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Press Release

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NNA 2012 Newspaper Contest Winners Announced

COLUMBIA, MO — Judging results have been processed and winners of the 2012 Better Newspaper Contest and Better Newspaper Advertising Contest have been posted online at http://nnaweb.org/better-newspaper-contests

Winners will be recognized at the award reception held Saturday, Oct. 6, during NNA's 126th Annual Convention & Trade Show at the Embassy Suites Airport & Convention Center in Charleston, SC, Oct. 3-7, 2012. Register online to attend the convention or to purchase reception tickets: <u>nnaweb.org</u>

NNA Contest Chair Jeff Farren, publisher of the Kendall County Record in Yorkville, IL, announced and congratulated the contest winners in an award notification e-mail. The "Winners reflect the high quality of publications represented by the association," Farren said.

There were 1,954 entries in the Better Newspaper Contest and 395 entries in the Better Newspaper Advertising Contest for a total of 2,349 entries. A total of 525 awards were won by 135 member newspapers in 36 states.

California had the most combined BNC/BNAC wins with 78, followed by New Mexico with 53, and Texas and Wyoming tied with 42 each.

Lists of winners by division and newspaper, as well as judges' comments, are available at <u>nnaweb.org</u>. Winners will be recognized in a special contest PDF available at nnaweb.org following the award reception this fall. Places won in General Excellence categories, and respective judges' comments, will be announced at the award reception.

Judging was performed primarily by active community newspaper editors and publishers and included retired university journalism professors and retired or former newspaper men and women.

"We deeply appreciate and value the time and talent volunteered by the judges for these contests," Farren said.

Established in 1885, the National Newspaper Association is the voice of America's community newspapers and the largest newspaper association in the country. The nation's community papers inform, educate and entertain nearly 150 million readers every week.