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Next at [Fort Worth SPJ](#) ...

FIGHTING FOR PRESS FREEDOM IN SCHOOLS MIXER & DINNER



WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 12

HEAR DAN MALONE, TARLETON STATE PROFESSOR, AND TOM WILLIAMS, ATTORNEY, DISCUSS DEFENDING PRESS FREEDOM IN COLLEGES & HIGH SCHOOLS

MIXER: 5:30
DINNER: 6:30
PROGRAM: 7:15

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It's a lesson journalists learn from the beginning: Protect your sources. So Tarleton State University assistant professor **Dan Malone** never expected to be reprimanded when one of his student reporters did just that.

Malone and Fort Worth SPJ board member and attorney **Tom Williams** will discuss the issues and implications at a mixer and program Wednesday, Sept. 12, at Joe T. Garcia's. [RSVP by Sept. 10.](#)

Malone, a Pulitzer Prize-winning reporter from his days at The Dallas Morning News, was admonished last year when he didn't report to the Tarleton administration the names of persons who had talked to a student reporter, on condition of anonymity, about alleged inappropriate behavior by a Tarleton faculty member.

Tarleton and Malone face opposing views of state and federal law. Malone was threatened with termination if he adheres to journalistic ethics and to state law by refusing to identify the sources. He has hired an attorney.

QUICK HITS

- September is Hunger Action Month, and the [Tarrant Area Food Bank](#) has a lot on its plate.
- Scripps Howard Foundation 12-month fellowship program in conjunction with the Scripps News Washington Bureau/Newsy and ProPublica — applications for 2019-2020 open Sept. 17, deadline Oct. 19. [Info.](#)
- GFW PRSA monthly luncheon, "Crisis Communication + Ethics in a Public Health Emergency," with **Mark Riordan**, Texas Health Resources — 11:30 a.m. Wednesday, Sept. 12, Colonial Country Club. [Info.](#)
- Writers Guild of Texas monthly program, "Juice-Box Hero: Squeezing Plot from Character," with self-described "rural fantasy author, egregiously enthusiastic speaker and professional ruckus-raiser" **Arienne "Tex" Thompson** — 7 p.m. Monday, Sept. 17, Richardson Public Library. [Info.](#)
- Writers Guild of Texas fall workshop, "Guide to Self-Publishing: 10 Steps to Success" with multi-published author **Sarah Bale** — 9 a.m.-noon Saturday, Sept. 22, Richardson Civic Center. [Info.](#)
- Meetups: [North Texas Editors](#) ... [Bedford Science Fiction Writing](#) ... [DFW Self-Publishing Group](#) ... [GFW Writers](#) ... [Writers Anonymous – Support and Education](#) ... [Fort Worth Chapter – Nonfiction Authors Association](#) ... [Kidlit Critique](#) ... [Trinity Arts Writers Workshop](#) ... [The Writer's Critique](#) ... [Lonestar Sci Fi, Horror, and Fantasy Fans](#) ... [20BooksTo50k - Michael Anderle](#) ... [Fort Worth Area Journalists Meetup](#) ... [The DFW Bloggers Classroom](#)

GET A JOB. The University of North Texas is conducting a national search for its next dean of the Mayborn School of Journalism. All materials (letter of interest, full résumé/CV, at least five references) should be submitted to the search firm; application deadline is Oct. 1. [More.](#) ... The Denton County Transportation Authority seeks a communications coordinator. [More.](#) ... The Galveston County Daily News, Texas' oldest newspaper, seeks an energetic advertorial writer/designer to fill a full-time position working out of the Galveston office. E- résumé and work samples to **Melissa Rivera** at melissa.rivera@galvnews.com. ... The Austin American Statesman seeks an account executive spanning print, direct mail/direct marketing and digital media. [More.](#) ... The Houston Chronicle seeks a digital news editor to find stories that will drive web traffic, edit those stories quickly, and monitor multiple platforms for breaking news. [More.](#) The Chronicle also seeks a seasoned energy reporter. E- résumé and writing samples to assistant business editor **Rob Gavin**, rob.gavin@chron.com. [More.](#) ... WFAA-TV has openings for a research manager, social media manager, account manager and journal manager to follow the legendary **John McCaa**. ... [Job openings at journalismjobs.com](#), [dfwcommunicators.com](#) and [ziprecruiter.com](#) appear in this report.

[more eChaser on p. 2](#)

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The Gallery



More mellow than wild A handsome crowd of Fort Worth SPJ members and new best friends in Dallas journalism shoehorned into the Wild Detectives bookstore bar in the Bishop Arts District on July 25 and made each other's day. More SPJ mixers in Dallas are planned.

on the scene ... **Max and Sandy Baker, Margarita Birnbaum, Karen Gavis, Kay Pirtle, Tasha Tsiaperas and Jon Prior, Kim Pewitt-Jones, Elvia Limon, Julieta Chiquillo, Tara Nieuwesteeg, Linda Pavlik, John Gravois, Avi Adelman, Mike Mooney, Joe Snell, Geoff and Linda Campbell, Heather Zeiger, et al.**

— photos by Kay Pirtle and Karen Gavis



A win in Prosper

Journalism is under attack, from the White House front lawn to the college quadrangle to the high school campus, so any positive development is heartening. The Fort Worth SPJ board of directors applauds the decision at Prosper High School to drop restrictive policies regarding its award-winning journalism program and Eagle Nation Online, although not rehiring gold standard adviser **Lori Oglesbee-Petter** remains a concern.

During the last school year, Principal **John Burdett** blocked publication of two editorials and an article that he found objectionable. He followed his decision to censor the student journalists' work by not renewing Oglesbee-Petter's teaching contract.

We found Burdett's actions unacceptable and agreed with the Student Press Law Center, which wrote that the principal's actions "signal a serious attempt to quash student journalism and student opinions" and that they are "beyond reasonable, legitimate educational purposes."

We hope it was the realization of how bad the new policy was — and not the glare of negative national news coverage — that led to it being reversed. If Prosper High School students want to learn good journalism, they must be free to ask embarrassing questions, voice controversial opinions and chase the story wherever it takes them.

The students say they plan to test the policy. A lot of folks will be watching.

— Max Baker

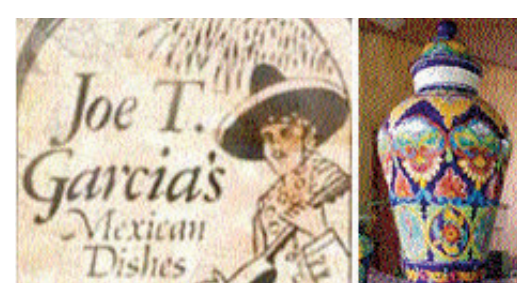
POWER TO THE PEOPLE Every Sunday night, Dallas Morning News Watchdog columnist and human exclamation point **Dave Lieber** activates the backyard blue lights and blue-light cam and goes off on a topic in keeping with his mission — positive change for consumers. Then he posts it on his Facebook page. Then a month's worth show up here, which they will continue to do as long as new ones keep coming. Like Lieber's well of indignation is fixin' to run dry. Here's the first batch: Darn the (P)UC! Secret meetings! Surcharges on plastic cards! Stop contractor rip-offs!

PEOPLE AND PLACES

UT Arlington's newspaper, The Shorthorn, has been named a finalist for a 2018 Pacemaker, arguably college journalism's highest award, given by the Associated Collegiate Press.

more eChaser on p. 3

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Fort Worth SPJ Member Spotlight

Joe Snell

editor, [The Assyrian Journal](#)

B.A. film/TV, minor business law, 2012: University of Southern California

childhood ambition To be a professional basketball player.

how'd you get into journalism? I wrote for my high school paper. In college I created a website that reported on our university's film, TV and gaming communities. After college I started a series highlighting Hollywood assistants in Los Angeles.

what was your first job after you graduated college? I was part of a new program at Fox Broadcasting Co. called the Fox Apprentice Program. I was paired with the president of Fox Sports and worked on special projects for the studio and production crews leading up to the launch of Fox Sports One.

what has been your most interesting job? In Chicago, I worked with producers on the **Jerry Springer** and **Steve Wilkos** shows. I would look through posts on MySpace and Craigslist to find interesting people and convince them to let us fly them to Chicago so they would be on the show. When they arrived, I would take them around the city and loosen them up for air. On show day, I would help producers rile up the guests before they walked on stage. • In Los Angeles, I worked in the TV Talent department at Creative Artists Agency helping find TV projects for clients including **Jane Fonda**, **Whoopi Goldberg** and **Carrie Fisher**, among others. The agent I worked for and I were provided a script called "Grace and Frankie." Producers wanted Jane Fonda to be one of the leads, and the agent I worked for eventually closed the deal.

what has been your most interesting story? I was tipped off that Assyrian schools in northern Iraq were losing funding and that teachers had to donate their time and students had to find their own way to school.

why do you stay in journalism? The feeling of a published piece making a difference in a community. With profile pieces, that feeling turns into sharing the remarkable stories of all different types of people and organizations. The happiness it brings them, their years of work receiving recognition, makes it worth it.

should journalists feel threatened in the current political climate? No. There's an opportunity now more than ever to showcase truly great journalism.

what's your most gratifying moment in the business? Starting [The Assyrian Journal](#). I wanted to freelance for the Middle Eastern Christian community but constantly hit roadblocks. Out of frustration, I bought a web domain and began publishing my work online. The site eventually grew to include eight writers from around the globe and attracted advertisers across the U.S.

what tips would you give a job seeker? Follow up on applying for jobs with phone calls and in-person appearances. Sending an e-mail with a résumé and samples is never enough.

best advice you ever received? Talk is cheap.

how important to a media career is working for the school paper? It doesn't hurt but it's not necessary. I'm surrounded by people who don't have media degrees but who work hard and are dedicated to their craft.

what do you know now that you wish you'd known then? Accepting your dream job is not a sprint. Often it's better to arrive later after acquiring unique experience.

and if you weren't in journalism... Professional basketball player.



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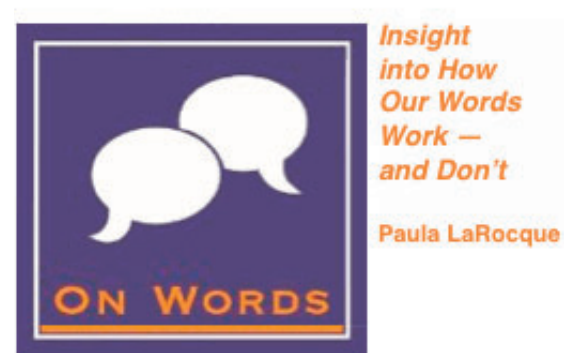
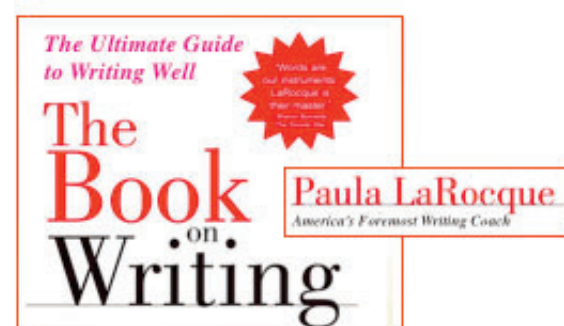
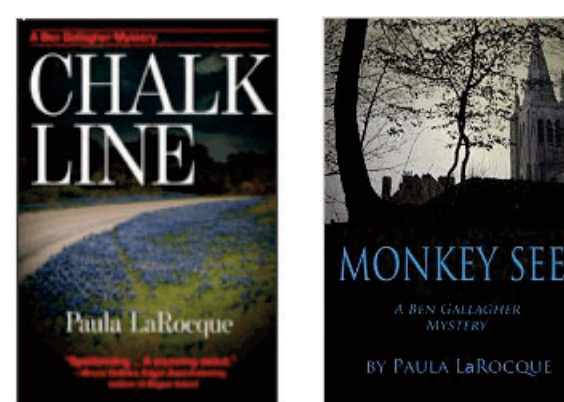
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"There is no greater agony than carrying an untold story."
— Maya Angelou

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send additions for the list to:
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Freedom of Information Foundation of Texas update: [Why everyone should care about government transparency](#). ... Victoria school district officials must release public documents about the district's superintendent hiring process, according to an opinion issued by the Texas Attorney General's Office. The opinion came about three months after **Emett Alvarez**, managing editor of *Revista de Victoria*, requested information about the district's superintendent search. [Details](#). ... Former U.S. Congressman **Blake Farenthold** must testify in a Texas Open Meetings Act lawsuit, a judge ruled July 23. And so will Farenthold's boss, Calhoun Port Authority director **Charles Hausmann**, and the man who directed Hausmann to hire him, port authority board chairman **Randy Boyd**. The *Victoria Advocate* sued the port earlier this year, seeking to nullify Farenthold's hiring because the action was taken without proper public notice. [Details](#).

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

It's called fighting back. Editorialists across the state — [Houston Chronicle](#), [The Dallas Morning News](#), [Star-Telegram](#), [Austin American-Statesman](#), [San Antonio Express-News](#), [Victoria Advocate](#) — joined their colleagues nationwide in emphasizing the importance of the news media and the First Amendment and challenging **Donald Trump's** assertion that journalists are the enemy of the American people. At SPJ national, president **Rebecca Baker** penned a thoughtful, reasoned [position statement](#) and an [open letter](#) to the nation. [More here](#). Half a dozen seasoned local journalists have told me that one day on the other side, journalism will emerge victorious. I want to believe them, I do. ...

Upon his exit from the *Star-Telegram*, senior photographer **Paul Moseley** wrote a comprehensive look back at everything worth looking back on. What a gloriously substantive human being. The piece is at once heartbreaking and breathtaking and breathtakingly heartbreaking for those who mourn the inexorable thinning of the ranks. It is somewhere in [here](#) if you can find it. You should find it.

SPJ Factoids: The Women's Media Center report "[The Status of Women of Color in the U.S. News Media 2018](#)" notes that 50 years have passed since the Kerner Commission criticized the news media for not sufficiently covering race issues. The report also says that women of color represent just 7.95 percent of U.S. print newsroom staff, 12.6 percent of local TV news staff, and 6.2 percent of local radio staff, according to industry research. Here's a [summary of the report](#). ... Former Miami Herald editor **Don Bohning's ties to the CIA have been confirmed** in recently declassified JFK documents. A June 1968 document mentions that Bohning had certain CIA approvals so he could be "a confidential informant with natural access to information about news companies and personalities." Yet many questions remain. ... Hearst, a newspaper group with 24 daily and 64 weekly papers (like the *Houston Chronicle* and *San Francisco Chronicle*), is testing a flexible paywall. The design lets editors determine what should be in front of or behind the paywall at individual news organizations. At the *Albany Times-Union*, the first paper to try the idea, the number of subscribers has doubled since tests began last September.

Caught my eye. [Big bulb manufacturers conspiring with Department of Energy and Trump to slow LED revolution](#). ... [New net-zero Solar Farmhouse from Deltec generates all its own energy](#). ... ['Mind-boggling' Stanford research turns human blood cells into functional neurons](#). ... [Are Great Lakes under threat from thirsty American Southwest?](#)

Closing words: "Even if you're on the right track, you'll get run over if you just sit there." — **Will Rogers**, who also said, "Congress is so strange; a man gets up to speak and says nothing, nobody listens, and then everybody disagrees."

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