Our Mission

Retro Report tells the stories behind the headlines.

We are an independent, objective, nonprofit news organization dedicated to uncovering how news of the past continues to resonate today. With investigative reporting, deep archival research and compelling storytelling methods, we create short-form documentary videos that give viewers meaningful context and perspectives on current events in a new and exciting way.

"We are not makers of history. We are made by history."

— Martin Luther King Jr.
A Message From Our Founder

Dear Friends,

The torrid pace of life today belies the 21st century we were promised back in earlier years. Flying cars, cheap energy and modern housing for all were ideas that made it seem like we were headed for a dreamy, tension-free future. Ha!

Certainly, one of the culprits that has robbed us of our rightful inheritance of an idyllic life is self inflicted: the rapid-fire barrage of information from all corners. Emails, multiplying news outlets, social media platforms and other means of staying informed have created lives without quiet moments. The competition for our attention has encouraged an ever increasing level of hyperbole. SCREAMING HEADLINES!!! and nonstop breaking news crawls create an immediate urgency. The unceasing 24-hour delivery cycle creates a constant urgency.

The truth is that life is getting better for most of us: The world has more health and wealth. There are fewer deaths from war, fewer homicides, and less illiteracy. Why, then, does it seem like things are getting worse? One reason is that our attention is drawn to the immediate — toward the breaking, toward the loudest voice in the room — robbing us of a long-term perspective that we used to experience when everything didn’t have to be the most important thing.

In 2018, Retro Report celebrated our fifth anniversary. From our earliest days, we set out to find a way to restore this perspective to the journalistic landscape. Our videos continue to arm the public with the history, context and media literacy needed to understand today’s headlines. Thanks to support from our community of donors, partners and friends, it was a year for significant accomplishments:

• We added 24 new stories to our robust living library of more than 150 reports, and updated many others.

• We expanded our reach, establishing new partnerships with media outlets and digital platforms.

• Finally, I am so proud that our team, led by our severely good executive producer, Kyra Darnton, and our board of directors -- is hard at work creating a new television series, RETRO REPORT on PBS, premiering in the fall of 2019.

Our work continues, thanks to the generous financial contributions of a growing family of donors who believe in our mission. Many more topics deserve the Retro Report treatment. Your support makes it possible for us to broaden our reach and tackle investigations that will help Americans understand the problems and choices that face us today. Won’t you join us? Together we can show the enormous value of taking a measured view of history.

With gratitude,

Christopher Buck

Lesley Stahl, “60 Minutes” correspondent (second from left); and Dean Baquet, executive editor of The New York Times (right), toasted Retro Report on the occasion of our fifth anniversary. Christopher Buck, founder (left) and Kyra Darnton, executive producer (second from right) thanked our growing community of donors, partners and friends.

“Deeply reported storytelling to help all of us understand a tumultuous moment.
— Dean Baquet
Executive Editor, The New York Times

“Retro sets the record straight, it gives historical context, it debunks bad science, it exposes myths and misperceptions.
— Lesley Stahl
Correspondent, CBS 60 Minutes
Webby Awards, Honoring the Best of the Internet
Winner, News and Politics: Overall Series
Nominee, News and Politics: Individual Episode for “Why Hasn’t Sexual Harassment Disappeared?”
Nominee, Technology for “The Future of Money”
Nominee, Trailer for “What Happens Next”

Gerald Loeb Awards
Winner, Best Video for “The Future of Money”

Society of American Business Editors and Writers
Winner, Best Video for “What Happens Next?”

Jackson Hole Science Media Awards
Nominee, Best Short-Form Series for “The Code”

Emmy Awards
Nominee, Outstanding Arts, Culture and Entertainment Report for “All in the Game: The Black Athlete in America”
Nominee, Outstanding Promotional Announcement for “What Happens Next”

Edward R. Murrow Award
Winner, Sports Reporting for “All in the Game: The Black Athlete in America”

At the Gerald Loeb Awards, Karen Sughrue, Arielle Ray of Quartz, Erik German, Solana Pyne of Quartz and Jeff Bernier collect the Best Video award for “The Future of Money.”

Events and Film Festivals

**Aspen Ideas Festival**
Screening and panel, “The Code”

**Louisiana International Film Festival**
Screenings and panel on media literacy

**LA Film Shorts International Film Festival**
“Ceasefire” chosen as an Official Selection

**Montclair Film Festival and Student Seminar**
Screenings and media literacy events

**Boston Science Media Awards and Summit**
Finalist, Best Series for “The Code”

**News Literacy Workshop**
Brooklyn Friends School

The science journalist and author Carl Zimmer leads an expert panel in genomic medicine at the Aspen Ideas Festival.


Claire Schultz, Chris Buck and Kyra Darnton at the Aspen Ideas Festival.

Sianne Garlick and Bonnie Bertram answer students’ questions in Montclair.

Larry Chollet leads a media literacy workshop at Brooklyn Friends School.
This year reaffirmed our belief that digital video is a critical pathway to convey journalism to the public. One of the crucial challenges we face is finding a way to train a digital-native generation to expect and demand thorough and informed discussion about policy and context. We believe one way to reach them is with deeply reported videos.

- Retro Report released **24 new documentaries** and updated others to reflect recent developments.

- Retro Report and individual documentaries earned **recognition from national organizations** including the Emmy Awards, the Gerald Loeb Awards, the Edward R. Murrow Award and the Webby Awards.


- We cultivated a growing audience of information seekers with **a custom YouTube channel**, where more than 23,000 subscribers viewed an average of more than 1 million minutes of our work each month.

- Thanks to the generous support received from donors and foundations our **fundraising revenue increased 216% from 2017**.

- As a member of the Institute for Nonprofit News, we participated in **Newsmatch**, a national matching-gift campaign created to help nonprofit newsrooms raise funds.

- We marked **our fifth anniversary at an event** that celebrated contributions by our growing community of donors, partners and friends. Dean Baquet, executive editor of The New York Times, and Lesley Stahl, a correspondent for 60 Minutes, gave the toasts.

- We formed a partnership with PBS to develop **a new series for primetime**. **RETRO REPORT on PBS** will premiere in the fall of 2019.

---

"Retro Report demonstrates clearly that strong, solid, serious, smart journalism can thrive on the web. That storytelling can be crisp and thoughtful and the medium of the future — actually the medium of the now."

— Lesley Stahl  
Correspondent, “60 Minutes”
In 2018, Retro Report released 24 new documentaries that explore the big issues at the heart of national conversations: genomic medicine, criminal justice, immigration, gun violence, politics, the opioid crisis and suicide prevention. These new videos are now part of our growing library of over 150 documentaries available free to the public. Here are selected highlights.

**The Code: A Three-Part Series on Genomic Medicine**  
Released April 2, 2018 in partnership with STAT News

Writer, Producer, Director: Jill Rosenbaum  
Associate Producers: Olivia Katrandjian, Meral Agish, Noah Madoff  
Editor: Sandrine Isambert

This series examines the roots of today’s most promising medical advances: Tests to identify gene changes that increase a person’s likelihood of developing diseases, precision medicine to match a patient’s genes to potential treatments, and genome editing to replace or repair disease-causing genes.

“ I actually know how hard it is to hit the right note to navigate this issue the way that you have….sometimes trying to help the public understand and not be afraid but at other times it means holding science accountable for its excesses and for its hyperbole… and how you navigate that is pretty terrific.”  
— Mildred Solomon  
President, The Hastings Center

Hat tip to @RetroReport on a great series, “The Code,” in @statnews. Covers the past, present and future of treating disease using genomics.

Reflecting on the past 25+ yrs, I’m amazed at how far we’ve come and humbled by how much further we have to go.

— Francis Collins (@NIHDirector)  
National Institutes of Health via Twitter
Operation Ceasefire
Released Sept. 25, 2018, in partnership with The New Yorker

Director: Scott Michels
Producers: Scott Michels and Meral Agish
Editor: Sandrine Isambert

This 30-minute documentary explores whether it is possible to bring about real change when distrust and resentment have poisoned a community. Drawing on dramatic archival footage and candid interviews, "Operation Ceasefire" tells how four groups — the police, African-American clergy, gang members and academics — overcame mistrust and challenged traditional policing methods in a way that is relevant today.

For Private Prisons, Detaining Immigrants Is Big Business
Released Oct. 1, 2018, in partnership with The New York Times

Producer: Sarah Weiser
Associate Producer: Noah Madoff
Editor: Anne Checler

A surging inmate population in the 1980s led to a boom in privately owned and operated, for-profit prisons, now a $4-billion-a-year American industry. A key function is detaining undocumented immigrants. The treatment of migrants has new urgency in the Trump era.
Why We Can’t Have a Civil Conversation About Guns
Released April 29, 2018, in partnership with The New York Times

Producers: Kit R. Roane, Sandra McDaniel, Shawn Hamilton
Associate Producers: Sandra McDaniel, Shawn Hamilton
Editor: Jeff Bernier

In the 1980s, the attempted assassination of Ronald Reagan and the shooting of his press secretary, Jim Brady, led to the Brady Bill. Decades later, are there lessons from that fight for the Parkland students?

Suicide, Veterans and a Simple Idea to Combat a Crisis
Released Nov. 14, 2018, in partnership with Huffington Post Highline

Producer: Sarah Weiser
Associate Producer: Noah Madoff
Editor: Anne Checler

The U.S. is in the midst of a public health crisis: suicide rates have been rising steadily across the country, with military personnel and veterans at particular risk. In this short documentary we uncover how a psychologist working for the defense department unearthed a simple but effective prevention measure developed in the 1960s: sending patients “caring letters.”

“I’m a huge fan of Retro Report! You guys are really providing an important public service. I’ve often wondered how the producers find such good archival material.

— Jeremy Raff
Video Producer, The Atlantic

“This brief look at the passage of the Brady Bill and what happened next clarifies some of the challenges of the #guncontrol debate. Required viewing!

— Jeremy Shatan via Twitter

“Thank you for going against the grain to make this world a little more welcoming to people with mental illness.

— YouTube viewer
Story Selection
We seek out good story ideas anywhere we can find them. Ideas are generated by our producers and reporters, and we welcome suggestions through social media channels.

Research and Reporting
Our journalists track down original documents and archival footage and interview the original participants — many of whom have never spoken publicly — to learn what happened after attention faded and the media moved on.

Production
Retro Report’s video editors tap years of experience in storytelling to create visually stimulating narratives, blending footage and sound from today and yesterday.

Fact Checking
Our standard is simple. Claims made in narration, claims made in interviews, claims implied by the archival images we present — it all gets checked.

Media Partners
Our partners — The New York Times, The New Yorker, Politico, Univision, Quartz and others — propel our work into the national conversation, engaging news consumers, experts and policymakers.

Promotion
We host community events and forums led by subject matter experts. Our social media team connects with groups and influencers whose interests align with each story topic. We release stories across multiple platforms, including a dedicated YouTube channel, Apple News, Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, radio broadcasts and print publications.

Living Library
Our work increases in value over time as it becomes a part of our permanent, regularly updated archive on our website and on a dedicated YouTube channel.
# Our Team

## Board of Directors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title and Affiliation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Christopher Buck</td>
<td>President, Founder, Retro Report</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D. Ben Benoit</td>
<td>Vice President and Treasurer, Executive Director, PCLB Foundation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richard Tofel</td>
<td>President, ProPublica</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nicholas Ascheim</td>
<td>Senior Vice President-Digital, NBC News and MSNBC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dana Wolfe</td>
<td>Secretary, Founding Executive Producer, Intelligence Squared U.S.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brewster Kahle</td>
<td>Founder, Internet Archive</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Masthead

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Founder</td>
<td>Christopher Buck</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Executive Producer</td>
<td>Kyra Darnton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vice President, Business Operations</td>
<td>Tom Brown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Director of Development</td>
<td>Claire Schultz</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Staff

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Senior Producers</td>
<td>Laurence B. Chollet, Karen Sughrue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Producers</td>
<td>Bonnie Bertram, Barbara Dury, Erik German, Scott Michels, Kit R. Roane, Jill Rosenbaum, Matt Spolar, Sarah Weiser</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Archival Producer</td>
<td>Rebecca Losick</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associate Producer</td>
<td>Victor Couto</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Editors</td>
<td>Jeff Bernier, Anne Checler, Sandrine Isambert</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reporters</td>
<td>Meral Agish, Noah Madoff, Sandra McDaniel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In-House Counsel</td>
<td>Nick Crovo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Columnist</td>
<td>Clyde Haberman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engagement Editors</td>
<td>Michael Corvo, Sianne Garlick, Alex Remnick</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fact Checking</td>
<td>Ethan Corey, Joseph Hogan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Head of Post Production</td>
<td>Margy Pohlmann</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graphics and Assistant Editor</td>
<td>Cullen Golden</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Camera and IT</td>
<td>Keith Reilly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Media Manager</td>
<td>Aaron Thomas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Director of Business Development</td>
<td>Colleen McCarthy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Production Manager</td>
<td>Alexander Mager</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Development Associate</td>
<td>Randi Hoppe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contributing Producers and Reporters</td>
<td>Raymond Bonner, Boaz Diz, Joshua Fisher, Shawn Hamilton, Jennifer Oko, Maria Villaseñor, Miriam Weintraub</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
We are of course grateful for all you do, and we’re happy to support Retro Report at this level. When our financial advisor suggested that we use our stock for charitable giving, we of course thought of Retro Report!

— Shari Lawrence Pfleeger
First-Time Donor

Our financial position in 2018 enabled us to move our strategic priorities forward while delivering on our mission every day.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>REVENUES</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Founder’s Grant</td>
<td>$5,350,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Individual Donations</td>
<td>146,204</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants</td>
<td>118,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shared Ad and Production Revenue</td>
<td>123,557</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In-Kind Contributions</td>
<td>243,370</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>$5,981,131</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EXPENSES</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>News Salaries</td>
<td>$3,671,664</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non News Salaries</td>
<td>391,230</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Field Production</td>
<td>156,734</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Benefits, Taxes and Insurance</td>
<td>784,241</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Occupancy and Office</td>
<td>281,469</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marketing and Outreach</td>
<td>69,369</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional Services (Includes In-Kind)</td>
<td>536,976</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>$5,891,683</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All figures preliminary and unaudited

Thank you to the media partners who distribute our work to their audiences and to those editorial teams who collaborate with us on distribution and reporting.

We reach audiences across evolving digital platforms by tailoring our programming: creating YouTube playlists for viewers interested in a particular topic; curating Instagram stories that surface characters and facts from history; and building Spotify playlists related to our documentaries.
Your Support Keeps Us Going

We extend our deepest appreciation for the generous support we received in 2018. Thank you for your partnership and confidence in our work.

In 2018, our fundraising revenue more than doubled over 2017, with over half of these contributions coming from new donors. This growth was a direct result of increased support from individuals and foundations. We are grateful for your trust in us.

Thank you for your continued commitment, and most importantly, thank you for supporting our efforts to provide the context that is essential to — and often missing from — commercial journalism today.

— Claire Schultz
Director of Development

SUPPORTERS

Ralph Arditi  
Nick Ascheim  
Liza Bailey  
Doug and Sarah Banker  
Alesha Bates  
Ben Benoit  
James M. Bergen  
Bonnie Bertram  
Christine Bockelmann  
Raymond Bonner  
Conor Brown  
Tom Brown  
Brown Advisory  
Peter and Carmen Lucia  
Buck Foundation  
Kevin Burke  
Forest Butler  
Maria Casanova Hayman  
Rahul Chaudhary  
Andy Chmar  
Robert Conner  
David Corvo  
Sue Cross  
Kyra Darnton  
Nina Darnton  
Chris and Elizabeth Davis  
Nicholas and Elena Delbanco  
Deborah and Jason McManus  
Gregg Easterbrook  
Peter Emerson  
Duygu Erucman  
Jamie Feldman  
Hamilton Fish  
Martha Fleischman  
Brigid Foster  
David and Judy Foster  
Judy Fox  
Sianne Garlick*  
Gretchen Gavett  
Erik German  
Lynne Gillan  
Karan Goel  
Google, Inc.  
Andrew Guglielmo  
Heath Hoozing  
Ranid Hoppe  
Peter Jaszi  
Rita Jhang  
Jean Johnson  
Elyse Kaftan  
Brewster Kahle  
Amanda Kershaw  
Michael Kingery*  
Sakura Amend  
Shari Lawrence Pfleeger  
and Charles Pfleeger  
Barry Leibowitz  
Arthur Lieber  
Rebecca Liss Weisfogel  
Sonja Lund  
Roger Macdonald  
Harold Mason  
Colleen McCarthy  
Scott Mcleod  
Julio Mejia  
Michael Neufeld  
Scott Michels  
Jessica Mingus*  
Tim Mohr  
Jennifer Oko  
Alexander Paker  
Earl Parr III  
Lauren Patti*  
Gordon Pearman  
John Petry  
Vance Piccin  
Joseph T. Plummer  
Luke Preslar  
Sheila P. and Rudolph S. Rauch III  
Virginia Reticker  
Michael Reynolds  
Frederic Rich  
David and Susan Rockefeller  
Gregory Roeder  
Jonathan and Diana Rose  
Evan Roseman  
Daniel Rubey  
Jon Sackler  
Quinn Sayles  
Claire Schultz  
Hara Schwartz  
Karen Sughrie  
Ruth Shuman  
Marianne Slaughter  
Alfred P. Sloan Foundation  
Julie Smith  
Russell Smith  
David Sperling  
Stephen and Jody Spolar  
Marie-Louise Stares  
Mary Stewart  
Carol Tilley  
Richard Tofel  
Al Tompkins  
Laurel Touby  
Wendy Traynor  
Lucy Waletzky  
Michele Willens  
Mandy Williams  
Dana Wolfe  
Yong Wook Kwon


WON’T YOU JOIN US?

Retro Report is stronger than ever due to an expanding community of donors and funding partners. Every tax-deductible donation we receive helps us create new documentaries and update those in our library.

Thank you wholeheartedly for being an important part of our continued growth.

For more information about ways you can support Retro Report, please contact Claire Schultz, Director of Development: cschultz@retroreport.com, or call 646-869-0722.

DONATE
Advancing Our Mission: Goals for 2019 and Beyond

We will continue on a course to:

• Chronicle new issues of national importance as they arise, investigating topics that form the core of our living library: developments in science and medicine, racism, gender equality, voting rights, politics, education and more.

• Update the more than 150 stories in our archive. Good reporting shouldn’t be disposable, and we are steadily building a living library of modern news events.

• Identify new ways to engage a national audience for RETRO REPORT on PBS, encouraging viewers to look at today’s headlines from a fresh perspective.

• Connect local communities to their history by working with television stations and newspapers as we become a better resource for news and a springboard for informed conversation.

• Insure that our work is featured and discoverable in all of the ways Americans get their information through new partnerships and platforms.

• Provide high-quality reporting and narrative storytelling for a new generation of viewers who turn to YouTube for answers.

When you look back in time as we are doing and put it all out there to see as an entire story arc, it’s hard to deny the truth in the stories we’re recounting. Time helps provide a bigger understanding of what’s happening.

— Christopher Buck
Retro Report Founder

Watch the great @RetroReport doc on it — or better yet, show your students.

— Katherine Schulten
Editor, New York Times Learning Network

If you haven’t found Retro Report yet, you’re missing out. Doing journalism right.

— Kevin Patrick Allen via Twitter

Celeste Headlee and Masud Olufani on the set of “Retro Report on PBS”
Photo: Rachael Joyce Photography/Georgia Public Broadcasting
Looking Forward to Retirement Is a Thing of the Past
More people across the globe are living and working longer. That’s redefining what the future might hold for retirement.

Perp Walks: When Police Roll Out the Blue Carpet
Perp walks are the bane of criminal defense attorneys, but a boon for journalists and tabloid photographers. It’s unlikely that the practice will end anytime soon.

The Future of College Will Be More of It
The future might be filled with the need for lifelong learning — meaning more college, not less — as automation changes the workplace.

How a Folk Singer’s Murder Forced Chile to Confront Its Past
Victor Jara was a Chilean folk singer and political activist whose brutal killing during a military coup in 1973 went unsolved for decades. His family is seeking justice.

Suicide, Veterans, and a Simple Idea to Combat a Crisis
A simple yet surprisingly effective method of suicide intervention that was developed in the 1960s has been rediscovered.

Why Earth’s Driest Places May Hold the Key to the Future of Water
Scarcity of drinking water is commanding attention in parts of the world. An innovative solution may be found in one of the Earth’s driest places.

Gaming Rules Entertainment. But Are We Being Played?
Video games are becoming more artistic. They are also looking more like gambling.

The Roots of Evangelicals’ Political Fervor
White evangelical Christians are among President Trump’s most important supporters. But more than 40 years ago, they were on the margins of American politics.

Genetic Screening: Controlling Heredity
With every advance in prenatal genetic screening, the ability to prevent suffering has also sparked difficult questions about what should count as a disease.

Abortion Was Illegal. This Secret Group Defied the Law.
In the years before the Roe v. Wade Supreme Court ruling legalized abortion, an underground group assisted thousands of women with unwanted pregnancies.

For Private Prisons, Detaining Immigrants Is Big Business
An inmate population surge in the 1980s led to the growth of for-profit prisons. Today, private prison companies oversee the vast majority of undocumented migrants.

Inside a Community’s Radical Approach to Gang Violence
Cops, African-American pastors, gang members and academics upended notions of traditional policing in Boston in a way that is newly pertinent today.

Why Fixing Slums Is Key to the Future of Cities
Medellín, Colombia, has reinvented itself in recent decades, moving from a violent past into a sustainable future.

Biosphere 2: A Faulty Mars Survival Test Gets a Second Act
With dreams of one day colonizing space, eight people sealed themselves inside a glass biosphere in the Arizona desert in 1991. The experiment did not go well.

A Trusted Pill Turned Deadly. How Tylenol Made a Comeback.
There are lessons for today in Tylenol’s response to deadly poison found in its pills in the 1980s.

Where the Debate Over ‘Designer Babies’ Began
Genetic technology is advancing, and critics are warning of a slippery slope. We spoke with scientists, families and the first test-tube baby to understand the debate.

Gerrymandering’s Surprising History and Uncertain Future
Some of today’s redistricting battles have roots in a civil rights case that was decided by the Supreme Court 30 years ago.

Iran, North Korea, Russia: How the Nuclear Threat Re-Emerged
As more nations seek nuclear weapons and the U.S. and Russia expand their arsenals, veterans of the Cold War say the public is too complacent about the risk of catastrophe.

Why We Can’t Have a Civil Conversation About Guns
The attempted assassination of Ronald Reagan and the shooting of his press secretary led to the passage of the Brady Bill. What are the lessons from that fight?

Rehab Rarely Works for Opioid Addicts. Could a Vaccine?
Overdose deaths are skyrocketing, forcing researchers to find new ways to think about and treat addiction.

Finding the Code: The Race to Sequence the Genome
One of biology’s most spectacular achievements — the race to sequence the human genome — was billed as a way to end disease. Here’s where it led.

Fixing the Code: Genetically Engineering Your DNA to Fix Disease
For 20 years, scientists have been trying to cure disease by altering DNA. We explore CRISPR Cas-9 gene editing and the revival of gene therapy.

Selling the Code: Can DNA Testing Really Predict Your Future?
Today, companies market genetic tests for everything from cancer to diet and exercise. But how much can tests like 23andme really predict?

Us vs. Them: From George Wallace to Donald Trump
President Trump has used populist politics to appeal to voters. We look at another politician who tapped into America’s divisions decades ago: George Wallace.
Maria Villaseñor, co-producer, and Liam Dalzell, cinematographer/camera, interview Adriana Molina, a community organizer and resident of Nueva Jerusalén outside Medellín, Colombia, for “Why Fixing Slums Is Key to the Future of Cities,” part of the What Happens Next series released in collaboration with Quartz. Photo: Erik German