

2020 NEW ENGLAND NEWSPAPERS OF THE YEAR

Once again this year the New England Newspaper & Press Association will identify our region's best daily, weekly and specialty newspapers, and recognize them with the prestigious "**New England Newspaper of the Year**" award. Winners will be named in a range of circulation categories. ***To be considered, editors simply fill out the entry form and brief summary and submit sample copies along with their entry fee.***

This is a one-of-a-kind competition – it is the only distinction of its kind in the newspaper industry that is judged by *audience* members. New England newspaper readers will be appointed to evaluate the entries from a news consumer point of view and decide which deserve the honor of being named *Newspaper of the Year*.

All newspapers in the contest will not only have a chance to be chosen for the award, but they'll also receive feedback from newspaper readers about the strengths and weaknesses of their print and digital publications and how their paper stacks up compared to similar-size papers in our region. Each editor that enters will receive a summary scorecard with the reader judges' ratings across a range of attributes that are typically associated with quality newspapers and written verbatim comments.

Readers will evaluate your paper's relative strengths and weaknesses, including:

- ◆ quality of reporting and writing
- ◆ use of photos
- ◆ design and presentation
- ◆ digital offering
- ◆ overall utility and value
- ◆ General impressions, such as: Does the newspaper inform, educate, entertain, inspire, motivate, lead? Does it reflect and care about the community it serves? Does it put the interests of the reader first? Is it unique or special in some way?

The winners will be honored during the New England Newspaper Conference, which will be held remotely in October 2020 (dates to be announced).

Questions? Please contact Linda Conway at L.conway@nenpa.com

NENPA member newspapers are invited to enter in four categories as described below (weekday, Sunday, weekly, specialty). Newspapers will be assigned to a competitive division within their category after all entries are received (i.e., small, medium and large weeklies, small, medium and large dailies, small, medium and large Sunday/weekend publications.)

Weekday newspapers

Please submit three copies each of two weekday editions. One edition must be from the week of Monday, October 14 into Saturday, October 19, 2019. The second can be from any weekday between June 1, 2019 and May 31, 2020.

Sunday newspapers

Please submit three copies each of two Sunday editions. One must be your Sunday, October 20, 2019 edition. The second can be any Sunday edition between June 1, 2019 and May 31, 2020. *Newspapers with no Sunday edition may submit their Saturday Weekender edition.*

Weekly community newspapers

Please submit three copies each of two editions. One edition must be from the month of October 2019 and the other from any week during the contest year of June 1, 2019 to May 31, 2020.

Specialty newspapers

Please submit three copies each of two editions. One must be from the month of October 2019 and the other from any point during the contest year of June 1, 2019 to May 31, 2020.

[Click here to see previous winners](#)



PUBLIC OCCURRENCES

Editors are invited to enter their paper's best reporting and/or photojournalism from the past year. This award recognizes individual or team stories, series, spot news coverage, columns or photojournalism that ran in print and/or online. Please submit digital entries. Editors should view this entry as their **"very best work of the year"** (June 1, 2019 – May 31, 2020).

This competition is open to all members of NENPA. Up to 16 Public Occurrences awards will be presented.

These awards were established in 1990 to mark the 300th anniversary of the founding of Public Occurrences, the first newspaper published in America. Four days after it appeared in 1690 in Boston, Public Occurrences was suppressed by the royal governor.

[Click here to see previous Public Occurrences Award winners](#)

Entry fee \$99

ALLAN B. ROGERS EDITORIAL AWARD

This award recognizes the best editorial on a local subject that ran in New England in the past year (June 1, 2019 – May 31, 2020). The award honors the editor of The Eagle-Tribune (North Andover, MA) who died in 1964 at the age of 31.

This an open competition, so editorials from a wide variety of member newspapers in New England, regardless of circulation size and frequency of publication, are welcome to enter. Please submit digital entries.

Entry fee \$99

2019 winner:

The Standard-Times New Bedford, MA

[Click here to see previous winners of the Allan B. Rogers Editorial Award](#)

NEW ENGLAND FIRST AMENDMENT AWARD

This award will recognize a New England newspaper for its exceptional work in upholding the First Amendment and/or educating the public about it.

The award honors the association's record of leadership on First Amendment issues.

Entrants will be judged for the quality of reporting, editorials, commentary and/or legal challenges that illuminate or uphold the First Amendment.

NENPA-member newspapers, regardless of circulation size and frequency of publication, are invited to submit work published during the past year, June 1, 2019 to May 31, 2020. Please submit digital entries.

Entry fee \$99

2019 winner:

Foster's Daily Democrat, Dover, NH

[Click here to see previous winners of the New England First Amendment Award](#)

To enter, please fill out the entry form and send it with your digital submissions. **Entries must be received by Monday, August 31, 2020.**

Winners will be honored during the New England Newspaper Conference, which will be held virtually on a date to be determined in October 2020.

BOB WALLACK

COMMUNITY JOURNALISM AWARD

This special award, which is named in honor of longtime New England journalist and former New England Press Association Executive Director Bob Wallack, recognizes an individual who has an exceptional record of commitment to community journalism. This award celebrates the accomplishments of someone who, over a sustained period of time, has faithfully served the community for which they are responsible and has played an active, constructive role in contributing to its quality of life.

Anyone may nominate a colleague, co-worker, subordinate, superior, mentor, retiree, etc., who works or worked in our six-state region and truly exemplifies the ideal of a community journalist, just as Bob Wallack did. Please complete the entry form and submit a letter of nomination that describes your nominee's contributions, and make a case for why he/she should be chosen for this prestigious distinction. Please submit digital entries.

Entry fee \$39

2019 Bob Wallack Community Journalism Award winner:
John Flowers, Addison Independent, Middlebury, VT

[Click here to see previous Bob Wallack Community Journalism Award winners](#)



Sevellon Brown
**NEW ENGLAND JOURNALIST
OF THE YEAR**

Presented by:

**New England Society
of
News Editors**

This award is bestowed by the New England Society of News Editors, and it recognizes an individual for producing journalism of distinction in New England this past year. The award is named in honor of Sevellon Brown, the late editor and publisher of The Providence Journal-Bulletin, founder of the American Press Institute, fellow of the Academy of New England Journalists, and past president and founder of New England Associated Press News Editors Association (NEAPNEA).

The competition is open to New England journalists of any kind; whether working for a daily, weekly or specialty print publication, broadcast outlet or online media.

NESNE member editors or news directors may submit one nomination of a journalist for a compelling story/series published or broadcast between June 1, 2019 and May 31, 2020.

Nominations should consist of a brief cover letter, supported by digital tearsheets or links to the text, photos, audio, video or other elements of the story/series. Please submit digital entries.

Entry fee \$50

2019 AP Sevellon Brown Award winner:
Shawne K. Wickham, New Hampshire Union Leader

•To enter, please fill out the entry form and send it with your sample editions and/or clips with a check or credit card information for your entry fee(s). **Entries must be received by Monday, August 31, 2020.**

•Winners will be honored during the New England Newspaper Conference, which will be held virtually on a date to be determined in October 2020.
