

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

* 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](#)

“Hello, Suckers! Don't you think you're a silly ass, paying \$75 to look in the looking glass?” This Texas Gridiron proverb will live forever in UTA Special Collections, thanks to the efforts of former Gridiron performers (aka pack rats) who donated their personal memorabilia — seven boxes of printed materials plus a few costumes, pictures and videos — to the UT Arlington Library.



Program cover, 1953

The Texas Gridiron Show debuted April Fools Day 1947 and is remembered as an annual stage production that spoofed politicians and news events. Actors (sometimes a loose definition) were all SPJ members. **Verlie McAlister Edwards**, SPJ president for the Golden Gridiron finale in 1996, said each show was a “must attend” for national/ state/local politicians and civic leaders. “No one,” she said, “wanted to miss seeing if he/she was skewered by the reporters they interacted with.”

Proceeds benefitted the 501(c)(3) Texas Gridiron Club, Inc. In its 50 years the Gridiron Show raised an estimated \$400,000 for journalism scholarships. The Texas Gridiron Club Scholarship Endowment continues this work today.

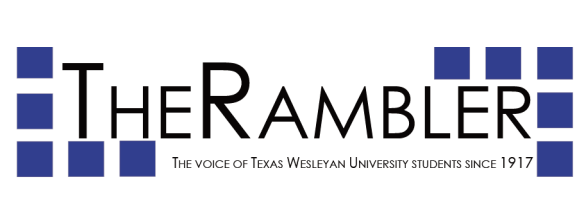
QUICK HITS

- Arlington Conservation Council — no meeting in July ([meetings](#))
- GFW PRSA — no meeting in July ([upcoming events](#))
- FWBG | BRIT — Concerts in the Garden, July 1-4; Dog Days, July 16-17; AgriLife Wellness in the Garden: Journey to Begonias, July 27; Book Club: *The Seed Underground: A Growing Revolution to Save Food*, July 18. [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](#) and [texaspress.com/job-board](#) appear in this report.* ... The San Antonio Business Journal seeks a reporter who's “competitive, nimble and driven to break news.” [Info.](#) ... The UNT Division of Student Affairs has a senior-level position available to disseminate content through writing, editing, video production and design. [Info.](#) ... The Odessa American is looking for a [sports reporter](#) and a [reporter/photographer](#). Great place to live when the water main's not busted! ... The Texas Standard is hiring a digital producer to expand its reach. [Info.](#) ... DFWChild, with its audience of moms with kids ages 0-12 years, seeks an editor to join the print and digital editorial team. [Info.](#)

[more eChaser on p. 2](#)

BIG-TIME SUPPORTER

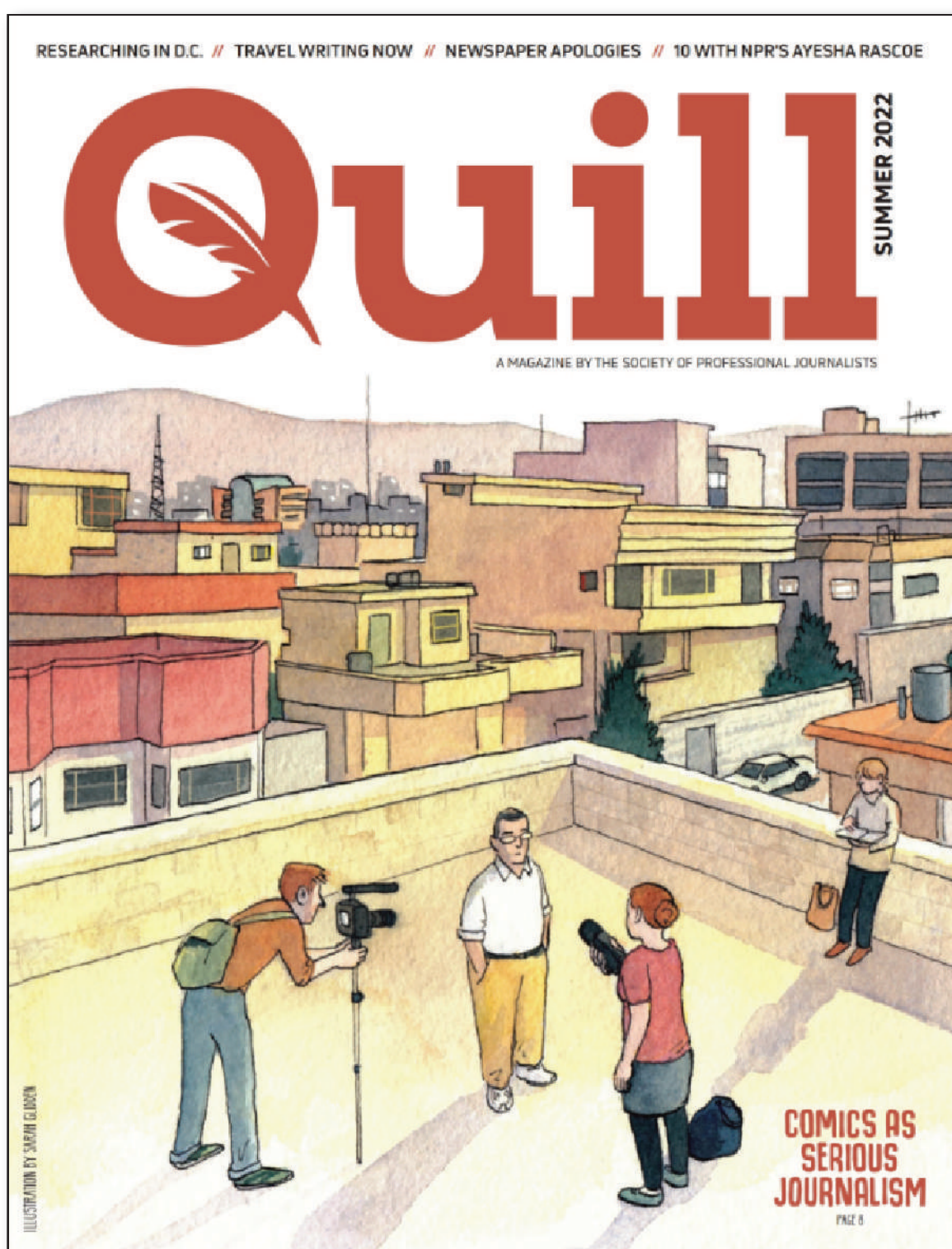


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["What is good journalism?"](#)



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Graphic Depictions
A picture may be worth a thousand words, but journalists only recently have been taken seriously when using long-form comics as their medium. For these creative writers and illustrators, comics are serious business.
By Jonathan Najarian

20
Traveling Blues
COVID-19 made it nearly impossible for travel journalists to get out and see the world and report. Meanwhile, travel editors had to find new ways to tell destination stories. Here's how both are trying to keep their careers afloat plus tips for those still up in the air.
By Sam Stall

26
Capitalizing on the Nation's Capital
Washington, D.C., offers a plethora of libraries and archives to explore and mine in-person or online. Before you head to SPJ's annual convention in October, learn how to access these resources to strengthen your reporting.
By Brad Hathaway

PEOPLE & PLACES Gloria Farris has been selected the first recipient of Fort Worth SPJ's Bob Ray Sanders Internship at KERA. A junior studying communications and Spanish at Trinity University in San Antonio, she works out of KERA's Fort Worth bureau and was chosen from among 37 applicants. She previously worked as a digital PR intern for Sammis | Ochoa Public Relations + Digital Marketing in San Antonio. This is Fort Worth SPJ's first year to award internships as well as scholarships. Farris' internship is named after award-winning KERA reporter and Fort Worth Star-Telegram columnist **Bob Ray Sanders**. The chapter also is sponsoring an internship at Fort Worth Report, filled by recent UNT broadcast journalism grad **David Moreno**. ... J.O. has added two to the team this summer — copywriter **Caitlin Rodgers** and intern **Clare Moorman-Wolfe**. Rodgers has written professionally since 2012. A Fort Worth native, she considers Paris, France, her second hometown. Moorman-Wolfe, from Bloomington, Ill., is studying strategic communications at TCU.



Gloria Farris



Caitlin Rodgers



Clare Moorman-Wolfe

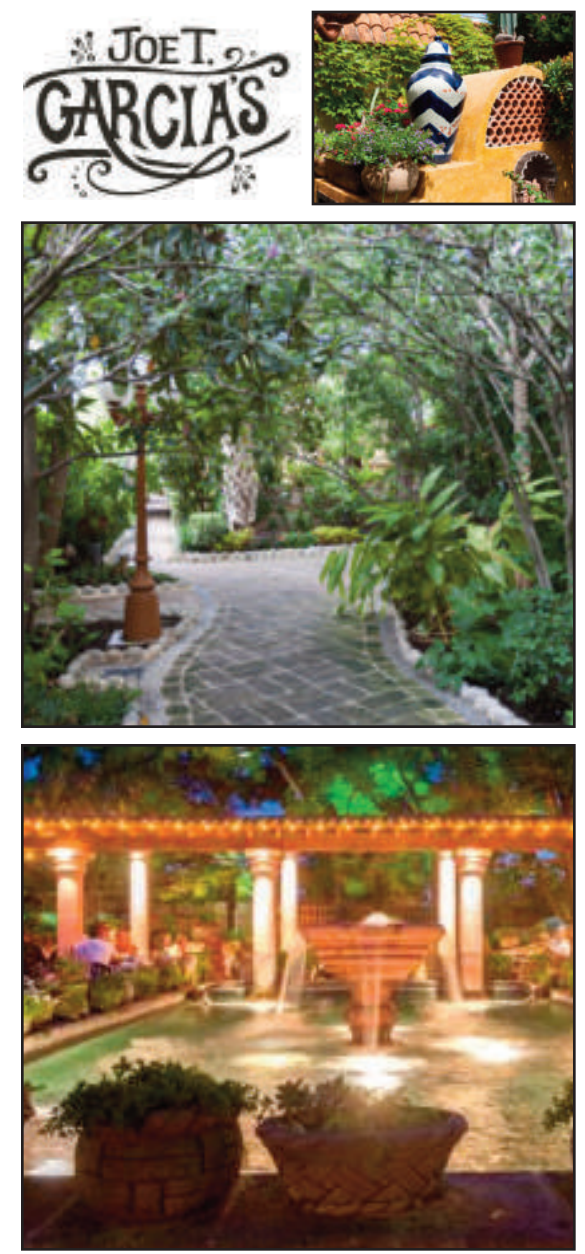
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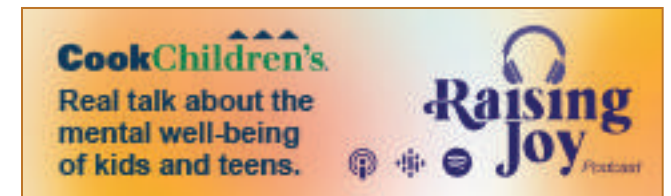
F.O.I.F.T. UPDATE [FOI Foundation statement demanding transparency in Uvalde shooting investigation](#). ... Following the elementary school shooting in Uvalde, officials released contradictory information. In Texas, reporters who turn to 911 calls, police dispatch recordings and body camera footage often get stonewalled by the state invoking something called the dead suspect loophole. [Details](#). ... Numerous state and local officials fought the release of records that could help clarify how the Uvalde emergency response unfolded, although the governor's office did stray from that broader opposition when it granted a request under the Texas Public Information Act from a Houston television station that sought the handwritten notes **Greg Abbott** used — believed to be favorable to him — when he first spoke publicly about the shooting. [Details](#). ... FOIFT director **Laura Prather**, a First Amendment lawyer at Haynes and Boone in Austin, wrote a letter on behalf of more than 50 media outlets to Uvalde Mayor **Don McLaughlin** appealing for transparency and accountability. [Details](#).

[more eChaser on p. 3](#)

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Biden muddles US-industrial nation inflation comparison

[Fox grapples with covering itself at Jan. 6 hearings](#)

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

Select reporting from PolitiFact, The Texas Tribune, the Texas Observer and Fort Worth Weekly has been added to the p. 3 index, beginning this issue. PolitiFact hails from the Poynter Institute, Tribune stories increasingly grace the Fort Worth Business Press, and FW Weekly and the Observer have been breathing fire for 93 years combined. These are reads you need. May require a small digital subscription. Do it. More is almost always better. Just trying to give you more. ...

With **Buddy Jones**, husband of Fort Worth SPJ's **Kim Jones**, the term "servant leader" never meant half one, half the other. Buddy was 100 percent both, all the time. He was a solutions guy, motivated by empathy, informed by training, eager to make something happen so *you* could make something happen. Before our 2019 Sheraton Arlington awards banquet started, he tried to prop open the bathroom stall door to keep me from being trapped. But the trash can wouldn't hold, so he just hung around and let me out. Merely one of several examples. He died June 9. We all should be so capable and kind. ...



Buddy Jones

The times, they are deranging. [Look at it this way.](#)

SPJ factoids: Fox News agreed to award **Melissa Francis**, a former Fox News host, \$15 million in a settlement after she made claims — backed with spreadsheet data — about gender-based pay disparities at the network. More [here](#), [here](#). ...

Vox and Capital B announced their partnership for an initiative examining Juneteenth: "Juneteenth isn't just a celebration of freedom. It's a monument to America's failures." June 19 marks the day in 1865 when enslaved people in Galveston finally learned they were free. More [here](#), [here](#), [here](#). ...

Former Fox News politics editor **Chris Stirewalt** told the Jan. 6 House committee that his experience led him to make the announcement on election night that **Joe Biden** won Arizona when only 73 percent of the vote had been counted. "Being right and beating the competition is no act of heroism; it's just meeting the job description of the work I love," he testified. "I became a target of murderous rage from consumers who were furious at not having their views confirmed." More [here](#), [here](#), [here](#), [here](#). ...

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement announced a new policy to limit restrictions on reporters. The policy states that using compulsory tools to obtain information relating to a journalist "is an extraordinary act and not a standard investigative practice." More [here](#), [here](#). ...

Uvalde officials refused to release any city records or body camera footage until the investigation into the shooting at Robb Elementary School is complete. Police have interfered with journalists reporting on the shooting and giving updates on the investigation. More [here](#), [here](#), [here](#). ...

Vox Media Union reached a tentative deal on a new contract that covers writers, editors, reporters, producers, podcasters and other staffers under Vox, The Verge, Eater, Polygon, SB Nation, Recode and Seeker. The union covers 350 workers. This news follows as G/O Media went on a five-day strike in March for a better contract. More [here](#), [here](#), [here](#), [here](#).

Caught my eye: [Stanford scientists warn of insulin shortage ... Hydrogen projects worth \\$300 billion are dropping green H2 prices](#)

Closing words [with gratitude to **Garrison Keillor** and Prairie Home Productions]: "No man is lonely while eating spaghetti" — **Christopher Morley**, who also said, "You can blow up a man with gunpowder in half a second, while it may take 20 years to blow him up with a book. But the gunpowder destroys itself along with its victim, while a book can keep on exploding for centuries."

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

UNSUNG: REMEMBERING JEWELL HOUSE



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- organizations
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- [Native American Journalists Association](#)
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