

2006 Better Weekly Newspaper Contest Winners

Overall Winners

Division A – circulation over 15,000

The Osceola News-Gazette, Paula Starke, Publisher

Division B – circulation 7,000 - 15,000

The Venice Gondolier Sun, Bob Vedder, Publisher

Division C – circulation under 7,000

The High Springs Herald, Ronald Dupont, Jr., Publisher

Category: 01-General Excellence

Division A – circulation over 15,000

First- Miami New Times

Second- The Suncoast News

Third- The Longboat Observer

Category: 01-General Excellence

Division B – circulation 7,000 - 15,000

First- The Jupiter Courier

Second- Tampa Bay Business Journal

Third- Fernandina Beach News-Leader

Category: 01-General Excellence

Division C – circulation under 7,000

First- Ponte Vedra Recorder

Second- Navarre Press

Third- Sumter County Times

Category: 02-Overall Graphic Design

Division A – circulation over 15,000

First- The Longboat Observer, Carla Haake and Meg Biram

Second- Miami New Times, Michael Shavalier

Third- The Suncoast News

Category: 02-Overall Graphic Design

Division B – circulation 7,000 - 15,000

First- Orlando Business Journal, Carolyn Consider

Second- The Walton Sun, Lori Ceier

Third- The Venice Gondolier Sun

Category: 02-Overall Graphic Design

Division C – circulation under 7,000

First- The Calhoun-Liberty Journal

Second- Boca Beacon

Third- Navarre Press

Category: 03-Front Page Makeup

Division A – circulation over 15,000

- First– The Suncoast News
- Second- The Longboat Observer
- Third- Pelican Press

Category: 03-Front Page Makeup

Division B – circulation 7,000 - 15,000

- First– Tampa Bay Business Journal
- Second- The Jupiter Courier, Tim Woltmann
- Third– Orlando Business Journal, Carolyn Consider

Category: 03-Front Page Makeup

Division C – circulation under 7,000

- First- The Sanford Herald, Steve Paradis
- Second- Alachua County Today
- Third– The Calhoun-Liberty Journal

Category: 04-Community Service

Division A – circulation over 15,000

- First– The Leader on 200
- Second– The Longboat Observer
- Third- The Suncoast News, Melissa Freeman

Category: 04-Community Service

Division B – circulation 7,000 - 15,000

- First- The DeLand-Deltona Beacon
- Second- The Walton Sun, Paul Mehlos and Richard Owen
- Third– Florida Keys Keynoter

Category: 04-Community Service

Division C – circulation under 7,000

- First– Boca Beacon, Gary Dutery
- Second- Gadsden County Times, Leslie Roberts
- Third– The Polk County Democrat, S.L. Frisbie, IV

Category: 05-Editorial Page

Division A – circulation over 15,000

- First- Pelican Press
- Second- The Suncoast News
- Third– Miami Today

Category: 05-Editorial Page

Division B – circulation 7,000 – 15,000

- First- The Venice Gondolier Sun, Bob Mudge
- Second– The Beaches Leader
- Third- The Destin Log, Jim Wagner

Category: 05-Editorial Page

Division C – circulation under 7,000

- First– The High Springs Herald
- Second– Navarre Press

Category: 06-Editorial Award

Division A – circulation over 15,000

- First–** Osceola News-Gazette, Bill Orben
Second– Miami Today, Michael Lewis
Third– Pelican Press, Phil Colpas

Category: 06-Editorial Award

Division B – circulation 7,000 - 15,000

- First-** The Venice Gondolier Sun, Bob Mudge
Second– The Walton Sun, Gwen Break
Third– The Anna Maria Islander, Paul Roat

Category: 06-Editorial Award

Division C – circulation under 7,000

- First-** The High Springs Herald
Second- Chiefland Citizen, Mike Bowdoin
Third– Navarre Press, Ken Garner

Category: 07-Original Local Editorial Cartoon

Division A – circulation over 15,000

- First-** Pelican Press, John Riley
Second- Osceola News-Gazette, Alex Moore
Third– The Suncoast News, Don Brown

Category: 07-Original Local Editorial Cartoon

Open Circulation

- First-** Anna Maria Island Sun, Steve Borggren
Second- The Jupiter Courier, Dale Neseman
Third– The Venice Gondolier Sun, Dale Neseman

Category: 08-Humorous Column

Division A – circulation over 15,000

- First–** Miami Today, Susan Kahn
Second– The Laker, Randall Grantham
Third– Senior Times, Patricia C. Behnke

Category: 08-Humorous Column

Division B – circulation 7,000 - 15,000

- First–** Fernandina Beach News-Leader, Benjamin Price
Second- The Venice Gondolier Sun, Virginia Deupree
Third– The Belleair Bee, Bob Driver

Category: 08-Humorous Column

Division C – circulation under 7,000

- First-** The Baker County Press, Michael Rinker
Second- The County Record, Kelli Peacock
Third– Perry News-Herald/Taco Times, Susan H. Lincoln

Category: 09-Serious Column (*Sally Latham Memorial Award*)

Division A – circulation over 15,000

- First–** Miami New Times, Chuck Strouse
Second– Senior Times, Patricia C. Behnke

Category: 09-Serious Column (*Sally Latham Memorial Award*)

Division B – circulation 7,000 - 15,000

- First–** Tampa Bay Business Journal, Alexis Muellner
Second– Florida Keys Keynote, Larry Kahn
Third– Fernandina Beach News-Leader, Benjamin Price

Category: 09-Serious Column (*Sally Latham Memorial Award*)

Division C – circulation under 7,000

- First–** The High Springs Herald, Ronald Dupont, Jr.
Second– Sumter County Times, Bob Reichman

Category: 10-First Amendment Defense (*Jon A. Roosenraad Award*)

Open Circulation

- First–** Coral Gables Gazette, Sebastian Del Marmol
Second– Solares Hill, Nancy Klingener
Third– Sumter County Times, Bob Reichman

Category: 11-News Story (*Gwen Stevenson Memorial Award*)

Division A – circulation over 15,000

- First–** East Orlando Sun, Megan Shannon
Second– The Longboat Observer, Roger Drouin, Jessica Luck and Larry Burke
Third– The Bay Beacon, Del Lessard

Category: 11-News Story (*Gwen Stevenson Memorial Award*)

Division B – circulation 7,000 - 15,000

- First–** The Venice Gondolier Sun, J.J. Andrews
Second– Solares Hill, Nancy Klingener
Third– The Beaches Leader, Kathy Hartman

Category: 11-News Story (*Gwen Stevenson Memorial Award*)

Division C – circulation under 7,000

- First–** The High Springs Herald, Christa Desrets
Second– The Polk County Democrat, Jennifer Starling
Third– Sumter County Times, Amanda Mims

Category: 12-Investigative Reporting (*Claudia Ross Memorial Award*)

Open Circulation

- First–** Orlando Business Journal, Chris Kauffmann
Second– Miami New Times, Joanne Green

Category: 13-In-Depth News Reporting (Non-Investigative)

Division A – circulation over 15,000

- First–** The Bay Beacon, Del Lessard
Second– Pinellas Park Beacon
Third– Miami New Times, Emily Witt
Honorable Mention– The Longboat Observer, Kat Wingert

Category: 13-In-Depth News Reporting (Non-Investigative)

Division B – circulation 7,000 - 15,000

- First–** The Jupiter Courier, Kit Bradshaw
Second– The Business Journal (Jacksonville), Kirstin Dorsch,
Christian Coute, Tony Quesada, Dave Strupp and Rachel Witkowski
Third- The Destin Log, Keri Holt

Category: 13-In-Depth News Reporting (Non-Investigative)

Division C – circulation under 7,000

- First–** The Apopka Chief, Chris Gauthier
Second- The Star, Despina Williams
Third- The Sanford Herald, Liane Dixon, Joe Hendricks and Steve Paradis
Honorable Mention– Ponte Vedra Recorder, Kathy Cramer

Category: 14-Feature Story

Division A – circulation over 15,000

- First-** Miami New Times, Emily Witt
Second– The Leader on 200, Laura Byrnes
Third- The Brandon News, Scott E. Rupp

Category: 14-Feature Story

Division B – circulation 7,000 - 15,000

- First–** Orlando Business Journal, Bob Mervine
Second- The DeLand-Deltona Beacon, Jennifer Horton
Third- The Venice Gondolier Sun, Jeff Tavares
Honorable Mention– The Destin Log, Keri Holt

Category: 14-Feature Story

Division C – circulation under 7,000

- First-** The Star, Despina Williams
Second- The Suwannee Democrat, Robert Bridges
Third– Perry News-Herald/Taco Times, Mark Viola

Category: 15-Individual Graphic (Non-Photo, Non Cartoon)

Open Circulation

- First–** Gulf Breeze News
Second– Orlando Business Journal, Carolyn Consider
Third– Alachua County Today
Honorable Mention- The Venice Gondolier Sun, Rob Broyles

Category: 16-Spot News Picture

Division A – circulation over 15,000

- First–** The Bay Beacon, Del Lessard
Second- Osceola News-Gazette, Reinhold Matay
Third- The Suncoast News, Paul White

Category: 16-Spot News Picture

Division B – circulation 7,000 - 15,000

- First–** The News/Lutz, Citrus Park & Odessa, Keith Carson
Second- The News-Sun, Katara Simmons
Third– The Destin Log, Kathryn Harrison

Category: 16-Spot News Picture

Division C – circulation under 7,000

- First–** Havana Herald, Byron Spires
Second– The Sanford Herald, Tommy Vincent
Third– The Baker County Press, Jim McGauley

Category: 17-Feature Picture

Division A – circulation over 15,000

- First–** Osceola News-Gazette, Keri Rasmussen
Second– The Seminole Beach-Beacon, Thomas Michalski
Third– Pelican Press, Rebecca Baxter
Honorable Mention– Capital Outlook, Vaughn Wilson

Category: 17-Feature Picture

Division B – circulation 7,000 - 15,000

- First–** The West Orange Times, Amy Quesinberry
Second– The Venice Gondolier Sun, Jeff Tavares
Third– The News/Lutz, Citrus Park & Odessa, Keith Carson

Category: 17-Feature Picture

Division C – circulation under 7,000

- First–** The High Springs Herald, Jason Matthew Walker
Second– Madison Enterprise Recorder, Emerald Greene Kinsley
Third– The Calhoun-Liberty Journal, Sharon Austin

Category: 18-Sports Picture

Division A – circulation over 15,000

- First–** Osceola News-Gazette, Keri Rasmussen
Second– The Reporter in the Villages, Doug Engle
Third– In The Loop, Robert Cone
Honorable Mention– The Seminole Beach-Beacon, Ron Pollard

Category: 18-Sports Picture

Division B – circulation 7,000 - 15,000

- First–** The Beaches Leader, Robert DeAngelo
Second– Fernandina Beach News-Leader, Beth Jones
Third– Temple Terrace Beacon, Keith Carson

Category: 18-Sports Picture

Division C – circulation under 7,000

- First–** Navarre Press, Dickie Williams
Second– Havana Herald, Dave Ferrell
Third– The Calhoun-Liberty Journal, Tony Shoemake

Category: 19-Photo Series in One Issue

Division A – circulation over 15,000

- First–** Osceola News-Gazette, Keri Rasmussen
Second– The Brandon News, Scott E. Rupp and Linda Chion Kenney
Third– Pelican Press, Rebecca Baxter
Honorable Mention– The Suncoast News, Paul White

Category: 19-Photo Series in One Issue

Division B – circulation 7,000 - 15,000

First– The Walton Sun, Paul Mehlos and Richard Owen

Second– The Venice Gondolier Sun, Jeff Tavares

Category: 19-Photo Series in One Issue

Division C – circulation under 7,000

First- The High Springs Herald, Pat Canova Tipton

Second- The Calhoun-Liberty Journal, Pam Anderson and Bill Anderson

Third- The Baker County Press, Kelley Lannigan

Category: 20-Portfolio Photography (Robert J. Ellison Memorial Award)

Open Circulation

First- The News/Lutz, Citrus Park & Odessa, Keith Carson

Second- The Beaches Leader, Robert DeAngelo

Third– The Venice Gondolier Sun, Jeff Tavares

Category: 21-Best Headline

Open Circulation

First– Osceola News-Gazette, Peter Covino

Second– Tampa Bay Business Journal, Alexis Muellner

Third– Fernandina Beach News-Leader, Michael Parnell

Category: 22-Sports Page or Section

Circulation 7,000 & over

First– Lehigh Acres News-Star, Jenn Lucas and Alex Ackmann

Second- The Jupiter Courier, Mike English

Third– Coral Gables Gazette, Brant Long

Category: 22-Sports Page or Section

Division C – circulation under 7,000

First– Gulf Breeze News, Jason Thompson

Second– Navarre Press

Third– Alachua County Today

Category: 23-Sports Feature Story

Division A – circulation over 15,000

First- The Brandon News, Scott E. Rupp

Second- The Banner, Kevin Johnson

Third– FSView & The Florida Flambeau, Jason Kephart

Category: 23-Sports Feature Story

Division B – circulation 7,000 - 15,000

First– The Venice Gondolier Sun, Keleigh Knabel and Jeff Tavares

Second- The News/Lutz, Citrus Park & Odessa, Debbie Girard-Carson

Third– Lehigh Acres News-Star, Dennis Culver

Category: 23-Sports Feature Story

Division C – circulation under 7,000

First– The Baker County Press, Michael Rinker

Second- Ponte Vedra Recorder, Erica Opisso

Third– Navarre Press, Geoff Watts

Category: 24-Sports Game Day Story

Division A – circulation over 15,000

- First–** East Orlando Sun, J.C.Carnahan
Second- The Banner, Kevin Johnson
Third– The Brandon News, Scott E. Rupp

Category: 24-Sports Game Day Story

Division B – circulation 7,000 - 15,000

- First–** The Beaches Leader, Johnny Woodhouse
Second– Lehigh Acres News-Star, Dennis Culver
Third– The Venice Gondolier Sun, Claude Lewis

Category: 24-Sports Game Day Story

Division C – circulation under 7,000

- First–** Navarre Press, Geoff Watts
Second- The High Springs Herald, Mike DaRoza
Third– The Baker County Press, Michael Rinker

Category: 25-Sports Column

Division A – circulation over 15,000

- First–** Osceola News-Gazette, Rick Pedone
Second– The Banner, Kevin Johnson
Third– FSView & The Florida Flambeau, Michael McGuffee

Category: 25-Sports Column

Division B – circulation 7,000 - 15,000

- First–** The Destin Log, Patrick Donohue
Second– The Beaches Leader, Robert DeAngelo
Third– Fernandina Beach News-Leader, John L. Crawford

Category: 25-Sports Column

Division C – circulation under 7,000

- First–** Alachua County Today, Adam Boukari
Second– Navarre Press, Joe Culpepper

Category: 26-Outdoor Writing

Circulation 7,000 & over

- First–** The Destin Log, Patrick Donohue
Second– Miami New Times, Josh Schonwald

Category: 26-Outdoor Writing

Division C – circulation under 7,000

- First–** The High Springs Herald, Christa Desrets
Second- The Apalachicola/Carrabelle Times, Dale Kingon

Category: 27-Agricultural Writing

Open Circulation

- First–** Miami New Times, Josh Schonwald
Second– Osceola News-Gazette, Jason Holland

Category: 28-Environmental or Conservation

Circulation 7,000 & over

- First**– The Venice Gondolier Sun, Kim Cool
Second– Solares Hill, Nancy Klingener
Third– Orlando Business Journal, Rachel Hatzipanagos
Honorable Mention– Free Press in Tavernier, Robert Silk

Category: 28-Environmental or Conservation

Division C – circulation under 7,000

- First**– The High Springs Herald, Christa Desrets
Second– Ponte Vedra Recorder, Erica Opisso
Third– The Star, Lisa Marie Logan

Category: 29-Business Writing

Division A – circulation over 15,000

- First**– Miami New Times, Emily Witt
Second– The Banner, Liane Smith
Third– In The Loop, Laura Cone

Category: 29-Business Writing

Division B – circulation 7,000 - 15,000

- First**– The News-Sun, Christopher Tuffley
Second– Tampa Bay Business Journal, Jane Meinhardt
Third– Orlando Business Journal, Susan Lundine

Category: 29-Business Writing

Division C – circulation under 7,000

- First**– The Star, Despina Williams
Second– The High Springs Herald, Ronald Dupont, Jr.
Third– The Baker County Press, Jim McGauley

Category: 30-Special Issue, Section or Supplements

Division A – circulation over 15,000

- First**– The Longboat Observer
Second– The Suncoast News, Don Brown
Third– Osceola News-Gazette

Category: 30-Special Issue, Section or Supplements

Division B – circulation 7,000 - 15,000

- First**– Tampa Bay Business Journal
Second– Florida Keys Keynoter, Karen Quist and Larry Kahn
Third– The Anna Maria Islander

Category: 30-Special Issue, Section or Supplements

Division C – circulation under 7,000

- First**– Boca Beacon, Gary Dutery and Daniel Godwin
Second– Alachua County Today

Category: 31-Newspaper Promotion

Circulation 7,000 & over

- First-** Tampa Bay Business Journal
Second- The Venice Gondolier Sun
Third- The Longboat Observer

Category: 31-Newspaper Promotion

Division C – circulation under 7,000

- First-** The Polk County Democrat, S.L. Frisbie, IV and Staff
Second- Boca Beacon, Daniel Godwin
Third- The Baker County Press, Michael Rinker

Category: 32-Community History

Open Circulation

- First-** The High Springs Herald, Ronald Dupont, Jr. and Christa Desrets
Second- Fernandina Beach News-Leader, Benjamin Price
Third- The Brandon News, D'Ann White
Honorable Mention- The Banner, Liane Smith

Category: 33-Website Development

Division A – circulation over 15,000

- First-** The Seminole Beach-Beacon, Suzette Porter
Second- Osceola News-Gazette, Randy Sorenson
Third- Pelican Press, Karen Koblenz

Category: 33-Website Development

Division B – circulation 7,000 - 15,000

- First-** The Beaches Leader, Kathleen Bailey
Second- Tampa Bay Business Journal, Alexis Muellner
Third- Florida Keys Keynoter

Category: 33-Website Development

Division C – circulation under 7,000

- First-** The Baker County Press, Jim McGauley
Second- Alachua County Today, Gail Luparello
Third- Belleview Press, Tom Coleman

Category: 34-Religion Writing

Division A – circulation over 15,000

- First-** The Brandon News, D'Ann White
Second- The Bay Beacon, Tracy Fruehauf
Third- Miami New Times, Mariah Blake

Category: 34-Religion Writing

Division B – circulation 7,000 - 15,000

- First-** The Walton Sun, Ronnie McBrayer
Second- The Anna Maria Islander, Jim Hanson, Bonner Joy and Staff
Third- Fernandina Beach News-Leader, Glenda S. Jenkins

Category: 34-Religion Writing

Division C – circulation under 7,000

- First-** The Apopka Chief, Chris Gauthier
Second- Gulf Breeze News, Franklin Hayes
Third- The Baker County Press, Kelley Lannigan

Category: 35-Criticism

Open Circulation

- First-** St. Johns Recorder, Erica Opisso
Second- The Venice Gondolier Sun, Kim Cool
Third- Miami New Times, Lee Klein

Category: 36-Blooper Headline of The Year

No entries were submitted for this category

Category: 37-Best Obituary by a Newspaper

Division A – circulation over 15,000

- First-** The Brandon News, D'Ann White
Second- Osceola News-Gazette, Brian McBride

Category: 37-Best Obituary by a Newspaper

Division B – circulation 7,000 - 15,000

- First-** The Courier, George Newman and Kevin Brady
Second- Fernandina Beach News-Leader, Glenda S. Jenkins
Third- The Venice Gondolier Sun, Kim Cool

Category: 37-Best Obituary by a Newspaper

Division C – circulation under 7,000

- First-** The Star, Despina Williams
Second- Boca Beacon, Gary Dutery
Third- The Baker County Press, Jim McGauley

Category: 38-Shining Star Award

Open Circulation

- First-** Madison County Carrier, Jacob Bemby
Second- The Anna Maria Islander, Kelly McCormick