

2006 SPJ Sunshine State Awards Winners

First-, second-, and third-place finishers were announced at the April 29 Sunshine State Awards dinner in Deerfield Beach

ALL MEDIA

James Batten Award for Public Service

1. John Lantigua, Christine Evans, Christine Stapleton; **The Palm Beach Post**; A Cloud Over Florida: Hidden Pesticide Problems
2. Craig Pittman, Matthew Waite; **St. Petersburg Times**; Vanishing Wetlands
3. Sally Kestin, Megan O'Matz, John Maines, Jon Burstein; **South Florida Sun-Sentinel**; FEMA: A Legacy of Waste

NEWSPAPERS & MAGAZINES

Deadline News Reporting – Large

1. Staff; **The Miami Herald**; Terri Schiavo
2. Staff; **The Miami Herald**; Arthur Teele
3. Laura Wides-Munoz, Curt Anderson, Jessica Gresko, Denise Kalette; **The Associated Press**; Plane Crash

Deadline News Reporting – Small

1. Sylvia Lim; **The Bradenton Herald**; Fatal Road Rage
2. Rebecca Blue, Sylvia Lim, Erica Rodriguez; **The Bradenton Herald**; A Family Slain
3. Staff; **The Villages Daily Sun**; Lake County Deputy Killed

Deadline Business Reporting – Large

1. Stephen F. Pounds; **The Palm Beach Post**; ID Theft and Data Merchants
2. David P. Sedore; **The Palm Beach Post**; KL Financial
3. Timothy J. Gibbons; **The Florida Times-Union**; Port Close to Signing Deal With Line

Deadline Business Reporting – Small

1. Tilde Herrera, Dana Sanchez; **The Bradenton Herald**; Brasota Shuts Doors; Investor Stranded
2. Margie Manning, Larry Halstead; **Tampa Bay Business Journal**; Gay Pride Debate
3. John Haughey; **Charlotte Sun/Suncoast Media Group**; Goodwill Celebrates

Non-Deadline Business Reporting – Large

1. Jane Bussey; **The Miami Herald**; The China Squeeze
2. Matthew Haggman; **The Miami Herald**; The Next Battle Line?
3. Kathy Bushouse; **South Florida Sun-Sentinel**; Rates of Confusion

Non-Deadline Business Reporting – Small

1. Duane Marsteller; **The Bradenton Herald**; Tracking Growth
2. Jessica Walker, Peter Zalewski; **Daily Business Review**; Renzi's Way
3. Terry Sheridan; **Daily Business Review**; Come Together

Feature Reporting – Large

1. Christine Evans; **The Palm Beach Post**; Three Babies, Countless Tears
2. Donna Koehn; **The Tampa Tribune**; Invisible Epidemic
3. Francesca Donlan; **The News-Press**; Deanna & Melissa: Everything to Lose

Feature Reporting – Small

1. Peter Gallagher; **Gulfshore Life/CurtCo Media**; Last Stand of the Swamp Creatures
2. Peter Gallagher; **Gulfshore Life/CurtCo Media**; High Times in Everglades City

3. Sylvia Lim; **The Bradenton Herald**; 301 Pond

Gene Miller Award for Investigative Reporting – Large

1. Debbie Cenziper; **The Miami Herald**; Blind Eye
2. Sally Kestin, Megan O'Matz, John Maines, Jon Burstein; **South Florida Sun-Sentinel**; FEMA: A Legacy of Waste
3. Craig Pittman, Matthew Waite; **St. Petersburg Times**; Vanishing Wetlands

Gene Miller Award for Investigative Reporting – Small

1. Donna Wright; **The Bradenton Herald**; Exposing Pollution, Coverup in Tallevast
2. Susan Lundine; **Orlando Business Journal**; Outrageous Insurance Claims
3. Dan Christensen; **Daily Business Review**; The Sheriff Moonlights

Hurricane/Disaster Reporting

1. Sally Kestin, Megan O'Matz, John Maines, Jon Burstein; **South Florida Sun-Sentinel**; FEMA: A Legacy of Waste
2. Marc Caputo; **The Miami Herald**; Gulf Coast Reporting
3. Matt Galnor; **The Florida Times-Union**; Residents of Biloxi Vowing to Rebuild

Civil Law Reporting

1. Paul Pinkham; **The Florida Times-Union**; A Lingerin Debt
2. Steve Ellman, Julie Kay & Harris Meyer; **Daily Business Review**; Deadbeat Doctors
3. Jamie Thompson; **St. Petersburg Times**; What Price for Little Girl's Three Fingers

Criminal Law Reporting

1. Sylvia Lim, Duane Marsteller; **The Bradenton Herald**; Sex Offenders
2. Ian Katz; **South Florida Sun-Sentinel**; Economic/White-Collar Crime Stories
3. Wyatt Olson; **New Times Broward/Palm Beach**; Cybercreep

Medical/Health Care/Science Reporting

1. Steve Ellman, Julie Kay, Harris Meyer; **Daily Business Review**; Deadbeat Doctors
2. Jacob Goldstein, Elisa Turner; **The Miami Herald**; Rebuilding the Brain
3. Stephanie Horvath; **The Palm Beach Post**; How Far Will They Go in Search of a Cure?

Consumer Reporting

1. Steve Thompson; **St. Petersburg Times**; Which is Getting Played?
2. John Dorschner; **The Miami Herald**; Brazilian Pills
3. Lenny Savino; **The Tampa Tribune**; Traffic Tickets

International/War/National Security Reporting

1. Oscar Corral & Alfonso Chardy; **The Miami Herald**; The Posada Story
2. Marice Cohn Band, Nancy San Martin, Steven Dudley, Tyler Bridges; **The Miami Herald**; Land Mines
3. Joe Mozingo; **The Miami Herald**; Haitian Boat People

State & Federal Political/Government Reporting

1. Samuel P. Nitze, Beth Reinhard; **The Miami Herald**; Tax Cows
2. Gary Fineout; **The Miami Herald**; Lobbyists and Tallahassee
3. Greg Martin, John Haughey; **Charlotte Sun/Suncoast Media Group**; Babcock Ranch

Local Political/Government Reporting – Large

1. Bob Norman; **New Times Broward/Palm Beach**; Cash Cow
2. Brittany Wallman; **South Florida Sun-Sentinel**; City Code Sweep
3. Ronnie Greene; **The Miami Herald**; JMH's No-Bid Deals

Local Political/Government Reporting – Small

1. Dan Christensen; **Daily Business Review**; The Sheriff Moonlights
2. Jessica M. Walker; **Daily Business Review**; Election Misfires
3. Curt Hills, Christine Giordano; **The Villages Daily Sun**; Sumter County Waste Woes

Education Reporting

1. Janine Young Sikes, Kristen Kridel, Bob Arndorfer, Jim Ellis; **The Gainesville Sun**; Drinking on Campus Series
2. Wyatt Olson; **New Times Broward/Palm Beach**; The Littlest Felons
3. Ella Naylor; **Charlotte Sun/Suncoast Media Group**; Voluntary Pre-K a Hit

Age Beat Reporting

1. Bob LaMendola, Diane C. Lade; **South Florida Sun-Sentinel**; Medicare Decisions
2. Steve Thompson; **St. Petersburg Times**; Which is Getting Played?
3. Dana Sanchez; **The Bradenton Herald**; Riverpark Going Condo

Social Policy Reporting

1. Nicole White; **The Miami Herald**; Pulling the Plug on School Clinics
2. Karen Feldman; **The News-Press**; Mental Patients Cry for Help
3. Mike Schneider; **The Associated Press**; Farmworker Vehicles

Deadline Sports Reporting – Large

1. Sports Staff; **The Florida Times-Union**; Super Bowl Coverage
2. Steven Wine; **The Associated Press**; Williams Comeback
3. Hal Habib; **The Palm Beach Post**; Dan Marino

Deadline Sports Reporting – Small

1. Staff; **The Villages Daily Sun**; The Villages Gridiron Classic
2. John Fineran; **Charlotte Sun/Suncoast Media Group**; Make it Three; Stewart Masks; Junior Makes; Wallace-Martin
3. Matthew Postins; **Charlotte Sun/Suncoast Media Group**; Riding the A Train; Simms Shines; Hall Has Solid Day

Non-Deadline Sports Reporting – Large

1. Steven Wine; **The Associated Press**; Boys of Summer
2. Mike Freeman; **The Florida Times-Union**; First Family's Tale
3. Dan DeLuca; **The News-Press**; Camp Riverdale

Non-Deadline Sports Reporting – Small

1. Carl Cronan; **Tampa Bay Business Journal**; Manchester United
2. Douglas Kaid, Ron Borresen, Matt Griswold, Loren Nelson; **The Bradenton Herald**; The Coming Ice Age
3. Don Hunsberger, Mike Wright, Burke Noel; **The Villages Daily Sun**; A League of Their Own

Spanish-Language Publication

1. La Palma Staff; **La Palma**
2. El Sentinel Staff; **El Sentinel** (Orlando)
3. Orlando Nieves, Manuel Ballagas, Giovanni Gutierrez; **Centro Mi Diario**

Trade/Special Interest Publication

1. Staff; **Lakeland Magazine**
2. Cindy Pierce, Garth Francis, Dave Anderson; **Grandeur**
3. Latin Finance Editorial Staff; **LatinFinance**

Editorials – Large

1. David Wiggins; **Daytona Beach News-Journal**
2. Joe Adams; **The Florida Times-Union**

3. Michael P. Clark; **The Florida Times-Union**

Editorials – Small

1. Ken Cogburn; **Orlando Business Journal**
2. David Klement; **The Bradenton Herald**
3. No award

Editorial Cartooning

1. Jeff Parker; **Florida Today**
2. Paul Combs; **The Tampa Tribune**
3. Chan Lowe; **South Florida Sun-Sentinel**

Religion Reporting

1. Jamie Malernee; **South Florida Sun-Sentinel**; God Called, She Answered
2. Cary McMullen; **The Ledger**; Heaven
3. Michelle Bearden; **The Tampa Tribune**; Sobering Decisions

Real Estate Reporting

1. Staff; **The Palm Beach Post**; Mapping the Boom: A Virtual Open House
2. Matthew Haggman, Andres Viglucci; **The Miami Herald**; High Rises, High Hopes
3. Gina Edwards; **Naples Daily News**; Fast Bucks

Environmental Reporting

1. Greg Martin & John Haughey; **Charlotte Sun/Suncoast Media Group**; Babcock Ranch
2. Pamela Smith Hayford, Doug Hartman; **The News-Press**; Pollution, Too Much Water Spoil Our River
3. Donna Wright, Scott Radway; **The Bradenton Herald**; Tallevast: A Polluted Community

Arts Reporting

1. Kirk Nielsen; **Miami New Times**; Fake Art, Real Money
2. Amanda Henry; **The Tampa Tribune**; Truth and Beauty
3. Donna Hartman; **The Bradenton Herald**; Controversial Bodies Exhibit

Criticism

1. Jay Handelman; **Sarasota Herald Tribune**; Theater criticism
2. Michael Fortuna; **The Villages Daily Sun**; Music criticism
3. Richard Storm; **SARASOTA Magazine/CurtCo Media**; Architecture criticism

Travel Writing

1. Jane Wooldridge; **The Miami Herald**; The New Vietnam
2. Leonard Pitts, Jr.; **The Miami Herald**; Sad Songs in Hell
3. Dan Warner; **The News-Press**; City of Love

Humorous Column Writing/Commentary

1. Ana Menendez; **The Miami Herald**
2. Steve Schneider ; **Orlando Weekly**
3. Kemila Velan; **Biscayne Boulevard Times**

Serious Column Writing/Commentary

1. Leonard Pitts, Jr.; **The Miami Herald**
2. Ana Menendez; **The Miami Herald**
3. Anita Kumar; **St. Petersburg Times**

Sports Commentary

1. Ray McNulty; **Scripps Treasure Coast Newspapers**; Super Attitude Helps Battle Life's Tragedies

2. Martin Fennelly; **The Tampa Tribune**; No Answers, Only Holes in Hearts
3. Joe Henderson; **The Tampa Tribune**; Sexton's Plight Should Be Put in Perspective

NEWSPAPER & MAGAZINE COPY EDITING, PHOTOGRAPHY & GRAPHICS

Breaking News Photography – Large

1. John David Emmett; **The News-Press**; Woman Mourns After Fire
2. Gary Coronado, Damon Higgins, Greg Lovett, Lannis Waters; **The Palm Beach Post**; Hurricane Katrina - From Florida to New Orleans
3. Carl Seibert; **South Florida Sun-Sentinel**; Resting in the Rubble

Breaking News Photography – Small

1. Brian Blanco; **The Bradenton Herald**; Road Rage
2. Sarah Coward; **Charlotte Sun/Suncoast Media Group**; Tornado Touches Down
3. Bill Mitchell; **The Villages Daily Sun**; Lady Lake Standoff

Sports Action Photography

1. Allen Eyestone; **The Palm Beach Post**
2. Tracy Boulian; **Naples Daily News**
3. Susan Tiller; **Daytona Beach News-Journal**

Feature Photography

1. Lexey Swall; **Naples Daily News**; A Slow Goodbye
2. Darron R. Silva; **Naples Daily News**; Havana
3. Robert Mayer; **South Florida Sun-Sentinel**; Atlantic Ocean at Sunrise

Art/Photo Illustration

1. Bob Mack; **The Florida Times-Union**; Golf's Fab Four
2. Pam Shavaliar; **New Times Broward/Palm Beach**; Learning Curves
3. Jim Tiller; **Daytona Beach News-Journal**; Selected illustrations

Front-Page Design – Large

1. Phil Diokno, Derek Hembd, Monty Zickuhr; **The Florida Times-Union**; A Man of Faith
2. Fred Stone, Greg Williams; **The Tampa Tribune**; Duty, Honor, Equality
3. Steve Antley, DeWayne Wilson; **The Ledger**; V-E Day

Front-Page Design – Small

1. Emily Mendez; **La Palma**; The Legacy of Pope John Paul
2. Heather Weinsheimer; **The Villages Daily Sun**; No More Winter Blues
3. Heather Weinsheimer; **The Villages Daily Sun**; Lifetime of Service

Local Front Design

1. Larry Sullivan; **The Tampa Tribune**; Body Language
2. Staff; **Daytona Beach News-Journal**; Sounds of Summer
3. Harry Broertjes; **The Miami Herald**; Going Fourth in Style

Business Front Design – Large

1. Laurie Lawrence; **The Ledger**
2. Jay Rose; **The Palm Beach Post**
3. Michael Winter, Carol Parker; **The Tampa Tribune**

Business Front Design – Small

1. Brent Conklin; **The Bradenton Herald**
2. Herald Staff; **The Bradenton Herald**
3. Stacy Shervan; **South Florida Business Journal**

Feature Front Design – Large

1. Kiely Agliano; **The Tampa Tribune**
2. Lindi Daywalt, Javier Torres, Andrew West, Adriana Purcell; **The News-Press**
3. Sherry Hutchinson; **The Tampa Tribune**

Feature Front Design – Small

1. Ron Borresen; **The Bradenton Herald**
2. Giancarlo Rodriguez; **The Bradenton Herald**
3. Matt Fry; **The Villages Daily Sun**

Sports Front Design – Large

1. Traci Long; **The Tampa Tribune**
2. Sports Staff; **The Florida Times-Union**
3. Jim Holliman; **The Tampa Tribune**

Sports Front Design – Small

1. Jason Bartolone; **The Bradenton Herald**
2. Ron Borresen; **The Bradenton Herald**
3. Matthew Postins; **Charlotte Sun/Suncoast Media Group**

Informational Graphics/Special Page Design

1. Hiram Henriquez; **South Florida Sun-Sentinel**; Aquarius
2. Michael Donlan; **The News-Press**; Gateway to Paradise
3. Michael Donlan; **The News-Press**; Making a Connection

Graphic Design

1. Matt Tarr; **The News-Press**
2. Dennis Lowe; **Florida Today**
3. Kori Rumore; **Naples Daily News**

Headline Writing

1. Steven McGrath; **South Florida Sun-Sentinel**
2. Josh Korr; **St. Petersburg Times**
3. No award

BROADCAST

Deadline Reporting – Television

1. News Staff; **WFTS-TV/ABC Action News**; Hurricane Wilma
2. WFTV Staff; **WFTV-TV**; Lake County Deputy Shot
3. WFTV Staff; **WFTV-TV**; Mayor Indicted

Feature Reporting – Television

1. Kelley Dunn, Charlene B. Maville; **WPTV NewsChannel 5**; Driveway Danger
2. Berndt Petersen, Oscar Carrillo; **WFTV-TV**; Female Boxer
3. Berndt Petersen; **WFTV-TV**; Lake County Cold Case

Deadline Sports Reporting – Television

1. Fox 13 Sports; **WTVT-TV Fox 13**; Chip Carter's Tailgate Sunday
2. No award
3. No award

Sports Feature/Commentary – Television

1. Angela Jacobs, Devin Marshall; **WTSP-TV**; One Mile at a Time

2. Chris O'Connell, Jason McDowell, Jeff Joiner; **Bay News 9**; Sports Boot Camp Spoof
3. Dan Hicken, Mike Kaminski, Chad Cushnir; **First Coast News**; Desire Street

Investigative Reporting – Television

1. Jackelyn Barnard, Paul King; **First Coast News**; Secret City
2. Jennifer Santiago, Jeremy Fisher; **CBS4 News**; Return to Haiti
3. Patricia Andreu, Scott Zamost, Felix Castro; **WTVJ-TV**; Money for Nothing

Criminal Justice Reporting – Television

1. Tony Pipitone, Darran Caudle, Scott Noland, Eileen Gilmer; **WKMG-TV**; Search for Justice
2. Patricia Andreu, Scott Zamost, Felix Castro, Ed Garcia; **WTVJ-TV**; Picture of Deception
3. Jackelyn Barnard, Paul King; **First Coast News - WTLV/WJXX-TV**; Mayport Abuse

Hurricane/Disaster Reporting – Television

1. Bonnie Hill; **WPTV-TV**; Hurricane Wilma's Wrath
2. News Department; **WPLG-TV**; A Summer of Storms
3. Alan Winfield, Mike Clay, Juli Marquez, Josh Linker; **Bay News 9**; Hurricane Season 2004: A Look Back

Consumer Reporting – Television

1. Travis Sherwin, Stephen Stock, Shannon Fitzpatrick, Marc Rice; **WESH-TV**; Ford Fires
2. No award
3. No award

International/War/National Security Reporting – Television

1. Keith Cate, Michael Egger; **WFLA-TV**; War Stories - Germany
2. Mark Wilson, Coy Hopson, Otto Contreras; **WTVT Fox-13**; FOXWATCH: On the Front Lines
3. Laurie Davison, Eddie Jackson; **Bay News 9**; Marine Training

Political/Government Reporting – Television

1. Josh Wilson, Jeff Harwood; **WFTV-TV**; Siplin Investigation
2. No award
3. No award

Education Reporting – Television

1. Dalia Dangerfield, Efrem Sanchez; **Bay News 9**; Class Size Crisis
2. Isabel Mascareñas, Gene Yagle; **WTSP-TV**; Teen Sex: The Truth
3. Anna Tataris, Eddie Jackson; **Bay News 9**; Peanut Butter Ban

Spanish-Language Newscast – Television

No entries

Public Affairs Program – Television

1. Robin Roy, Ken Jefferson; **WWSB-TV**; Toxic Tallevast
2. WFLA News & Weather Teams; **WFLA-TV**; 2005 Hurricane Season – Are you ready?
3. Matt Parcell, Bruce Wiley, Margaret Norman; **WFTV-TV**; Open Hearts, Open Doors

Newscast – Television

1. Staff; **WFOR-TV**; CBS4 News
2. Neil Boling; **WFLA-TV**; News Channel 8 at 6
3. Leslie Coursey, Jefferson Houston; **WTEV-TV**; CBS47 News@11

Deadline Reporting – Radio

1. Michael Hibblen; **WLRN-Miami Herald News**; Art Teele Suicide
2. Steve Newborn; **WUSF Public Broadcasting**; Al-Arian Terrorism Trial
3. No award

Feature Reporting – Radio

1. Bobbie O'Brien; **WUSF Public Broadcasting**; Looking for Angola
2. Chris Hosken; **WFSU-FM**; 387 Miles From Home: One Katrina Evacuee's Story
3. Steve Newborn; **WUSF Public Broadcasting**; The Perlman Music Program

Public Affairs Program – Radio

1. Pat Duggins, Judith Smelser, Richard Paul; **WMFE-FM**; Countdown Discovery
2. No award
3. No award

Spanish-Language Newscast – Radio

No entries

Newscast – Radio

1. Phil Latzman, Michael Hibblen, Rhonda Victor, Irina Lallemand; **WLRN-Miami Herald News**; Bracing for Wilma
2. Carson Cooper & WUSF 89.7 News Team; **WUSF Public Broadcasting**; WUSF Morning News
3. Susan Giles Wantuck & WUSF 89.7 News Team; **WUSF Public Broadcasting**; WUSF Afternoon

STUDENTS

College Journalist of the Year

Adrianna Rodriguez, **University of Florida**

INTERNET

News Web Site

1. Staff; **TBO.com**
2. Chris Boex, Steven Kelly-Schwarzkopf; **WFTS.com**
3. Staff; **HeraldTribune.com**