

2021 HSPA FOUNDATION BETTER NEWSPAPER CONTEST

SPECIAL AWARDS

Special awards may or may not be given annually at the judges' discretion. • No points toward General Excellence.

Upload entry components at www.newspapercontest.com/hspa

29. Charlie Biggs Commitment to Community Award

"The Charlie" honors a veteran Indiana newspaper person who embodies their community in every sense of the word.

It's named for the late Charlie Biggs, former publisher of The Hope Star- Journal who, not only loved his hometown, but wrote about it, talked about it and took part in its life.

The HSPA Newsroom Seminar Committee, of which Biggs was a long-time member and former chair, created this award to recognize others who serve as he did.

To make a nomination, upload a written statement explaining how your nominee meets the following criteria: writes or publishes stories about the community served; is involved in the life of the community; demonstrates making a difference in the community through journalistic efforts and serves/served a considerable length of time in the industry.

Previous winners of "The Charlie" are not eligible.

30. Ray Moscowitz Award

Created in 1998 for longtime Indiana journalist Raymond Moscowitz, this award honors those who foster the advancement of the First Amendment, recognizing journalistic achievement by a newspaper person or persons who succeeded in improving government transparency.

Moscowitz, who passed away in June 2016, served as editor and publisher of several newspapers during his career. He spent 29 years with Nixon Newspapers Inc., the last 10 as editorial director overseeing the company's 12 newspapers. In 2001, he was named Print Journalist of the Year by Western Kentucky University and then, in 2002, he was inducted into the Indiana Journalism Hall of Fame.

To submit a nomination, upload a letter and supporting material (stories, editorials, letters to the editor, etc.) to show how the nominee opened records of public agencies or meetings of state or local government bodies or lifted a veil of secrecy.

31. Frank O'Bannon Sunshine Award

This award is presented to an individual, group or organization that has demonstrated outstanding efforts to protect and enhance the concepts of open government in Indiana. While not limited to public officials, HSPA hopes to recognize worthy elected officials or public employees through this award. HSPA also wants to recognize citizens who actively push for government transparency.

This award is named after the late Indiana governor who was an advocate of the people's right to know throughout his political career.

Nominees may be:

- Citizens who worked to ensure the Open Door Law or Access to Public Records Act are followed in their community.

- Local or state officials who remained true to the philosophy of open-ness despite pressure to act in secret.

Nomination guidelines:

- An individual or an entire neighborhood organization, city or town council, or state agency may be nominated.

- The actions warranting recognition may have occurred in the past year, or the nomination may recognize years of work that exemplify open government and public participation in the process.

Upload a letter of recommendation and any supporting documents.

DEADLINE=5 p.m. February 11, 2021 • QUESTIONS? Call (317) 803-4772 or email goldsbys@hspa.com