

June 7, 2011

Good News Awards Recognize Media

About 65 media professionals, religious leaders and guests from around the Upper Peninsula gathered for the 14th annual Good News Awards luncheon and awards ceremony at Messiah Lutheran Church in Marquette on June 7, 2011. The reporters, photographers and producers in attendance received awards for the positive stories they wrote and programs they produced during 2010.

Since 1998 the Good News Awards have been honoring local works of excellence in broadcasting and print that affirm the dignity of people, recognize and uphold universally-recognized human values, and uplift and nourish the human spirit. The awards are sponsored by the religious leaders of the Episcopal, Evangelical Lutheran, Presbyterian, United Methodist and Catholic Churches in the Upper Peninsula region.

This year the Good News Awards Committee judged 51 entries from 15 U.P. media outlets and distributed 24 Good News Awards and 10 Certificates of Merit to media professionals who were honored at the awards ceremony.

Here are the 2011 Good News Awards by division and category:

Daily Newspapers

Straight News Story:

Good News Award: The Daily Press, Escanaba for "Therapy Dog Spreads Cheer and Joy all Year" (therapy dog accompanies volunteer as he transports veterans to VA hospitals and clinics) by Dorothy McKnight

Certificate of Merit: The Daily Mining Gazette, Houghton for "Helping the Community" (Calumet high school students build ice skating aids) by Kurt Hauglie

Certificate of Merit: The Mining Journal, Marquette for "Guatemalan Connection" (large clothes washer donated to orphanage) by Johanna Boyle

Feature Story:

Good News Award: The Daily Globe, Ironwood for "Care Package" (website helps families who have children with a serious illness) by David Sim

Good News Award: The Daily Press, Escanaba for "Global Worming" (4-H project harvests worm excrement to make fertilizer) by Dorothy McKnight

Certificate of Merit: The Daily Mining Gazette, Houghton for "Blocking out Pain" (Lake Linden-Hubbell football guard Stefan Liimatainen recognized with Gil Heard courageous athlete award) by Brandon Veale

Editorial:

Certificate of Merit: The Daily Globe, Ironwood for “U.S. Receives Unwarranted Criticism...” (for taking charge in Haiti relief efforts) by Joe Karius

Regular Column:

Good News Award: The Daily Mining Gazette, Houghton for “Blood Drives Show Sense of Community” (blood drives an example of people helping each other) by Michael H. Babcock

Good News Award: The Mining Journal, Marquette for “Neighbors Pull Together” (teamwork prevents tragedy by helping lost dog) by Renee Prusi

Photograph:

Good News Award: The Mining Journal, Marquette for “The Hug” (young girl comforts another at t-ball game) by Danielle Pemble

Good News Award: The Daily Globe, Ironwood for “Big Push” (grandpa spends quality time with grandchild) by Annette Manwell

Series:

Good News Award: The Daily Mining Gazette, Houghton for “Lehman Laid to Rest” (the return of World War II sailor Gerald Lehman’s remains from Hawaii to the Copper Country) by Kelly Fosness

Good News Award: The Mining Journal, Marquette for “Grant’s Cancer Battle” (Community and family battle 13-year-old Grant Henriksen’s bone cancer together) by Renee Prusi

Certificate of Merit: The Daily Press, Escanaba for “Family, Friends Remember Elmer” (death of business icon, Elmer Dagenais) by Jenny Lancour

Other Newspapers

Straight News Story:

Good News Award: Marquette Monthly, Marquette for “Library Wins Highest National Honor” (Peter White Public Library wins national medal) by Leslie Bek

Good News Award: Bay Mills News, Brimley for “Tribal Summit Welcomes Larry Echo Hawk to Bay Mills” (Obama administration breaks bread with tribal leader) by Shannon Jones

Feature Story:

Good News Award: Iron County Reporter, Iron River for “Warm Hugs Make their Way from Iron County to the Soo” (quilts made for children orphaned in domestic violence tragedy) by Allyce Westphal

Good News Award: Marquette Monthly, Marquette for “Local Brings Another Product to Market” (David Olilla’s invention – the Marquette Back Country Ski) by Eric C. Hammerstrom (author) and Andy Gregg (photographer)

Good News Award: Bay Mills News, Brimley for “Ancestral Remains Make Journey to Homeland” (Native repatriation) by Sharlene Myers

Certificate of Merit: The Munising News, Munising for “Climbing Kilimanjaro is Hard Enough...” (local, blind, 63-year-old man to climb Mt. Kilimanjaro) by Amanda Ingraham

Editorial:

Certificate of Merit: The Finnish American Reporter, Hancock for “Seems Like Yesterday” (reflections on how Finnish culture in North America has remained prominent throughout the years) by James Kurtti

Photograph:

Good News Award: The Munising News, Munising for “Traditional 4th of July Shower” (summer / July 4 fun in Munising – annual volunteer firefighter water fight) by Amanda Ingraham

Certificate of Merit: Marquette Monthly, Marquette for “Cover photo – Marquette County courthouse” by Tom Buchkoe

Series:

Good News Award: Marquette Monthly, Marquette for “Growing up in the War Years” and “Maggie Linn Discovers Upper Michigan” (Maggie Linn’s life in China and the U.P.) by Kathy Pohl (author) with photos from Maggie Linn, Studio Gallery and Kathleen Conover

Certificate of Merit: The Munising News, Munising for “Biographical Sketch” (biographical sketches of an elderly man, woman and couple living lives of service) by Marilyn Wood

TV Stations

Straight News Story:

Good News Award: WLUC-TV, Marquette for “Kiwanis Ramp” (club builds ramp for elderly lady) by Natalie Jovonovich

Feature Story:

Good News Award: WLUC-TV, Marquette for “Final Wish” (child with illness becomes police officer) by Beth Jones

Program:

Good News Award: WLUC-TV, Marquette for “Spirit of Hiawatha” (Hiawatha Music Festival) by Brian Cabell and Jason Swanson

Series:

Good News Award: WLUC-TV, Marquette for “Hmong Family” (family trying to obtain citizenship gets help) by Noel McLaren

Radio Stations

Straight News Story:

Good News Award: WMQT-FM / 8-18 Media, Marquette for “Empty Bowls” (fundraiser to fight hunger) by Hayley Maskus, 17; Joe Bowers, 15; Glen Ellen Lehmborg, 12; Will Guter, 9; and Julien Malherbe, 9

Feature Story:

Good News Award: WGLI-FM / WCUP-FM, Baraga, for “Rock Camp” (coverage of P.J. Olsson’s rock camp concert) by Mark Wilcox

Good News Award: WMQT-FM / 8-18 Media, Marquette for “Sonatina Saturday” (why teens play piano) by Lane Whitley, 15 and Anna Morrison, 11

Program:

Good News Award: WDBC-AM, Escanaba for “Trails and Tales Outdoors Radio” (youth shooting sports, resources working, and becoming a U.P. forester) by Tim Kobasic

Series:

Certificate of Merit: WNMU-FM, Marquette for “Holiday Readings and Remembrances” (reflections on the holiday season as told by Public Radio 90 listeners) by Stan Wright, Hans Ahlstrom, John Monger, Cindy Paavola, Gretchen Preston and Louis Justman

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