



- [Trump's tariffs on Canadian newsprint overturned](#)
- [McClatchy to centralize design, copy editing jobs in North Carolina](#)
- [Scripps layoffs at Texas, California, Florida, Indiana newspapers](#)
- [The media today: Layoffs, shutdowns and salary outrage](#)



**We're in this together.**  
SPJ is troubled by the continued layoffs and buyouts in journalism. Our members are the lifeblood of our organization. To those affected by layoffs and buyouts: SPJ supports you and wants to help.  

- Membership dues waiver request
- Discounts, jobs, resources and more
- **What you can do:** Gift an SPJ membership, join our ranks, and help us help journalism



One hundred-plus revelers shared the moment at Fort Worth SPJ's Cool Yule Party, Dec. 5 at the UNT Health Science Center MET Building. **Dave Lieber** waved his Shady Oak Stetson in the air in homage to **Amon Carter**, 50 quality gift drawing items found a new home, and **Leroy Wilson** sold all the barbecue he brought. Throughout, photographer **Laurie Ward** was everywhere capturing the vibe, one smile, one embrace, one whoop at a time. You wanted an evening to linger in the memory and forever in the heart, this was it. [GUEST LIST](#) [PHOTO ALBUM](#)



Next at [Fort Worth SPJ](#) ...  
Expect another full year — count on it.

#### QUICK HITS

- First Amendment Awards application — received-by deadline Jan. 7. [Info.](#)
- Texas Gridiron Scholarship application — due by Feb. 1. [Info.](#)
- GFW PRSA networking meeting, “Storytelling That Sticks,” with **Eric Harris**, founder of the Dallas marketing agency GatherRound — 11:30 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 9, Colonial Country Club. [Info.](#)
- Writers Guild of Texas monthly program, “Acquiring an Agent 101,” with award-winning writer **PJ Gover** (“Time of Long Shadows,” a thriller based on her dad, who was a rocket scientist during the 1960s Cold War) — 7 p.m. Monday, Jan. 28, Richardson Public Library. [Info.](#)
- Meetups: [North Texas Editors](#) ... [Bedford Science Fiction Writing](#) ... [DFW Self-Publishing Group](#) ... [GFW Writers](#) ... [Writers Anonymous – Support and Education](#) ... [Fort Worth Chapter – Nonfiction Authors Association](#) ... [Kidlit Critique](#) ... [Trinity Arts Writers Workshop](#) ... [The Writer's Critique](#) ... [Lonestar Sci Fi, Horror, and Fantasy Fans](#) ... [20BooksTo50k - Michael Anderle](#) ... [Fort Worth Area Journalists Meetup](#) ... [The DFW Bloggers Classroom](#)

IN THE WORKPLACE: GET A JOB *Listings in [journalismjobs.com](#) and [dfwcommunicators.com](#) appear in this report.* ... Texas Woman's University seeks a digital media specialist to help connect the university to alumni, donors, parents, supporters and community stakeholders. [Info.](#) ... The Houston Chronicle Media Group's community newspaper team seeks production editors to help with editing, headline writing, layout and production of its community newspapers. Layout, editing and Newsgate experience a plus. [Info.](#) ... Susan G. Komen seeks a senior manager for external communications to manage and implement all speaking opportunities, press materials, proactive and reactive media relations, and media tours, among other duties. [Info.](#) ... The Galveston County Daily News, Texas' oldest newspaper, seeks a designer/advertorial writer to help generate the company's various publications and craft accurate and informative articles. [Info.](#)

*more eChaser on p. 2*

*Each advertiser logo links to the website!*





The Gallery



Adviser **Laurie Fox** talks with UTA Shorthorn multimedia alumni and current staff about Homecoming coverage. ... Alumni **Theo Carracino** and **Steve Wilson** (that's **Evans Caglage** in the back) mull over the upcoming Student Publications Centennial and reunion in April. ... Shorthorn alum **Tom Fox** acts out.



Newspaper design guru **Kevin Slimp** goes one on one with participants at a two-day workshop in December sponsored by TCU's Texas Center for Community Journalism.

**POWER TO THE PEOPLE** There's blue, then there's Watchdog blue. **Dave Lieber**'s most recent Sunday night "Blue Light Special" videos included a mini-concert with the melodic and soulful Jana Stanfield designed to pump up his followers, talking with his oldest son about what it was like for the son to be the subject of embarrassing newspaper columns in his youth, exposing a \$1 billion lottery scheme, and an aerial view of the newsroom Christmas village he built, beset with controversy due to the opening of the Hot Wheels Expressway.

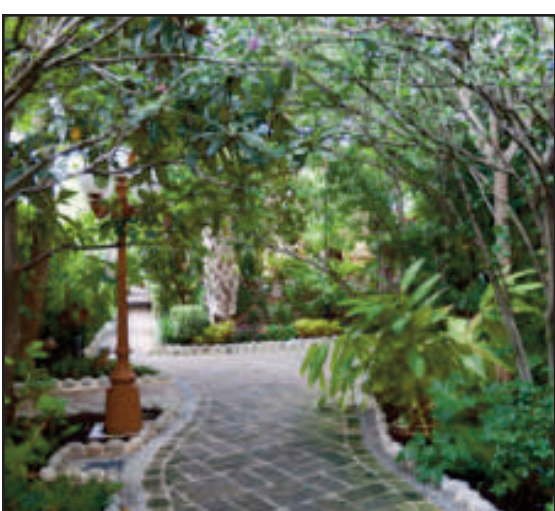
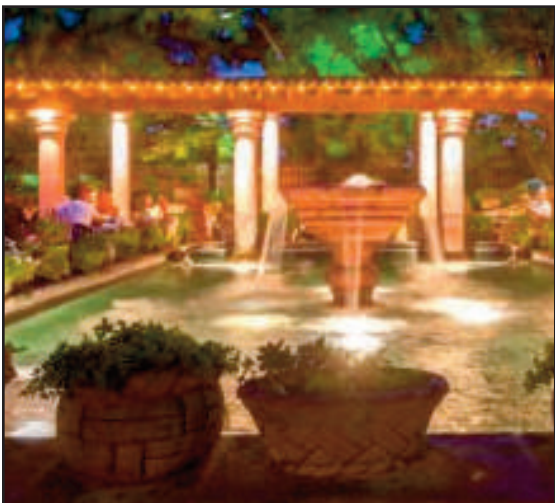
**Freedom of Information Foundation of Texas update:** Citing an obscure legal loophole, the Travis County Sheriff's Office blocked a grieving mother's request for evidence of how her 21-year-old son died in jail. KXAN-TV uncovered video and other records of the days leading up to the son's death and his interactions with jail staff. The ongoing report sparked a new investigation into the response to his medical needs and prompted a legislative effort to eliminate the loophole, which law enforcement agencies across Texas are using to keep details about dozens of other in-custody deaths secret. Details. ... The Longview News-Journal filed a complaint with the Attorney General's Office on the morning of Dec. 7 about Upshur County Sheriff **Larry Webb**'s handling of a request for a high-profile offense report earlier in the month. Late that afternoon, the newspaper received a certified letter, dated Dec. 12, from Webb saying he would send information in an assault complaint against District Clerk **Karen Bunn** to the attorney general seeking verification that part of the Nov. 14 offense report can be withheld. The report accuses Bunn of assault on a public servant, a third-degree felony. Details. ... The once-robust Texas Public Information Act lies bleeding. The Texas Supreme Court's decision in 2018 to deny a newspaper's petition for review of the opinion of the 1st Court of Appeals in the case of Nehls v. Hartman Newspapers is the latest deep cut. Nehls effectively nullifies the PIA provision that says a court shall award attorneys' fees to a requestor who substantially prevails against a governmental body in a lawsuit to require release of public information. In other words, the requestor must pay a tax — attorneys' fees — to get public information, even where the governmental body does not reasonably rely on recognized legal authority in refusing to release the information. Details. ...

NEW MEMBERS

**Kathryn Jones-Malone**, Tarleton State University ... **Don Buckman**, back after 50 years

[more eChaser on p. 3](#)

Each logo in the ad rail links to the sponsor's website!





# Remembering the ‘Cadillac’ of reporters

Former Star-Telegram reporter and local musician **Robert Cadwallader** died Dec. 8 after his vehicle left the road and struck a tree in Johnson County, where he lived. He was 59.

He covered local government, education and crime for the Star-Telegram from 2010 to 2017. He worked as a freelancer at the paper from 1991 to 2010.

Friends and colleagues recalled, in Facebook posts and funeral home comments, Cadwallader’s meticulous reporting and his talents as a keyboardist in local blues bands.

**Patrick Walker** said he grew up reading Cadwallader’s stories in the Waco Tribune-Herald. Cadwallader was a reporter at the Waco paper in the 1980s and later worked with Walker at the Star-Telegram.

“I would come to know him as a gifted wordsmith who never failed to go the extra mile to ensure his stories were accurate, even if it took an extra phone call or three,” said Walker, who now works at The Dallas Morning News.

Cadwallader graduated from UT Arlington, where he worked on the student newspaper, The Shorthorn. **John Dycus** was Shorthorn adviser and once had an exchange with noted Arlington conservationist **John Darling** regarding a Cadwallader story in the Star-Telegram. It was a long, multi-sourced story with lots of quotes.

Darling asked: “Who is this guy, Robert Cadwallader?” Dycus anticipated the conversation going downhill from there.

“If you write a story about the environment and you don’t get it right, John Darling’s going to know, and he doesn’t suffer bad journalism very well,” Dycus said. “John said it’s really rare to find a local environmental story well told and that this was one of the best stories, one of the most accurate stories, he had ever read in the Star-Telegram. Robert got all of it right. And if John Darling says you got it right, that’s a high accolade.”

Dycus echoed the accuracy assessment, in addition calling Cadwallader an “easy edit” and dependable. “Robert was detailed, precise. He dreaded the phone call from someone who had found an error in one of his articles. And it wasn’t all facts and no flow — he wanted his stories to *read*. He was more than a reporter, he was a writer.”

Shorthorn contemporary **Darrell Dunn** worked in Waco alongside Cadwallader. Out of the blue one day “Wally,” as many knew him, bought a keyboard and started taking lessons. He developed into a highly regarded accompanist in Fort Worth-Dallas area blues bands.

“Robert was an exceptional piano and keyboard player, and a joy to work with, a musician with great talent and skills, and an even-keeled demeanor — a rare combination!” said fellow musician **Ron Geida**. “He also had a great personality that came through in his playing. Much of what we played was jamming/improvisational music. He was always game for, and enjoyed, that type of group interaction within the band.”

**Susanne York** recently reconnected with Cadwallader when she found him “producing exquisite keyboard skills” in a band. “The world is a little quieter now,” she said. “That’s not a good thing.”

Back at his day job, a former editor said Cadwallader never had to be fed things to write about.

“Cadillac — I loved to call him that — would call you at the beginning of each week with a ton of story ideas,” said **Kevin Lyons**, who supervised Cadwallader at the Arlington Star-Telegram. “He had sources everywhere.”

Lyons said Cadwallader inevitably filed stories that were longer than requested because, he told Lyons, he had “so much good stuff.”

“Robert, you indeed had a lot of good stuff. RIP, pal.”

– *Paul Long*

=====

OVER & OUT | [John Dycus](#), Fort Worth SPJ

**Laurie Ward**’s photos on p. 1 are but a taste of the glorious goings-on at the Cool Yule Party honoring Star-Telegram alumni in December. Laurie with her lightning lens could sense a hug fixing to happen and somehow get clear across the room to shoot it. Follow the [link](#) to all 66 images. You’ll catch yourself anticipating the next one, thinking it can’t be better than *this one*, then it is. Many thanks to Laurie, ringleaders **Janet Neff**, **Kay Pirtle** et al., plus multimedia showman **Dave Lieber** as **Amon Carter**. What a night. ...

A recent report concludes that by mid-century, climate change is likely to punch a hole through the busiest stretch of rail in North America, parts of Amtrak’s Northeast Corridor, which carries 12 million people a year. Amtrak’s response to the report was to delete the words “environment/climate change” from the report. Speaking of brain-dead denial, Walaka, the outsized hurricane that hit Hawaii in October, wiped a thousand-year-old island off the map. East Island, 11 remote acres of gravel and sand that sat atop a coral reef, disappeared after impact with the storm. Scientists confirmed that the island vanished after comparing satellite images of the French Frigate Shoals — a protected marine area in the northwestern Hawaiian Islands. More [here](#) and [here](#).

SPJ Factoids: Early in 2018, Apple got into the magazine business by buying a digital magazine distributor. Now it wants to mix in daily news and has been talking to the biggest newspapers in the U.S. about [adding their stories to Texture](#). ... [The United States set a record in 2017 for censoring and withholding government files](#). The government censored, withheld or said it couldn’t find 78 percent of 823,222 requested records — more than at any point in the last decade. ... Indiana Republican ex-Gov. **Mitch Daniels** wrote a [letter to the editor](#), published in The Washington Post, criticizing the transparency journalists pursue. “I venture the heretical thought that we have overshot in the pursuit of governmental ‘openness’ and ‘transparency.’ ” Cue journalism advocates everywhere [echoing First Amendment lawyer Frank LoMonte’s words](#): “You no longer have to wait for the 2019 release of ‘Avengers 4’ to explore alternate universes.”

Caught my eye. [Australian seaweed found to eliminate more than 99% of cow burp methane](#). ... [Thin-film solar ‘wallpaper’ is light, flexible, apply on any surface](#). ... [It’s now cheaper to build a wind farm than to keep a coal plant running](#).

Closing words: **Jack Dempsey**’s advice to young fighters was simple: “Some night, you’ll catch a punch between the eyes and all of a sudden you’ll see three guys in the ring against you. Pick out the one in the middle and hit him, because he’s the one who hit you.”

[back to p. 1](#)  
[back to p. 2](#)



**Robert Cadwallader:** No wrong notes

Each logo in the ad rail links to the sponsor’s website!



Get the new GFW Media Directory!



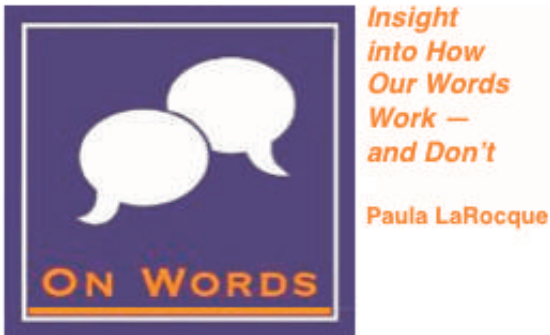
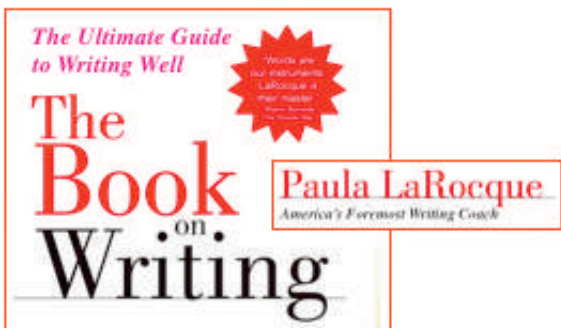
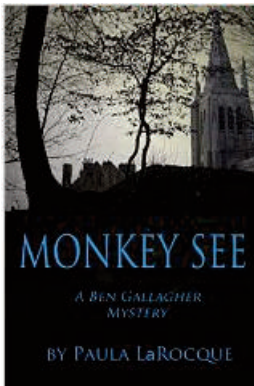
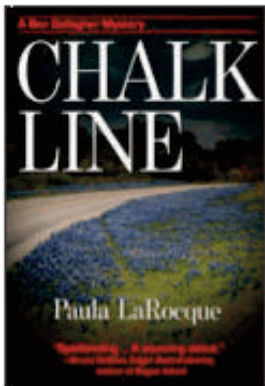
All about the community of model railroading and rail enthusiasm in the Midwest and Southwest



"There is no greater agony than carrying an untold story."  
— Maya Angelou

UNSUNG: REMEMBERING JEWELL HOUSE

*the LaRocque Family catalog ...*



## RESOURCES

*AP headlines* *Journalist Express*  
[The Washington Post](#) [Denver Post](#)  
[The New York Times](#) [Chicago Tribune](#)  
[San Francisco Chronicle](#) [USA Today](#)  
[Los Angeles Times](#) [Financial Times](#) [Time](#)  
[The Wall Street Journal](#) [BBC](#) [The Nation](#)  
[The Christian Science Monitor](#) [Newsweek](#)  
[The Sydney Morning Herald](#) [Bloomberg](#)  
[International Herald Tribune](#) [Cato Institute](#)  
[U.S. News & World Report](#) [ABC News](#)  
[CBS News](#) [CBS 11](#) [WFAA-TV](#) [CNN](#)  
[NBC 5](#) [ABC News: The Note](#) [Daily Kos](#)  
[Star-Telegram](#) [The Dallas Morning News](#)  
[Fort Worth Weekly](#) [Fort Worth, Texas](#)  
[Fort Worth Business Press](#) [Texas Monthly](#)  
[Dallas Observer](#) [The Hill](#) [Drudge Report](#)  
[The Texas Observer](#) [The Village Voice](#)  
[FrontBurner \(D Magazine\)](#) [Salon](#)  
[Burnt Orange Report](#) [The New Republic](#)  
[The American Conservative](#)  
[Center for American Progress](#)  
[The Texas Tribune](#)

the industry / tools of the trade  
[11 Rules of Writing, Grammar and Punctuation](#)  
[writers.com](#) [wilbers.com](#)  
[Ethics AdviceLine for Journalists](#)  
[THE SLOT: A Spot for Copy Editors](#)  
[Center for Public Integrity](#) [Editor & Publisher](#)  
[Investigative Reporters and Editors](#)  
[Coalition of Journalists for Open Government](#)  
[National Institute for](#)  
[Computer-Assisted Reporting](#)  
[Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press](#)  
[Poynter Online](#) [Pew Research Center](#)  
[Columbia Journalism Review](#)  
[Texas Legislature](#) [FOI Foundation of Texas](#)  
[Merriam-Webster](#) [Encyclopedia Britannica](#)  
[NewsLink](#) [Wikipedia](#)

organizations  
[Asian American Journalists Association](#)  
[DFW Network of Hispanic Communicators](#)  
[National Lesbian & Gay Journalists Association](#)  
[Native American Journalists Association](#)  
[Society of Environmental Journalists](#)

antidote  
[The Onion](#)

send additions for the list to:  
[john@xdycus.com](mailto:john@xdycus.com)