

# 2018 NDNA **Special Awards**

## Better Newspaper Contest Award Winners (*for work done in 2017*)

### Special Awards

#### NIE Newspaper of the Year

**Daily: Large** >>> [NIE Newspaper of the Year](#)

##### **First Place**

Fargo, The Forum of Fargo-Moorhead

Sarah Tyre

**Winner Comments:** *What a wonderful, comprehensive, multi-media program to provide newspaper content to young readers. Congratulations on community and school district buy-in to a program that contributes significantly to the education of your youth.*

#### High School Reporter of the Year

**Weekly: Large** >>> [High School Reporter of the Year](#)

##### **First Place**

Crosby, The Journal

Lenora Combs

**Winner Comments:** *Without experience or training, Lenora Combs was assigned some important community feature stories and handled them like a veteran. Her future is bright.*

#### Rookie Reporter of the Year

**Weekly: Mid-Size** >>> [Rookie Reporter of the Year](#)

##### **First Place**

Hillsboro Banner

Pace Maier

**Winner Comments:** *A small town sports editor must be a jack of all sports, and Pace Maier has shown that he can handle it all, from detailed coverage of championships to feature stories about golf course volunteers.*

#### Public Notice Journalism

**Daily: Large** >>> [Public Notice Journalism](#)

##### **First Place**

Fargo, The Forum of Fargo-Moorhead

*Property owners may face special assessments*

Archie Ingersoll

**Winner Comments:** *The Forum took the opportunity not only to draw reader attention to a very unusual public notice, but to explain its importance and to describe how to use the information it presented. A very good defense and explanation of the value of public notices.*

## Community Service

**Daily: Large** >>> **Community Service**

### **First Place**

Bismarck Tribune

*Bismarck-Mandan homelessness*

Staff

**Winner Comments:** *From breaking news to uncovering difficult to obtain information to heartfelt feature stories, The Bismarck Tribune's yeoman effort to help the community find solutions to its perplexing homeless problem demonstrates a true commitment to community service. This year-long coverage is a prime example of a newspaper's value and importance to its community.*

## First Amendment

**Daily: Large** >>> **First Amendment**

### **First Place**

Grand Forks Herald

*Pruitt holds closed meeting in Grand Forks*

Andrew Haffner, Sam Easter, Mike Jacobs, Chris Bjorke

**Winner Comments:** *The Grand Forks Herald and its reporters showed great courage in their defense of the community's First Amendment right to know what was happening in a closed door meeting involving a cabinet member, congressional representatives, the governor and invited guests. They showed First Amendment advocacy at its best, even risking personal safety and security, and they were later vindicated by apologies and admissions that they, and by extension the public, were mistreated.*

## General Excellence

**Weekly: Small** >>> **General Excellence**

### **Honorable Mention**

New Town News

*General Excellence entry*

Staff

### **Third Place**

Medora, Billings County Pioneer

*General Excellence entry*

Staff

### **Second Place**

Parshall, Mountrail County Record

*General Excellence entry*

Staff

### **First Place**

Park River, Walsh County Press

*General Excellence entry*

Staff

**Winner Comments:** *The newspaper stood out with large photos and content that showcased an explanatory story on toxic algae and a folksy feature on a longtime local barber.*

**Weekly: Mid-Size** >>> **General Excellence**

### **Honorable Mention**

Carrington, Foster County Independent

*General Excellence entry*

Staff

### **Third Place**

Hankinson, News-Monitor

*General Excellence entry*

Staff

### **Second Place**

Washburn, The Leader-News

*General Excellence entry*

Staff

### **First Place**

Hillsboro Banner

*General Excellence entry*

Staff

**Winner Comments:** *Impressive design for a small weekly. Typography and photography used well throughout. The best work was allowed to shine. The news decisions are easy in a publication like this -- the elements do not fight for attention. Visual order does its job.*

**Weekly: Large** >>> **General Excellence**

**Honorable Mention**

Bottineau Courant

*General Excellence entry*

Staff

**Third Place**

Grafton, Walsh County Record

*General Excellence entry*

Staff

**Second Place**

Watford City, McKenzie County Farmer

*General Excellence entry*

Staff

**First Place**

Crosby, The Journal

*General Excellence entry*

Staff

**Winner Comments:** *From front to back, the Journal is filled with community news. The reporting is strong and the design is appealing. I also applaud its fight to obtain public records in the pit bull case. That's community leadership.*

**Daily: Small** >>> **General Excellence**

**Third Place**

Wahpeton, The Daily News

*General Excellence entry*

Staff

**Second Place**

Jamestown Sun

*General Excellence entry*

Staff

**First Place**

Dickinson Press

*General Excellence entry*

Staff

**Winner Comments:** *Attractive paper, chock full of local news, with content relevant to readers and interesting, well-played photos. Ad quality was high too.*

**Third Place**

Bismarck Tribune

*General Excellence entry*

Staff

**Second Place**

Fargo, The Forum of Fargo-Moorhead

*General Excellence entry*

Staff

**First Place**

Grand Forks Herald

*General Excellence entry*

Staff

**Winner Comments:** *The Herald stood out with loads of local news and overall content. Strong photos, local opinions, it was a good read throughout. The issues we read also gave readers a lot ways to get involved with the stories.*

## Sweepstakes

### **Weekly: Small** >>> [Sweepstakes](#)

**Winner!**

Park River, Walsh County Press

**Score:** 2900: 27 first places, 2 second places, 1 third places & 0 honorable mentions

### **Weekly: Mid-Size** >>> [Sweepstakes](#)

**Winner!**

Hillsboro Banner

**Score:** 4225: 24 first places, 13 second places, 16 third places & 2 honorable mentions

### **Weekly: Large** >>> [Sweepstakes](#)

**Winner!**

Grafton, Walsh County Record

**Score:** 3625: 15 first places, 16 second places, 17 third places & 5 honorable mentions

### **Daily: Small** >>> [Sweepstakes](#)

**Winner!**

Wahpeton, The Daily News

**Score:** 4625: 16 first places, 25 second places, 21 third places & 6 honorable mentions

### **Daily: Large** >>> [Sweepstakes](#)

**Winner!**

Fargo, The Forum of Fargo-Moorhead

**Score:** 6000: 26 first places, 30 second places, 19 third places & 9 honorable mentions