It’s a season journalist learn from the beginning: Protect your sources. So Tarleton State University assistant professor Tom Williams 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 sell their stories and articles to the DFW Writers Guild of Texas 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.

Quintin Thigpen, a Pulitzer Prize-winning reporter from his days at The Dallas Morning News, was admonished last year when he didn’t report to the Galveston Daily News, Texas’ oldest newspaper, for a research manager, social media reporter, account manager, and news anchor to follow the legendary seasoned energy reporter. E- résumé and writing samples to assistant editor melissa.rivera@galvnews.com. More.

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.

The DFW Bloggers Classroom
WFAA-TV has openings 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.


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Quick Hits

September is Hunger Action Month, and the Tarrant Area Food Bank has a lot on its plate.

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.

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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.
What have you been your most interesting topic? I was tipped off that Assyrian schools in California were being closed and that teachers were trying to close their line to carry them. I decided to investigate.

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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 types of people and organizations. The happiness it brings them, their years of work showing. When they arrived, I would take them around the city and loosen them up for air. On a series highlighting Hollywood assistants in Los Angeles.

I was paired with the president of Fox Sports and worked on special projects for the studio and production. An event was taken over by the group.

I was tipped off that Assyrian schools in California eventually grew to include eight writers from around the globe and attracted advertisers across the community. With profile pieces, that feeling turns into sharing the remarkable stories of all types of people and organizations. The happiness it brings them, their years of work showing. When they arrived, I would take them around the city and loosen them up for air. On a series highlighting Hollywood assistants in Los Angeles.

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