



2019 BNC Awards

Presented Online June 2020



2019 Better Newspaper Competition General Excellence
2019 Better Newspaper Competition Awards of Excellence
2019 AWWA Photographic Awards

Thank you to our awards sponsors:



Class C

Best Overall Score

- First Rocky MH Mountaineer
- Second Athabasca Advocate
- Third St. Paul Journal

Best Front Page

- First Barrhead Leader
- Second St. Paul Journal
- Third Wainwright Star/Edge

Best Sports Page/Section

- First Westlock News
- Second Rocky MH Mountaineer
- Third Barrhead Leader

Best Editorial Page

- First Athabasca Advocate
- Second Rocky MH Mountaineer
- Third Westlock News



Class C Judges comments:

It was both a pleasure and a challenge to read and judge the 10 Class C newspapers for the 2019 Alberta Weekly Newspapers Association competition. A pleasure because by the end, I had a much better insight of the goings on in the communities in which the newspapers are published and a challenge in determining whose efforts stood out.

Small town newspaper publishing, writing and newsgathering has never been easy and it seemed less so in Alberta in 2019 as I noticed several papers, in comparing February and October issues, shed staff members. Whether by chance or be design, the result was having fewer people to do the work. And now I can fully imagine the difficulties small newspapers will have in dealing with the fallout from the COVID-19 crisis.

For a few specific comments, I enjoyed the two columns by

St. Paul Journal columnist Vicki Brooker. Each had a particular point of view, taking me back to the old days of newspapering.

The folks at The Edge in Wainwright caught my eye with their weekly full page house ads displaying photos of places within the towns it serves along with a few words about several featured communities. What an intriguing way to give an advertiser an inkling of where there ads go as well as giving readers a glimpse about their region.

More than a few of the newspapers might have had more appealing sports pages by staying away from very small group trophy or award presentation photos. It is true that seeing photos of friends, family and neighbours in the pages of a community newspaper is bread and butter to the industry but it can be overdone at the peril of missing out on the opportunity to craft an eye-appealing page.

Rod Link, Terrace, B.C.

Class D

Best Overall Score

- First Rocky Mountain Outlook
- Second Mountain View Gazette
- Third Ponoka News

Best Front Page

- First Rocky Mountain Outlook
- Second Ponoka News
- Third Olds Albertan

Best Sports Page/Section

- First Rocky Mountain Outlook
- Second Olds Albertan
- Third Innisfail Province

Best Editorial Page

- First Rocky Mountain Outlook
- Second Bonnyville Nouvelle
- Third Olds Albertan



Class E

Best Overall Score

- First St. Albert Gazette
- Second Okotoks Western Wheel
- Third Cochrane Eagle

Best Front Page

- First Cochrane Eagle
- Second Okotoks Western Wheel
- Third St. Albert Gazette

Best Sports Page/Section

- First Okotoks Western Wheel
- Second St. Albert Gazette
- Third Lloydminster Meridian Source

Best Editorial Page

- First St. Albert Gazette
- Second Okotoks Western Wheel
- Third Cochrane Eagle



CLASS E	Local Feature	Comm. News	Presentation	Prod. Qual.	Photography	Adv. Content	Adv. Design	Class. Adv.	Front Pg.	Edit. & Op.Ed	Sports	TOTAL
	50	150	100	50	100	100	100	50	150	100	50	1000
Airdrie City View	20	95	75	40	70	75	75	20	110	75	40	695
Cochrane Eagle	20	115	80	30	75	75	85	30	125	82	30	747
East Central Alberta Review	40	105	65	40	70	75	75	25	105	80	25	705
Leduc/Wetaskiwin Pipestone Flyer	20	110	65	40	70	75	80	25	100	70	15	670
Lloydminster Meridian Source	20	115	80	40	60	80	85	40	95	65	44	724
Okotoks Western Wheel	20	125	85	40	85	85	80	45	120	85	50	820
Rocky View Weekly	20	115	80	40	75	75	75	20	115	77	42	734
Sherwood Park News	20	125	85	35	75	75	75	35	112	65	35	737
St. Albert Gazette	40	130	85	45	80	85	85	45	117	87	45	844
Strathmore Times	20	105	75	45	80	90	80	40	110	65	35	745

The Awna and member newspapers thank the General Excellence judges for their time and effort.

Alvin Chow
Richmond News (BC)
Jennifer Cronin
Ferne Free Press (BC)

Jim Cumming
Ft Frances Times (ON)
Rod Link
Terrace Standard & Kitimat Sentinel (BC)

Adam Louis
Agassiz Harrison Observer (BC)
Tim Shoults
Glacier Media (BC)

BNC Awards of Excellence

Best Habitat Conservation Story

Sponsored by: Ducks Unlimited Canada

- 1st Place **Rocky Mountain Outlook - Johnson Lake drained to eradicate whirling disease** Credits: Cathy Ellis
- 2nd Place **Rocky View Weekly - Preservation society employs goats to protect park** Credits: Scott Strasser
- 3rd Place **Lacombe Express - LCHS Ecovision Club, Friends of the Greenhouse preparing for successful harvest** Credits: Todd Vaughan

Best Local News Story Sponsored by: AWNA

- 1st Place **Innisfail Province - Playing chicken with trains hits crisis point** Credits: Johnnie Bachusky
- 2nd Place **St. Albert Gazette - Mayor ready to move utility corp along** Credits: Hannah Lawson
- 3rd Place **Shootin the Breeze - Recycling market crash puts crunch on local depots** Credits: Jess Harrington

Best Local News Story	Quality, clarity, style, grammar (30)	Impact on Readers (20)	Subject matter/interest to community (10)	Total (60)
Airdrie City View	23	17	8	48
Athabasca Advocate	20	10	5	35
Bashaw Star	25	12	7	44
Claresholm Local Press	25	18	9	52
Consort Enterprise	20	10	5	35
Drayton Valley Western Review	20	14	8	42
Fort Macleod Gazette	27	17	8	52
Grande Prairie (County) Town & Country News	25	17	7	49
Innisfail Province	28	20	9	57
Jasper Fitzhugh	20	18	9	47
Lacombe Express	24	17	8	49
Lacombe Globe	28	18	7	53
Lloydminster Meridian Source	26	18	8	52
Mountain View Gazette	26	18	8	52
Okotoks Western Wheel	25	16	7	48
Olds Albertan	22	15	7	44
Ponoka News	27	17	8	52
Provost News	22	16	7	45
Rimbey Review	25	18	8	51
Rocky Mountain House Mountaineer	18	10	8	36
Rocky Mountain Outlook	29	16	8	53
Rocky View Weekly	26	17	8	51
Sedgewick/Flagstaff Community Press	20	15	7	42
Shootin the Breeze	28	18	8	54
Slave Lake Lakeside Leader	20	18	5	43
St. Albert Gazette	28	19	9	56
Strathmore Times	20	15	8	43
Taber Times	26	19	8	53
Tofield Mercury	27	18	8	53
Viking Weekly Review	22	15	6	43
Wainwright Star Edge	23	16	8	47
Westlock News	26	17	7	50

Judges Comments:

This was not an easy category to judge with so many great entries to read through. It really demonstrates the importance of community journalism and the vital role reporters play in sharing these stories.

Innisfail Province - This story has readers hooked right from the headline and keeps them engaged throughout. Community journalism at its finest, highlighting an important local issue and the impact it has. Well done!

St. Albert Gazette - The initial story, as well as the follow-up coverage and community response, are great examples of civic journalism and the importance of a strong local media to provide important context that's needed.

Shootin the Breeze - A well-told story that provided international context to a very local problem. It was presented in a compelling and interesting way that kept the readers engaged throughout.

Best Feature Story by a Local Writer Sponsored by: Southern Alberta Institute of Technology

- 1st Place **Okotoks Western Wheel - Maurices moving on one year later** Credits: Bruce Campbell
- 2nd Place **Viking Weekly Review - Muddy Gritty Awesome action at Bruce Stampede** Credits: Patricia Harcourt
- 3rd Place **Rocky View Weekly - Irricana recognizes British Home Children** Credits: Allison Chorney

Judges Comments:

Okotoks Western Wheel - Before dawn on Feb. 23, 2018, Edouard Maurice found two men rummaging through a vehicle at his rural residence near High River. Home alone with a one-year-old daughter, he shouted and fired a warning shot into the frozen ground. The .22-calibre bullet ricocheted and struck one of the intruders in the wrist. Maurice was then charged by police, sued by the wounded man, and eventually spoke at a federal justice hearing in Ottawa. His ordeal became a national sensation, concerning the issues of property rights and personal protection. This follow-up story tells what happened, and what it was like, for Maurice, his wife Jessica, their two youngsters, and the community where they reside.

Viking Review Fantastic Ally Anderson photographs, spread over three pages, document the 2019 annual Stampede at Bruce, Alberta (population about 50) -- site of Canada's oldest one-day professional rodeo competition. This superb photo-feature shows the 106th annual version - downpour, mud, sodden but determined paraders - and in the end, prize money, a program that lasted three days, plus a list of winners: It's a package of exemplary local journalism.

Rocky View Weekly - Chorney recounts a questionable chapter in Prairie history - how more than 100,000 British children - usually abandoned, destitute or orphaned -- were brought to Canada to work, many to be exploited, as indentured labour on farms and in domestic service jobs. Begun in 1869, the project was officially supported by both Canada and the UK. It continued until 1948. Impelled by the death of a local man (once a British Home Child himself) this feature recounts what it was like.

HONOURABLE MENTIONS

Jenna Dulewich, Rocky Mountain Outlook, Canmore
Glen Mazza, Rocky Mountain House Mountaineer
Doug Collie, Olds Albertan

Best Agriculture Supplement

Sponsored by: Genome Alberta

- 1st Place **Three Hills Capital**
- 2nd Place **Taber Times**
- 3rd Place **Fort Macleod Gazette**

Judges Comments:

The best agriculture section this year was won by The Capital as its 24-page supplement had all the good traits of a super section - local stories, local photos and plenty of advertising. The front page cover, which had several photos, was designed very well to invite the reader. I also enjoy reading something on a spread of two pages and this was accomplished with the exception of one flat. High marks for content, but improvement on layout - not always having six columns of type would have garnered more points.

Second place was awarded to the Taber Times for their eight-page broadsheet section. Congrats for writing local stories written by local staff.

Third place to The Macleod Gazette. A crisp, close up shot of a bull's face was great to see. Again, local stories and local photos is what readers want and was evident here.



Ad Campaign Award Sponsored by: AWNA

- 1st Place **Wainwright Star Edge - Armstrongs Clothing - Not Just the Classics** Credits: Carrie Baumgartner
- 2nd Place **Shootin the Breeze - Summer Games Campaign** Credits: Shannon Robison
- 3rd Place **Rocky Mountain House Mountaineer - Nick's Diner Opening Soon** Credits: Carla Harmon, Jean Vos

Excellence in Ad Campaigns - Sponsored by: AWNA						
Newspaper Name	Overall impact (30)	Design (25)	Copywriting (15)	Images/ Graphics (15)	Creativity (15)	TOTAL (100)
Claresholm Local Press	25	20	13	15	10	83
Jasper Fitzhugh	24	20	13	12	9	78
Lloydminster Meridian Source	22	22	10	12	12	78
Rocky Mountain House Mountaineer	25	20	12	13	14	84
Sedgewick/Flagstaff Community Press	28	18	13	10	12	81
Shootin the Breeze	26	22	13	13	12	86
Taber Times	25	18	13	12	10	78
Viking Weekly Review	23	19	15	8	10	75
Wainwright Star Edge	28	25	14	15	15	97

Judges Comments:

Wainwright Star Edge - Congratulations, your ad was the clear winner. It checked off all the things a reader looks for when scanning the newspaper for deals to be had. Loved the three themes which all had their own unique flavour. Not sure if the photos were of local people, but having them definitely added to a reader checking out the ad.

Shootin the Breeze - Good to have all that information packed into each ad. It was great to see the ads all followed the same style. Ad would have looked better much larger.

Rocky Mountain House Mountaineer - Sometimes less is more. This was the case here... exactly to the point. Good use of messaging and graphics.

Excellence in Education Writing Sponsored by: Lethbridge College

- 1st Place **Rocky Mountain Outlook - Canmore Middle School takes bold step on students' screen time** Credits: Cathy Ellis
- 2nd Place **Okotoks Western Wheel - Youth protest government's plans for GSA** Credits: Megan Thrall
- 3rd Place **Rocky View Weekly - Students with developmental disabilities at work** Credits: Nathan Woolridge

Judges Comments:

The best entries in this category dove into topics that were more challenging than your typical topics to cover. The winning entry interviewed three different people, had two studies cited along with a sidebar and strong photos that had great treatment. In second place was a great story on Gay Straight Alliances in Okotoks. What helped this stand out was multiple perspectives on the topic as well as two photos. In third place was a story on a program for students with developmental disabilities. What made this get third place, was an actual student in the program was interviewed instead of the typical teachers and principals.

Rocky Mountain Outlook - A lot of effort went into this story. You had three people quoted, two studies referenced, a sidebar and great treatment of the topic. Photo was also strong.

Okotoks Western Wheel - An important topic that got multiple perspectives included along with two strong photos. Well done.

Rocky View Weekly - This third place piece had multiple perspectives included in a story that doesn't get that much attention.

Honorable mentions to Day of Learning by **Shooting the Breeze** as well as High school students experience real-life science by the **Sundre Round Up**.

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Sports Writing Award Sponsored by: AWWA

- 1st Place **St. Albert Gazette - Iginla arena renaming**
Credits: Jeff Hansen
- 2nd Place **Lloydminster Meridian Source - Renewing lifelong hockey friendships** Credits: Jamie Harkins
- 3rd Place **Olds Albertan - Lacrosse unites Junior B Stingers with those on the autism spectrum**
Credits: Doug Collie

Sports Writing - Sponsored by: AWWA					
Newspaper name	Writing (30)	Reporting (30)	Treatment of Topic (20)	Interest to Community (20)	Total (100)
Airdrie City View	20	5	15	10	50
Athabasca Advocate	15	7	15	10	47
Bashaw Star	15	7	12	8	42
Clareholm Local Press	15	10	12	8	45
Coaldale Sunny South News	12	10	15	10	47
Drayton Valley Western Review	10	7	12	8	37
Fort Macleod Gazette	15	10	12	8	45
Grande Prairie (County) Town & Country News	15	20	18	15	68
Innisfail Province	20	22	18	18	78
Jasper Fitzhugh	28	25	10	12	75
Lacombe Express	25	20	14	10	69
Lacombe Globe	20	20	10	15	65
Lloydminster Meridian Source	30	22	18	17	87
Mountain View Gazette	20	20	12	10	62
Okotoks Western Wheel	28	18	15	17	78
Olds Albertan	22	25	18	20	85
Ponoka News	24	20	14	10	68
Rimbey Review	25	24	15	15	79
Rocky Mountain House Mountaineer	20	17	17	18	72
Rocky Mountain Outlook	25	25	15	17	82
Rocky View Weekly	18	10	12	12	52
Shootin the Breeze	25	24	17	18	84
Slave Lake Lakeside Leader	15	10	12	12	49
St. Albert Gazette	28	30	18	15	91
Strathmore Times	15	14	12	11	52
Sundre Round-Up	22	20	15	17	74
Vauxhall Advance	24	20	18	18	80
Wainwright Star Edge	15	10	10	10	45

Judges Comments:

St. Albert Gazette - This entry followed the rules to a T. Having the piece about the naming of the local hockey arena is in the interest of the entire community. It was great to see a lot of time and effort was given and well researched. It was a joy to read.

Lloydminster Meridian Source - A summer hockey story is always a good read. I liked the fact there was more than one source quoted. This story would have earned more marks if it had more about where the majority of the players ended up.

Olds Albertan - Lacrosse is a sport not too many know about, so kudos for introducing this game to all the community.

Sue Gawlak Best Local Editorial

Sponsored by: St. Albert Gazette

- 1st Place **Rocky View Weekly - The right to bodily autonomy** Credits: Jessi Gowan
- 2nd Place **St. Albert Gazette - We deserve better**
Credits: Brian Bachynski, April Hudson
- 3rd Place **Taber Times - Closed Door Sessions Keeping Public in the Dark** Credits: Greg Price

Judges Comments:

Once again, the column and editorial submissions are for the most part very strong. Plenty of moxie left in these Alberta weeklies. These newspapers and their journalist shine brightest when they hold power accountable and take unpopular but righteous stands on behalf of their readers. Good to see.

Rocky View Weekly - Forceful column, well-written and well researched
St. Albert Gazette -Terrific editorial. Takes a strong stand on the local MP and asks tough but fair questions that have yet to be answered
Taber Times - Another strong editorial from the Taber Times about an important issue. Seems like the Times has to write every year about Taber town council's love of democracy in darkness. Important work that the Times takes on with polish.

Gordon Scott Memorial Award for Best Feature Column by a Local Writer Sponsored by: AWWA

- 1st Place **Rimbey Review - A life lost forever** Credits: Treena Mielke
- 2nd Place **Lacombe Express - Critical thinking in the curriculum crucial to a functioning electorate**
Credits: Todd Vaughan
- 3rd Place **Olds Albertan - Olds mayor's Remembrance Day speech applauded** Credits: Doug Collie

Best Feature Column by a Local Writer				
Newspaper Name	Quality, clarity, style, grammar (30)	Impact on Readers (20)	Subject matter/interest to community (10)	Total (60)
Airdrie City View	25	17	7	49
Athabasca Advocate	23	19	10	52
Bashaw Star	25	17	8	50
Clareholm Local Press	25	18	9	52
Consort Enterprise	23	18	9	50
Drayton Valley Western Review	24	18	9	51
Fort Macleod Gazette	25	18	9	52
Innisfail Province	24	18	9	51
Lacombe Express	26	19	9	54
Mountain View Gazette	25	17	9	51
Olds Albertan	26	18	9	53
Ponoka News	25	18	8	51
Rimbey Review	30	20	10	60
Rocky Mountain House Mountaineer	25	17	8	50
Shootin the Breeze	26	17	8	51
Slave Lake Lakeside Leader	26	17	8	51
St. Albert Gazette	24	16	8	48
Sundre Round-Up	25	16	7	48
Taber Times	25	17	9	51
Viking Weekly Review	26	17	8	51

Judges Comments:

Rimbey Review - This column is beautifully written and one of the most powerful things I've ever read. Treena Mielke introduces the reader to the little boy in her memory and the young man he became, painting a vivid and vibrant picture of who he was at those points in his life. In spite of the deeply personal nature of this topic, Mielke holds nothing back and that honesty only draws the reader in further. By the end of this column, let's just say that his grandma wasn't the only one crying! I have never given a perfect score before, and may never do so again, but I cannot think of a more worthy piece of writing to bestow this honour upon.

Lacombe Express Todd Colin Vaughan gives a good explanation of a complicated and controversial issue around teaching students to understand the perspectives of others. He also rightly and strongly takes to task those in the community who have done their best to disrupt the education of local students simply because of the prompts chosen.

Olds Albertan - Doug Collie's column really shows that you don't need 700 words to write an effective column. His piece weaves together Wexit and Remembrance Day through the inspiration of the local mayor. The result is a powerful statement and a master class in economic writing.

Best Environmental Writing Sponsored by: AWWA

- 1st Place **St. Albert Gazette - Plastic Planet** Credit: Kevin Ma
- 2nd Place **Shootin the Breeze - Deer aversion program gaining ground** Credits: Jess Harrington
- 3rd Place **Rocky View Weekly - Rehabilitated bear from Cochrane killed** Credits: Nathan Woolridge

Judges Comments:

All top stories showed great reporting on local or highly relevant topics. They were interesting and tightly written with strong ledes.

St. Albert Gazette -Comprehensive piece that told me what I needed to know to take action and why. Very strong reporting, writing, photos and general presentation on the topic.

Shootin the Breeze - Good story on local issue, well written and interesting. It explained the problem, the answer and the who/how. The photo was a grabber as well.

Rocky View Weekly - A little softer story, but relevant to the local area; of interest, well-written with follow-up. Definitely environmental piece.

Arts and Culture Writing award Sponsored by: AWNA

- 1st Place **St. Albert Gazette** - The stars are coming out for STARFest Credits: Scott Hayes
- 2nd Place **Westlock News** - Inaugural RogFest a hip hop hoedown Credits: Chris Zwick
- 3rd Place **Rocky Mountain Outlook** - Stoney Nakoda round dance inspiration to take action on MMIWG Credits: Chelsea Kemp

Arts and Culture Writing - Sponsored by: AWNA					
Newspaper name	Writing (30)	Reporting (30)	Treatment of Topic (20)	Impact on Readers (20)	Total (100)
Airdrie City View	20	20	10	10	60
Athabasca Advocate	25	25	15	15	80
Bashaw Star	20	25	15	10	70
Claresholm Local Press	26	26	17	17	86
Coaldale Sunny South News	25	25	10	16	76
Consort Enterprise	15	15	10	10	50
Drayton Valley Western Review	20	20	10	10	60
East Central Alberta Review	25	25	15	16	81
Fort Macleod Gazette	25	25	15	15	80
Grande Prairie (County) Town & Country News	15	15	10	10	50
Innisfail Province	20	20	16	16	72
Jasper Fitzhugh	17	15	10	10	52
Lacombe Express	17	20	15	15	67
Okotoks Western Wheel	26	26	17	18	87
Ponoka News	20	17	10	10	57
Rimbey Review	25	25	15	15	80
Rocky Mountain House Mountaineer	20	17	15	15	67
Rocky Mountain Outlook	26	26	18	19	89
Rocky View Weekly	25	25	15	15	80
Shootin the Breeze	24	20	15	15	74
Slave Lake Lakeside Leader	17	17	15	15	64
Spruce Grove Examiner	26	26	17	16	85
St. Albert Gazette	28	28	18	20	94
Strathmore Times	17	15	10	10	52
Sundre Round-Up	20	22	15	17	74
Taber Times	20	24	15	17	76
Wainwright Star Edge	20	18	10	10	58

Judges Comments:

St. Albert Gazette - A lot of work here by the reporter. Easy to read. Engaging. This compilation makes me want to attend the festival. Well done!

Westlock News - I felt like I was right there! Congrats on a well-told story and photos.

Rocky Mountain Outlook - A stand-out piece with wonderful photos and layout; however, the lede is bland and the story doesn't engage until a few paragraphs in. Congratulations on this wonderful article.

Excellence in Creative Advertising Sponsored by: AWNA

- 1st Place **Rocky Mountain House Mountaineer - Grillers** Credits: Carla Harmon, Jean Vos
- 2nd Place **St. Albert Gazette - Pink Shirt - Anti Bullying Campaign** Credits: Kris Beardsworth, Angie Hampshire
- 3rd Place **Slave Lake Lakeside Leader - Appara Shoes - Riverboat Daze Sale** Credits: Jisun Kwon

Creative Advertising - Sponsored by: AWNA						
Newspaper Name	Overall impact (30)	Design (25)	Copywriting (15)	Images/ Graphics (15)	Creativity (15)	TOTAL (100)
Athabasca Advocate	20	18	11	10	10	69
Claresholm Local Press	23	20	12	12	12	79
Jasper Fitzhugh	23	21	12	12	12	80
Lloydminster Meridian Source	24	23	12	13	12	84
Rocky Mountain House Mountaineer	28	24	14	13	13	92
Rocky Mountain Outlook	24	22	12	12	11	81
Shootin the Breeze	24	22	12	13	13	84
Slave Lake Lakeside Leader	26	23	13	13	13	88
St. Albert Gazette	27	24	13	13	13	90
Taber Times	24	21	13	13	12	83
Wainwright Star Edge	25	23	13	13	13	87

Judges Comments:

Really enjoyed judging this category. There were many great ads and ideas utilized. Nice to see the great work done.

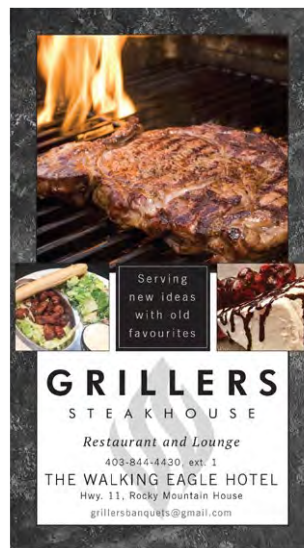
Best Special Sections and Supplements Award

- Sponsored by: Metro Creative Graphics, Inc.
- 1st Place **Claresholm Local Press - Small Business Week**
- 2nd Place **Taber Times - Cornfest 2019** Credits:
- 3rd Place **Rocky Mountain House Mountaineer - Visitors Guide**
- Judges Comments:**

Claresholm Local Press - This broadsheet section has a very engaging community-based feel, which is reflected in the graphic presentation of the cover and the lively mix of interior content. Local ads abound, arranged within pages of great local content from the chamber of commerce, local and well-known retailers and speakers, conferences, etc. Packed with information, a focus on shopping local and supporting community - this section is a real winner!

Taber Times This magazine-sized, slick-covered special section has great appeal. Touting a local annual event - the dynamic cover and well-designed interior spreads: full bleed fun activity photos & a glossy pull-out insert/festival schedule along with tons of local ads and editorial...we love this section's vibrancy and layout!

Rocky Mountain House Mountaineer - This visitors guide to the Rocky Mountain House & area is inviting, exciting, FREE, and a great local keeper guide. A glossy magazine, it has well-done spreads with highlighted activities, detailed maps, event descriptions, and is packed with attractive local advertising throughout, making it a great ad buy for local retailers, as this is section to keep around!



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Creative Use of Colour in Advertising

Sponsored by: AWNA

- 1st Place **Shootin the Breeze - SGB Fitbodies** Credits: Shannon Robison
- 2nd Place **Slave Lake Lakeside Leader - Stage North - Joey Landreth Trio** Credits: Jisun Kwon
- 3rd Place **Wainwright Star Edge - Points West Living - Join the Fun** Credits: Carrie Baumgartner

Creative Use of Colour in Advertising - Sponsored by: AWNA						
Newspaper Name	Overall impact due to use of colour (30)	Overall Design (25)	Quality of Copywriting (15)	Images/ Graphics (15)	Creativity/ originality (15)	TOTAL (100)
Athabasca Advocate	20	20	12	11	11	74
Claresholm Local Press	24	20	13	12	12	81
Jasper Fitzhugh	23	20	12	13	12	80
Lloydminster Meridian Source	21	19	11	12	11	74
Rocky Mountain House Mountaineer	22	21	12	13	13	81
Sedgewick/Flagstaff Community Press	22	20	11	11	12	76
Shootin the Breeze	23	23	12	13	13	84
Slave Lake Lakeside Leader	23	23	12	12	13	83
Taber Times	20	20	11	12	12	75
Wainwright Star Edge	22	22	12	13	13	82

Judges Comments:

I really enjoyed judging this category. All ads submitted had their strong points and the use of colour on all was done very well.

Shootin the Breeze - LOVE this ad. The use of colour was fantastic and the way it all came together with the various fonts and size of fonts made this ad stand out above the rest.

Slave Lake Lakeside Leader - Really like the design of the ad and the use of shading and colours used. This ad jumped off the page like a very well designed ad will.

Wainwright Star Edge - Simple yet says so much about the business. The colour spread around, sizing of fonts and spacing makes this ad very attractive.

Healthy Communities Journalism Award

Sponsored by: Genome Alberta

- 1st Place **Spruce Grove Examiner - Dying to live** Credits: Evan J. Pretzer
- 2nd Place **Rocky View Weekly - No immunization record for measles case** Credits: Ben Sherick, Chris Puglia
- 3rd Place **Claresholm Local Press - Woman meets people at STARS who saved her life** Credits: Rob Vogt

Judges Comments:

As always - a tough competition right at the top. Good to see some new names and faces competing with some of the cagey veterans in Alberta print.

Spruce Grove Examiner - A personal, well written account that is a solid piece of journalism. It ticks all the boxes the best out of all the entries. It is a combination of a story that isn't your classic news of the week, that was shepherded by the writer.

Rocky View Weekly - A story that shows community mindfulness can come from many areas.

Claresholm Local Press - A community story that personalizes both sides of the write. Excellent stuff.

Healthy Communities Journalism - Sponsored by: AWNA					
Newspaper name	Writing (30)	Reporting (30)	Treatment of Topic (20)	Impact on Readers (20)	Total (100)
Airdrie City View	21	10	22	11	64
Bashaw Star	20	12	15	10	57
Claresholm Local Press	23	16	23	15	77
Consort Enterprise	15	10	15	10	50
Fort Macleod Gazette	25	11	22	13	71
Grande Prairie (Country) Town & Country News	20	12	22	14	68
Innisfail Province	22	13	23	15	73
Jasper Fitzhugh	20	10	20	10	60
Lacombe Express	20	10	21	11	62
Lloydminster Meridian Source	20	10	21	11	62
Mountain View Gazette	22	15	22	13	72
Okotoks Western Wheel	23	10	22	12	67
Olds Albertan	13	10	20	16	59
Ponoka News	10	8	16	10	44
Provost News	18	15	21	8	62
Rocky Mountain House Mountaineer	23	11	21	9	64
Rocky Mountain Outlook	20	10	17	16	63
Rocky View Weekly	23	15	23	17	78
Sedgewick/Flagstaff Community Press	20	10	20	10	60
Shootin the Breeze	23	12	24	15	74
Slave Lake Lakeside Leader	15	10	15	11	51
Spruce Grove Examiner	25	15	25	18	83
St. Albert Gazette	22	15	15	12	64
Strathmore Times	20	10	15	10	55
Sundre Round-Up	20	12	20	14	66
Taber Times	23	10	22	12	67
Wainwright Star Edge	20	11	22	18	71

1

Are You Ready to Commit to Change?
Fall classes start Monday, Sept. 9 and run to Dec. 19

FIRE
FOCUSED INTENSE RESISTANCE EXERCISE
Tuesdays & Thursdays
6 a.m., 9 a.m., 11 a.m., 12:05 p.m., 4:30 p.m., 5:30 p.m., 6:30 p.m.
* Pre-registration Required

ICE
INTENSE CARDIO EXERCISE
Mondays and Wednesdays
6 a.m., 9 a.m., 12:05 p.m., 4:45 p.m., 5:40 p.m.
* Drop-ins Welcome

Open Gym and Smoothie Bar
Monday to Thursday 6:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Saturday 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Join the Commit to Change Challenge and you could win \$500, \$250 or \$100!

THIS IS NOT A WEIGHT-LOSS CHALLENGE!
Challenge winners will show dedication to reaching goals. Following program uses and principles of the Metabolic Precision 19-week nutrition program. Participants will make lifestyle changes to improve health and wellness in a structured and supported program.

Learn more at the SGB Open House
Wednesday, Sept. 4 from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.

403-904-4042
1348 McEachern St. Pincher Creek
www.sgbfitbodies.com

2

Stage North
Juno winner
JOE LANDRETH TRIO
Saturday, January 19, 2019
7:30 p.m.

OPENING ACT: Will O'Donnell

VENUE: Slave Lake Legion Centre 400 8th Ave. S.E.

Where to buy TICKETS: Slave Lake Legion Centre, The Forum, 800-777-7777, www.slavelakelegion.org

Tickets - \$35 in advance, \$40 at the door. \$5 less for seniors and students.

Specialty Food at the Bar - Welcome to Slave Lake Legion Centre. Stage North is a proud sponsor of the Slave Lake Legion Centre. For more information, call 403-904-4042 or visit www.stage-north.org. Call Lisa Rosemary 780-840-3341 | stage-north@stage-north.org

3

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Remember When

Call 780-845-2080 for more information, 2715-11 Ave. Wainwright AB | pointswestliving.com

The AWNA and member newspapers wish to thank the Awards of Excellence judges for their time and effort.

- Terry Villeneuve**
Meadow Lake Northern Pride (SK)
- Cathy McKenzie**
Ducks Unlimited
- Rob Brown**
Dawson Creek Mirror (BC)
- Ian Tennant**
Mount Royal University
- Kris Hodgson**
Lethbridge College
- Darryl Davis**
Metro Creative Graphics
- Anne Davison**
Virden Empire Advance (MB)
- Brian Gilroy**
Star and Times (MB)
- Gord Cameron**
Hamilton Community News (ON)
- Walter Nagel**, SAIT
- Melinda Cheevers**
Niagara This Week (ON)
- Janis Cleugh**
Tri-City News (BC)

2019 Awna Photographic Awards

Spot News Photo



1st Place

Ponoka News
Family Meats Ltd. fire
Credits: Emily Jaycox



2nd Place

Claresholm
Local Press
Tipped over
Credits: Amanda
Zimmer



3rd Place

St Albert
Gazette
No Serious
Injuries
Credits: Dan
Riedlhuber

Judges Comments:

The Awna photo awards competition has come a long way since my first exposure to the contest back in 1979. Today's entries include photos shot using cellphones and drones — all great tools to help us tell the stories from our communities.

What hasn't changed is that the best images are taken by photographers who spend time planning and composing their shots, familiarizing themselves with their surroundings and making adjustments to their camera settings as conditions dictate. Those images are then treated with respect by page designers and graphic artists to give them favourable positioning.

A lot of our great photos are about conflict — collisions, fires, a runner sliding into second base or a rider bucked from a bronc. The winners of this year's contest anticipate that action and make great photographs.

You don't always have time to compose spot photos in the viewfinder. Cropping your images in post to make them more visually captivating is essential. Cropping for shape is important too. Many photos would have scored higher with tighter cropping to make them compelling elements on the page. Square images are dull; think instead about narrow horizontal photos or tight verticals.

Much of what we do is by the numbers photojournalism so you need to think about ways to turn a snapshot into a photograph. Look for emotion from your subjects, give your readers context through your photos, pay close attention to your camera settings and use a fill flash to make a subject's eyes brighter. Sure, you could crank up the ISO but think about making your photos better. In photography, experience is a great teacher, so if you didn't make the grade this year, take notes, keep a log of your settings, successes and failures at arenas, school gyms, etc. and consider how to make photos from that dance recital or community parade better next year. Congratulations to everyone for their dedication to community journalism.

This year our judge was George Brown former Awna president and longtime Symposium chair. His community newspaper photography has won awards in Alberta and Saskatchewan.

Photo Illustration



1st Place
Rocky Mountain Outlook
Walking Dead
Credits: Evan Buhler



2nd Place
Shootin' the Breeze
Where you lead
Credits: Shannon Robison

Human Interest



2nd Place
Strathmore Times
Remembering a hockey star
Credits: Miriam Ostermann



1st Place
Fort Macleod Gazette
School salutes retiring staff members
Credits: Frank McTighe



3rd Place
St Albert Gazette
A Ball Of A Good Time
Credits: Dan Riedlhuber

Feature Photo

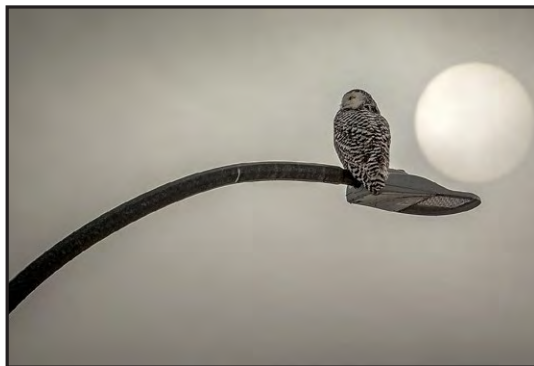
1st Place
Fort Macleod Gazette
Dynamic Dancer
Credits: Frank McTighe



2nd Place
Mountain View Gazette
First Heritage Festival a hit
Credits: Noel West



3rd Place
St Albert Gazette
Solemn Perch
Credits: Dan Riedlhuber



Honourable Mention
Shootin' the Breeze
One soggy Saturday
Credits: Georgia Dale



Sports Action Photo



1st Place
Okotoks Western Wheel
INCOMING
Credits: Brent Calver

2nd Place
East Central Alberta Review
Hangin' On For Dear Life
Credits: Terri HuxleyVaughan



3rd Place
Rocky Mountain Outlook
Crazy Canuck 2.0
Credits: Evan Buhler



Honourable Mention
St Albert Gazette
Hat Trick
Credits: Dan Riedlhuber



Multi-Photo

1st Place
St Albert Gazette
Rodeo Roundup
 Credits: Chris Colbourne



2nd Place
Olds Albertan
Torch relay
 Credits: Noel West



3rd Place
St Albert Gazette
Fire & Ice
 Credits: Dan Riedhuber

Honourable Mention
Provost News
A Cattle Branding Tradition
 Credits: Jill Sherring

Special thanks to **SmallTownPapers, Inc** for hosting the Online Competition web site for BNC Photo Awards

