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Oregon newspapers honored

WELCHES, Oregon – The Oregon Newspaper Publishers Association (ONPA) presented its 2006 Better Newspaper Contest and Associate Member Publications Contest awards to member newspapers during the association's annual Summer Publishers Convention, July 14 at the Resort at the Mountain in Welches, Oregon.

Of the 88 eligible general member newspapers, 59 submitted entries in the 2005 Better Newspaper contest, and 57 of those participating newspapers won an award in one or more of the 27 categories. A total of 2,294 submissions were received for the contest, which was judged by members of the Mississippi Press Association.

The 2006 Associate Member Publications Contest received a total of 40 entries from 6 of the 22 eligible associate member newspapers. All participating members were judged in five categories: Target Audience, Photography, Writing, Design, and Graphics. (Entries were not judged in circulation divisions.) Five of the six participants won an award in one or more categories.

Sweepstakes honors were given to newspapers that received the greatest combined recognition. In this year's Better Newspaper Contest, sweepstakes prizes were awarded in two divisions: daily and weekly or multi-weekly (two or more issues per week). The daily newspaper to receive this honor was *The Oregonian* in Portland, and the weekly or multi-weekly newspaper sweepstakes winner was the *West-Lane News* in Veneta. In the Associate Member Publications Contest, the sweepstakes winner was the *Sherwood Gazette*.

During the mid-day awards ceremony, ONPA also presented the **Jerry Latham-Mail Tribune Award**, which recognizes the daily and weekly newspaper with the highest percentage increase in circulation during the preceding year. The daily award-winner was the *The Bulletin* in Bend, and the weekly newspaper receiving this honor was the *News-Times* in Newport.

ONPA, founded in 1887, is a professional association of the state's daily and nondaily paid circulation newspapers.