

INFORMING THE NORTH TEXAS JOURNALISM / COMMUNICATOR WORKFORCE



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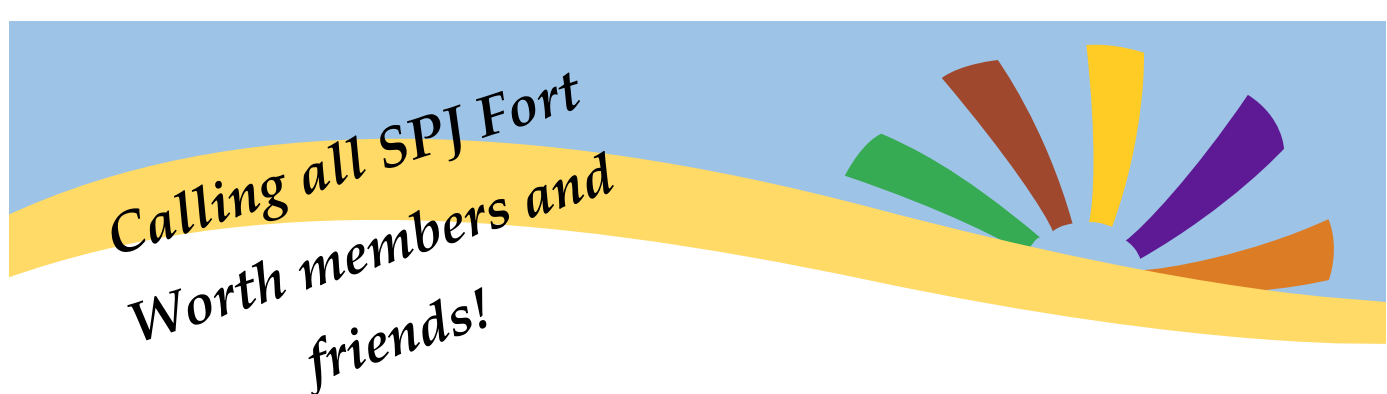
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## SPJ FW Summer Party!

Saturday, July 27, 6-9 p.m.

Enjoy \*Delicious Food, \*Adult Beverages,

\*Swimming \*Meeting New People

\*Partying with Old Friends

\*\*\*\*\*

**Where:** 706 Riverwood Court, Mansfield 76063

**Bower Ranch Subdivision (Buddy & Kim Jones home)**

**Cost:** \$10 or food item from list.

**RSVP requested — Food list available with RSVP@**  
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### QUICK HITS

- GFW PRSA Worthy Awards Call for Entries — early deadline Aug. 2. [Info.](#)
- Arlington Conservation Council monthly program supplanted by float preparation for the Fourth of July parade
- GFW PRSA networking meeting, “Fort Worth: Meat, Music and Mavericks,” with **Mitch Whitten**, Visit Fort Worth — 11:30 a.m. Wednesday, July 10, Colonial Country Club. [Info.](#)
- BRIT Reads Book Club, “Orchid Fever” — noon July 22 (usually every third Monday). [Info.](#)
- Writers Guild of Texas monthly program, “Creative Characterization,” with **Jan Morrill** on how to create multidimensional characters that come alive with quirks, secrets, habits and senses in a way that readers cannot deny — 7 p.m. Monday, July 15, Richardson Public Library. [Info.](#)

Downtown Arlington Open Coffee Club, “open to all movers, makers and shakers” — 8 a.m. July 25 (last Thursday every month), Urban Alchemy Coffee + Wine Bar, 403 E. Main St. [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](http://journalismjobs.com) and [dfwcommunicators.com](http://dfwcommunicators.com) appear in this report.* ... As it prepares to celebrate its 130th anniversary, the YMCA of Metropolitan Fort Worth seeks a new vice president of marketing and communications. Requirements include a bachelor's degree; at least eight years of experience in communications, marketing or PR (in the YMCA or another not-for-profit preferred); and at least four years experience in management. [Info.](#) ... Like to eat? Know sushi from sauerkraut? The Dallas Observer needs a new food editor. [Info.](#) ... The Texas Observer, for 65 years a specialist in investigative longform journalism with an emphasis on state politics, criminal justice, the environment, public health, immigration and culture, seeks a digital editor. [Info.](#) ... Two central Texas weeklies, The Clifton Record and Meridian Tribune, seek a jack-of-all-trades managing editor to lead both. Located in Bosque County west of Waco, the papers serve their readers through print, website, e-edition and social media. [Info.](#) ... Dallas-based Tenet Healthcare seeks a corporate communications director. Qualifications include a bachelor's degree, preferably in communications, English or journalism, and at least 8-10 years experience, including direct media relations. [Info.](#) ... RFTB Creative Digital Agency in Fort Worth has an opening for an entry-level project manager. Requirements include a B.A. or B.S. in advertising or related field and to “love all things digital.” [Info.](#)

[more eChaser on p. 2](#)

In these times when journalists are disrespected, condemned, ridiculed, assaulted and constantly face layoffs, pay cuts and worse, let it be known that we honor and support journalists and journalism. Keep at it. Your work is important to the people and essential to democracy itself. - Roger Summers

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**Tommy Thomason**, founding director of the Texas Center for Community Journalism at TCU, welcomes newspeople to the revenue strategies conference at the Hangar Hotel and Conference Center at the Fredericksburg airport. — *Kathryn Jones photos*



SMU associate professor **Jake Batsell**, *left*, discussed ways to increase, measure and monetize audience engagement as a way to increase revenues at the Texas Center for Community Journalism's revenue strategies workshop June 21. Also attending from the North Texas area were **Randy Keck** (*foreground below in striped shirt*), editor-publisher of The Community News in Aledo; **Dan Malone**, associate professor of journalism at Tarleton State University; and **Karen Chandler** and **Charla Seeton** of the Hood County News in Granbury.



## Region 8 striving for collaboration

It's called working together for the greater good. At the TCCJ workshop in Fredericksburg, SPJ Region 8 coordinator **Kathryn Jones** and **Michael Hodges**, executive director of the Texas Press Association, informally discussed how the two organizations can help each other.

Hodges said the TPA especially wants to get the word out about its online job bank, which updates as positions become available; access is free. Region 8 wants the world to know about its freelance network. Cross-promotion can help reach more journalists, especially at a time of industry layoffs and buyouts.

Jones said SPJ Region 8 also will work more closely with the Freedom of Information Foundation of Texas on areas of common interest such as government transparency, and with journalism advocacy organizations in Oklahoma.

"There's no point in all of these groups existing as separate islands," she said. "We can do things to help each other and benefit all of our members. That's another reason to join SPJ and to maintain membership."

The Texas Center for Community Journalism offers free one- and two-day workshops to community newspapers throughout the year thanks to funding from the Texas Newspaper Foundation. Topics range from photojournalism to writing improvement to advertising design to management. To get on the TCCJ mailing list, e- [tccj@tcu.edu](mailto:tccj@tcu.edu).

**POWER TO THE PEOPLE** With a triumphant run of "AMON! The Ultimate Texan" behind him, the scene shifted back to angst and attitude for Dallas Morning News Watchdog columnist **Dave Lieber**. Turns out he was working on stuff all along. To catch up ...

- Before the legislative session ended, he generated both a [column](#) and a 90-minute [video](#) from a property tax seminar he co-hosted in Frisco featuring **Will Wiggins**, the "toughest property tax consultant" he could find. Save for reference.

- [Why the Texas roofer registration bill died in a hailstorm of 'no' votes from both parties.](#)

- [Breaking it down: How the new Texas property tax law affects you.](#)

- [If you want privacy on your Internet searches and where you shop and travel, wait two more years.](#)

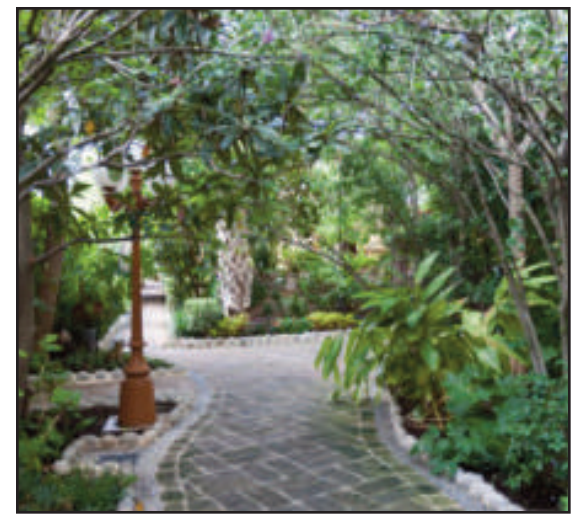
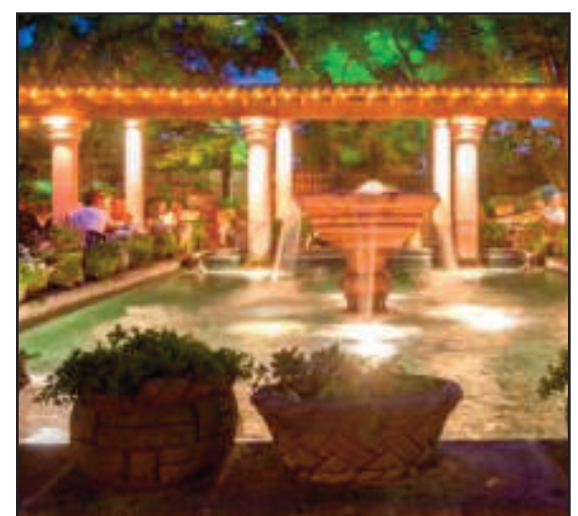
**BUILDING TRUST** From the [Institute for Nonprofit News](#). Trusting News is offering a free, five-week online class for journalists wanting to build more trust with their communities. Participants will learn techniques to combat misassumptions, respond to criticism, and better communicate their mission to readers. [Learn more and apply by July 15.](#)

### NEW AND REINSTATED MEMBERS

**Ngozi Akinro**, Texas Wesleyan University ... **Jenny Dean**, Texas Wesleyan University ... **Carol Cropper**, UT Southwestern Medical Center ... **Madelyn Edwards**, Weatherford Democrat ... **Cecilia Jacobs**, Tarleton State University ... **Sarah Macias**, Real News Public Relations ... **Jack Z Smith**, Fort Worth Star-Telegram retired

[more eChaser on p. 3](#)

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Plant to planet.®







She's everywhere, that **Beth Francesco**, including the Newseum in D.C., with alumna **Anna Bahn**, who works for the Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press.

## When the offer's so good you can't say no

UTA Student Publications director **Beth Francesco** is the new operations chief for an organization that champions First Amendment rights, journalism training and civic engagement — the National Press Club Journalism Institute in Washington, D.C. Her last day at UTA is July 17.

A UTA graduate, Class of '03, she became Student Publications director 10 years later. The Shorthorn, the campus paper, skipped nary a beat, maintaining its traditions of accuracy, timeliness, progressive income generation and industry recognition, and the students actually graduate.

Francesco led the team that crafted the paper's Centennial celebration in April — a shining moment. The photos below are from that night, with more pictures here and the full video here. She served on the Fort Worth SPJ board 2014-2018.

"It's exciting, and bittersweet, to leave my beloved Shorthorn and UTA for new things, and I'm incredibly grateful to contribute to our work supporting student media in a new way," she said. "My heart and passion for The Shorthorn and student media will never waver.

"As I always tell our students: If opportunity knocks, pack your bags. I'm at once terrified and excited, but if you don't shake things up every now and then ... you could live with regrets."



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

When I reflect back on **Beth Francesco**, it will be with admiration for a graduate of the UTA student media program who grew into being its leader. Every Student Publications division is stronger than when she became director six years ago. She would be the first to give much credit to the professional staff, and rightly so — but that's what a good leader does. Then there was that moment in the little alcove outside the editor's office, she was maybe a senior. My mother's memory issues were just appearing. I was frightened. Beth was calming, reassuring. *Your mother will be all right. You will be all right. Trust. Breathe. Keep moving forward.* And my mother, in that transcendent realm beyond the sky, is now most surely all right. And I am, too. The encounter needn't be lengthy for it to reside in the heart forever.

SPJ factoids: SPJ president **J. Alex Tarquinio** shares the latest progress on the executive director search and the interim period in her Freedom of the Prez blog. The top three officers of the Board of Directors sent an apology to members regarding contentiousness during the board's most recent meeting and other events that some members found objectionable. ... **Donald Trump** took his criticism of the press to a new level June 15, tweeting that The New York Times committed a "virtual act of Treason" by publishing a story about online attacks on Russia. The Times responded in a tweet, "Accusing the press of treason is dangerous." June 19 marked 100 days without an on-camera White House press briefing.

Caught my eye. Milestone: In April, US generated more electricity from renewables than coal ... 60% of wild coffee species threatened with extinction. ... Storing solar electricity as hot water: the Sunamp heat battery.

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

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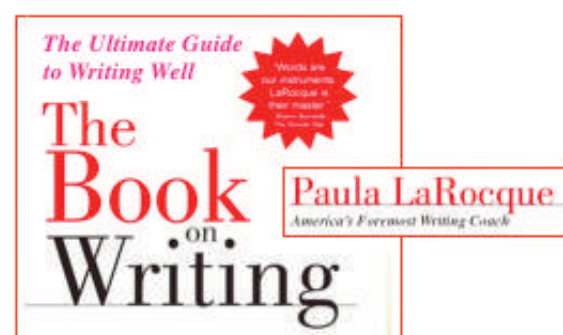
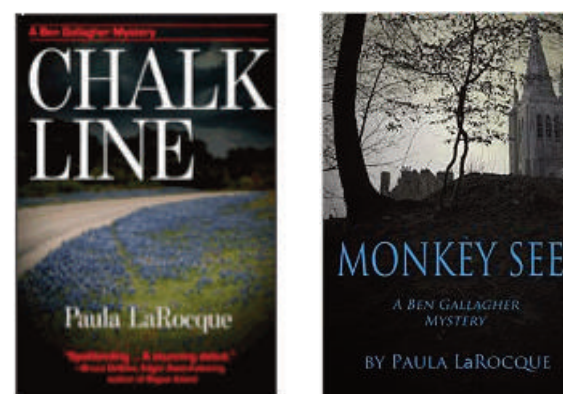
## Cowcatcher Magazine

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



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