

Discussions on local news				
Criteria	Ratings			Pts
Post and comment time	Post and comment are both submitted by their respective deadlines. 2.0pts	Either the post or comment was submitted late. 1.0pts	Neither the post nor the comment was submitted on time. 0.0pts	2.0pts
Writing mechanics	Post and comment both contain accurate grammar and spelling. 2.0pts	Some spelling and grammatical errors are present in either the post or comment. 1.0pts	Either the post or comment is unintelligible because of grammatical and spelling errors. 0.0pts	2.0pts
Content	Selected news story is both local (i.e. of interest to a specific geographic area) and newsworthy within that area. It is more than a feature story or sports recap. There is bona fide news value to the story. 2.0pts	Story is either lacking in news value or relevancy to a local area. 1.0pts	Story is neither newsworthy nor local. 0.0pts	2.0pts
Civility	Comment response on a news story follows the central guideline of human decency and the golden rule: do unto others as you would have them do unto you. 2.0pts	While the comment is thoughtful or informative, it takes a negative tact with either sarcasm or an otherwise unhelpful slant. 1.0pts	Comment is nasty, libelous, and worthy of deletion. 0.0pts	2.0pts
Response quality	Content of response engenders critical thinking and a more thoughtful perspective about the news story by asking questions or sharing relevant insight. 2.0pts	Response may offer worthwhile information but is either insubstantial or too long, winding and incoherent. 1.0pts	Response is flippant and far beneath the 100-word minimum. 0.0pts	2.0pts
Total Points: 10.0				