2020 Osman C. Hooper Weekly Newspaper Competition
General Requirements
Contest period is August 1, 2018 to July 31, 2019

If you have submission questions, contact Sue Bazzoli at 614-486-6677, ext. 1018, or sbazzoli@ohionews.org

Step 1: Register at www.newspapercontest.com/ohio to submit entries. The Association Code is: **ONMACONTEST** (all caps).

Step 2: Verify the circulation for your paper. Tentative circulation divisions are assigned based on circulation information provided by your newspaper and currently in the ONMA database. If there is a discrepancy with your circulation or an update is needed, contact Sue Bazzoli at the number above.
NEW: 3 Divisions this year: Division A – approx. 4300 circulation and above; Division B – approx. 2501- 4299 circulation; and Division C – approx. 2500 circulation and below.

Step 3: Entries that have multiple pages must be submitted as a multi-page PDF. Entries may also be submitted using URLs. The entry title must be clearly identified in the PDF or in the "Explanation or Cutline" box on the entry form.

Step 4: For entries in Category 1-News Coverage and Category 10-Newspaper Design, **one issue must be from NOVEMBER 2018**.

Step 5: Newspapers having multiple publications or editions under one ownership with pages in common (news and/or advertising) may only enter the shared content under the title having the largest circulation.

Step 6: Please note that there are **two Category Types** in the drop-down box: **By Division** and **Divisions Combined.**

The entry fee remains $8.00 per entry. Payment can be made online by credit card when entries are completed. **Entries are not valid for judging until payment is made. Incomplete submissions will not qualify for judging and fees will not be refunded.**

ENTRY DEADLINE IS MONDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2019

Newspaper of the Year Award Requirements and Points Chart

Your newspaper **must be entered in 1-News Coverage, 10-Newspaper Design and 12-Advertising** to be eligible for the Newspaper of the Year award. Winners are determined on a points basis. The order of finish in the 19 categories below carries specific points. After all judging is completed in categories 1 through 19, each qualifying newspaper is awarded appropriate points which determine the Newspaper of the Year division winners.

	CATEGORY	1ST	2ND	3RD	4TH
	**1 – News Coverage	**20**	**15**	**10**	
	2 – Best News Story	10	7	5	
	3 – In-Depth Reporting	10	7	5	
	4 – Best Local Feature	10	7	5	
New Category This Year	**5 – Best Local Profile**	**10**	**7**	**5**	
	6 – Original Columns	10	7	5	
	7 – Best Editorial	10	7	5	3
	8 – Sports Coverage	10	7	5	
	9 – Best Sports Feature	10	7	5	
	**10 – Newspaper Design	**20**	**15**	**10**	
	11 – Best Page Design	10	7	5	
	**12 – Advertising	**20**	**15**	**10**	
	13 – Best News Photo	10	7	5	
	14 – Best Feature Photo	10	7	5	
	15 – Best Sports Photo	10	7	5	
	16 – Best Headline	10	7	5	3
	17 – Special Edition/Section	10	7	5	
	18 – Community Awareness	10	7	5	3
	19 – Best Website	10	7	5	3

** You must be entered in the three categories highlighted in red to be eligible for Newspaper of the Year award.

Category Descriptions and Requirements
IMPORTANT! Multiple page entries must be submitted as multi-page PDFs.
URLs are also accepted.

Category 1: NEWS COVERAGE – One entry per newspaper
- *You must be entered in this Category to be eligible for Newspaper of the Year*
- Submit three (3) multi-page PDF issues or URLs: **one (1) from NOVEMBER 2018** and two (2) additional issues within the contest period.
- Judged on the overall quality of community news coverage.
- No special editions.

Category 2: BEST NEWS STORY – Multiple entries per newspaper
- Submit a single story (sidebar may be included) within the contest period. Entry title must be clearly identified on the PDF or in the "Explanation or Cutline" box on the entry form.
- Judged on quality of writing and reporting and obvious extra effort that sets this news story apart from usual news coverage.

Category 3: IN-DEPTH REPORTING – Multiple entries per newspaper
- Submit one entire article or series of articles within the contest period. Entry title must be clearly identified on the PDF or in the "Explanation or Cutline" box on the entry form.
- Judged on the depth of reporting on a single issue or series of related issues. These may include investigative reporting, enterprise reporting or an analysis of a subject or issue.

Category 4: BEST LOCAL FEATURE – Multiple entries per newspaper
- Submit one (1) complete feature story (include jump), or one entire series, within the contest period. Entry title must be clearly identified on the PDF or in the "Explanation or Cutline" box on the entry form.
- Judged on the overall impact of the feature story or series of stories.

Category 5: BEST LOCAL PROFILE – Multiple entries per newspaper   ***NEW CATEGORY THIS YEAR*
- Submit one (1) complete local profile on a person or couple (include jump) within the contest period. Entry title must be clearly identified on the PDF or in the "Explanation or Cutline" box on the entry form.
- Judged on the overall impact of the profile story.

Category 6: ORIGINAL COLUMNS – Multiple entries per newspaper
- *An entry consists of 3 different columns per columnist* within the contest period. Entry title must be clearly identified on the PDF or in the "Explanation or Cutline" box on the entry form.
- Only one entry *per columnist*.
- Judged on the overall quality of writing, clarity and local interest.

Category 7: BEST EDITORIAL – Multiple entries per newspaper
- Submit one (1) editorial from your newspaper within the contest period. Entry title must be clearly identified on the PDF or in the "Explanation or Cutline" box on the entry form.
- An editorial is an opinion piece written by the senior editorial staff or publisher of a newspaper. Editorials are supposed to reflect the opinion of the periodical, not any individual. No individual columns accepted.
- Judged on the overall quality of writing, clarity and local impact.
- No division by circulation in this category.

Category Descriptions and Requirements
IMPORTANT! Multiple page entries must be submitted as multi-page PDFs.
URLs are also accepted.

Category 8: SPORTS COVERAGE - One entry per newspaper
- Submit three (3) sports sections of your choice within the contest period.
- Judged on all aspects of local sports, writing and photo quality and overall appearance of the sports section.

Category 9: BEST SPORTS FEATURE – Multiple entries per newspaper
- Submit one (1) complete sports feature story (include jump), or one entire series, within the contest period. Entry title must be clearly identified on the PDF or in the "Explanation or Cutline" box on the entry form.
- Judged on the overall impact of the sports feature story or series of stories.

Category 10: NEWSPAPER DESIGN - One entry per newspaper
- *You must be entered in this Category to be eligible for Newspaper of the Year*
- Submit three (3) multi-page PDF issues: **one (1) from NOVEMBER 2018** and two (2) additional issues within the contest period.
- Judged on the overall look of the newspaper with emphasis on placement and organization of headlines, photos, stories, art and ads. Judges will also consider quality and appropriate uses of color, art and graphics.
- No special editions.

Category 11: BEST PAGE DESIGN – Multiple entries per newspaper
- Submit a single or double-page spread.
- Judged on the overall look of the page with emphasis on placement of visual elements that may include headlines, photos, graphics, infographics, advertising, color, etc.

Category 12: ADVERTISING - One entry per newspaper
- *You must be entered in this Category to be eligible for Newspaper of the Year*
- Submit five (5) different ads (print or web), underlined clearly identified, within the contest period.
- Entries should be a full newspaper page PDF with each ad identified or a screen shot of the web page.
- All entries must be a result of newspaper production. Agency produced ads are not allowed.
- No house ads. Ads from special editions or sections are allowed.
- Judged on the overall design and content of paid advertising.

Category 13: BEST NEWS PHOTO - Multiple entries per newspaper
- Submit one (1) photograph included on the full newspaper page PDF or a screen shot of the web page with photo clearly identified on the PDF or in the "Explanation or Cutline" box on the entry form. Entries will be judged on PDF as it appeared in print or online. We also request a JPEG of the photo to be used for presentation purposes only - JPEG format will not be judged.
- Judged on the overall quality and impact of a news photo as an integral part of the newspaper.

Category 14: BEST FEATURE PHOTO - Multiple entries per newspaper
- Submit one (1) photograph included on the full newspaper page PDF or a screen shot of the web page with photo clearly identified on the PDF or in the "Explanation or Cutline" box on the entry form. Entries will be judged on PDF as it appeared in print or online. We also request a JPEG of the photo to be used for presentation purposes only (JPEG format will not be judged).
- Judged on the overall quality and impact of a feature photo as an integral part of the newspaper.

Category Descriptions and Requirements
IMPORTANT! Multiple page entries must be submitted as multi-page PDFs.
URLs are also accepted.

Category 15: BEST SPORTS PHOTO - Multiple entries per newspaper
- Submit one (1) photograph included on the full newspaper page PDF or a screen shot of the web page with photo clearly identified on the PDF or in the "Explanation or Cutline" box on the entry form. Entries will be judged on PDF as it appeared in print or online. We also request a JPEG of the photo to be used for presentation purposes only (JPEG format will not be judged).
- Judged on the overall quality and impact of a sports photo as an integral part of the newspaper.

Category 16: BEST HEADLINE - Multiple entries per newspaper
- Submit the headline with full article and date within the contest period. The headline must be clearly identified on the PDF or in the "Explanation or Cutline" box on the entry form.
- Judged on the creativity and effectiveness of the headline.
- No division by circulation in this category.

Category 17: SPECIAL EDITION OR SECTION - Multiple entries per newspaper
- This entry consists of an entire newspaper, section, page or series of consecutive pages, including editorial and advertising material promoting a single theme. Submit as multi-page PDFs or URLs.
- The entry may also include any statement the editor cares to make concerning the success achieved and any related examples from one or more issues within the contest period.

Category 18: COMMUNITY AWARENESS - Multiple entries per newspaper
- This entry shows how your newspaper brought awareness to a community issue. Examples of last year's winners included topics on school safety, drug abuse, opioid addiction and suicide prevention.
- The entry shall consist of a description of the community need and how results of the newspaper project addressed that need.
- Include all published documentation.
- No division by circulation in this category.

Category 19: BEST WEBSITE
- Websites will be judged on content, ease of navigation, layout, design and advertising.
- Websites will be randomly "visited" no more than once per week by the judge October 21 through December 6, 2019.
- Subscription-based websites MUST include login information in comments section for judging purposes.
- No division by circulation in this category.

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Recognition and Awards at the 2020 Ohio News Media Association Convention

The Osman C. Hooper Newspaper Awards will be presented as part of the ONMA Convention, February 6 -7, 2020 at the Renaissance Columbus Westerville-Polaris. First, second, third and fourth (where applicable) place awards will be presented in each category for each circulation division. Newspaper of the Year winners in each circulation division will each receive a plaque. Certificates will be awarded to all winners in each category.

Ohio News Media Association Weekly Newspaper Committee

Mary Huber, *Archbold Buckeye*; Chairperson
Amanda Crabtree*, The Telegram,* Jackson
Mark Fortune, *Coshocton County Beacon*, Coshocton
John Karlovec, *Geauga County Maple Leaf*, Chardon

Bev Keller, *The Budget,* Sugarcreek
David Keller, *Morgan County Herald,* McConnelsville
Ellen Kleinerman, *Douthit Communications,* Chagrin Falls