A News Desert in a University City

Ann Arbor, MI, a city of 125,000 and home of the University of Michigan has NO daily print newspaper. Local news is covered by student reporters from the University’s Daily. In some areas of the country, high school student journalists are providing coverage of local events. One example is our own Ryan Doucette, a junior at BHS, who is now covering meetings of the Selectmen, the Finance Committee, and Capital Expenditures, to name a few. Ryan has proven to be an astute observer of town affairs and a capable writer who “turns around’ his copy within hours, literally, of a meeting. His work is then copy-edited and posted in timely fashion in The Bedford Citizen. Who knows, if Ryan decides on a journalism career, he may end up covering civic events in the college town where he is a student.


Pulitzer Center Announces 2019 Connected Coastlines Grantees

The Pulitzer Center is aiding newsrooms and independent journalists across the country in reporting on the effects of climate change on U.S. coastal populations.

Of particular local interest is the reporting on Cape Cod.

- David Abel will report on the effect of warming waters on the endangered North Atlantic right whales for both a feature-length documentary and The Boston Globe.
- Nestor Ramos, Anush Elbakyan, John Tlumacki and a team of journalists at The Boston Globe have produced a major multimedia project examining the effects of climate change on Cape Cod’s wildlife, shoreline, property, fishing industry and other livelihoods. The Pulitzer Center created a free curriculum for K-12 schools based on the reporting and is partnering with The Globe on community forums in Boston and on the Cape featuring reporters, scientists, and students.

Read more about the project: https://pulitzercenter.org/blog/pulitzer-center-announces-2019-connected-coastlines-grantees

The Pulitzer Center on Crisis Reporting is an award-winning non-profit journalism organization dedicated to supporting in-depth reporting and public engagement with under-reported global and local issues.

The Pros and Cons of Getting to Know Your Readers Better (Columbia Journalism Review)

By Mathew Ingram
... many publishers seem to be trying to get to know their readers better. The New York Times has started asking its readers to tell the paper a bit more about themselves, using a web form posted at its Reader Center. The Times asks readers to share their name, email address, phone number, Twitter and Instagram handles with the paper, as well as their age, occupation and hometown. It goes on to ask readers to share their race and religious background, their ethnicity and gender, how they identify politically, and whether they are married, single, divorced, childless, and so on.

**Getting to know you?**

The Times (and other papers asking for personal information) say reader input helps them produce better journalism. Would Citizen readers want to share their personal information?

Read more here: [https://www.cjr.org/hero/newspapers-reader-data.php](https://www.cjr.org/hero/newspapers-reader-data.php)