Society of **Professional Journalists**, **Fort Worth Pro Chapter** Founded 1946

DECEMBER 2022 • **Back Issues** 

#### **INFORMING THE NORTH TEXAS JOURNALISM / COMMUNICATOR WORKFORCE**



to subscribe or to submit items, ejohn@xdycus.com

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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

 $\star$  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.

**BIG-TIME SUPPORTER** 

### IT'S SCHOLARSHIPS SEASON! DEADLINE FEB. 3

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The biggest emergency

Apocalypse then and now

The right-wing war on public education

Election deniers lose races for key state offices in every 2020 battleground

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Why we should think twice before using the term 'migrant'

Elon Musk's Twitter: What does it mean for journalists?

The Charlotte Ledger: Local news in your e-mail

The good news and bad news about Gannett

Midterm election debates on crime overlooked criminal justice reform win

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The philosophy of modern newsrooms

Bob Woodward's different world

### Next at Fort Worth SPJ

How we built this: Journalists share ways they're using fresh funding model to meet a community need

6:30 p.m. (room opens 6:15) Wednesday, Nov. 30

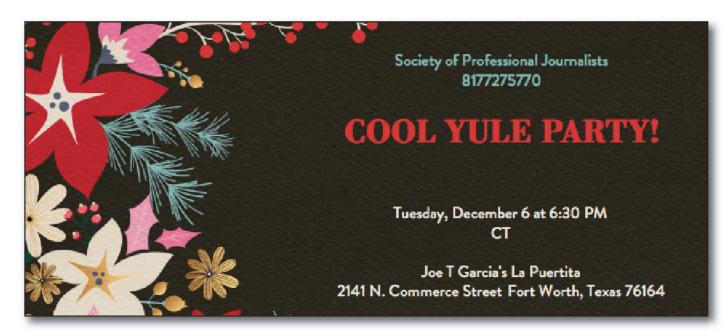


#### Zoom link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89197420012

Join Fort Worth SPJ for a discussion with journalists who successfully transitioned to a new business model that emphasizes the community need for local news. Students just starting out and midcareer professionals will learn what it takes to make a nontraditional format work in Fort Worth. Panelists include:

• Anjie and Shevoyd Hamilton with The Metro Report, which they started in 2019. Shevoyd worked for the Fort Worth Star-Telegram, and both worked for the Fort Worth Business Press. They have three decades of combined news gathering and publishing experience.

• Chris Cobler, publisher/CEO of Fort Worth Report, the only not-for-profit news outlet in Fort Worth.



La Puertita is the repurposed little church south of the main building Enchilada buffet, cash bar, \$30

Bring books for the JPS readers' library and spending energy for the gift drawing (featuring romantic overnight stay and dinner for two in downtown Fort Worth, Comedy Club tickets, Billy Bob's tickets, MOMA tickets, Kendra Scott jewelry, \$1,000 pair of Ramblin Trails custom boots, food baskets, wine baskets, picnic baskets, pamper yourself stuff and pamper your dog stuff!)

Dave Lieber back as emcee, with a small coterie of Gridiron performers singing their way into your heart, America, with a couple of tunes from the venerable Texas Gridiron Show!

So many folks reserve in the last 48 hours. Don't wait too long and be like some Dickens waif pressing her shivering little face against the frosted window, longing to be on the inside, in the warm, partying with the swells. Reservations deadline Dec. 4. RSVP today <u>here</u> or <u>here</u>!













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FORT WORTH BUSINESS PRESS



### QUICK HITS

 GFW PRSA professional development meeting, "Generation Z Insights: What Public Relations Means to the Digital Crowd," with **Brooke Hanshaw**, TCU; Carmen Ochoa, Texas Wesleyan; Jesus Alan Ruiz-Massieu, American Red Cross — 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 7, Ridglea Country Club. Info.

• FWBG | BRIT — Lightscape, select nights through Jan. 8; Amahl and the Night Visitors, Dec. 9, 10, 11; Holiday in the Garden, Dec. 10; Botanical Jewelry, Dec. 10; Girls' Nature Workshop: Holiday for the Birds, Dec. 10; Solar Light Snowglobes, Dec. 10; Texas Botanicals in Warp and Weft, through Dec 20; Drawing the Garden, Dec. 3. Info.

IN THE WORKPLACE: GET A JOB *Listings in journalismjobs.com* appear in this report. ... El Paso Matters covers a binational area on the U.S.-Mexico border that includes both large urban centers and rural communities facing significant climate change impacts, particularly around heat and water. EPM seeks a journalist with a passion for telling complex climate stories in a way that allows communities to understand the issues and work for solutions. Info. ... The San Antonio Report seeks an energetic reporter to cover the education beat. Info. ... The Beaumont Enterprise has an opening for a local government reporter to handle a beat that's "about more than elections and meetings. It's about living and breathing." Info.

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more eChaser on p. 2



Each logo in the ad rail links to the sponsor's website!

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?"



# 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:

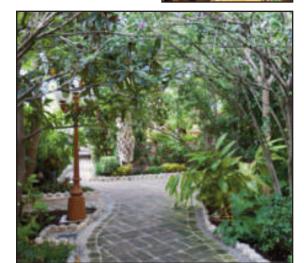
• Search for new executive director. A most pressing objective is finding a successor to **John Schertzer**, who resigned in September and took a similar position with the Medal of Honor Foundation of the Congressional Medal of Honor Society. Several Fort Worth board members urged organizational leadership 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.











FORT WORTH



BOTANICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE OF TEXAS



• 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

### **POWER TO THE PEOPLE**

Richardson police change pursuit policy in wake of woman's death during car chase

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You may pay money for decades for the state's electricity failure

Your Texas electric bill is going up. And your gas bill. But how much?

Texas bill asserts a fetus can legally be a second passenger in HOV lanes

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

ARLINGTON CONSERVATION COUNCIL



CookChildren's. Real talk about the mental well-being of kids and teens. Podcast

ID

GOOD WORK. ON TIME

John

Editing of a robust nature. Verbs activated. Syntax syncopated. Nuance nurtured. Prepositions expunged. Books. Manuscripts. Magazines. Wherever text is vexed. Experience? 50+ years. References? Of course. john@xdycus.com 817.264.3106

YCUS

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 <u>haul</u> 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.



Sammy Sosa

**Christian Sendra** 

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

### **VITAL READS: Near and National**

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 POILTIFACT
 PANTS ON FIRE!

 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 organizedtheir ownIIDallas sewing co-op gives women in Honduras opportunity toovercome gangs, drugs, povertyII2 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 onand on||Educator James Cash made history at TCU. Now he has acampus statue in his honor||Eyesight gone, vision intact: Blind soccerplayer on track to achieve lifetime dream

### Weekly

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



Disaster Dollars: **Abbott**'s big, new donor got half a billion in covid, border <u>contracts</u> || Industry threatens water supplies, coastal ecology near <u>Corpus Christi</u> || <u>Classroom culture war comes to Round Rock</u> || <u>Course Corrections: The return of prison education</u> Each logo in the ad rail links to the sponsor's website!

## Cowcatcher Magazine

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



UNSUNG: REMEMBERING JEWELL HOUSE

### haynesboone Setting precedent.

#### RESOURCES

<u>AP headlines</u> Journalist Express The Washington Post Denver Post The New York Times Chicago Tribune San Francisco Chronicle USA Today Los Angeles Times Financial Times Time The Wall Street Journal BBC The Nation The Christian Science Monitor Newsweek The Sydney Morning Herald Bloomberg International Herald Tribune Cato Institute 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 Dallas Observer The Hill Drudge Report The Texas Observer The Village Voice FrontBurner (D Magazine) Salon Burnt Orange Report The New Republic The American Conservative **Center for American Progress** 



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



Worth Wren

Anne Miller Tinsley

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. ...

Something to get excited about: <u>Houston Local News Initiative</u>. Too nervous about this — <u>Fort Worth NewsGuild strike fund</u> — 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 <u>here</u>, <u>here</u>. ...

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 <u>here</u>. ...

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 <u>here</u>, <u>here</u>. ...

Fort Worth Report The Texas Tribune

the industry / tools of the trade <u>11 Rules of Writing, Grammar and Punctuation</u> <u>writers.com</u> <u>wilbers.com</u> <u>Ethics AdviceLine for Journalists</u> <u>THE SLOT: A Spot for Copy Editors</u> <u>Center for Public Integrity</u> <u>Editor & Publisher</u> <u>Investigative Reporters and Editors</u> <u>Coalition of Journalists for Open Government</u> <u>National Institute for</u>

Computer-Assisted Reporting Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press Poynter Online Pew Research Center Columbia Journalism Review Texas Legislature FOI Foundation of Texas Merriam-Webster Encyclopedia Britannica NewsLink Wikipedia

organizations

Asian American Journalists Association DFW Network of Hispanic Communicators National Lesbian & Gay Journalists Association Native American Journalists Association Society of Environmental Journalists

antidote The Onion

send additions for the list to: john@xdycus.com

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 <u>here</u>, <u>here</u>, <u>here</u>. ...

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 <u>here</u>. ...

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 <u>here</u>, <u>here</u>. ...

Major broadcast networks have stepped up their investments in streaming to complement current broadcast offerings. More <u>here</u>. ...

Meta, the parent company of Facebook, appears to be pulling back its focus on news. More <u>here</u>, <u>here</u>.

**Caught my eye:** <u>Mississippi's water crisis a 'textbook case' of</u> environmental racism ... <u>Here's what extinction looks like</u> ... <u>T-Omega</u> 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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