The facts of patriotism, the timbre of reality

What’s it like as a student journalist to be sued
Climate change is everywhere in the story of a mounting global food crisis
The Putin wind of the Republican Party

Ukraine literally burns the world, as Russia kills 2 more visual journalists
When it comes to how journalism uses it, there’s no such thing as ‘Twitter’

The face of patriotism, the timbre of resolve

Quick Hits

... updates on the homepage and Facebook

Navigating the Stressors of Journalism
6:30 p.m. Wednesday, May 4 | https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86169747155

Community Media Group seeks a reporter for the online publications in Plainview, covering news from digital and print sources, such as the web and over the phone. Position can be located anywhere in the state. Info.

Position can be located in Beaumont, Midland, Laredo and Plainview, covering news from digital and print sources, such as the web and over the phone. Position can be located anywhere in the state. Info.

Quick Hits

• Arlington Conservation Council monthly Zoomer, “Environmentalism in Meetups: primitive and ancient, reduce, reuse, recycle and remove”

IN THE WORKPLACE: GET A JOB

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

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.
Texas unions making history in real time

It had to be a first. Was there ever an occasion when three of the state’s top newspaper unions joined to stage a brief job action to protest management’s refusal to finalize a contract? Not likely, because aside from a few exceptions (San Antonio Light in the 1990s) Texas newspaper unions didn’t exist.

That changed when the Dallas News Guild formed almost two years ago, followed by the Fort Worth NewsGuild and Austin NewsGuild.

At high noon April 26, members of all three unions signed off Slack, left their newsrooms and ceased work for an hour. They took no calls or e-mails from work. Many met in a Zoom call with NewsGuild national president Jon Schleuss. The effort even had a nickname: “y’allidarity.”

Workers at the papers face the same problems — management stalling on contract negotiations. The Morning News and its sister paper, Al Día, are family owned. McClatchy owns the Star-Telegram, and Gannett owns the Austin-American Statesman.

For the record, Fort Worth was the first to engage in a job action. Back in October, FWST reporters worked from home for a week “in solidarity with the growing number of employees who cannot work from the office due to the rising cost of downtown parking,” the guild said in a tweet. “Our parking options run between $146 and $275 a month.”

PEOPLE & PLACES

The first Fort Worth Report / Fort Worth SPJ summer fellowship recipient is a broadcast journalism major at the University of North Texas. David Moreno has covered Denton arts, politics and culture, and he notably highlighted the effects covid-19 had on local businesses in the pandemic’s early months. He has worked as a reporter and anchor with North Texas Television and interned with the Dallas Business Journal, where he published multiple data lists in the DBJ “Book of Lists” in 2017. ...

Fort Worth SPJ worked five tables at the 2022 Texas Intercollegiate Press Association Conference, March 25 at the downtown Fort Worth Hilton, dispensing information for students eyeing that first journalism job. Chris Cobler, Kailey Broussard, Jocelyn Tatum, Gayle Reaves, Eddye Gallagher, Rebecca Aguilar and Kay Pirtle ranged far afield, hosting small-group discussions, reviewing portfolio and résumé reviews, and otherwise spreading the chapter word. More on TIPA.

F.O.I.F.T. UPDATE

Federal Judge Robert Pitman struck down Texas’ drone photography law, ruling that it violates the First Amendment. The law prevented journalists from gathering news. Dale Hansen, Retired WFAA-TV sports anchor "The drone photography law, ruling that it violates the First Amendment. The law prevented journalists from gathering news. Dale Hansen, Retired WFAA-TV sports anchor ...

The Wuhan Institute of Virology has the right to ask a partnering lab at the Galveston National Laboratory, University of Texas Medical Branch, to destroy all records of their work together, according to a legal document obtained by U.S. Right to Know. The document raises a number of legal red flags. A memorandum of understanding between the two labs states that each can ask the other to return or “destroy” any so-called “secret files” — any communications, documents, data or equipment resulting from their collaboration. The right remains in effect even after the agreement’s five-year term ends in October.

The revelation that the Wuhan lab retained the right to request the destruction of data on U.S. servers funded by U.S. taxpayers comes amid a debate about what sort of investigation is necessary to clear the U.S. Right to Know from suspicions it sparked the covid-19 pandemic. U.S. Right to Know is a nonprofit investigative research group that promotes transparency for public health. Details.

Retired WFAA-TV sports anchor Dale Hansen with award winner Edward Brown at the 19th Annual First Amendment Awards and Scholarship Banquet, April 22. Details in the June issue on a memorable, upbeat evening.