

America's Newspapers

NEWSPAPERS.ORG



January 7, 2022

Rex Rust — co-president of Rust Communications — dies at age 52



Rex Dearmont Rust died Thursday evening after a yearlong battle with cancer

He will be remembered for his community involvement, leadership, charitable work and positive, energetic personality.

He was a former president of Inland Press Association and contributed much to the newspaper industry.

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Victor Hanson II, father of former SNPA president Victor Hanson III, dies at age 91

Victor Hanson II, former publisher of The Birmingham (Alabama) News and the head of an editorial board that won the newspaper's first Pulitzer Prize for editorials in 1991, died today. He was 91.

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THE WATERGATE HOTEL
MARCH 8-9, 2022
LEGISLATIVE FLY-IN

America's Newspapers to host Washington, D.C., legislative fly-in in March

An informational webinar will be held for those attending the fly-in to provide guidance in setting legislative appointments, answer questions

The efforts to pass the Local Journalism Sustainability Act demonstrated the power and influence of newspaper industry leaders engaging directly with their government representatives. To further our advocacy efforts, America's Newspapers will host its first legislative fly-in in Washington, D.C., March 8 and 9.

A legislative fly-in is a unique opportunity to meet with elected officials to emphasize the issues that impact not just the newspaper industry, but also their constituents at home.

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Join us April 10-12 for the Mega-Conference: the premier event for the news media industry

Conference attendees should register at one of the following links. Sponsorship information is available from Patty Slusher: pslusher@newspapers.org.

Newspaper and Media Executives
register here

Industry Vendors and Solutions
Partners register here

[VIEW the preliminary conference agenda](#)

[LEARN MORE at mega-conference.com](#)

Registration Open!
Lowest Rate for a Limited Time



April 10-12, 2022
JW Marriott Bonnet Creek Resort
at Disney World

Call for entries:
Mega-Innovation Award to be presented in Orlando

Tell us about your best innovation from 2021!

*All entries must be submitted by 11 p.m. (CST)
on Friday, Feb. 25.*

*Entry period for this year's contest:
Calendar year 2021*

With the return of the Mega-Conference, America's Newspapers will be presenting the Mega-Innovation Award again in 2022! This honor will be awarded at the Mega-Conference to a media company, newspaper or corporate office that best represents innovation in the industry. We encourage you to submit a nomination and share your best innovations!



Three finalists will present their innovations at the Mega-Conference. The conference registration fee will be waived for one representative from each finalist company who makes the presentation.

In addition, the GRAND PRIZE winner will receive \$500, a beautiful plaque and recognition by industry peers!

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Industry people

Belinda Mills named publisher of Eastern Arizona Courier, Copper Era

Belinda Mills, a publishing veteran who has worked at newspapers across the Southwest, has been named publisher of the Eastern Arizona Courier and Copper Era.

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The Columbus Dispatch: Kelly Lecker named interim editor, Eugene Jackson market leader as Alan Miller retires

Managing Editor Kelly Lecker has been named interim editor of The Columbus (Ohio) Dispatch, and Eugene Jackson, vice president of sales and marketing for Ohio for LocallQ and the USA TODAY Network, will be the market leader for Dispatch operations in Columbus upon the retirement of Alan D. Miller.

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Ross McDuffie named president of Madison Media Partners

Ross McDuffie, a veteran digital media and publishing executive, has been named president of Madison Media Partners, the digital media and full-service marketing company that produces the Wisconsin State Journal, madison.com and The Capital Times.

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What we're reading

France fines Google, Facebook millions over tracking consent

French regulators on Thursday fined Google and Facebook a total of more than 200 million euros (\$226 million) for not making it as easy for people to opt out of online tracking as it is for them to accept it.

The CNIL data privacy watchdog said its investigations found that while the U.S. online giants gave French users a single button to immediately accept cookies, there wasn't an equally simple way for them to

We will not be running comics in the Craig Press going forward



Anything can change in the future, but at least for 2022, that's a decision we've made as an entity, and it's one that we understand might not be popular with those who love the Funnies. ...

Truly, I mourn the end of an era in Craig, and I hear those of you who likely mourn with me. But as all these changes I've mentioned above have come about, so too

decline because “several clicks are required to refuse all cookies.”

[READ MORE from The Associated Press](#)

Opinion: The rise of a pro-democracy media

America’s news media is increasingly covering the growing radicalism of the Republican Party and its democracy-eroding behavior. That’s a welcome shift. But it still isn’t going far enough.

The media has long had a problematic “both sides” approach to covering politics. After Donald Trump became president, the media couldn’t avoid covering him very negatively. So the press essentially adopted a modified version of both sides, implying that Trump was an outlier but the two parties were otherwise fairly similar. Then came the attempt to overturn the 2020 election results, culminating in the Jan. 6. attack on the Capitol, all of which proved decisively that it wasn’t just Trump — much of the Republican Party was willing to break with core democratic values to hold power.

[READ MORE from The Washington Post](#)

has the news industry changed. And here’s the truth.

We’ve got to be as lean and mean a news-publishing machine as we possibly can be. We’ve got to drive all our resources into gathering the important and critical local and regional news that we endeavor to deliver every Wednesday and Friday in print and every day online. We have a long way to go to be everything we ought to be, but the sad truth is that providing one of frankly dozens of ways just to read the daily comics, much less the thousands of ways to find a moment of Frank and Ernest-type chuckles in your daily entertainment regimen, is not in the interest of getting to those lofty and crucial goals.

[READ MORE from Cuyler Meade, editor of the Craig Press](#)



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America's Newspapers Calendar



April 9-10 - Family Owners and Next Generation Leadership Meeting Orlando, Florida (in conjunction with the Mega-Conference). Details coming soon.

April 10 - Inaugural Leadership Training, Orlando, Florida (in conjunction with the Mega-Conference). Details coming soon.

April 10-12 - [News Industry Mega-Conference](#), Orlando, Florida

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Keep up with the latest news, schedule of upcoming events and other information specifically for the newspaper industry. Learn more about America’s Newspapers at www.newspapers.org. And connect with us on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#) and [LinkedIn](#).

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