

# Columbia Journalism Review.

## Local News Special Issue

### Editorial Focus

Local news is experiencing deepening challenges in funding its journalism and operations amid a shifting news environment. In this special report, CJR reviews the news desert problem, a dearth of local news sources in many areas, and the “donut effect,” big-time journalists remember their hometown papers, and more.

### Stories Include:

- National outlets like *The New York Times* and *The Washington Post* are turning their attention back to local stories as demand for coverage grows. What’s their strategy, and will they succeed?
- How two email newsletters, *The Miami Tropic* and *Evergrey*, have upended the traditional local news business model and found an audience with millennials.
- *BuzzFeed*’s Ben Smith on whether local news should be subsidized.
- Columbia’s Emily Bell explores Facebook’s complicated relationship with local outlets.
- *The Lakota Country Times*, South Dakota’s only “official” Native American newspaper, watched as a nation of journalists descended upon their insulated community to cover Standing Rock, and then rapidly withdrew.
- *The New York Daily News* invited skeptical readers into the newsroom to see how journalism gets made. We find out whether their experiment paid off.



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