

Holocaust project looks at US newspapers

BY SEAN D. HAMILL
PITTSBURGH POST-GAZETTE

When Beth Moody saw a recent ad on Facebook that the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum was asking “citizen historians” to crowdsource articles about the Holocaust from 1933 to 1945 from local newspapers, she didn’t hesitate.

“I was already researching my family’s history through the Altoona [Pennsylvania] paper and figured I’d just look up these [Holocaust] events at the same time,” said Ms. Moody, 55, of Wilkensburg, who is a Title 1 reading teacher at the Shuman Juvenile Detention Center.

Ms. Moody put in six hours over two days looking for articles on Newspapers.com from the now-defunct Altoona Tribune. She found stories related to six of the 20 Holocaust-related events the museum is asking people to look for.

It was what she did not find that will probably get the attention of the museum and scholars.

“The [Altoona Tribune] didn’t have anything about [the anti-Jewish riots in 1938 known as] Kristallnacht, or the Jewish stars [that Jews had to wear], or the extermination camps; there was nothing, and I looked very closely,” she said.

Why papers like the Altoona Tribune chose not to run stories about such events — when other papers did — is something that experts say will be studied closely. Scholars also want to know how these publication decisions affected public policy actions. It has already spurred a debate in Ms. Moody’s family.

“My [adult] daughter and I had a debate about this and why there was nothing,” she said. “My daughter said, ‘Well, maybe it’s because they’re a little bigoted town over there.’ But I said, ‘If they were bigoted, maybe they would have liked to hear about Kristallnacht.’”

This pogrom also is known as the Night of Broken Glass.

The museum’s historians hope the project, dubbed History Unfolded, officially announced April 5, will inspire thousands of more volunteers like Ms. Moody to do simi-

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lar research over the next two years — leading to a 2018 exhibit titled “Americans and the Holocaust.”

Since the project began quietly last fall, more than 1,000 articles have been reviewed, approved and placed on the museum’s permanent project database on its website at newspapers.ushmm.org/search.

Technology has made such a project possible, now that more newspapers’ archives are online.

But the museum hopes volunteers also will dig into those forgotten small-town papers that exist only on plastic roles of microfiche or the original hard copies in binders at local libraries.

While there have been several studies of how the nation’s larger newspapers such as The New York Times and Chicago Tribune covered the Holocaust, “we don’t really know anything about what small-town newspapers and regional papers told their readers,” said Aleisa Fishman, a historian with the museum working on the project.

It would be almost impossible to ask volunteers to just research “the Holocaust” because it’s too broad. Instead, the staff last year came up with a list of 20 significant events during the 1930s and 1940s, with specific dates for volunteers to search for. The events range from the U.S. decision to participate in the Olympic Games in Germany in 1936, to Kristallnacht in 1938, to deportation of Hungarian Jews in 1944.

The goal, said Elissa Frankle, who is leading the museum’s project, is “to get at a question historians have been posing for a long time: What did Americans know about the Holocaust and when?”

Laurel Leff, an associate professor of journalism at Northeastern University in Boston, thinks “trying to find out what Americans knew about the Holocaust at the

time is a really important project.”

She is the author of “Buried by The Times,” a roundly praised 2005 book that found that The New York Times altered and downplayed coverage of the Holocaust in part because of the views on Judaism of its Jewish owner at the time, Arthur Hays Sulzberger.

Ms. Leff, who is Jewish, said she grew up being told that “Americans did not know about the Holocaust” while it was ongoing.

When she lectures she often hears two disparate stories from audience members: One audience member will stand up and say there was nothing in the newspapers about the Holocaust, while another will say they knew about it and went to rallies because of the stories.

“I think for people who were engaged, there was no doubt about the truth,” she said. “But maybe there were two Americas, and maybe even two Jewish Americas” where some did and some did not really know about the Holocaust at the time.

That viewpoint may have been demonstrated in some of the first articles submitted to History Unfolded.

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Meanwhile, that same day in a paper in Fredricksburg, Virginia, a locally-reported article with the headline “Sympathy Service by Friends of Jews” noted the response at a local Presbyterian church to what happened at Dachau.

“Those are very different views,” Ms. Frankle said.

There have been 20 articles al-

ready submitted and approved from Pittsburgh newspapers, including 15 from The Pittsburgh Press, four from the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette and one from the now-defunct Jewish Criterion.

Twelve of those articles were submitted by Charlie Stern, 29, a research analyst for the federal government who lives in Overland Park, Kansas.

“My grandfather came over [to the U.S.] from Germany in 1936 as these events were occurring,” he said. “Basically, his story got me involved.”

His grandfather, Herbert Stern, who is Jewish and still alive at 96, had told him stories about what he experienced in Berlin before he left, settled in Cincinnati with a cousin and later joined the U.S. Army and fought in Europe, including liberating two concentration camps.

Reading stories firsthand about some of the events his grandfather described “was powerful.”

Charlie Stern has submitted more than 100 stories to History Unfolded from various papers, mostly Cincinnati papers, since he began searching in February.

The Pittsburgh stories “just came up on Newspapers.com when I would search on event search terms; there was a lot of coverage of these events in Pittsburgh,” he said. “But I was struck that the American public started knowing more about these events as the war progressed.”

As part of the project, the museum hopes to engage librarians and high school and college teachers and their students. The goal is to reach 20 percent of all high school students and half of the libraries in the country with the project.

Alan Bush, a history teacher at North Dame High School in Easton, Pa., said he jumped on the idea late last year when he heard about it from a friend. He has submitted some stories from Easton papers and is about to get his classes involved.

“Anytime you can add a local flavor to a history piece, it makes a difference with the students,” he said.

Chief justice calls patent challenge bizarre

BY LAWRENCE HURLEY
REUTERS

WASHINGTON — U.S. Chief Justice John Roberts on Monday described as bizarre the legal process used by companies to challenge competitors’ patents as the Supreme Court heard a case involving a vehicle speedometer that alerts drivers if they are driving too quickly.

The eight justices heard an appeal filed by Cuoizzo Speed Technologies LLC, whose speedometer patent was invalidated in a U.S. Patent and Trademark Office review board procedure after being challenged by GPS device maker Garmin Ltd in 2012.

The issue before the justices during a one-hour argument in the case was whether the U.S. government has made it too easy for companies to pursue challenges to the patents of other companies.

New Jersey-based Cuoizzo challenged the board’s action in federal court, and an appeals court last year upheld the agency’s action. Cuoizzo then asked the Supreme Court to reverse the appellate decision. Garmin is no longer involved in the case.

Roberts was the most outspoken critic among the eight justices of the current system in which companies can adopt a dual-track strategy by challenging patents simultaneously in federal court and through the agency review board.

Roberts described the system as a “bizarre way to ... decide a legal question” and a “very extraordinary animal in legal culture to have two different proceedings addressing the same question.”

Justice Stephen Breyer appeared more sympathetic to the patent office. He said the 2011 law that set up the review board procedure may have intended to counter criticism that the patent office issues “too many patents that shouldn’t have been issued in the first place.”

So-called patent trolls, entities that hold patents only for the purpose of suing firms seeking to develop new products, have benefited from that generosity.

Companies that are frequent targets of patent suits, including Apple Inc and Google Inc, have turned to the patent office procedure, known as “inter partes review” (IPR), to try to fight off patent challenges.

Cuoizzo told the justices that in nearly 85 percent of cases some or all of the patents challenged were canceled.

A ruling is due by the end of June.

Wall Street ends lower on energy, earnings

BY RODRIGO CAMPOS
REUTERS

Energy shares dragged Wall Street slightly lower on Monday, tracking a decline in oil prices, while earnings and guidance from companies including Perrigo and Xerox also weighed on U.S. stocks.

With the S&P 500 up in eight of the past 10 weeks and nearing the record high set almost a year ago, traders are struggling to find reasons to push it even higher as underwhelming earnings and the specter of higher interest rates hover over markets.

Perrigo Co., down 18 percent after it lowered its adjusted profit forecast for the full year, was among the largest drags on the S&P 500. Its Chief Executive and Chairman Joseph Papa resigned to take the reins at Valeant Pharma , whose U.S.-traded shares have tumbled nearly 85 percent from last August.

“This is hardly a big selloff but we are having trouble breaking through (to new highs on the S&P) because of a lack of consistently good earnings and economic data,” said Rick Meckler, president of LibertyView Capital Management in Jersey City, New Jersey.

“One of the few positives is a weaker dollar but it is hard to see a reason for that to continue; rates are being lowered around the world and expected to rise here (in the United States), there’s no clear path to a lower dollar.”

The Federal Reserve is expected to hold interest rates steady after a two-day meeting set to begin on Tuesday, but policymakers may be more upbeat on the economic outlook, leaving the path open for future rate hikes.

The Dow Jones industrial average fell 26.51 points, or 0.15 percent, to 17,977.24, the S&P 500 lost 3.79 points, or 0.18 percent, to 2,087.79 and the Nasdaq Composite dropped 10.44 points, or 0.21 percent, to 4,895.79.

The energy sector was the largest drag on the S&P 500 with a 1.1 percent decline.

Market Review

Consolidated Stocks							
	Close	Chg	Div		Close	Chg	Div
3M Co	168.38	-0.28	4.4	Kohls	44.96	-0.50	1.0
ABB Ltd	20.59	-0.19		LillyEli	77.94	+0.11	1.8
AbbVie	60.97	-0.45	2.3	Loews	39.68	-0.18	2.0
AbtLab	44.01	-0.07	1.0	Lowes	76.19	+0.14	
AEP	62.81	+0.07	2.2	McDnlds	127.46	+1.96	2.0
Aetna	114.30	-0.52	1.0	Merck	56.22	-0.52	0.3
AFAC	67.87	-0.05	1.6	MetLife	46.24	-0.66	1.1
AK Steel	4.54	-0.25	0.0	Microsoft	52.11	+0.33	3.6
Allergan	224.85	-4.29		Mondelez	42.26	+0.07	1.8
Allstate	65.61	-0.13	1.3	Monsanto	94.08	...	1.5
Altria	61.22	-0.70	2.3	MorgStan	27.53	-0.17	1.4
AMovill	15.51	-0.06	0.5	NewellRub	44.04	-0.32	0.7
Anadarko	51.09	-1.46	0.2	NextEraEn	114.47	+0.03	2.2
Apache	54.41	-1.79	1.0	NipponIT	44.11	-1.26	0.6
ApldMat	20.94	-0.16	0.4	NokiaCP	5.92	-0.16	0.8
Apple	105.08	-0.60	2.1	NorthropG	200.73	-0.02	3.5
AT&T Inc	38.21	+0.14		OneokPtrs	35.69	-0.78	0.8
Autodesk	59.99	+0.45	1.9	Oracle	46.78	+0.08	0.2
AvidTech	5.81	-0.15	0.0	Orange	16.69	-0.19	3.2
BcoSantSA	4.90	-0.11		Pennt Gmng	9.90	-0.06	3.2
BestBuy	32.47	-0.75	0.2	Penny	1.47	-0.06	0.6
BkNYMell	40.67	-0.39		PepsiCo	102.80	+0.82	
BkofAm	14.96	-0.15	1.1	Pfizer	33.21	-0.06	0.0
Boeing	130.75	-0.30	0.7	PhilipMor	97.53	+0.61	
BPL PLC	31.79	-0.36	0.2	PPL	36.55	+0.04	2.8
BridfIdas	34.06	+0.31	4.4	Proxiar	119.19	-0.43	1.2
BrMySq	70.63	-0.05	2.4	ProctGam	81.41	+0.46	4.1
Caterpillar	76.79	-1.53	0.5	Prudential	40.99	-0.48	1.5
CBS B	56.29	-0.20	1.5	QstDiag	75.36	+0.06	3.0
CenterPnt	21.06	+0.25	3.1	Rayonier	24.79	+0.07	2.2
Chevron	101.51	-0.50	0.6	Raytheon	125.50	-0.90	2.2
Citigroup	46.69	-0.28	1.0	ReynAmer	48.41	+0.58	1.6
CocaCola	44.71	+0.17	4.3	RylCarb	75.00	+1.20	1.0
Coring	20.97	-0.02	0.2	Schwab	29.63	-0.09	2.9
Deere	82.41	-0.39	0.5	ShersHlids	17.63	-0.49	1.7
Disney	104.57	+0.80	2.4	Sherrwin	299.25	+0.15	1.5
DowChem	52.54	-0.07		SiderurlNac	3.39	-0.31	0.3
DukeEmrg	76.76	-0.25	1.4	Siemens	108.46	...	0.0
DuPont	40.64	+0.45	1.8	SonyCP	25.70	-0.94	3.4
ExxonMbl	87.33	-0.20	3.3	Starbucks	57.77	+0.09	0.1
Facebook	110.10	-0.46	1.9	SwstAir	46.85	-0.40	
FedExCP	165.56	-0.76	2.9	Symantec	18.10	+0.09	
FidInFin	66.56	-0.01		Target	82.60	+0.27	0.8
FidNatInfo	65.70	+0.46	1.0	Textron	38.99	-0.79	0.3
FrontierCm	5.55	-0.08	0.8	TimeWarn	209.63	+0.18	
GenElec	30.68	-0.08	1.0	Toyota	107.34	-0.11	2.2
GlassSKin	42.97	-0.10	0.4	Travelers	110.34	-0.50	0.1
GoldmanS	165.09	-1.68	0.9	UPS B	105.07	-0.45	
Google	723.15	+4.38		ValeroE	61.77	+0.53	2.7
Hershey	91.37	+0.82	2.4	Valofone	33.38	+0.07	
HomeWtrP	12.57	-0.04	2.6	WalterEnr	0.04	...	3.1
Hitachi	48.25	...		Waste Mngt	56.35	-0.04	2.4
HomeDp	135.65	-0.01	2.3	WellsFargo	50.51	-0.11	1.7
Honda	28.69	+0.04	0.5	Yahoo	37.23	-0.25	0.0
IBM	148.81	+0.31		Zimmer	114.66	-0.10	1.6
IntlBesh	31.39	-0.25	2.8				
IntlBesh	26.26	-0.23					
JPMorgCh	63.60	-0.37	5.2				

Indexes										
	52-Wk High	52-Wk Low	Close	Chg	Chg%	Wk	Mo	Qtr	1 Yr	Chg%
Dow Jones indus.	18351	15370	17977.24	-26.51	-0.15	▼	▲	▲	-0.57	
Dow Jones Transport	8911	6403	7990.35	-95.63	-1.18	▼	▲	▲	-10.02	
Dow Jones Utility	672	540	641.62	+2.10	+0.33	▼	▼	▲	+7.33	
Nasdaq composite	5232	4210	4895.79	-10.44	-0.21	▼	▲	▲	-3.85	
NYSE AMEX composite	2553	1869	2322.63	+13.08	+0.57	▼	▲	▲	-8.59	
NYSE composite	11255	8938	10465.65	-45.35	-0.43	▲	▲	▲	-6.50	
S&P 500	2135	1810	2087.79	-3.79	-0.18	▼	▲	▲	-1.41	
S&P Mid cap 400	1551	1215	1469.34	-7.71	-0.52	▼	▲	▲	-4.21	
Wilshire 5000	22537	18462	21572.08	-49.96	-0.23	▼	▲	▲	-3.83	
Russell 2000	1296	943	1138.10	-8.59	-0.75	▼	▲	▲	-10.21	

Local Stocks										
	52Wk Hi	52Wk Lo	Close	Chg	Chg%	Wk	Mo	Qtr	YTD%	P/E Div
Bank of America (BAC)	18.48	10.99	14.96	-0.15	-0.99	▲	▲	▲	-11.11	12.4 0.2
Bar Harbor (BHB)	37.98	28.97	33.28	-0.04	-0.12	▲	▲	▲	...	13.3 1.1
Camden Nat'l (CAC)	47.49	37.23	43.34	-0.36	-0.82	▼	▲	▲	-1.70	15.9 1.2
Cisco (CSCO)	29.90	22.46	28.23	+0.08	+0.28	▲	▲	▲	+3.96	13.9 1.0
Delhaize (DEG)	26.86	19.56	25.57	+0.04	+0.16	▼	▲	▲	+5.27	26.5 0.5
Domtar (DFS)	45.77	29.88	39.89	-0.83	-2.04	▼	▲	▲	+7.96	18.2 1.6
Dover (DOV)	78.21	50.91	66.79	-0.56	-0.83	▲	▲	▲	+8.94	18.3 1.7
Fairchild SC (FCS)	21.71	12.22	19.95	-0.03	-0.15	▼	▼	▼	-3.67	0.0
General Dynamics (GD)	153.76	121.61	136.79	-1.11	-0.80	▲	▼	▲	-0.41	15.2 3.0
General Electric (GE)	32.05	19.37	30.68	-0.08	-0.26	▼	▲	▲	-1.51	32.9 0.9
HCA Holdings (HCA)	95.49	43.91	80.12	-0.79	-0.98	▼	▲	▲	+18.47	16.2
Idexx Labs (IDXX)	164.48	61.58	81.22	+0.11	+0.14	▲	▲	▲	+11.38	39.6
ImmuCell (ICCC)	11.40	5.50	6.73	-0.02	-0.22	▲	▲	▼	-10.81	17.4
International Paper (IP)	54.40	32.50	42.85	-0.51	-1.18	▲	▲	▲	+13.66	19.4 1.8
KeyCorp (KEY)	15.70	9.88	12.41	-0.17	-1.35	▲	▲	▲	-5.91	11.9 0.3
Kimberly-Clark (KMB)	138.76	103.04	126.21	-0.67	-0.53	▼	▼	▼	-0.86	42.5 3.7
Kraft Heinz (KHC)	81.20	61.42	78.73	+0.63	+0.81	▲	▲	▲	+8.21	0.0 2.3
Lake Sunapee Bank (LSBG)	16.32	13.25	14.15	+0.19	+1.35	▼	▼	▼	+0.85	13.0 0.6
Northeast Bancorp (NBK)	11.72	9.25	11.39	-0.16	-1.39	▲	▲	▲	+8.48	14.8 0.0
People's United Fin (PBCT)	16.95	13.62	16.04	-0.05	-0.31	▼	▲	▲	-0.68	18.7 0.7
PNC (PNC)	100.52	77.67	87.71	-0.38	-0.43	▲	▲	▲	-7.97	11.9 2.0
RR Donnelley (RRD)	19.74	12.07	17.36	-0.24	-1.36	▼	▲	▲	+17.93	24.2 1.0
Sappi Limited (SPPJY)	4.72	2.67	4.27	▲	▲	▼	...	0.0
State Street (STT)	81.26	50.73	61.41	-0.48	-0.78	▲	▲	▲	-7.46	13.8 1.4
Sysco (SYS)	47.24	35.45	46.30	+0.53	+1.16	▼	▲	▲	+12.93	35.2 1.2
The First Bancorp (FNLC)	22.56	16.41	19.39	-0.09	-0.46	▼	▲	▲	-5.28	12.7 0.9
United Technologies (UTX)	119.66	83.39	105.20	-0.50	-0.47	▲	▲	▲	+9.50	22.9 2.6
Unum Group (UNM)	38.15	23.99	33.61	-0.31	-0.91	▲	▲	▲	+0.96	9.7 0.7
Verizon Comm (VZ)	54.49	38.06	50.76	+0.21	+0.42	▼	▼	▼	+9.82	11.6 2.3
Walmart (WMT)	80.93	56.30	69.47	+0.75	+1.09	▼	▲	▲	+13.33	15.0 2.0