

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

INFORMING THE NORTH TEXAS JOURNALISM / COMMUNICATOR WORKFORCE

   **75+1 FWSPJ** to subscribe or to submit items, e-john@xdycus.com

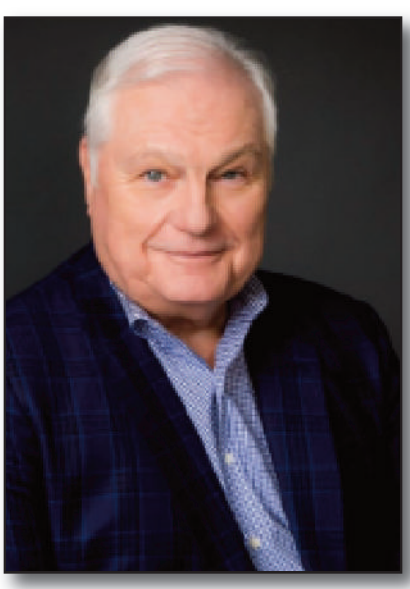
\* In the days of hot type, a chaser was a late edition of the newspaper for which the presses were not stopped until the plates were ready. Those pages were said to be "chasing" a running press.

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Next at [Fort Worth SPJ](#) ... updates on the [homepage](#) and [Facebook](#)

## Never too retired to make a speech

**Dale Hansen** stepped away last year as WFAA-TV sports anchor, but his observations on a fractious world live on ([15,000 YouTube subscribers](#)). Expect a trenchant sampling when he keynotes the 19th Annual First Amendment Awards and Scholarship Banquet on Friday, April 22, at Rolling Hills Country Club in Arlington. Associated Press/New York Times writer (and UTA Shorthorn ex) **Marina Trahan Martinez** will emcee.



Dale Hansen

Scholarship recipients and the 2022 winners of Fort Worth SPJ's signature awards competition will be announced.

Reservations are an absolute must this year. Individual tickets are \$50. [RSVP here](#); pay with a credit card on Eventbrite, or by check at the door. [Table sponsorships are welcomed.](#)

Proceeds benefit the Texas Gridiron Club Scholarship Endowment.

Let's hear it for **Linda Hall**, who has retired from headquarters in Indianapolis. As longtime SPJ membership coordinator/administrative assistant, Linda was our resource and strength, and sometimes our conscience. Need a procedure explained? Linda was patient. Need a little chapter history? Linda could locate the file. If you had a question, she had the answer. If you had a personal need, she would pray. She loved SPJ, cherished its people, lived its values. Hers was a fierce devotion, complete and unwavering and rare in cynical times. Eras and. All too soon. Godspeed, Linda. You made us whole. — John Dycus



... with grandsons **Max**, left, and **Will** in 2011

### QUICK HITS

- Arlington Conservation Council monthly Zoomer, "Grassroots Environmental Campaigns," with **Ranjana Bhandari**, Liveable Arlington — 7 p.m. Wednesday, March 2. [Info.](#)
- GFW PRSA 2022 monthly networking meeting, "Hidden in Plain Sight: Elevating How We Communicate About Race and Gender," with Dr. **Frederick W. Gooding Jr.** and Dr. **Jacque Lambiase**, both TCU — 12:15-1:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 2, Zoom. [Info.](#)
- FWBG | BRIT — Adventures in Baja California Botany, March 1; Butterflies in the Garden, through April 10; Raised Bed Vegetable Gardening, March 5; David Rogers' Big Bugs, March 11-June 12; Tulip Time, all of March. [Info.](#)
- Meetups: [hosting an online event](#) Trinity Arts Writers Workshop ... [Fort Worth Area Journalists Meetup](#)

IN THE WORKPLACE: GET A JOB *Listings in [journalismjobs.com](#) and [dfwcommunicators.com](#) appear in this report.* ... The Environmental Integrity Project, a nonprofit, nonpartisan watchdog organization, seeks a veteran investigative journalist to research, write and edit in-depth reports about the oil and gas industry. This position will be based in Houston, and the person will work remotely. [Info.](#) ... Tarrant County College Northeast has an opening for a full-time (nine-month assignment) journalism instructor. Master's degree required. [Info.](#) ... The Dallas Morning News seeks a digital archivist to help build, curate and preserve DMN material. [Info.](#) ... Here's your chance to eat, drink and be merry on the Houston Chronicle food team. [Info.](#) ... The multimedia director — UT Arlington has an opening for one — works with the advancement communications and marketing staff to develop strategic video solutions in support of communications and marketing objectives. [Info.](#)

[more eChaser on p. 2](#)

### BIG-TIME SUPPORTER



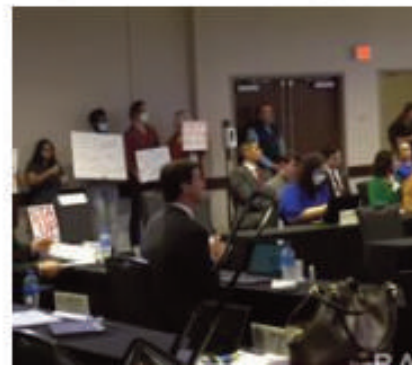
COMPLAINT LINES: Public Utility Commission 888-782-8477 | Texas Attorney General 800-621-0508 | Federal Trade Commission 877-382-4357  
CREDIT BUREAUS: TransUnion 888-909-8872 | Innovis 800-540-2505 | Equifax 800-349-9960 | Experian 888-397-3742

“What is good journalism?”

Student Senate passes resolution expressing support for The Battalion



Student protesters attend Board of Regents meeting



[Don't] stop the presses



First, Texas A&M University said its 129-year-old student newspaper would cease printing weekly editions immediately, which drew a certain ire. Then President M. Katherine Banks tried to partially walk that back. Four Tarrant area journalism educators weigh in.

Robert Bohler, former adviser, TCU Daily Skiff: “From what I've read, the admins' initial handling of this was atrocious. The principal figures with the student media were never told anything was up. The next-day decision sounds better, but we'll see. Three things seem sure: 1) The admins admitted there's a lot they don't know about journalism but 2) never consulted those who do, and 3) that's plenty cause for concern about how they treat the newspaper, its staff and its readers.”

Eddy Gallagher, retired director, Tarrant County College student publications: “Although it looks as though President Banks has backed off her initial demands, I don't think it's time to relax. She underestimated the support The Battalion had from former staffers, alumni and journalists across the country. Her initial demand was based only on her uneducated, unresearched personal opinion. She acknowledged she knew nothing about journalism, but she still decreed that the students didn't need to know print publication. But that's where many of our students start their careers. And many major cities, including several in Texas, still have print editions, as do several smaller towns that rely on them. The good journalism programs prepare their students for print, website, audio, photo and video. No real leader acts this way. Real leaders involve those affected who have knowledge of the situation. This is crazy.”

Chris Whitley, CMA president and current director, Tarrant County College student publications: “A university president has a great deal of power. Banks has control over the resources, the operations and the direction of one of the largest universities in America. But the student newspaper should be the one place where students have control. They should get to say what's news to their audience. They should get to report what students are thinking and feeling, even if it contradicts the administration. They should get to decide how their product is distributed. I'm proud to be an A&M graduate but also proud that the organization I lead, College Media Association, joined so many groups, including SPJ, in denouncing this move. As a result of the pressure, Banks decided to include Battalion students and its adviser in a working group to study the matter. It's a positive step, but we will still monitor closely to make sure students regain control. When you ask why you join an organization like SPJ or CMA, this is a big reason — because our voices matter.”

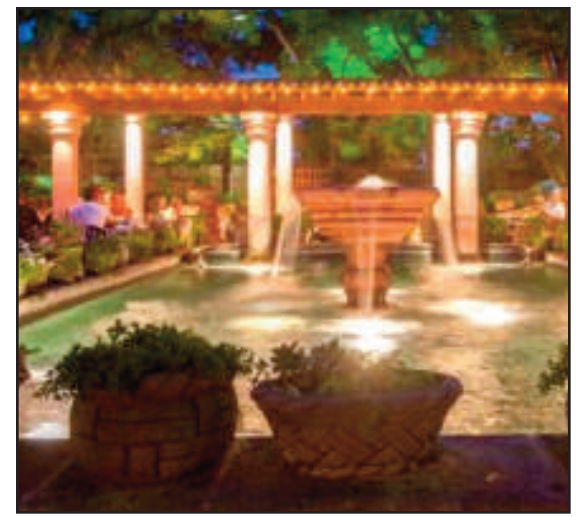
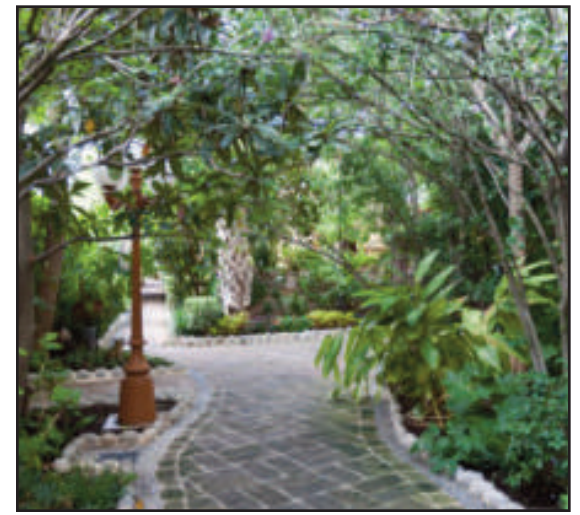
Kathryn Jones, SPJ Region 8 coordinator and a former journalism instructor at Tarleton State University: “SPJ Region 8 wrote a letter to A&M President Banks and A&M System Chancellor John Sharp. Of particular concern was that Banks did not involve The Battalion staff or its adviser in deciding their future. ‘Student journalists cannot effectively do their jobs of covering campus news if the administration removes their editorial independence,’ the letter stated. ‘Journalism students learn from making their own decisions about the platforms they use to publish their work.’ Banks has admitted she didn't understand why print media is important in the journalism field (The Battalion has been in print since 1893 and now also publishes online). SPJ Region 8 pointed out to her that many top professional news organizations have made a conscious, market-driven decision to publish both online and in print: ‘Many advertisers prefer print or want digital and print. Clearly, The Battalion attracted a healthy amount of advertising in both formats. Many readers also like to receive news in digital, print and broadcast formats. Print is not dead, it's just part of the mix.’ The Battalion sold almost \$60,000 in print ads last fall, plus more than \$25,000 in online ads. During a special Student Senate session Feb. 21, Banks said she would ‘never attempt to limit the voices of students.’ That's not how it appeared to the many Region 8 members who went to its Facebook page to register their support for The Batt.”

PEOPLE & PLACES They're energized at SPJ Houston. Exhibit A: Covering COVID-19: Tools You Need to Tell the Story, a half-day (Saturday, March 5) skills-focused Zoominar exploring the tools and knowledge to “accurately and compellingly cover the story of our lifetimes.” Get the bigger picture on this progressive crowd here. ... Two Texas universities — Tarleton State and Collin College — made this year's top 10 worst list for free speech in higher education sponsored by the Philadelphia-based nonprofit Foundation for Individual Rights in Education.

F.O.I.F.T. UPDATE Texas Comptroller Glenn Hegar has backed away from proposing to reduce the information his office collects on the state's largest corporate incentive program amid an avalanche of criticism over the future cost to the state. Hundreds of residents and some lawmakers submitted comments on the proposal — nearly all of them opposed — after Hegar's office made it public in November. “I'm not going to adopt it as proposed,” Hegar said. “The data that people are concerned about or want is still going to be available.” Details. ... More than two years after her son's death at the hands of Denton County deputies, Cheryl Kristin Adams says the sheriff's office still isn't sharing video documentation from that night even though she has requested body camera footage showing the shooting of Kristopher Adams on Sept. 16, 2019. Details.

more eChaser on p. 3

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FORT WORTH BOTANIC GARDEN



BOTANICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE OF TEXAS



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

If you’re not tuned into the [Institute for Nonprofit News](#), you should be. [Good work is happening](#), such as the [creation of Community News Funds](#). These are commendable people trying hard. Speaking of, **Kay Colley** at TWU in Fort Worth needs input from community papers for research on archiving digital content and data as well as print, training community publishers “how to archive better while on a budget.” She has a quick survey for anyone with relevant info; respond by Friday, March 4. [More here](#). ...

My father had a phrase, “he had the guts of a burglar,” and somehow an extra u was always wedged between the g and the l. Navy veteran (Purple Heart) **Roger C. Dycus** would have admired [this guy](#).

**SPJ factoids:** A nine-member jury unanimously found The New York Times [not liable for defamation against Sarah Palin](#). [More here](#). ...

**Tori Yorgey**, a reporter for WSAZ-TV in Charleston, W.Va., was [hit by a car while doing a live report](#) on a water main break. She fell to the ground, assured viewers that she was okay, popped back up and continued her report. [More here](#), [here](#). ...

The Delaware Senate passed a bill that seeks to create [media literacy standards](#) for Delaware schools. The bill “covers all the aspects of digital citizenship — from being able to discern misinformation, understanding sources and what’s reliable, and also the more personal and social aspects of digital citizenship,” said Delaware state Sen. **Laura Sturgeon**, D-Hockessin. [More here](#), [here](#), [here](#), [here](#), [here](#). ...

Nearly four of every five survey respondents said the [new efforts to promote diversity, equity and inclusion have positively affected the journalism industry](#), according to the survey by Northwestern University’s Medill School of Journalism, Media, Integrated Marketing Communications. Some experts on newsroom diversity efforts remain skeptical. ...

News outlets and foreign journalists in China are [facing unprecedented hurdles covering the country](#). [More here](#), [here](#). ...

In the first four weeks of January, [four journalists in Mexico were killed](#) as they worked to report pressing issues in the government. [More here](#). ...

Reporters are not embedded in the recent deployment of U.S. troops to Eastern Europe, and many of their requests have been blocked. Fourteen organizations, including military.com, Stars and Stripes, and ABC News, wrote a [right-to-know letter](#). [More here](#), [here](#). ...

A district court ordered Haskell Indian Nations University to [adopt sweeping policy reforms](#) that will protect the First Amendment rights of students and the editorial independence of the student newspaper. [More here](#).

**Caught my eye:** [Three-story water battery cuts university's energy usage by 40 percent ... Harvester pulls record amount of drinking water out of thin air ... Renewable energy is suddenly startlingly cheap](#)

**Closing words** [with gratitude to **Garrison Keillor** and Prairie Home Productions]: “The people must grant a hearing to the best poets they have, else they will never have better.” — poetry champion **Harriet Monroe**

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## Cowcatcher Magazine

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



UNSUNG: REMEMBERING JEWELL HOUSE

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- [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](#)
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- [The Texas Observer](#) [The Village Voice](#)
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- [Burnt Orange Report](#) [The New Republic](#)
- [The American Conservative](#)
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- [Fort Worth Report](#) [The Texas Tribune](#)

- the industry / tools of the trade
- [11 Rules of Writing, Grammar and Punctuation](#)
- [writers.com](#) [wilbers.com](#)
- [Ethics AdviceLine for Journalists](#)
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- organizations
- [Asian American Journalists Association](#)
- [DFW Network of Hispanic Communicators](#)
- [National Lesbian & Gay Journalists Association](#)
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- antidote
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