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[“What is good journalism?”](#)

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## This lady needs another month!

SPJ president lays out her agenda for 2023, and it’s packed

**Claire Regan** has a long way to go to meet her goals as SPJ’s 106th president and a short time to get there, she told Fort Worth Pro Chapter members in November during an hour-long Zoom meeting.

Presidents are sworn in at the national convention. Regan, a reporter and former associate managing editor for the Staten Island (New York) Advance, said the late-October date this year only gives her about 11 months in office. The 2023 convention is scheduled for Sept. 29-Oct. 1 in Las Vegas.

She has a full slate of ideas:

- Search for new executive director. A most pressing objective is finding a successor to **John Schertzer**, who resigned in September and took a similar position with the Medal of Honor Foundation of the Congressional Medal of Honor Society. Several Fort Worth board members urged organizational leadership and management skills as a prerequisite over journalism experience. Three search firms are being considered.
- Continued collaborations with journalism partners. “I want to take a good hard look at that,” Regan said, adding that the Poynter Institute might make a great partner. SPJ co-sponsored MediaFest22 with Associated Collegiate Press and College Media Association. “I think we could raise the bar (with collaborations),” she said.
- Fixed dates for national elections. Citing her own shortened term, Regan said she would like to explore having fixed dates for the tenure of national presidents to ensure they have adequate time to employ their initiatives. She suggested early January as a possibility, and the Zoom discussion touched on extending terms to two years.
- One member, one vote. The move to amend SPJ’s bylaws to replace the delegate voting system with one member, one vote failed at the convention on a 48-48 tie, but Regan said she favors the latter. “One member, one vote is certainly less complicated,” she said. “I think (the delegate system) is discouraging for people because they don’t understand it.”
- Regan said SPJ will do a better job of checking sponsors and vendors for the next convention. A sponsorship for the ’22 convention was accepted from Project Veritas, which portrays itself as a nonprofit journalism watchdog but whose tactics have drawn legal and ethical challenges. Immediate past president **Rebecca Aguilar** handled the matter “swiftly and efficiently” once Project Veritas’ presence was recognized, Regan said. “They were asked to leave the building, and they did. It was an innocent oversight, and I have that down for Las Vegas. All will be vetted.”
- Fixing the broken membership database. Regan said a replacement will be sought for the current provider, whose contract expires soon. She may seek improvements to the website, too. “I think our website is very dense, vast and complicated,” she said.
- Weekly chats via Zoom. Regan also teaches journalism at Wagner College and advises its student newspaper but said she hopes to begin having “office hours” for SPJ members, perhaps three segments a week.

— Robert Bohler

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## POWER TO THE PEOPLE

[Richardson police change pursuit policy in wake of woman’s death during car chase](#)

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[The Texas agency that helped expose ‘King of Crypto’ Sam Bankman-Fried’s FTX empire](#)

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**PEOPLE & PLACES** With just a year and a half under its belt, Fort Worth Report has been named New Business of the Year (Large Revenue Tier) by [Local Independent Online News Publishers](#). LION also named FWR a finalist in three other categories at the Oct. 28 awards ceremony in Austin. ... UT Arlington received a Newspaper Pacemaker, numerous individual and organizational awards and was a finalist for an Online Pacemaker and the new Multiplatform Pacemaker at the National College Media Convention in late October in Washington, D.C. The Shorthorn also received a "Top 100" Pacemaker

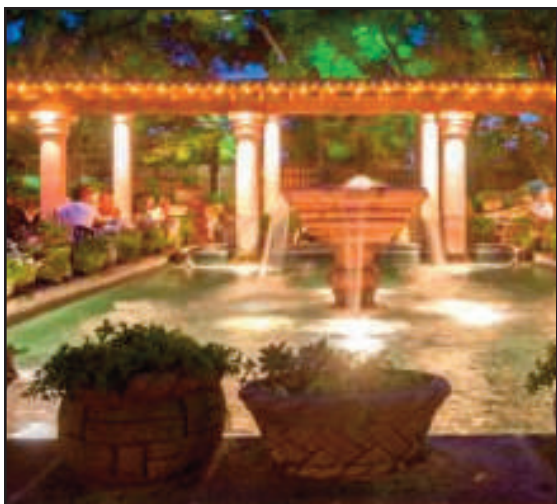
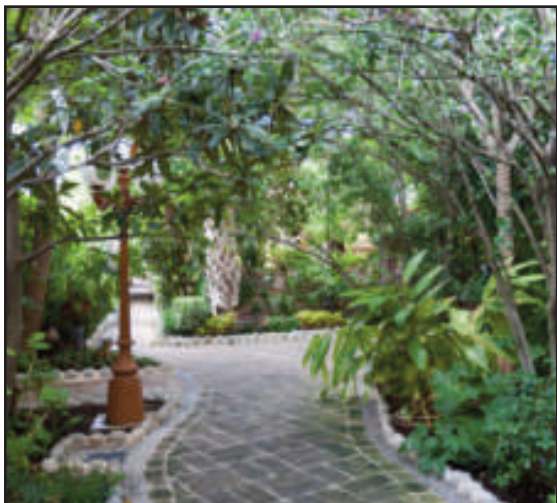


representing the best 100 publications recognized for sustained excellence from editorial staffs and advisers during ACP’s 100-year history. The [haul](#) overflowed a large countertop in the newsroom. ... J.O. keeps adding talent — **Christian Sendra**, new creative director, and graphic designer **Sammy Sosa**. Sendra brings more than 20 years of experience at firms like The Richards Group, Marketing Arm and Critical Mass, where he oversaw campaigns for Chrysler, AT&T, Dr Pepper Snapple, United Way and Haggar. Sosa at J.O. has worked with KWC Performing Arts, The Change Agents and all design for Graham Hart Home Builder, GFWAR and the Mental Health Connection.

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[more eChaser on p. 3](#)

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## VITAL READS: Near and National



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Facts to help us understand the rise in political violence || Where abortion laws stand after the 2022 midterms || No legal benefits to **Trump** by announcing he's running again

## Fort Worth Star-Telegram

Grapevine-Colleyville schools postponed book fairs. So parents organized their own || Dallas sewing co-op gives women in Honduras opportunity to overcome gangs, drugs, poverty || 2 months for a Texas driver's license?

## Fort Worth Report

Clock's ticking on landfill dilemma || Enrolling in college-level classes boosts high schoolers' graduation rates, STAAR scores || What did Election Day mean for Tarrant schools? || Research shows more Latinas should be getting elected. So why isn't it happening in Tarrant County?

## FORT WORTH BUSINESS PRESS ★THE TEXAS TRIBUNE

Richard Connor: **Bob Watt**, Fort Worth's very own Western hero, will live on and on || Educator **James Cash** made history at TCU. Now he has a campus statue in his honor || Eyesight gone, vision intact: Blind soccer player on track to achieve lifetime dream



Cult Lite? Don't drink the punch at Mercy Culture Church's new Candidate University || Holiday Heartburn: If last year's supply chain madness wasn't bad enough, this year's bird flu might Scrooge your holiday table

## TEXAS OBSERVER

Disaster Dollars: **Abbott's** big, new donor got half a billion in covid, border contracts || Industry threatens water supplies, coastal ecology near Corpus Christi || Classroom culture war comes to Round Rock || Course Corrections: The return of prison education



Science 'on their fingertips': Texas professor making chemistry available to blind students || DPS director says his agency didn't fail Uvalde families || Despite a ban on the practice, many churches mingle pulpit, politics

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

I was in the Palace Theatre downtown one afternoon in June 1970 seeing a movie to review in my wondrous, abbreviated role as **Elston Brooks** fill-in when a note was handed to a woman down front that made her immediately start to leave. She came up my aisle. She was stunning. That was the first time I saw **Anne Miller**. An accomplished reporter, she lived in that Star-Telegram world where I longed to belong. We met years later, and it turns out she was feisty and funny, a Baylor grad, a future Fort Worth SPJ president (1993-94). "Her interests were as broad as the Texas sky, ranging from archaeology to tap dancing." It says that in her obituary. She died Nov. 9. She had *presence*. Even in a darkened movie house. **Worth Wren** has been on my mind lately, too. A gregarious sort, 50 years a newsman, he wrote a Star-Telegram farm and ranch column that sprawled all over the page. Hey, he wrote long — you got your money's worth. I remember him always smiling, always eager to talk. He also died Nov. 9. Tough month, this November. ...



Worth Wren



Anne Miller Tinsley

Something to get excited about: [Houston Local News Initiative](#). Too nervous about this — [Fort Worth NewsGuild strike fund](#) — to feel the same enthusiasm.

**SPJ factoids:** Alden Global Capital abandoned its bid for Lee Enterprises, which publishes over 75 newspapers and more than 350 weekly, classified and specialty publications. More [here](#), [here](#). ...

A Pennsylvania man has been sentenced to nearly three years in prison for assaulting an Associated Press photographer and attacking police officers with a stun gun during the U.S. Capitol riot. More [here](#). ...

The Register-Guard of Eugene, Ore., is the latest newspaper in the United States to stop publishing letters to the editor, editorials and guest opinions. More [here](#), [here](#). ...

New York City recently enacted a salary transparency law, requiring companies with four or more employees to put a minimum and maximum salary range on every advertisement. More [here](#), [here](#), [here](#). ...

NPR introduced a new bundle — NPR+ — to give listeners access to sponsorship-free podcasts when they become a member of their local member station. More [here](#). ...

A new report asserts that online violence against female journalists remains one of the most serious threats to global press freedom. Its authors spoke with more than 1,000 female journalists in 15 countries, including the United States. More [here](#), [here](#). ...

Major broadcast networks have stepped up their investments in streaming to complement current broadcast offerings. More [here](#). ...

Meta, the parent company of Facebook, appears to be pulling back its focus on news. More [here](#), [here](#).

**Caught my eye:** [Mississippi's water crisis a 'textbook case' of environmental racism](#) ... [Here's what extinction looks like](#) ... [T-Omega rethinks floating offshore wind turbines for huge cost savings](#)

**Closing words** [with gratitude to **Garrison Keillor** and Prairie Home Productions]: "That would be a good thing for them to cut on my tombstone: Wherever she went, including here, it was against her better judgment." — **Dorothy Parker**

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— Maya Angelou

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