

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

\* 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.

INFORMING THE NORTH TEXAS JOURNALISM / COMMUNICATOR WORKFORCE





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## Heavy hitters headline awards banquet

The 19th Annual First Amendment Awards and Scholarship Banquet — Friday, April 22, Rolling Hills Country Club in Arlington — looks to be a great venue for smart people with something to say.



Lise Olsen

Social commentator **Dale Hansen**, the lightning-rod WFAA-TV sports anchor who retired last year, will keynote, and Texas-based investigative journalist **Lise Olsen**, author of "Code of Silence: Sexual Misconduct by Federal Judges, the Secret System that Protects Them and the Women Who Blew the Whistle," will receive the chapter's highest honor, the Open Doors Award.



Dale Hansen

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

Reservations are a must for the food count. Individual tickets are \$50. [RSVP here](#), then pay with a credit card on [Eventbrite](#), or by check at the door.

Proceeds benefit the Texas Gridiron Club Scholarship Endowment.

### QUICK HITS

- Arlington Conservation Council monthly Zoomer, "Urban Wildlife: How We Can All Just Get Along," with **Ray Rentschler**, Arlington Animal Services — 7 p.m. Wednesday, April 6. [Info.](#)
- FWBG | BRIT — Butterflies in the Garden, ends April 10; Photographing Butterflies in the Garden, April 5; Spring Plant Sale, April 8 and 9; Spring Japanese Festival, April 23-24; Erika Huddleston's Prairie, through May 13. [Info.](#)
- GFW PRSA professional development program, "In Motion: Why Video is Vital & How You Can Do It," with **Clayton Coblentz**, video production company Texas Producer; **Jay Warren**, city of Arlington; **Lewis Jackson**, JPS Health Network — 11:30 a.m. Wednesday, April 6, Colonial Country Club. [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.* ... Texas Public Radio, a mission-driven multimedia organization serving more than 200,000 listeners across the state, seeks an editor with an ear for sound storytelling to help shape its border and immigration coverage. [Info.](#) ... The Midland Reporter-Telegram wants more family-centered stories for its town of thriving nonprofits and improving education system. The new education and family reporter should speak to the young families moving in, while covering a school district on the upswing. [Info.](#) ... The Fort Worth Star-Telegram seeks a business/economic development reporter to join its Crossroads Lab, a group of reporters funded through philanthropic partnerships to examine community challenges and opportunities. [Info.](#) ... An editor is needed in the Marketing Communications Department at Rice Business, which serves the faculty, staff and students of the Jones Graduate School of Business at Rice University, [Info.](#)

[more eChaser on p. 2](#)

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["What is good journalism?"](#)

# SPJ SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL JOURNALISTS REGIONAL CONFERENCES 2022

REGION 8 | Saturday, April 9 | It's Zoom, and it's free

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86916942406?pwd=OVl1Zm9zTDYrOXZrZno0T25hOGdFdz09>

11-11:15 a.m.

### WELCOME

Short overview on what's happening in [SPJ Region 8](#)  
**Kathryn Jones**, Region 8 coordinator

11:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

### NEW CHALLENGES TO A FREE STUDENT PRESS

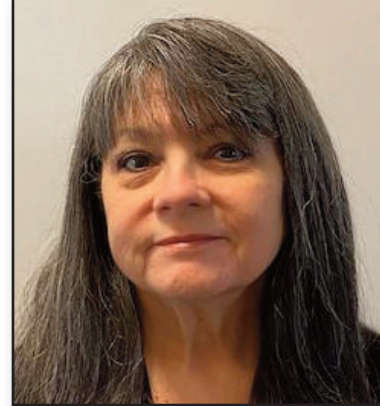
**Myranda Campanella**, editor of The Battalion at Texas A&M, and **Doug Pils**, general manager of TAMU student media, will give an update on the latest developments at A&M, whose president wanted to end The Battalion's print edition and faced an outcry — not confined to Texas — from current students, former students and journalists.

- Pulitzer Prize winner **Dan Malone**, a retired assistant professor of journalism at Tarleton State University and currently on the board of the Freedom of Information Foundation of Texas, will discuss the [FIRE lawsuit accusing Tarleton](#) of censorship and withholding open records.
- **Chris Whitley**, Tarrant County College director of student publications and president of the College Media Association, will offer a national overview of free press challenges to student journalists and advisers and how to address them.

12:30-1:30 p.m.

### KEYNOTE ADDRESS

**Dianna Hunt**, a veteran reporter/editor with experience at the Fort Worth Star-Telegram, The Dallas Morning News and Houston Chronicle, will take a concerned look at the state of journalism in Native American communities. Hunt is a senior editor at Indian Country Today.



Dianna Hunt

1:30-2 p.m.

### MARK OF EXCELLENCE AWARDS

Winners in the prestigious student journalism competition will be announced. Certificates will be mailed to all finalists.

2-3 p.m.

### NONPROFIT JOURNALISM TAKES OFF IN TEXAS

Q&A and Fort Worth Report first-year update with **Chris Cobler**, former publisher and editor of The Victoria Advocate and now FWR publisher/CEO



Washington, D.C. | Oct. 27-30 | Watch for details.



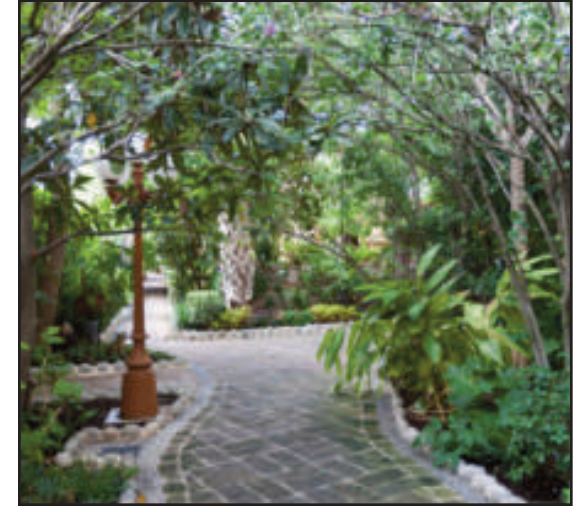
**PEOPLE & PLACES** Fort Worth Report has added four writers, *above from left*, funded by a two-year grant from the Sid W. Richardson Foundation: **Emily Wolf**, most recently at The Kansas City Beacon, covering local government; **Rachel Behrndt**, government accountability; **Seth Bodine**, from KOSU public radio in Oklahoma City, business; **Kristen Barton**, education. ... The Fort Worth NewsGuild boycotted the March 16 Star-Telegram morning meeting, saying reporters can't afford to work from the office due to parking costs downtown. "This is not acceptable, McClatchy — we should not have to pay to work." ... The Fort Worth Botanic Garden | Botanical Research Institute of Texas, with Studio Outside, will host a pop-up guest engagement meeting on site Saturday, April 9, 11 a.m.-2 p.m., to gather feedback on the Garden's long-term master plan. Six public comment sessions have already been held. Comments may be submitted through April 12 via a [survey](#) at [fwbg.org/masterplan](http://fwbg.org/masterplan).

### F.O.I.F.T. UPDATE At the root of democracy: Free flow of information. ...

The city of Austin is embroiled in three open records disputes with the University of Texas. University officials acknowledge they are deferring to business interests instead of simply releasing information to the public. [Details](#). ... A judge in February dismissed an Odessa American lawsuit against the city of Odessa. The paper asserted that the city violated the Texas Public Information Act by redacting too much information; city officials said they were only redacting information like Social Security numbers and license numbers. The newspaper also contended that the city wasn't releasing public records in a timely manner. [Details](#).

[more eChaser on p. 3](#)

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# VITAL READS: Near and Far

INSTITUTE FOR NONPROFIT NEWS | REPORT FOR AMERICA

[Pandemic shines a light on just how many school-related infractions end with children in the juvenile justice system](#)

[New Texas law disenfranchised some of El Paso's longest-tenured voters](#)

[How Dallas Free Press uses text messages and community events](#)

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[Illustrating the news: What expanded child tax credit means for rural families](#)

[Mom succeeds in sending space-loving son's ashes into orbit](#)

[How three women journalist leaders channeled legacy newsroom experiences into creating healthier nonprofits](#)

## 'Folks, things are fixing to change': **Whitley** **Fort Worth Report**

[discusses Tarrant County's past, future at first of final addresses](#)

[O'Hare's win in primary paves path for Tarrant Republican Party reset](#)

[TCC trustees begin process to terminate chancellor](#)

[Here's why Fort Worth's Central Library is for sale](#)

[Former employees say TCC fails to follow due process](#)

## Local Russia expert worked with **Fort Worth Star-Telegram**

[Gorbachev and met Putin. What he says about Ukraine](#)

[North FW company says it's building the future of electric transportation](#)

[Dick Collier: The art of gerrymandering](#)

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## Analysis: If it was **FORT WORTH BUSINESS PRESS** easier to vote in Texas, would turnout still be this low?

[Promise delivered: Dickies Arena is world class](#)

[Texas power grid, energy sectors facing elevated Russian cyberthreats during war in Ukraine](#)

[Landmark restaurant Reata leaving Sundance Square, looking for new home](#)

## **POWER TO THE PEOPLE** *paywall code https://dmn.pub/watchdog*

[These roofing salesmen knocked on the wrong door](#)

[Saga of Texas' first integrated café shows how far Southlake has regressed](#)

[Free prescription drugs, joining the national grid, and Southfork's future](#)

[How one man turned the Dallas bureaucracy upside down to get what he wants: a cleaner city](#)

[Almost 100 candidates from governor to constable pledge to support vote on Texas seceding](#)

[The mystery of the missing \*\*Willie Mays\*\* baseball card](#)

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

**Roger Summers** is lifting us all up.

You are coming to the banquet, yes? Let me count the reasons why you should: Experience **Dale Hansen** being Dale Hansen. Meet and hear sterling investigative reporter **Lise Olsen**. Applaud a tribute to **Mike Cochran**. See the glow in the faces of scholarship recipients and First Amendment Award winners. Make a little history — this banquet has never been at Rolling Hills Country Club in Arlington (401 E. Lamar Blvd. 76011) before and likely never will be again, as the land is slated to be sold and repurposed. The food will be good, the night energized and lovely. [RSVP](#), then pay at the door, or [buy a ticket \(\\$50\) now with a credit card](#). ...

Exhaustive to the point of exhausting, but still: The nonprofit [Internet Archive](#) is building a digital library of sites and other cultural artifacts. Like a paper library, it provides free access to researchers, historians, scholars, people with print disabilities, and the public. "Our mission is to provide *Universal Access to All Knowledge*." Emphasis added.

**Caught my eye:** [Powerful methane fountains seen bubbling to surface of Siberian sea ... Behold the bare-handed bee whisperer saving the honeybee ... How is the polar vortex linked to climate change? ... Even in deserts, this system can generate water and electricity ... \*\*Bill McKibben\*\* calls for 'heat pumps for peace and freedom'](#)

**Closing words** [with gratitude to **Garrison Keillor** and Prairie Home Productions]: "While the novelist is banging on his typewriter, the poet is watching a fly in the window pane." — **Billy Collins**, arguably the most popular poet in America ... "In three words I can sum up everything I've learned about life: it goes on." — **Robert Frost**

[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



## UNSUNG: REMEMBERING JEWELL HOUSE

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