

America's Newspapers

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Weekend Wrap-Up of News



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Paxton Media Group acquires Landmark Community Newspapers LLC

Paxton Media Group has acquired Landmark Community Newspapers LLC, a chain of daily and weekly newspapers based in Shelbyville, Kentucky. The deal, which was finalized this week, includes the purchase of all 46 newspapers in the Landmark chain.

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**KNIGHT
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New study: What people tell us about their news habits when they're not being asked

New Gallup-Knight research explores results from NewsLens — an experimental platform and news aggregator first developed in 2017 to facilitate novel research on how people interact with the news online in a manner that offers insights to academics, technology policymakers and journalists.

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Small-town newspapers may be disappearing but the need for news remains

Local newspapers have been the backbone of communities in the U.S. for over 200 years, but during the last 20 years, they've virtually disappeared. Laurie Sigillito of Durango, Colorado, has decided to do something about both problems by creating the Local News Network with the goal of rebuilding local news outlets across the U.S., one town at a time.

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**News for Locals.
By Locals.**

Don't miss out on early-bird rates for in-person America's Newspapers conference in October

America's Newspapers

20 SENIOR LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE 21

THE BROADMOOR | COLORADO SPRINGS

IN PERSON OCTOBER 17-19

The Family Owners & Next Generation Leadership Conference

also will be held at The Broadmoor, with a dinner Friday evening, Oct. 15, and conference sessions on Saturday, Oct. 16. Registration for the Family Owners meeting will begin soon.

The **hotel reservation link for our room block** will be sent to you after your [conference registration](#) has been received.

Early-bird rates available for very limited time

Registration fees for the in-person America's Newspapers Senior Leadership Conference, set for October 17-19 in Colorado Springs, are at their lowest right now. Register early before costs increase after June 15.

[Newspaper executives and journalism educators can register early at this link.](#) Registration for our Solutions Partners will begin soon.

Discounts are available for newspaper attendees who commit to taking part in six roundtable discussions on Monday afternoon with our Solutions Partners. Discounts also are available to newspapers that send five or more people from the same location and commit to participating in the six roundtables.

[LEARN MORE](#)

What we're reading this week

Congress, pay heed: Aussie policy working to save news

Something remarkable is happening with local news in Australia, and the U.S. Congress should take note.

Three months after Australia passed a groundbreaking policy, forcing Google and Facebook to compensate news outlets for content, it appears to be a resounding success. ...

There's a U.S. proposal similar to Australia's, the [Journalism Competition and Preservation Act](#), with [bipartisan support](#) in Congress. It calls for a temporary antitrust exemption allowing news organizations to collectively bargain with platforms, giving publishers and broadcasters more heft.

But so far, the JCPA lacks the teeth making Australia's policy work especially well.

[READ MORE from The Seattle Times](#)



Local newspapers can help reduce polarization with opinion pages that focus on local issues

If you're confused about opinion journalism and what it is, you're not alone. Many Americans are. But even so, the editorials, opinion columns and letters to the editor that fill the op-ed pages could help bridge political divides in the U.S. and offer some help to struggling local news outlets.

[READ MORE from Johanna Dunaway of Texas A&M University](#)

Industry people

Scott C. Schurz, chairman emeritus of Schurz Communications, Inc. dies



Scott C. Schurz, died Monday, May 24, in Belleair, Florida, surrounded by family and following a recent stroke. He was 85 years old. Schurz was chairman emeritus of Schurz Communications, Inc.

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New leadership team appointed at State Journal in Frankfort

A new leadership team has been appointed for The State Journal in Frankfort, Kentucky. Steve Stewart, who is stepping down as publisher, announced the promotions of Chanda Veno, Meri Latek, Sheri Bunker and Austin Horn, who collectively will lead day-to-day operations.

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Meet Marcia Pledger, Times-Union's new opinion and engagement editor

Marcia Pledger, a former financial journalist and columnist for the Cleveland Plain Dealer, has been named The Florida Times-Union's new opinion and engagement editor. She is the first woman and the first Black journalist in the position last served by Mike Clark, who retired in 2020.

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More news about industry people

[Creston News Advertiser publisher ends newspaper career](#)

[Newspapers of New England announces leadership changes](#)

[Mather announces new additions to the senior management team](#)

[Madeline Westberg promoted to ME of the Herald Independent & Thistle](#)

[Robert Brown joins Medill as director of diversity, equity, inclusion and outreach](#)

[UF Consortium on Trust in Media and Technology announces next class of Trust Scholars](#)

Two free webinars: June 3 and 4

Instagram has quickly become a medium to

With resources stretched thinner than ever,

share impactful, visual stories around the world. What began as a friendly photo-sharing app is now the way one in 10 Americans first hear about breaking news (Pew, 2020).

In this session, we'll give you some tips and tools to best share stories on the Instagram platform, as well as lots of examples of accounts to follow that are using it well. If you already have an Instagram account, bring your phone and open up the app to follow along with hands-on tutorials.

[Register FREE](#)

it's never been more important for newsrooms to focus on automation, where possible.

In this session, Matt Larson of Our-Hometown will describe some of the turnkey ways publishers are automating marketing and content creation on WordPress. He will discuss the plugins used to create recurring subscriptions, automate newsletter marketing and auto-post article links to social media. He also will present case studies from publishers using computer-generated audio content to automatically turn their newspaper into a podcast.

[Register FREE](#)

Members of America's Newspapers can register free for these webinars (as part of their membership) by entering code NEWSROCKS at registration.

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America's Newspapers Calendar



FREE WEBINAR - How to Effectively Use Instagram for Storytelling - June 3
[LEARN MORE](#)

FREE WEBINAR - Using Automation to Increase Audience Revenue and Engagement - June 4 [LEARN MORE](#)

Annual Meeting / Senior Leadership Conference - Oct. 17-19
Live and In-Person at The Broadmoor in Colorado Springs

This meeting will focus on charting the future for newspapers and will provide safe settings for discussions and connections with other senior executives from across the industry. [LEARN MORE](#)

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