composed tightly enough. And some need to watch their white balance.

1. The Presidio International – *Sasha von Oldershausen*: Sasha van Oldershausen was the clear winner in this group: She strived to shoot from interesting angles, and to avail herself of interesting light, reflection, and more. She also appears to know how to edit photos and make them pop. Bravo. Indeed, her photos were the best in all of the categories I judged.

2. Big Lake Wildcat – *J.L. Mankin, Kelly House*: Good use of strobe, nice angle on worm photo, like the owl.

3. The Smithville Times – *Jillian Beck, Fran Hunter*: Photos would be better with more attention to lighting, angle and cropping or zooming in closer to the action. Always good to get down on the same level when taking photos of children.

4. East Bernard Express – *Russell Zahradnik, Lauren Stolle*: This group had some good action photos.

NewsPhotos

DIVISION 2, 1ST PLACE



A horse-drawn caisson carries Gilberto Sanchez's casket during Friday's interment ceremony at Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery in San Antonio.

Photos by LAURA MCKENZIE | Herald-Zeitung

DIVISION 7, 1ST PLACE



Wimberley Firefighter Keith Tomlin puts out a garage fire as fiery debris falls from the ceiling.

PHOTO BY DALTON SWEAT/WIMBERLEY VIEW

DIVISION 10, 1ST PLACE



Joe Romero plays his Tuba during the High School portion of RCISD's Christmas Concert Sunday. The tuba section was highlighted during the concert as they played "Hark, the Herald Tubas Sing."

J.L. MANKIN

DIVISION 2

1. **New Braunfels, Herald-Zeitung** – *Laura McKenzie*: Powerful photos. Best of the pack and it's a pretty good pack.
2. **Galveston County Daily News** – *Jennifer Reynolds, Stuart Reynolds*: Well done. Photographer is obviously in the community.
3. **Lubbock Avalanche-Journal** – *Mark Rogers*: Well done. Aerial pics very impressive.
4. **Victoria Advocate** – *Frank Tilley, Jaime Carrero*: Good solid photography. Strong.

DIVISION 3

Strong field. Really not a weak entry in the bunch. Talented photographers.

1. **Seguin Gazette** – *Derek Kuhn, Jessica Kuhn, Felicia Frazar*: Great pics.
2. **Waxahachie Daily Light** – *Scott Dorsett*: Well done. Good mix.
3. **Herald-Banner, Greenville** – *Brad Kellar*: Paper makes good use of photos.
4. **Vernon Daily Record** – *Mike Chacanaca, Daniel Walker*: Love the black and white.

DIVISION 4

The excellence of photography among the competitors in this category made it difficult to choose the top entries. A number of these photos will be viewed for years as communities detail their area's history. Readers are bound to be drawn to these papers by the emotional connection to events made by

exceptional work.

1. **Wise County Messenger** – *Joe Duty*: Exceptional photography filled with emotion to tell the story. Well framed, and in the case of features, creative. Excellent quality of reproduction. Bound to attract readers.
2. **Hood County News** – *Mary Vinson*: The photos draw the readers to the stories. Good eye for capturing emotion as well as telling the story.
3. **El Campo Leader-News** – *Shannon Crabtree, Jay Strasser*: The photos definitely help tell the stories. Excellent eye for detail.
4. **Williamson County Sun/Sunday Sun** – *Andy Sharp*: These photos are selected to play an important part of telling these stories. Very good quality and framing.

DIVISION 5

1. **Gonzales Inquirer** – *José Torres, Erik McCowan*
2. **Lamesa Press Reporter** – *Russel Skiles*
3. **The Bastrop Advertiser** – *Andy Sevilla, Jillian Beck, Terry Hagerty*
4. **Taylor Press** – *Richard Stone, Jason Hennington*

DIVISION 6

There was heavy emphasis on police and fire photos, many of which were after-the-fact shots. Entries with more human emotion and action, as opposed to twisted metal, placed higher.

1. **Burnet Bulletin** – *Alexandria Randolph, Christi Bertelson*: Great storytelling, especially the silhouette in front of

NewsPhotos

DIVISION 6, 1ST PLACE



Lighting a fire

ALEXANDRIA
RANDOLPH/
BURNET BULLETIN

Burnet High School Senior Connor Castillo tests his metal against the heat of the bonfire at a pep rally on Thursday, Nov. 12. The bonfire rallied the Bulldogs for their bi-district playoff football game against the Liberty Hill Panthers the following night. Burnet dropped the match to cap a 6-5 season. More on page 18.

the fire.

2. **Jewish Herald-Voice** – *Michael Duke*: Compelling range of emotions and variety of topics.
3. **Port Aransas South Jetty** – *Dan Parker*: Important subjects.
4. **Wilson County News** – *Nannette Kilbey-Smith*: The suspect on the tin roof is exemplary.

DIVISION 7

First and second place decision was a very tough one. They both do an excellent job on news photos. If there could be ties this would be one. Very good work!

1. **Wimberley View** – *Dalton Sweat*: The choice between first and second place was a hard one to make. Two excellent entries. Your news photo were excellent and the way they were dominate of the page was outstanding in the field. Excellent work... congratulations!
2. **Azle News** – *Carla Stutsman*: Very, very good news photos. It was really hard not to make this one first place also. Keep up the excellent work!
3. **Colorado County Citizen** – *Brianna Lester, Gina Sides, Michelle Banse*: Very good photos. You do a good job of cropping as well. Making one dominate on the page will help you out.
4. **Medina Valley Times** – *Steven Santana, Luz Moreno-Lozano*: Good news photos. The only thing that could help is to make them bigger and at the top where it will stand out more. Good job.

DIVISION 8

I went through each photo entry submitted by each newspaper and assigned each photo entry a ranking individually. When you average out those individual numbers from each paper, there was only about a two and half point difference separating first from last. For the papers that didn't place, keep working to find a shot that doesn't necessarily look staged, or try to find a way to take a picture that would set it apart from the competition.

1. **The Canadian Record** – *Laurie Ezzell Brown, Peyton Auffer*: In a very tough category with a lot of great submissions, your photos held a slight edge on the competition. Very impressive community news coverage.
2. **Iowa Park Leader** – *Sherrie Williams, Kevin Hamilton*: Great, well composed photos from a variety of events. Your paper is to be commended for a job well done. First place held just a slight advantage.
3. **The Sealy News** – *Joe Southern*: Like the wide variety of subjects covered. Photos were well composed and sharp. Although I do like the photos you chose to use, I do believe there were a couple photos on the same pages that possibly could've propelled you to second place.
4. **Sachse News** – Though I felt some of the photos submitted were about average when compared to some of the other submissions, a couple of photos really stood out and helped earn fourth place. All in all great job.

DIVISION 9

Clearly some in this category actively beat the streets and listen to the scanner to be on the spot, which is great. I would have liked to have seen a little more variety from some entrants. Some of those who didn't win need to perk up: A train derailment and a tornado, for instance, could have yielded some truly great photos had the shooter a. exited his or her car and b. spent the time searching out good light, the presence of people and the exhibition of emotion.

1. **Springtown Epigraph** – *Mark K. Campbell, Natalie Gentry*: Some nice photos and shows that Johnny-on-the-spot energy.
2. **Cooper Review** – *Cindy Roller*: Nice homecoming moment and Memorial Day photos, taken from angles that make them more interesting.
3. **Clarendon Enterprise** – *Roger Estlack, Elaina Estlack*: Good effort to take photos from interesting angles.
4. **Ozona Stockman** – *Joe Hernandez*: Some good fire photos but you needed more variety.

DIVISION 10

1. **Big Lake Wildcat** – *J.L. Mankin*: Great composition. Amazing timing. Tuba photo is on point!
2. **Eldorado Success** – *Kathy Mankin, Randy Mankin, Kimberley Meyer*: Good composition. Great cutlines
3. **East Bernard Express** – *Russell Zahradnik, Tara Kubena, Shaina Bowen*: Good composition. Nice reproduction.
4. **The Smithville Times** – *Jillian Beck, Fran Hunter, Andy Sevilla*: Good photos.

NewsWriting

DIVISION 3, 1ST PLACE

DA responds to handling of hit-and-run

RYAN WAGONER

RWAGONER@MARSHALLNEWSMESSENGER.COM

Harrison County District Attorney Coke Solomon issued a response Wednesday morning regarding comments made about the handling of Saturday's hit-and-run incident and subsequent arrest of Ashli Acker Dansby, KMHT Radio's news director and suspect in the case.

"It is inappropriate for me to comment on any currently pending cases," Solomon's re-

Solomon aims statement at media, police attention

sponse reads. "However, due to the current media frenzy and the recent comments and explanations made by Chief Campa regarding the incident that took place this past weekend I feel obligated to respond on my office's behalf."

The response details how Solomon worked with the police department the night of the incident to protect against "a violation of the suspect's



Coke Solomon

constitutional right and result in suppressed evidence due to recent Court of Criminal Appeal's decisions."

When an officer has questions or is unsure of how to handle a case, the Marshall

Police Department will then consult with the district attorney under their current policy, Marshall Police Chief Jesus "Eddie" Campa said.

"On Saturday morning, I received a call from a MPD officer asking for assistance in a hit and run accident, and the possibility of an intoxicated assault," Solomon's statement reads. "I was informed of the identity of the suspected driver

of the vehicle, and that her attorney was there telling officers she would be exercise her fifth Amendment rights."

Dansby was inside the house when officers arrived at her residence after a call was made by her husband, Kyle, telling dispatch that his wife believed she was in a wreck with a pedestrian.

The hit and run occurred at 1:19 a.m. Saturday morning at the intersection of Victory Drive and Caddo Street. The

victim, who suffered lacerations to her face and head along with a broken toe, was transported to Marshall Good Shepherd Medical Center.

The victim did not wish for information about her current condition to be shared with media, said Erin Hassel, a marketing representative for Marshall Good Shepherd.

Dansby's husband contacted police approximately 9 min-

See DA, Page 5A

DIVISION 2

This was an impressive collection of entries and extremely difficult to judge.

1. **Lufkin Daily News** – *First in line, Steve Knight*
2. **Victoria Advocate** – *Sara Sneath, Jessica Rodrigo*
3. **Longview News-Journal** – *Glenn Evans, Matthew Prosser, Ellen Goodacre*
4. **The Facts, Clute** – *Lance Reaves, Brittany Lamas*

DIVISION 3

1. **Marshall News Messenger** – *Ryan Wagoner*
2. **Nacogdoches Daily Sentinel** – *Paul Bryant*
3. **Waxahachie Daily Light** – *Andrew Branca*
4. **Huntsville Item** – *Cody Stark, Marissa Nunez*

DIVISION 4

1. **Hood County News** – *Kathy Cruz*: Thorough reporting covering both sides of the issue.
2. **El Campo Leader-News** – *Shannon Crabtree*: Clear and concise writing and good solid reporting.
3. **Wise County Messenger** – *Brian Knox, Racey Burden*: Great emotional writing. Entry would have scored higher except the reporter injected his opinion the last paragraph. Save that for the opinion page and allow your readers to draw their own conclusions.
4. **The Fayette County Record** – *Andy Behlen*: Compellingly written stories.

DIVISION 5

1. **Lampasas Dispatch Record** – *David Lowe, Jeff Lowe, Derek Moy*: These are both excellent stories. The dam story had a lot of information and sources.
2. **Taylor Press** – *Richard Stone*: These are interesting and well written stories that draw the reader in. Great lead on the brewery article.
3. **Kilgore News Herald** – *James Draper*: Great crime reporting. I liked how the writer allowed the father to tell the story of his missing son.
4. **The Bastrop Advertiser** – *Jillian Beck, Andy Sevilla*: Great writing about two relevant issues. I loved the lead on the gay marriage story.

DIVISION 6

1. **Austin Business Journal** – *Christopher Calnan, Jan Buchholz*
2. **Hays Free Press** – *Andy Sevilla*
3. **Port Aransas South Jetty** – *Dan Parker*
4. **Silsbee Bee** – *Daniel Elizondo*

DIVISION 7

It was a pleasure to read and judge these newspapers. The four newspapers which placed should be proud of the talent they have on their news staffs. I would like to make a couple of suggestions for entering future contests. It will help whoever judges them immensely. First, indicate plainly which articles you are entering. Some papers just listed the reporter's name. And it was confusing when that reporter had 2 or 3 articles on that front page. Help your contest judge out a little. My second suggestion is remember to send in the entire article. If you only have 2-4 para-

graphs on page 1 and jump the article, the judge needs to have that jump to make a fair assessment of the writing.

1. **Azle News** – *Carla Stutsman*: Clear, concise writing and proof that news writing doesn't have to be dry. Very well done.
2. **The Big Bend Sentinel** – *Sarah Vasquez*: It was a very close call between 2nd and 3rd place. This reporter put very human faces on the news. Good job.
3. **Wimberley View** – *Dalton Sweat*: As mentioned on the 2nd place, it was very close choosing between 2nd and 3rd. A missing jump (to last page of a story over three pages) decided it.
4. **Freestone County Times** – *Karen Leidy, Mary McDonald*: Great lead on the capital murder article.

DIVISION 8

The top tier was challenging to judge because the class was very strong. I see excellent news clarity, meaning that challenging stories are taken on with gusto. Well done!!

1. **Goliad Advance-Guard** – *Coy Slavik*: Wow, excellent stories. I thought the break-out boxes and bullet points add clarity and at the same time simplicity to the stories. Well done!!
2. **The Canadian Record** – *Laurie Ezzell Brown*: Excellent stories, taking what could be confusing topics and explaining them with due diligence. Well done! Excellent art work as well.
3. **Glen Rose Reporter** – *Travis M. Smith*: I enjoyed these stories, it's challenging to take somewhat complex subjects and explain them with ease. Well done!
4. **Farmersville Times** – *Wyndi Veigel*: Nice

stories, well done.

DIVISION 9

1. **San Patricio County News** – *Jason Jansky*: Tax story is interesting and explained well. I might have moved the 1400-percent increase to the lede, but it's good that it's the first example. I found myself moving easily through the story. 2nd story isn't quite as strong, though it is an important issue presented in a way that will intrigue readers.
2. **West Kerr Current** – *Irene Van Winkle*: First story is actually an intimate look at a routine happening. Good that source was able to tell her story. (A little amazing how many fires they have in the area.)
3. **Westlake Picayune** – *Katie Urbaszewski*: Tighter editing would help the boating/CO story, but it's an interesting topic, with a tragic example.
4. **Springtown Epigraph** – *Natalie Gentry*: Body cam story seems interesting... but I don't know what happened. What was on the videos? Why was the teenager arrested? Shooting story is an interesting topic, decent look at various angles.

DIVISION 10

1. **Royse City Herald Banner** – *Jim Hardin*: Great stories to read, inspiring.
2. **Van Alstyne Leader** – *Rodney Williams*: Especially enjoyed the second story. Both well written and of interest to readers.
3. **The Van Horn Advocate** – *Robert Morales, Lupa Jernigan*: Very well written, easy to follow and understand a difficult subject matter.
4. **Big Lake Wildcat** – *J.L. Mankin*: Well written and explained to the readers.

NewsWriting

DIVISION 8, 1ST PLACE



Goliad ISD board of trustees president Trey Wimberly, left, and former Goliad ISD Superintendent Emilio Vargas III are shown during Monday's special meeting, which ended with the board accepting Vargas' resignation and rejecting Kyle Taylor's proposed agreement to return as head football coach.

Former AD arrested on charges of harassment; Goliad ISD left looking for new superintendent

By Coy Slavik
Advance-Guard Editor

EDITOR'S NOTE: This story contains graphic material from information obtained by The Advance-Guard from a signed affidavit filed with a warrant for arrest.

GOLIAD — Kyle Taylor's quest to return as head football coach for the Goliad Tigers took a dramatic turn Tuesday.

As was first reported Tuesday morning on mySouTex.com, Taylor was arrested on a Class B misdemeanor harassment charge after turning himself in at the Goliad County Sheriff's Office.

A warrant for Taylor's arrest was issued Tuesday night by Precinct 1 Justice of the Peace Susan Moore after reviewing a probable cause complaint filed by GCSO Investigator John Pape and prepared by Goliad County Attorney Rob Baiaumont.

According to the (See Taylor, Page 2A)

By Coy Slavik
Advance-Guard Editor

GOLIAD — Emilio Vargas III said after Monday night's Goliad ISD board of trustees meeting that his decision to resign after serving two years as the school district's superintendent was not an easy one.

"Sometimes there are differences in thought," Vargas said after the board unanimously approved his resignation. "Sometimes it's just time to go. I wish this school board, its teachers and all the children in this community my best."

Vargas said he will continue to serve as superintendent through July as the school district seeks his replacement.

"We negotiated an exit strategy with him," said Trey Wimberly, board of trustees president. "He is going to be involved with day-to-day details over the next period. (See Vargas, Page 2A)

KYLE TAYLOR TIMELINE



Coy Slavik photo

Kyle Taylor gives the Goliad Tigers a halftime pep talk during a football game in 2013. Taylor, who is seeking to return as head football coach at Goliad after being placed on paid administrative leave in March, was arrested Tuesday on charges of harassment of a female student.

Feb. 4 — Taylor is promoted to athletic director and head football coach

Mid-March — Taylor is placed on paid administrative leave by the school district after he is accused of making inappropriate comments to a female student.

April 13 — Goliad ISD board of trustees vote 4-3 in favor of Goliad ISD Superintendent Emilio Vargas' recommendation to not renew Taylor's contract.



April 29 — Goliad ISD receives an appeal notice from Taylor's attorney.

June 8 — Trustees vote 5-2 to give attorneys from both sides and trustees until June 12 to work out a resolution.

June 8 — Trustees unanimously approve

Debra Bauer as the new athletic director

June 12 — No agreement is reached.

June 29 — Trustees vote 4-2 to reject proposed agreement offered by Taylor and his attorneys.

June 29 — Warrant is issued by Precinct 1 Justice of the Peace Susan Moore for Taylor's arrest on a Class B misdemeanor charge of harassment.

June 30 — Taylor turns himself in to Goliad County Sheriff's Office authorities.

By DAVID LOWE
Staff Writer

Many Colorado River landowners are trying to stop a proposed dam they believe could have negative effects on downstream homes, ranches, wildlife habitat and recreational activities.

These working for approval of the in-channel dam, however, said a reservoir on the Colorado River would be for farming purposes and would be designed to provide sufficient downstream flows as required by the state environmental commission.

Potentially affected parties have until Monday to comment to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality or to request a contested case hearing about the proposed in-channel reservoir in Mills and San Saba counties.

Fort Worth residents O.P. Leonard Jr. and Nancy Leonard, whose family owns Big Valley Farm pecan orchard several miles southwest of Goldthwaite, have applied to TCEQ to amend one of their water rights in the river and develop the proposed reservoir. The dam is proposed for a point on the river about 9.5 miles southwest of Goldthwaite, and the reservoir would have a normal maximum capacity of 1,000 acre-feet of water, according to TCEQ documents.

The Leonards' son David said the reservoir would provide Big Valley Farm and other people's properties nearby with a dependable water source, as he said wells are going dry.

The water to be impounded, Leonard said, is important for pecan production at a farm that regularly employs 20 people and can have as many as 50 workers during harvest season. He added that all the water use from the



PHOTO BY DAVID LOWE

Lampasas County rancher Les Hardy stands near the Colorado River a bit south of U.S. Highway 190. Hardy fears a proposed channel dam southwest of Goldthwaite could decrease water flow at his property and other downstream areas.

proposed reservoir would be for agricultural purposes.

The water to be stored would be part of the water rights the Leonards own in the Colorado River. One of the rights, which authorizes the use of as much as 1,460 acre-feet of water per year, was secured Dec. 31, 1961.

In Texas, surface water rights are prioritized by the date the rights were established. Water rights with an earlier date take priority — or are "senior" — to "junior" rights established later.

Colorado River water rights owners who may be affected if TCEQ approves the dam were notified of the Leonards' application, and a 30-day comment period began last month when public notices were published.

A number of landowners in or near Lampasas County have voiced concerns about how the proposed reservoir would affect water availability downstream.

Les Hardy — whose family has been ranching in Lampasas County for more than 130 years — raises cattle and hay on the land where he lives adjacent to the Colorado River and County

Road 1935. He also depends on the river as the water source for the Lometa reservoir that serves his house, other rural households and the city of Lometa.

Hardy said he worries if TCEQ approves the Leonards' request for a dam, water flow for downstream agriculture and home use will decrease.

Hardy said with the Colorado River suffering from Texas' serious, long-term drought, now County for more than 130 years is not the time to allow a water impoundment he believes will hurt those who live downstream.

"It comes down to either the river as the water source for the Lometa reservoir that serves his house, other rural households and the city of Lometa.

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DIVISION 5, 1ST PLACE

Colorado River concerns

Landowners worry farm's proposed dam could hurt downstream areas

pecan trees or people, and I can't see how this is even being discussed," he said.

Hardy acknowledged the Leonards own water rights and need to water their pecan trees, "but at what cost?"

Hardy said he has about 75 acre-feet per year of water rights in the Colorado River but for years has not used the amount allocated to him. At his pump site, the water is only about a foot or foot and a half deep, the landowner said.

Hardy also said he has not raised a hay crop in two years. His last crop, three years ago, yielded only about a third of the normal amount of hay, he said.

In addition, Hardy said the decline of the river — at one time deep enough to serve as a natural "fence" and confine cattle to one's property — means ranchers are incurring fence-building expenses, spending time chasing livestock or losing the ability to pasture animals on prime grazing spots by the river.

Lamar Johnson, whose family's 800-acre Mills County ranch is a few miles from the Lampasas County line, echoed Hardy's concerns about the proposed reservoir's effects on downstream landowners.

Johanson said the ranch, which has been in his wife's family since 1908, depends on the Colorado River for water for the house and livestock. The property has two 50-foot-deep wells near the river, and Johanson said he worries an upstream dam could cause the wells to run dry. If that happens, he said he would have to have water trucked to the property to meet everyday needs.

Johanson also said he is concerned about a decrease in hunting and fishing lease income, as well as land value, if

Please see COMMENT, page 9

DIVISION 4, 1ST PLACE

Clerk defies court's ruling on gay unions

Man says county clerk's office refused to issue same-sex marriage license

BY KATIE CRUZ
HOOD COUNTY NEWS

"No one in this office can help you," That's what Weatherford College instructor James Cato was told when he phoned County Clerk Katie Lang's office Monday morning seeking a same-sex marriage license.

He said he may consult with an attorney over County Clerk Katie Lang's refusal to issue the licenses despite the Supreme Court ruling Friday that same-sex unions are legal.

Lang cited her religious beliefs and support from Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton. Paxton said that pro bono lawyers stand ready to assist county clerks who choose to defy the "flawed" ruling from the nation's highest court.

However, he cautioned that counties "should prepare for lawsuits and fines."

Lang is reportedly one of just three county clerks in the state and the only one in the region refusing to issue the licenses. The other county clerks in Texas' 254 counties are either issuing the licenses or awaiting revamped applications.

If the help promised by Paxton doesn't materialize, Lang could be on her own where any legal battles are concerned.

According to County Attorney Lori Kaspar, Lang's office could be sued, and Lang could be sued individually as well.

Kaspar said she does not agree with Paxton's opinion that county clerks have the right to refuse to issue the licenses based on religious grounds.

Federal law, she said, states that elected officials "can't deprive someone of their rights acting under color of law."



"THIS IS WHERE WE LIVE": James Cato (right), an instructor in the Nursing Department at Weatherford College, said he was told "no one here can help you" when he phoned County Clerk Katie Lang's office Monday morning seeking a marriage license for him and his longtime partner, Joe Stapleton (left). Lang is one of just a handful of county clerks in the state refusing to abide by last week's ruling by the U.S. Supreme Court that gay marriage is legal. Cato and others are calling for her resignation.

County Clerk Katie Lang is refusing to grant same-sex marriage licenses, despite a U.S. Supreme Court ruling abolishing bans on gay unions.

SHE cited her religious beliefs and support from Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton.

Lang is the only county clerk in the region, and reportedly one of just three in Texas, refusing to grant the licenses.

From issuing the licenses as required." In further explaining her view to the HCN, Lang said that "right now, as it stands, Texas law says you can't issue marriage licenses to gay couples."

Ken Pastor's quote was that the position of his office is that marriage is between one

WHAT IT MEANS

AT least two people who wanted a same-sex marriage license were rebuffed by Lang's office on Monday.

COUNTY Attorney Lori Kaspar said that Lang could be sued, and the county will likely be included.

HOWEVER, she said the Commissioners Court should not be held accountable since the court has no say in Lang's actions.

According to the Washington Post article, Texas is under no obligation right now to issue the licenses because the Supreme Court's decision only applies to the 6th Federal Circuit, and Texas is in the 5th Circuit. However,

PLEASE SEE MARRIAGE | 2A

PageDesign

DIVISION 2, 1ST PLACE

DIVISION 3, 1ST PLACE

DIVISION 4, 1ST PLACE

C2 10/10/2015 WEDNESDAY, 7/29/2015 **CROSSTOWN SHOWDOWN** **Paris News**

NORTH LAMAR VS PARIS

The 30th edition of the Crosstown Showdown features two teams seeking to clinch the final playoff spot in District 7-4A. Paris leads the all-time series 23-6.

WILDCAT STADIUM, PARIS ISD • NOV. 6 • 7:30 P.M.

NORTH LAMAR

OFFENSE
Total yards (avg.): 437.2
Rushing: 289.3
Passing: 147.9
District: 321
First downs: (146)
District: (54)
Yards allowed (avg.): 405.3
Rushing: 291.8
Passing: 402.5
District: 340.3

DEFENSE
Total yards (avg.): 405.3
Rushing: 291.8
Passing: 402.5
District: 340.3

SCORING (PPG)
District: 340.3

PLAY SELECTION (PCT)
Regular season: District: 340.3

Building blocks
Team makeup
Current roster (28)
QB: J. Smith
RB: M. Brown
WR: T. Jones
TE: K. White
OL: J. Green
DL: M. Black
LB: J. Gray
CB: J. Hall
S: J. King
K: J. Lee
P: J. Miller

SCHEDULE

Opponent	Score	Result
at Commerce	48-20	W
at Midland	50-20	W
SAB Cons.	51-21	W
at Arva	53-22	W
Van	42-49	L
*Hearsh	28-49	L
*at Ford	43-52	L
*Preston	38-49	L
*Lubbock	29-47	L

COACHES CORNER
Tim Billings
Record at school: 1-0
The former Division 1 coach took over the Paris program and will lead the team to its first playoff appearance since 2012. Billings spent 24 years in the league as a head coach, coordinator and position coach. He made stops at Memphis, Wake Forest, St. Michael's, Marshall, Missouri and Oklahoma.

PARIS

OFFENSE
Total yards (avg.): 440.7
Rushing: 289.3
Passing: 151.4
District: 321
First downs: (170)
District: (65)
Yards allowed (avg.): 299.2
Rushing: 291.8
Passing: 402.5
District: 340.3

DEFENSE
Total yards (avg.): 299.2
Rushing: 291.8
Passing: 402.5
District: 340.3

SCORING (PPG)
District: 340.3

PLAY SELECTION (PCT)
Regular season: District: 340.3

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*Preston	38-49	L
*Lubbock	29-47	L

COACHES CORNER
Steven Hohenberger
Record at school: 1-0
The former Division 1 coach took over the Paris program and will lead the team to its first playoff appearance since 2012. Hohenberger spent 24 years in the league as a head coach, coordinator and position coach. He made stops at Memphis, Wake Forest, St. Michael's, Marshall, Missouri and Oklahoma.

Always in First Place

First Federal Community Bank, SSB
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Wednesday • May 20, 2015

The Daily Sentinel

Nacogdoches, Texas **Home of Stephen F. Austin State University**

Yum! Cooking with rhubarb » 1B Sports: Rockets take on Golden State » 1C

“Texas is home to me.”

Bill removes local control over fracking

Louisiana men jailed for drugs

AN ALASKAN NATIVE FINDS HER PLACE IN THE LONE STAR STATE

15 MINUTES OF FAME

Always in First Place

First Federal Community Bank, SSB
The only bank you'll ever need!

Wise County Messenger

Flaming hay bales ignite pasture fire

Insurance rates rise

DRYING UP

County, cities, schools see revenue sources shrink

Rainfall reduces revenue

Budget hit by mineral value drop

Entities scramble as sales tax slides

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DIVISION 2

- The Paris News** – Connie Beard, Lauren Corbell, Joseph Brown: The Opinion, Lifestyle and Sports pages were the best of the category!
- Lubbock Avalanche-Journal**
- New Braunfels, Herald-Zeitung** – Travis Webb, Chris Lykins, Cameron Irvine
- Longview News-Journal** – Randy Ferguson, Sirena Mankins, Hayden Henry

DIVISION 3

- Nacogdoches Daily Sentinel** – Kim Foli, Kevin Gore, Debi Ryan
- Waxahachie Daily Light** – Neal White
- Brownwood Bulletin** – Crystal Hernandez
- Marshall News Messenger** – Kim Cox, Hayden Henry

DIVISION 4

- Wise County Messenger** – Todd Griffith, Joy Carrico
- Hood County News** – Cynthia Henry
- The Bay City Tribune**
- Williamson County Sun/Sunday Sun** – Will Anderson

DIVISION 5

Many of these entries are overly busy, which distracts the eye. A focus on clarity and simplicity would benefit many of these papers.

- Kilgore News Herald** – Charlotte Smith, Mitch Lucas, James Draper, Chelsea Katz: “Rennie” package really stands out in this entry. Sports could have played the dominant piece better. Leader of the pac is fun and appropriate.
- The Bastrop Advertiser** – Lots of good stuff (color, photos, layout) on volleyball package. Had to downgrade this entry because it did not include a family/lifestyle page (instead had two op-ed pages).
- Burleson Star** – Brian Porter, Ricky Moore: Pages seem too crowded, points of emphasis are not strong enough. However, the attempts at creativity are welcome.

DIVISION 6

Some very good entries in this division. The winner stood out among the rest. It is by far an outstanding newspaper.

- Fredericksburg Standard-Radio Post** – Ken Esten Cooke: Excellent use of photos, graphics, heads, font type, white space, teasers, etc. I can’t say enough good words about this paper. It is a model for excellent design!
- The Wylie News** – Very good design. Easy to read. Very well presented.
- Pleasanton Express** – Noel Wilkerson Holmes, Sue Brown, Chris Filoteo, Lisa Luna, Adolphus Sanchez: Very good coverage by a community newspaper in design. Could use

- a little work on white space to make it more reader friendly. Keep up the good work.
- Burnet Bulletin** – Lisa Treiber-Walter: Good use of graphic on front page, catches your eye and attention right away. Good use of photos and design.

DIVISION 7

- Colorado County Citizen** – Michelle Banse: Great use of white space and color to create interest and attraction.
- Leader News, Lytle** – Natalie Spencer, Luz Moreno-Lozano, Michael Casarez: Love the use of color and different picture sizes to create interest.
- Goldthwaite Eagle** – Steven Bridges, James Taylor: Good use of color and typography.
- Azle News** – Good used of color and different picture sizes to create interest. Nice typography.

DIVISION 8

- The Canadian Record** – Laurie Ezzell Brown, Peyton Aufill, Cathy Ricketts: Great use of typography to create interest. Great use of color and white space. Excellent graphics/images.
- Iowa Park Leader** – Kevin Hamilton, Dolores Hamilton, Kari Collins, Sherrie Williams: Great use of images and typography
- Mineola Monitor** – Charlotte Smith: Good

use of graphics and typography.

- The News-Dispatch** – David White, Christine Thorpe: Nice use of text wrap and typography.

DIVISION 9

- Alpine Avalanche**
- Murphy Monitor** – David Jenkins
- Princeton Herald**
- Ozona Stockman**

DIVISION 10

This was a good group that made the placing tough to decide. The use of photographs, graphics, the ease of reading, and the eye-catching details were excellent among the top selections.

- Eldorado Success** – Randy Mankin: I love the use of cutouts to go with the top-notch photos. This entry has good spacing and separation of stories to make it easy to read.
- The Smithville Times** – I thought this design was very good. I also liked the use of graphics. Excellent and sharp photos.
- Big Lake Wildcat** – J.L. Mankin: I like the design along with the good photography. I really liked the look of the editorial page and the use of graphics.
- Hill Country News Weekender** – I really liked the clean design and the ease of reading. I found the religion page especially good.

DIVISION 7. 1ST PLACE

[illegible]

DIVISION 10. 1ST PLACE



The Eldorado Success

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SEPTEMBER 17, 1985

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Volume 114 Number 3





An Evening to Remember

Former Students/Alumni Gather to Honor Coach Larry Mitchell at Stadium Dedication

Coach Larry Mitchell was the guest of honor at a special dinner to celebrate the dedication of the stadium which was dedicated to him as the retired head football coach of the school.

Guests included former students and alumni, and members of the school's athletic staff. The dinner was held at the El Dorado Hotel and was a very successful event.

Headmaster Francis Mitchell presided over the dinner. He said that Coach Mitchell was a great teacher and a great coach. He said that Coach Mitchell was a great person and a great coach.

Coach Mitchell was a great teacher and a great coach. He was a great person and a great coach. He was a great person and a great coach.

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Crowning Moment





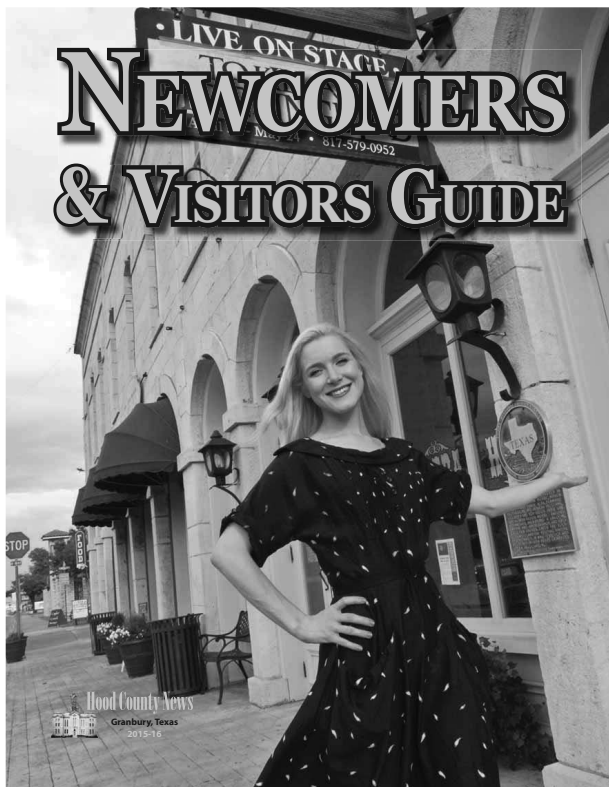
MEMBERSHIP LIST: — Coach Mitchell was a great teacher and a great coach. He was a great person and a great coach. He was a great person and a great coach.

Special Sections

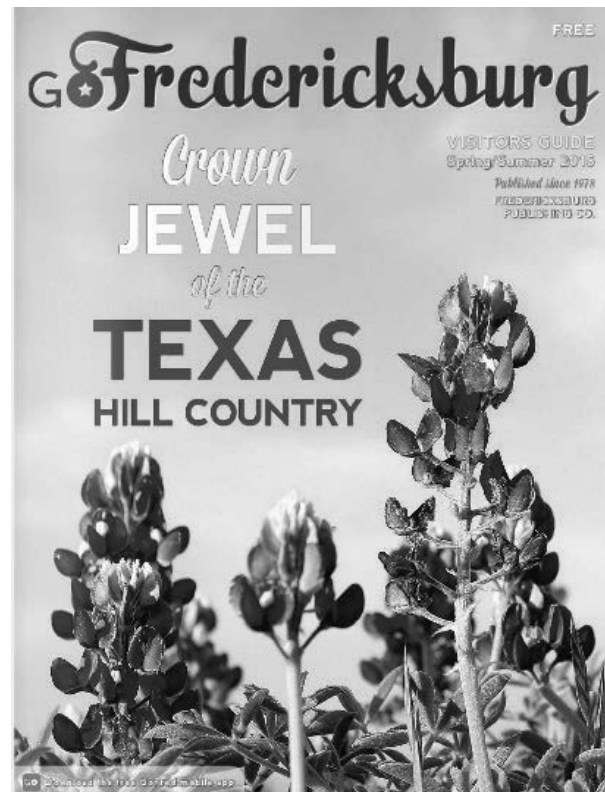
ROUTINE, DAILY,
1ST PLACE



ROUTINE, SEMIWEEKLY,
1ST PLACE



ROUTINE, WEEKLY A,
1ST PLACE



Routine Special Section

DAILIES

1. **Galveston County Daily News** – *Coast Monthly; Laura Elder, Melissa Rivera, Jennifer Reynolds, Stuart Villanueva*: Great theme, interesting tidbits. Well-written and well-packaged content with a strong suite of visuals.
2. **Athens Daily Review** – *SS Fanfare; Chad Wilson, Joe Elerson, Vicky Cole*: Slick, engaging product with a strong sense of design.
3. **Victoria Advocate** – *GC Golden Crescent Magazine; Jennifer Preyss, Dayna Wiles, Haley Kilgore*: Strong visual package, great photos.
4. **New Braunfels, Herald-Zeitung** – *101 Things To Do*: Interesting concept, well-executed.

SEMI-WEEKLIES

1. **Hood County News** – *Newcomer Guide*: Great overall presentation. Great use of color bands for layout, very organized and easy to read. Love the lists.
2. **Taylor Press** – Great organization of content, awesome ad pages.
3. **Kingsville Record & Bishop News** – *Jaime Gonzalez, Tina Morales Salinas*: Great football preview.
4. **Boerne Star** – *Stephanie Locke*: very good content. Great use of info graphics and maps, very organized. Great cover.

WEEKLIES A

1. **Fredericksburg Standard-Radio Post** – *GoFredericksburg Visitors Guide; Ken Esten Cooke, Kim Jung, Yvonne Hartmann, Ann*

Duecker

2. **Frio-Nueces Current** – *Manuel Azocar III, Lonnie Herrera*
3. **Jewish Herald-Voice** – *VOICES in Houston; Matt Samuels, Michael Duke, Vicki Samuels*
4. **Burnet Bulletin** – *2015 Newcomers' Guide, Lisa Treiber-Walter*

WEEKLIES B

1. **The Dublin Citizen** – *2015 Women in Business; Paul Gaudette, Scott Dykowski, Sarah Dykowski*: Wonderful section and great idea!
2. **Goldthwaite Eagle** – *Hunting & Outdoors, Steven Bridges*
3. **Cuero Record** – *2015 DeWitt County Visitor Guide*
4. **Colorado County Citizen**

WEEKLIES C

1. **Clarendon Enterprise** – *Clarendon Fall/Winter Welcome Guide; Roger Estlack, Tara Allred, Morgan Wheatly*: WOW! Talk about a nice piece of work.
2. **Gladewater Mirror** – *2015 Gladewater Rodeo Program, Jim Bardwell*: Great piece of work. The cover is really eye-catching. Interior design is top notch too.
3. **Big Lake Wildcat** – *J.L. Mankin*: This has got to be one of the best looking graduation supplements I've ever seen.
4. **Alpine Avalanche** – *Insider's Guide to the Big Bend, Gwin Grimes*: I'm not too keen on the over-reliance of reverse type, but aside from that, this is a very attractive, well-written publication and very much deserving of a spot among the best of the best.

Blue Moon Special Section

DAILIES

This was a very difficult category to judge. Going by my initial scores it could have been a three-way tie for first and a four-way tie for second. I had to consider the judging criteria of theme, content and design in each entry for quite a while before making the final rankings.

1. **San Marcos Daily Record** – *The Flood; Anita Miller, David Short, Candice Brusuelas, Christopher Salinas, Sarah Pollok, Jay Jones*
2. **Nacogdoches Daily Sentinel** – *Nacogdoches Film Festival, Meagan Rice*
3. **Galveston County Daily News** – *June-teenth 150; Kaitlin Schmidt, Jennifer Reynolds, Kevin M. Cox*
4. **Victoria Advocate** – *Get Out; Charles Apple, Jennifer Preyss, Natassia Bonyonpour, Meredith Cash*

SEMI-WEEKLIES

1. **The Fayette County Record** – *Veterans Voices; Elaine Thomas, Jeff Wick, Bobby Bedient, John Castaneda*: Very well done!
2. **The Bay City Tribune** – *Creative Kids 2015, Brandon Cox*: Creative newspaper!
3. **Kilgore News Herald** – *Chelsea Katz, James Draper, Linda Ballard*
4. **The Bowie News** – *Jackrabbit Scrapbook for Homecoming*

WEEKLIES A

1. **Jewish Herald-Voice** – *Community rises from flood disaster; Michael Duke, Vicki Samuels, Matt Samuels, Alice Adams, Kathy*

Zieben, Lisa Brooks

2. **Hill Country Community Journal** – *Tribute to First Responders; Tammy Prout, Lynn Hurtado, Bonnie Arnold*
3. **Azle News** – *Hall of Fame Seven; Mark K. Campbell*
4. **Cuero Record** – *2015 Gobbler football*

WEEKLIES B

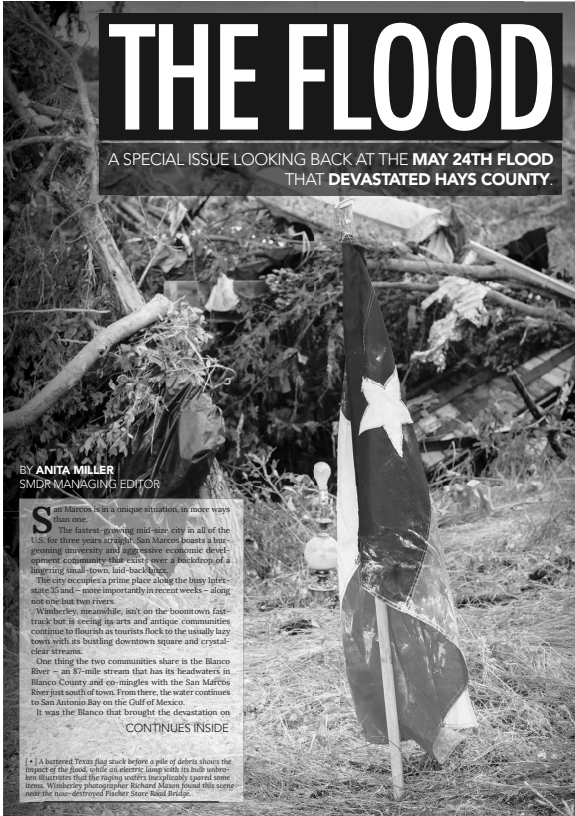
1. **Eldorado Success** – *Randy Mankin, Kathy Mankin, Lupe Elizondo*: This is a great publication that gets away from the norm and reaches a different audience and different advertisers. It is well laid out and the finished result is fantastic!
2. **Franklin Advocate** – *Bremont State Championship, Dennis Phillips, Teresa Phillips, Margaret Salvaggio*: Wonderful way to relive a great season and share it with your subscribers. The graphics are good as well as the use of pics. The publication allows the community to congratulate the team for a season well played. Great job!
3. **La Vernia News** – *Tornado; Nannette Kilbey-Smith, William Gibbs Jr., Gregory Ripps*: Great coverage of the storm. Always good to see the graphics with pertinent information. Combined with the pics and the personal stories, it makes this a great special edition.
4. **Meridian Tribune** – *Bosque County Football Finale; Brett Voss, Simone Wichers-Voss, Alyson Moulton-Stanley*: This draws you in from the headline and throughout. It is well laid out and a great intro to the playoff season as well as a wrap of the season.

Special Sections

BLUE MOON, DAILY,
1ST PLACE

THE FLOOD

A SPECIAL ISSUE LOOKING BACK AT THE MAY 24TH FLOOD THAT DEVASTATED HAYS COUNTY.



BY ANITA MILLER
SMDR MANAGING EDITOR

San Marcos, with a unique position, its more ways than one. The fastest-growing mid-size city in all of the U.S. for three years straight, San Marcos boasts a burgeoning university and aggressive economic development community that exist over a backdrop of a lingering small-town, laid-back charm.

The city occupies a prime place along the busy Interstate 35 and – more importantly in recent weeks – along not one but two rivers.

Winchester, meanwhile, sits on the boomtown fast-track but is seeing its arts and antique communities continue to flourish as tourists flock to the usually busy town with its bustling downtown square and crystal-clear streams.

One thing the two communities share is the Blanco River – an 87-mile stream that has its headwaters in Blanco County and co-mingles with the San Marcos River just south of town. From there, the water continues to San Antonio Bay on the Gulf of Mexico.

It was the Blanco that brought the devastation on

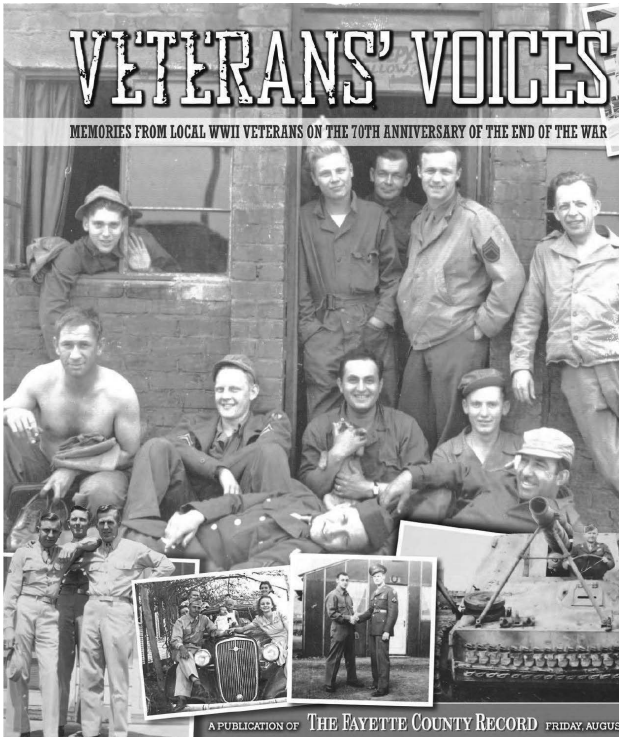
CONTINUES INSIDE

♦ ♦ A battered Texas flag stuck before a pile of debris shows the impact of the flood, while an electric lamp with its bulb unbroken illustrates that the rising waters temporarily spared some items. Winchester photographer Richard Moore found this scene near the now-destroyed Foster Street Bridge.

BLUE MOON, SEMI-WEEKLY,
1ST PLACE

VETERANS' VOICES

MEMORIES FROM LOCAL WWII VETERANS ON THE 70TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE END OF THE WAR



A PUBLICATION OF THE FAYETTE COUNTY RECORD FRIDAY, AUGUST 12, 2015

BLUE MOON, WEEKLY A,
1ST PLACE

COMMUNITY RISES FROM FLOOD DISASTER



Ken and Carolyn Topper's home on Shalinger Drive in Houston was devastated by the Memorial Day flood. The Toppers have lived in their home since 1979 and it never flooded before. The couple was thankful that they were able to save some of the Judaica in their home and that none of their mazelot got wet in the rising water.

Bereaved family focuses on lives after deadly flood

BY MICHAEL C. DUBE / JAV

The Memorial Day flood took the lives of two Jewish Houstonians, Shirley Weiser Alter, 55, and her husband, Jack Howard Alter, 57.

The couple was buried, side-by-side, at Beth Yeshurun cemetery, Sunday afternoon, May 10.

During their funeral, the wedding veil was draped in a white satin quilt that family members made in celebration of Shirley and Jack's 50th wedding anniversary, some 23 years ago.

Shirley and Jack are survived by one daughter, two sons, two daughters-in-law, three granddaughters and two grandsons, as well as an extended family.

The family wants Shirley and Jack to be remembered for the way they lived, rather than the way they died.

An American flag was buried with Jack, a World War II veteran. The couple's eldest son, Rory Alter, stood alone at the edge of his parents' graves as the earth was

Community cares for its own, others, following flood

BY MICHAEL C. DUBE / JAV

The devastating flood that struck Houston May 25-26 took the lives of two Jewish Houstonians and left scores of others displaced, without transportation and in great need.

As overwhelming as the storm was – an unprecedented 12 inches of rain fell in three hours over parts of the city, including the Meyerland area and Willow Meadows subdivisions, which have high concentrations of Jewish households – the community response in the aftermath of the disaster has been even greater.

See Community on Page 10A

Residents must register with FEMA for assistance

BY MICHAEL C. DUBE / JAV

Uninsured residents in designated disaster areas affected by the Memorial Day flood in Houston must register with FEMA, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, in order to receive assistance, according to FEMA experts at a town hall meeting June 1 at the Evelyn Rubenstein JCC.

Registration can be made at disasterassistance.gov or by calling 800-424-FEMA (3662).

A comprehensive guide on eligibility and how to apply for FEMA assistance is available for download at fema.gov/pdf/assistance/process/help_after_disaster_english.pdf.

City of Houston also posted a seven-page guide on requesting flood damage, available for download at public-works.houstontx.gov/home.

77006 is one of the ZIP Codes designated for FEMA aid, though the amount of financial assistance for uninsured residents is capped to a certain dollar amount, according to FEMA expert, Lori Robinson, who led the meeting.

More than 1,000 people showed up for the town hall, co-organized by Jewish Family Service and the Jewish Federation of Greater Houston, which was offered once for people who arrived early enough to reserve a seat in the Kaplan Theatre, and then was repeated a second time.

See FEMA on Page 10A

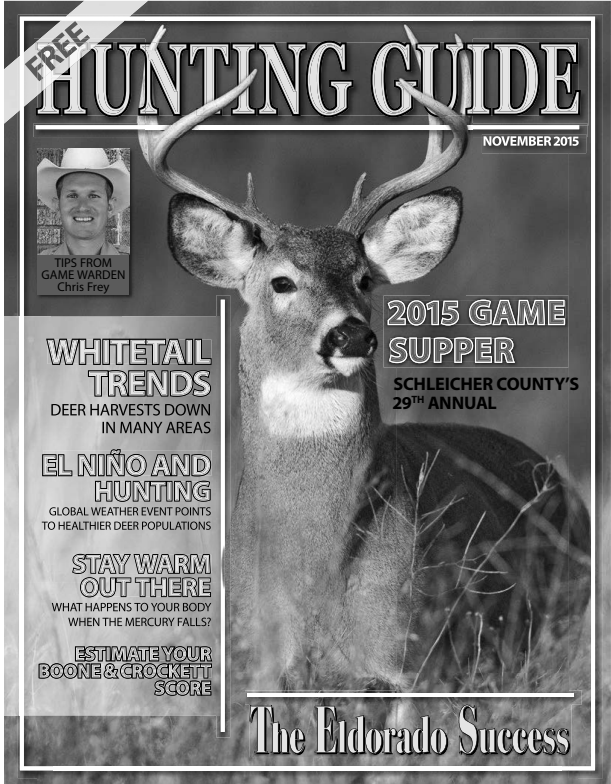
MORE FLOOD COVERAGE INSIDE

- ♦ State-funding "hot spots"
- ♦ Disaster assistance waiting to a pending disaster relief, 2A
- ♦ Flood damage cleanup costs, 2A
- ♦ Home for Meyerland-area homeowners, 2A
- ♦ After the flood: Jews for Jewish Relief, 2A
- ♦ Personal losses, 2A
- ♦ Children from disaster, 2A
- ♦ For continued coverage, visit jewishpress.com, as well as the JFH's Facebook and Twitter page. Donate funds at HoustonJewish.org/HoustonFlood

BLUE MOON, WEEKLY B,
1ST PLACE

HUNTING GUIDE

NOVEMBER 2015



TIPS FROM GAME WARDEN Chris Frey

WHITETAIL TRENDS
DEER HARVESTS DOWN IN MANY AREAS

EL NIÑO AND HUNTING
GLOBAL WEATHER EVENT POINTS TO HEALTHIER DEER POPULATIONS

STAY WARM OUT THERE
WHAT HAPPENS TO YOUR BODY WHEN THE MERCURY FALLS?

ESTIMATE YOUR BOONE & CROCKETT SCORE

2015 GAME SUPPER
SCHLEICHER COUNTY'S 29TH ANNUAL

The Eldorado Success

Community Service

DAILIES

- 1. Denton Record-Chronicle – Predatory Towing Practices, Christian McPhate:** Well written piece with good use of personal stories to illustrate.
- 2. Tyler Morning Telegraph – Traffic camera proposal sparks investigations; Roy Maynard, Faith Harper, Adam Russell:** Good coverage of local government foul-up.
- 3. Vernon Daily Record – Investigating city finances; Daniel Walker:** Solid coverage of a bizarre situation.
- 4. Baytown Sun – High water bills; David Bloom, Mark Fleming, Christopher James:** Good coverage of a real problem, although few explanations ultimately uncovered.

SEMI-WEEKLIES

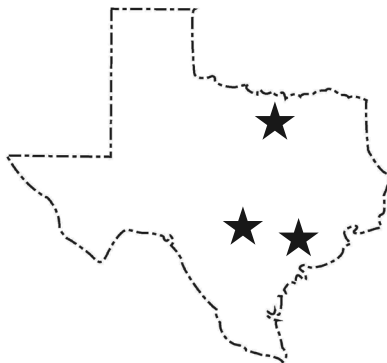
- 1. The Fayette County Record – Veterans Voices; Elaine Thomas, Bobby Biedent, Jeff Wick, John Castaneda:** Wow. An amazing section. What a service to your community by highlighting veterans. The layout was spectacular, the

- vintage ads were superb.
- 2. The Bay City Tribune – Be Vocal About Local 2015, Brandon Cox:** Great content, timely issue. Way to be a leader in your community and help the local merchants. Great stories. Cover was awesome.
- 3. Taylor Press – #TAYLORFLOOD:** Great coverage of the flood events. Great job getting involved in the recovery efforts
- 4. The Messenger, Grapeland – Sarah Pegues, Nicole Langston, Kay Boothe:** Great concept.

WEEKLIES

- 1. Hays Free Press – Whiskey is for Drinking, Water is for Fighting Over; Cyndy Slovak-Barton, Moses Leos III, David White, Christine Thorpe, Andy Sevilla, Kim Hilsenbeck:** Impressive coverage, analysis and editorials on an important topic.
- 2. The Sealy News – Bras for a Cause:** This newspaper did more than cover a fundraiser for a worthy cause; leader-

- ship founded an event and brought in community leaders to raise money for a breast cancer clinic.
- 3. Ozona Stockman**
- 4. The Canadian Record – Overflow Energy, Laurie Ezzell Brown**



SportsCoverage

DIVISION 2, 1ST PLACE



Refugio senior (left) is tackled after the Refugio hit in Canada in the Class 2A, Division 1 state championship. Thursday at MCH Stadium in Houston. Photo by JAMES L. MCGRAW/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

SOMBER FINALE

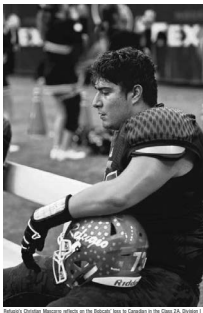
Canadian blitzes Refugio for second consecutive state title

BY MIKE FORMAN
 Refugio senior (left) is tackled after the Refugio hit in Canada in the Class 2A, Division 1 state championship. Thursday at MCH Stadium in Houston. Photo by JAMES L. MCGRAW/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Remarkable career ends for Refugio senior

Refugio will miss lineman Christian Massey's talent, leadership

BY CHRIS BOONER
 Refugio senior (left) is tackled after the Refugio hit in Canada in the Class 2A, Division 1 state championship. Thursday at MCH Stadium in Houston. Photo by JAMES L. MCGRAW/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



Refugio senior (left) is tackled after the Refugio hit in Canada in the Class 2A, Division 1 state championship. Thursday at MCH Stadium in Houston. Photo by JAMES L. MCGRAW/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Victoria West football coach named VSD athletic director. For more, see Page C5.

DIVISION 3, 1ST PLACE



Refugio senior (left) is tackled after the Refugio hit in Canada in the Class 2A, Division 1 state championship. Thursday at MCH Stadium in Houston. Photo by JAMES L. MCGRAW/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

CASTROVILLE CLOBBERIN'

Marion fights to the finish, falls in Yoakum

Staff Writer
 Marion senior (left) is tackled after the Marion hit in Yoakum in the Class 3A, Division 1 state championship. Thursday at MCH Stadium in Houston. Photo by JAMES L. MCGRAW/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

YOAKUM — The Marion Bulldogs kicked off the 2015 season on the road, traveling south to meet the Yoakum Bulldogs. The game was a defensive struggle, with Marion leading 14-0 at halftime. The game was a defensive struggle, with Marion leading 14-0 at halftime.

CASTROVILLE — Drive on the road leading to the stadium at Medina Valley and you will see a sign declaring it the "Valley Lane." The road was so named in commemoration of the school's 1984 state championship.

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DIVISION 4, 1ST PLACE



DIVISION 2

- 1. Victoria Advocate** – Alexandria Alejandro, Chris Derrett, Mike Forman, Tony Tsoukalas: Writing goes beyond the typical game story. Lots of player quotes and insights. Best writing in this category. Sports section also is well-designed and uses photographs well.
- 2. Odessa American** – Joshua Perry, Lee Scheide, Adam Zuvanich, Justin Lee: Good sports game stories, but would like to see more insight and analysis instead of the usual play-by-play. Strong photography and design lift the section to second place.
- 3. Galveston County Daily News** – James LaCombe, Anthony Oppermann: Nice job of covering the sports and the athletes. Lots of information for the readers.
- 4. Lufkin Daily News** – Gives readers good information about the sports and games.

DIVISION 3

- 1. Seguin Gazette** – Tucker Stephenson
- 2. Nacogdoches Daily Sentinel** – Kevin Gore, Matt deGrood
- 3. Huntsville Item**
- 4. Brownwood Bulletin** – Derrick Stuckly

DIVISION 4

- 1. Wise County Messenger** – Richard Greene, Travis Lisle, Joe Duty, Mack Thweatt, Editorial Staff, Advertising Staff
- 2. El Campo Leader-News**
- 3. Hood County News** – Rick Mauch
- 4. The Bowie News** – Eric Viccaro

DIVISION 5

- 1. Lampasas Dispatch Record** – Jeff Lowe
- 2. The Bastrop Advertiser** – Chris Dukes
- 3. Taylor Press** – Reagan Roehl, Larry Pelchat, Casey George
- 4. The Messenger, Grapeland** – Will Johnson, Chris Boothe, Brittani Brown, Kay Boothe, Nicole Langston, Barrett Steed

DIVISION 6

- 1. Fredericksburg Standard-Radio Post** – Ken Esten Cooke, Joshua McKinney, Yvonne Hartmann, Scott Allen, Sherrie Geistweidt, Christine Granados: This sports section has it all. I loved the cross country photos and middle school scores.
- 2. Hays Free Press** – Moses Leos III: Excellent layout and balance in sports coverage. The cross country feature story and photo added a lot to this section.
- 3. Pleasanton Express** – Chris Filoteo: Nice layout and variety of sports coverage. The story about lake level was a nice change of pace for local sports section.
- 4. Burnet Bulletin** – Wayne Craig: I like the clean layout and local sports column.

DIVISION 7

- Coverage of community sports is important and well stated in the top entries. Layout in some areas of all these entries could use some help.
- 1. The Clifton Record** – Brett Voss, Simone Wichers-Voss, Alyson Moulton-Stanley: Best coverage in this class. Great sport coverage for this community.

- 2. Katy Times** – Jimmy Galvan: Excellent coverage of State Champs. Photos are awesome and well played.
- 3. Azle News** – Mark K. Campbell: Consistent coverage of community sports.
- 4. Robertson County News** – Michael Cotton: Nice coverage. Photos tell stories well.

DIVISION 8

- 1. Glen Rose Reporter** – Travis M. Smith
- 2. Goliad Advance-Guard** – Coy Slavik
- 3. Albany News** – Donnie Lucas, Melinda Lucas, Kathryn Stapp
- 4. The Canadian Record** – Peyton Aull, Alan Hale

DIVISION 9

- This was a good category and the difference between 1 and 2 was very slim. Game stories are always great, but what separated the top performers from the rest was the inclusion of features and columns.
- 1. Westlake Picayune** – Michael Adams: All-around excellence. Good variety of sports coverage, plus a good mix of features and game stories. Good photography with good graphics.
 - 2. Lake Travis View** – Good variety of sports coverage with solid writing. Also enjoyed the mix of game and feature stories.
 - 3. Murphy Monitor** – Greg Ford: Good variety of sports, solid writing, and some of the best photography in the category.
 - 4. Princeton Herald** – Good use of photos and I liked the different sports featured.

Careful of your length on game stories, and always try to get quotes if you can.

DIVISION 10

- It was difficult to decide placement among the winners. There is obviously a lot of thought and effort put into covering sports of all seasons. Great work on covering teams other than the varsity. Emotional pictures draw readers to these pages. Some excellent writing and a good deal of thought put into finding new angles on which to pin the stories.
- 1. Big Lake Wildcat** – J.L. Mankin: Excellent combination of graphics and stories. Obviously a great deal of thought put into the story lines as well as into the graphics. Sections are bound to draw in readers.
 - 2. Hill Country News Weekender** – Sean Shapiro: Excellent writing. Not the same old phrases. A journalist with great writing skills which will attract readers, not just sports fans. Tough decision between first and second place. This paper needs more space for sports.
 - 3. East Bernard Express** – Keith Magee: Very nice focus on state title win. Not just an ordinary coverage of a title win. Writer took the time to find a "different" angle and it works very well. Emotional pictures add to sections.
 - 4. Bullard Banner News** – Micah McCartney: Great in-depth coverage of sports events. This writer must not sleep much. Good pictures along with good writing.

Jake Myers
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Website

Best Website

DAILIES

1. **Times Record News, Wichita Falls** – *timesrecordnews.com; Spencer Williams, Denise Nelson, Orlando Flores, Jr.*: A clean design, solid use of art and graphics and clean presentation make for a great browsing experience. I'm also a fan of the nav bar/masthead following me as a scroll, which gives users quick access to other section fronts.
2. **Galveston County Daily News** – *GalvNews.com, Kevin M. Cox*: The site is user friendly albeit a bit cluttered looking. The home page does offer a healthy dose of the content the newsroom has to offer, which

- is appreciated for quick browsing.
3. **Victoria Advocate** – Everything from the colors and following nav to the compelling use of graphics and images makes this an inviting website; more so than those with similar designs.
4. **Tyler Morning Telegraph** – Overall solid design and inviting site, but the trapped white space found throughout brings the aesthetic appeal down a couple of notches.

SEMI-WEEKLIES

1. **The Bastrop Advertiser** – Clean, easy to navigate and good use of art. A pleasure to use.
2. **Hood County News** – *HCNews.com*: Everything has its place and, though more art

- would be appreciated, when art is used it's used well.
3. **Alice Echo-News Journal** – *Ofelia Hunter, Melissa Cantu Trevino, Pete Garcia*: Every section of content has fair space on the home page and the site is well organized.
4. **Wise County Messenger** – *WCMessenger.com; Todd Griffith, Editorial Staff, Advertising Staff*: I really like this because it's clean, loads quickly and gets the news out there. More art would really give this site a boost.
- WEEKLIES A**
1. **Austin Business Journal** – *AustinBusinessJournal.com; Will Anderson, Greg Barr, Colin Pope*
2. **Hays Free Press** – *www.HaysFreePress.com*; *Cyndy Slovak-Barton, Moses Leos III, David White, Christine Thorpe*

3. **Pleasanton Express** – *Noel Wilkerson, Sue Brown, Lisa Luna, Chris Filoteo, Robbie Hamby, Erika Vela*
- WEEKLIES B**
1. **The Smithville Times**
2. **The Canadian Record** – *Ray Weeks, Laurie Ezzell Brown, Cathy Ricketts, Peyton Au- fill*
3. **The Liberty Hill Independent** – *lhindependent.com, Shelly Wilkison*
4. **Glen Rose Reporter**

Sweepstakes Winners

DIVISION 2

1. Victoria Advocate600
2. Galveston County Daily News550
3. Lufkin Daily News425
4. New Braunfels, Herald-Zeitung..350

DIVISION 3

1. Nacogdoches Daily Sentinel.....525
2. Seguin Gazette*400
3. Baytown Sun*400
4. Waxahachie Daily Light350

DIVISION 4

1. Wise County Messenger.....575
2. Hood County News.....550
3. El Campo Leader-News400
4. Williamson County Sun/
Sunday Sun350

DIVISION 5

1. Kilgore News Herald.....525
2. The Bastrop Advertiser.....500
3. Lampasas Dispatch Record475
4. Taylor Press375

DIVISION 6

1. Hays Free Press*375
2. The Wylie News*375
3. Fredericksburg Standard-
Radio Post.....350
4. Jewish Herald-Voice.....325

DIVISION 7

1. Goldthwaite Eagle.....375
2. The Big Bend Sentinel*350
3. Azle News*350
4. The Clifton Record300

DIVISION 8

1. The Canadian Record700
2. Iowa Park Leader400
3. Albany News.....375
4. The Dublin Citizen.....250

DIVISION 9

1. Hico News Review.....375
2. Lake Travis View*325
3. Westlake Picayune*325
4. Murphy Monitor*325

DIVISION 10

1. Big Lake Wildcat675
2. Eldorado Success*425
3. Hill Country News Weekender* .425
4. The Presidio International300

**Tiebreaker rules: contestants with the highest placement in the general excellence category are given precedence.*

SportsPhotos

DIVISION 2

1. **Victoria Advocate** – *Frank Tilley, Jaime Carrero, Yi-Chin Lee*: Great angles make these photos the clear winner in this category. Photos are nicely cropped as well.
2. **Galveston County Daily News** – *Kevin M. Cox, Stuart Villanueva, Jennifer Reynolds*: Great composition and a wide variety of sports coverage make this a solid second place.
3. **Tyler Morning Telegraph** – *Andrew D. Brosig, Sarah A. Miller*: Nice composition. Interesting angles, but not enough consistency in the five entries.
4. **Longview News-Journal** – *Les Hassell, Michael Cavazos, Kevin Green*: Nice sports photos. Just needed more consistency from all five photos.

DIVISION 3

- Very tough competition to judge. Virtually all entries had multiple very good to excellent photographs. Originality helped the award winners.
1. **Nacogdoches Daily Sentinel** – *Andrew Brosig, Victor Texcucano*: Nothing stands out like the “reflecting pool” shot. Gorgeous and original. Other photos in this entry capture moments and emotion very well.
 2. **Waxahachie Daily Light** – *Scott Dorsett*: Great volleyball photo. Big football photo is hurt by repeating image, but it’s still a good idea. Packages all look good, nice variety.
 3. **Brownwood Bulletin** – *Derrick Stuckly*: Great job capturing crucial moments.
 4. **Baytown Sun** – *Alysha Beck, Amy Epperson, Christopher James*: Good shots, lots of action/emotion.

DIVISION 4

1. **El Campo Leader-News** – *Jay Strasner*
2. **Wise County Messenger** – *Joe Duty*
3. **Williamson County Sun/Sunday Sun** – *Will Anderson*
4. **Hood County News** – *Mary Vinson*

DIVISION 5

- Needed a few more spots for places since all entries has some good shots. Main point for all would be to look at tighter cropping to punch up visual impact.
1. **Burleson Star**
 2. **Lamesa Press Reporter** – *Russel Skiles*
 3. **Kingsville Record & Bishop News** – *Jaime Gonzalez*
 4. **Taylor Press** – *Larry Pelchat, Mallory Strimska, Jason Hennington*

DIVISION 6

1. **Hill Country Community Journal** – *Stuart Cunyus*: Having judged several newspaper contests over the years, this is the first I feel there is clear cut winner in any category. Your staff is to be commended for putting out a high quality paper.
2. **The Wylie News** – *Greg Ford*: Great photo submissions. In the majority of contests, you would have a strong contender for first place, but at this time I feel first place in this particular category stands alone.
3. **Burnet Bulletin** – *Wayne Craig*: Great photos and composition. You should be proud to claim third in such a highly competitive category.
4. **Fredericksburg Standard-Radio Post** – *Yvonne Hartmann*: I feel there could easily be a tie for third but ultimately awarded your paper fourth place. The staged softball shots were great; third was given the advan-

tage due to having a few more “harder to get” shots.

DIVISION 7

1. **Goldthwaite Eagle** – *Steven Bridges*: Although a wider variety of sports were covered by other papers in this category, the pictures that were submitted for judging are superb. Color on all the pictures submitted was very bright and vivid, subjects were in focus and that really helped to draw the readers eyes to the paper to read the article.
 2. **Freestone County Times** – *Melissa Lee, Monte Calame*: By the narrowest of margins I have to award you second instead of first. The photos you chose to enter cover a wider array of sports than the first place winner, but I feel the race pictures were a downfall of sorts. Although those pictures were great from a technical standpoint, they are somewhat easier to get than the great football/basketball action shots found in the winning submission.
 3. **Jackson County Herald-Tribune** – *JaCee Black, Tracy Black, T Sandlin*: Great photos with nice crisp color and composition. First and second just had a few more harder-to-get type shots.
 4. **The Clifton Record** – *Simone Wichers-Voss*: Ultimately, I would’ve liked to see a little clearer images overall. You did a great job to cover a wide array of sports.
- ## DIVISION 8
- The entries that had something new were very refreshing.
1. **Iowa Park Leader** – *Kevin Hamilton*: Terrific presentation and well composed photos that show a lot of emotion.
 2. **Farmersville Times** – *Victor Tapia, David*

Jenkins: Three particularly strong shots in this entry. The expression on the basketball player’s face is great, the rain shot is unique and the helmet popping off is fortuitous.

3. **Meridian Tribune** – *Simone Wichers-Voss*: “Sticking it” is a winner, as is the pole vaulter shot.
4. **Albany News** – *Donnie Lucas*: He really looks like he’s flying in that cover shot, which gets this entry out of the pack and into the awards bracket.

DIVISION 9

- Really good action shots. The placers seem to have it down as far as camera settings, cropping, stop action.
1. **Princeton Herald** – *David Jenkins, Victor Tapia*
 2. **Murphy Monitor** – *Greg Ford*
 3. **Clarendon Enterprise** – *Roger Estlack, Morgan Wheatly*
 4. **San Patricio County News** – *Coy Slavik, Rudy Rivera, Kevin Keller*

DIVISION 10

- The top two winners stood out from the rest primarily because they seemed to have greater technical expertise with exposure, depth of field and other considerations.
1. **Big Lake Wildcat** – *J.L. Mankin*: Best of the lot. Good lighting, good composition and captured some good moments.
 2. **Hill Country News Weekender** – *Scott Coleman*: Especially liked the football in the rain and muddy runners photos.
 3. **Eldorado Success** – *Kathy Mankin, Randy Mankin*
 4. **Bullard Banner News** – *Micah McCartney*

DIVISION 10, 1ST PLACE



Reagan County Freshman Melissa Hernandez works hard Tuesday morning flipping a tire during the volleyball program's 2-A-Day workout. The team is getting in shape for their first action Tuesday at home against Marfa and Paint Rock.

DIVISION 4, 1ST PLACE



SportsPhotos

DIVISION 3, 1ST PLACE



Victor Texcucano/The Daily Sentinel

DIVISION 7, 1ST PLACE



DIVISION 6, 1ST PLACE



Photo by Stuart Cunyus

TIVY'S CAMERON FIELDS goes up for a bucket during the Antlers' 91-47 win over Texas Military Institute last week at the St. Anthony Tournament in San Antonio.

DIVISION 2, 1ST PLACE



PHOTOS BY YI-CHIN LEE/YLEE@VICAD.COM

Youkum's Dantey Eldridge leaps over a hurdle on his way to a first-place finish in the 110-meter hurdles at the Shirley Frnka Tiger Relays on Thursday. Eldridge had to wear a white bandage on his right hand after dropping a 35-pound weight on it during a weightlifting session earlier this week.