March 17, 2020

COVID-19 Updates

These past two weeks have been difficult — in everyone’s personal and professional lives. But, in the midst of chaos, we know that there are inspiring stories of how your staffs have responded.

Share a great story with us today: a story that will bring encouragement to your fellow members of America’s Newspapers and will honor the hard work that your team is doing.

Send your story to cdurham@newspapers.org and we’ll post it here: http://www.newspapers.org/americas-newspapers/coronavirus/

Below are just a few of the latest stories posted on our website.

Newspapers declared 'essential services,' exempt from San Francisco’s Shelter in Place edict

Newspapers, television, radio and other media services were listed among the essential services that are exempt from a Shelter in Place order set out by the City and County of San Francisco Department of Public Health, in recognition of the critical importance of reporting by a free and independent press during crises like this.

READ MORE

In U.S. epicenter for COVID-19, Seattle Times empties its newsroom

“For the first time ever, every newsroom employee is working remotely from home, as are all company employees who are able to do so,” Seattle Times Executive Editor Michele Matassa Flores reported to readers Sunday, March 15.

READ MORE
Read more on our website:

- At Chicago dailies, COVID-19 comes into one HQ and another tries a one-day remote newsroom experiment
- The Pilot: 'We exist for moments like this'
- Story ideas, leadership and points to ponder
- Flash grants of up to $50K are now available for fact-checkers fighting coronavirus misinformation (Poynter)
- USA TODAY launches special section dedicated to the nation's health amid coronavirus outbreak
- Resources for Reporters (First Draft)
- Additional coverage is available at www.newspapers.org/americas-newspapers/coronavirus/

Industry News

Sunshine Week in a pandemic

"As a practical matter, the watchdog role most often falls to newspapers or other media outlets that cover government," a Sunshine Week column in The Sentinel-Record, Hot Springs, Ark., notes.

"That's particularly true in the current environment where every responsible news outlet is trying to keep people informed about COVID-19. They're using every means possible, including FOI laws, to track what different governments are doing and to get that story to the public.

"Those reporters will be the ones following up later, too, to hold government officials accountable for how they dealt with this evolving crisis."

The People of America's Newspapers

Daily Herald publisher to leave newspaper April 3

Keith Ponder, publisher of The Daily Herald in Columbia, Tennessee, will be leaving the newspaper following a management restructuring by Gannett.

In other news:

- Darrell Richardson leaving The Oak Ridger at end of the month
- Leadership transition announced at Canton Repository
- Leadership changes taking place in Jacksonville, N.C.

Recruiting & Building Team-Based Sales Models

Laurie Kahn to lead two-part webinar, beginning March 25

Competition is high to attract, hire and retain needed sales talent, and many industries are changing to a more "team-based" sales model.

This model is gaining a high amount of success, especially since younger generations are projected to have lower tenure than the previous
In Part 1 of this two-part series, Laurie Kahn will share different team models, who would benefit, how it helps to hire in all market sizes, plus compensation ideas. Learn what others are doing to win in this war for talent.

Newspaper in Texas has two job openings in the newsroom

Members of America’s Newspapers encouraged to post job openings with us — at no cost

Read about the job openings in Denton, Texas, as well as openings at other member newspapers.

2020 Annual Meeting:
The famed Watergate Hotel in Washington, D.C., will be the site of the 2020 Annual Meeting of America’s Newspapers. The conference will be held Oct. 4-6 and registration will open in the spring.

Free Webinars:
- **The Sales Team of the Future** (March 25)
- **Finding New 2020 Revenue Inside the Mountain of Political Spending** (April 7)
- **How to Build a Talent Acquisition Program to Attract Sellers Today and Tomorrow** (April 8)
- **Around the Newspaper Legal World in 60 Minutes** (April 9)


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](http://www.newspapers.org). And connect with us on [Twitter](http://Twitter), [Facebook](http://Facebook) and [LinkedIn](http://LinkedIn).