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Next at Fort Worth SPJ ...

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J. ALEX TARQUINIO



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One of the new SPJ president's first public appearances is always at Fort Worth SPJ. It's a tradition. Long live tradition. RSVP to come meet **J. Alex Tarquinio** and hear her plans for SPJ.

A graduate of UC Santa Cruz and the Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism, Tarquinio has two decades of experience as a writer and editor and has written about business and politics in the U.S., Europe and Asia. Most recently, she covered the negotiations preceding the first summit between the United States and North Korea in articles for Politico Magazine and the New York Post.

Previously, she worked as a staff writer at The Wall Street Journal's Smart Money Magazine. She received a German Marshall Fund fellowship for a reporting residency in the divided island nation of Cyprus. As a freelance writer, her byline has appeared in The New York Times (which published nearly 200 of her articles), The International Herald Tribune, The San Francisco Chronicle, Barron's and Reader's Digest, among others.

#### QUICK HITS

• Scripps Howard Foundation 12-month fellowship program in conjunction with the Scripps News Washington Bureau/Newsy and ProPublica — apply by Oct. 15. [Info.](#)

• GFW PRSA half-day workshop, "Learn Ways to Get Smarter PR Results," with **Michael Smart**, MichaelSMARTPR — 7:15 a.m. Wednesday, Oct. 10, Colonial Country Club. [Info.](#)

• Writers Guild of Texas monthly program, "Fire Up Your Action Scenes," with mystery/thriller/science fiction scribe **Scott Bell** — 7 p.m. Monday, Oct. 15, Richardson Public Library. [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](#)

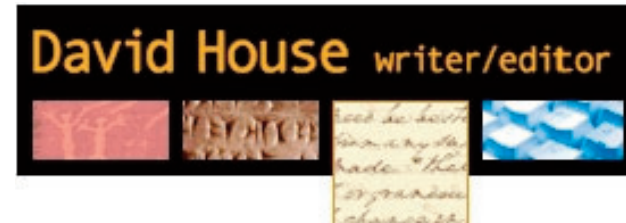
**Hot room, hot topic** The air conditioning went out an hour before, but **Dan Malone** still had a message for 40 SPJ members and friends at the September mixer/meeting at Joe T. Garcia's. "We are not training a bunch of lapdogs," he said. "We train watchdogs ... guard dogs."

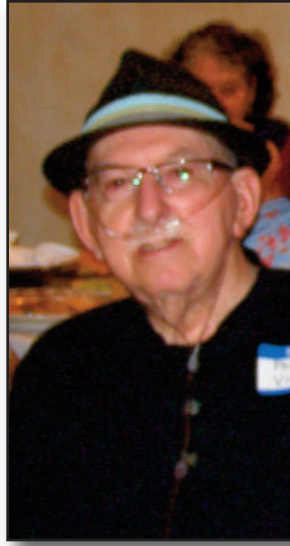
¶ Malone is an assistant professor of communication studies at Tarleton State University, which in May reprimanded him for failing to reveal the names of persons who shared with a student journalist their accusations of inappropriate conduct by another Tarleton faculty member.

¶ Malone was threatened with further discipline, including termination, if he continues to adhere to journalistic ethics and to state law by refusing to name the sources, who spoke confidentially because they feared retaliation. ¶ Malone's actions, in Tarleton's view, violate Title IX, a federal civil rights law that prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in any education setting that receives federal funding. Under Title IX, discrimination can include sexual harassment, rape and sexual assault. | *continued on p. 2*

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on the scene (most pictured, some not — it's a test!) ... Max and Sandy Baker, General Berry, Mike and Sondra Cochran, Bob Cox, Eddy and Ed Gallagher, Cecilla Jacobs, Stacy Luecker and John Ladd, Dan Malone and Kathryn Jones, Linda Pavliot, Kim Pewitt-Jones, Kay Pirtle, Carolyn Poirik and Jack Strickland, Gayle Reaves, Barry Shlachter, Tracey Smith, Jocelyn Tatum, Martina Trevino, Phil and Rita Vinson, Susan Waring, Chris Whitley, Tom Williams, Monica Brigham, Suzann Clay, Michael Foster-Sanders, JW McNay, Erin Rattigan, Tabitha Redder, Ashley Cantwell, Rodger Mallison, Jeff Prince, Jack Z. Smith, Steve Kaskovich

— photos by Kay Pirtle

continued from p. 1 | Texan News, Tarleton's student news organization, published a story in which a former student said a professor invited her to "dinner, drinks and movies" while his wife was away. The student said she responded with a text: "I don't think that's appropriate." She said he replied, "I guess that makes sense." She eventually stopped attending the class and withdrew from the university. The student filed a complaint with the university's Title IX coordinator and was told that three others had complained as well.

The student requested records associated with the complaint she filed, but the Attorney General's Office allowed the university to withhold them. Texan News filed a public information request for the professor's personnel file and received 113 pages, but nothing mentions the student or the investigation.

Eventually, eight students accused the professor of inappropriate conduct. Months went by, with attorneys involved. Now a revised Texas A&M University System policy prohibits employees "from pursuing or having a consensual relationship with an undergraduate student." Employees who violate the rule can face disciplinary action, including dismissal.

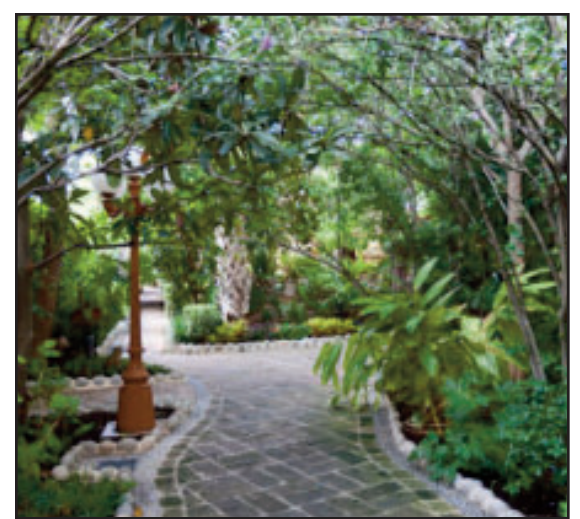
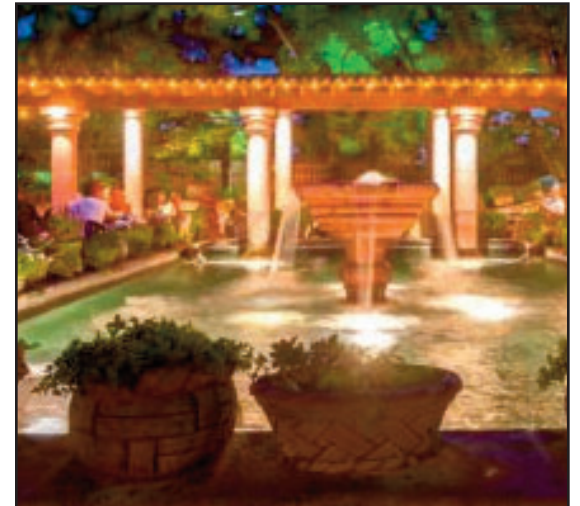
"The System regulations are not in response to any particular case," the A&M vice chancellor of marketing and communications e-mailed Texan News, "but it was felt that the policy changes were in the best interest of our students."

Malone, who holds a Pulitzer Prize from his days at The Dallas Morning News, continues to mentor his students in fact-driven reporting. The student who wrote the stories about the sexual harassment allegations completed a top broadcast internship with CBS News in New York and will graduate from Tarleton in May 2019.

— Linda Pavlik

more eChaser on p. 3

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**POWER TO THE PEOPLE** This month's "Sunday Night Blue Light Specials" feature the expected perps — [Ku Klux Klan](#), [newest scams](#), [Tea Party rep bill killer](#) — but also a poignant piece on **Dave Lieber's** "worst week ever" when [his dog died and his work partner quit](#). Two days after leaving The Dallas Morning News, exceptional researcher/backgrounder/UTA Shorthorn graduate **Marina Trahan Martinez** (she's great on camera, too) had a [front-page byline](#) along with New York Times Texas bureau chief **Manny Fernandez** on the **Botham Jean** shooting. Marina will be the NYT's stringer for Fort Worth-Dallas. Stringers now get bylines in the Times, even on the front page. Daughter **Alakina** was like, "Not above the fold?!" They had just seen "Newsies."

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**GET A JOB.** *Job openings in [journalismjobs.com](#) and [dfwcommunicators.com](#) appear in this report.* ... The Fort Worth Chamber of Commerce seeks a creative specialist. Fortunate soul would work with **Andra Bennett House** (thus the fortunate part), chamber communications VP and longtime PRSA leader, who describes the position as production artist, social media help, website updater, photographer, videographer, jack of all trades. [Info.](#) ... DFW International Airport seeks a social media specialist, "a digital rock star who knows how to deliver a message that resonates with more than 67 million customers." [Info.](#) ... VisitDallas.com is building a team of freelance, contracted writers to support content and serve as subject matter experts covering news, stakeholders and events. Writers currently needed to cover arts and culture, nightlife, family and LGBTQ. [Info.](#) ... KABB-TV in San Antonio seeks a general assignment reporter. Requirements include experience with media creation tools, contemporary newsroom systems and social media platforms; strong writing and copy editing skills; two years as a reporter. [Info.](#) ... The journalism department in the Bob Schieffer College of Communication at TCU invites applications for a full-time (non-tenure-track) assistant professor of professional practice beginning in January 2019. Master's degree in journalism or related field required. [Info.](#) ... The Houston Chronicle wants to add a veteran Texas journalist to its Austin bureau. [Info.](#) ... They're hiring in Clute (home of the Great Texas Mosquito Festival). The Facts, a 14,000-circulation daily that is a perennial Newspaper of the Year in its circulation class, has an opening for a beat reporter. Send résumé, cover letter and minimum of five work samples to managing editor **Michael Morris** at [michael.morris@thefacts.com](mailto:michael.morris@thefacts.com).

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**Freedom of Information Foundation of Texas update:** Violations of open meetings and elections laws and even the city charter are flagrant in the Fort Worth suburb of Haltom City, the city manager told The Texas Monitor in early August. The problem is so pervasive that city manager **Keith Lane** asked the Texas Attorney General's Office, the Tarrant County district attorney and the Texas Rangers to investigate. [Details.](#)

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

Chapter directors **Margarita Birnbaum** and **Kim Pewitt-Jones** offer three intriguing links this month for your edification — [Dr. Death](#); [Sharing is Not a Crime](#); [Win or Lose, the Alex Jones Lawsuit Will Help Redefine Free Speech](#). Top-flight journalism, two of the stories in unconventional/becoming conventional format. Meanwhile, from **Rebecca Bosquez**, [San Antonio's journalism industry is in free fall.](#) ...

In a new webinar from the [SPJ Training Program](#), **Lynn Walsh** and **Andrew Seaman** of the Ethics Committee discuss tenets of ethical reporting, using SPJ's [Code of Ethics](#) as a guide. ...

A coalition of 30 media organizations, led by the Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press and including SPJ and the American Society of News Editors, came to the Sun Sentinel's side in a court brief, calling on the judge to deny the [Broward School Board's motion to penalize the news organization and two of its reporters](#) over the publication of a report about the Parkland shooter's years within the school system.

SPJ Factoids: The New York Times granted anonymity to the author of the [recent inside-the-White House piece that criticized Donald Trump](#). The op-ed came, perhaps not coincidentally, as Trump officials were dealing with explosive reporting in **Bob Woodward's** book "Fear: Trump in the White House." ... A Myanmar court [sentenced two Reuters journalists to seven years in prison](#) for breaking the Official Secrets Act while investigating a massacre of Rohingya Muslims. SPJ outgoing president **Rebecca Baker** condemned the action on SPJ's behalf and urged the Myanmar government to "rescind the sentence or commute it to time served and release the Reuters journalists immediately." ... A California man was released on bail after being charged with [threatening to kill employees of The Boston Globe](#). According to the FBI, in several phone calls to the newspaper he said, "You are the enemy of the people." ... A man repeatedly [rammed a pickup truck](#) into the building of Dallas television station KDFW, shattering floor-to-ceiling windows during the station's morning newscast, in what the police called an intentional act.

Caught my eye. [Cost-effective method of extracting uranium from seawater promises limitless nuclear power.](#) ... [Antarctic ice loss and sea level rise rates have tripled since 2012.](#) ... [New 'agrihood' coming to Hawaii.](#)

Closing words: "One sometimes finds what one is not looking for." — Sir **Alexander Fleming**, the bacteriologist who discovered the antibacterial properties of penicillin ... "Being intelligent is not a felony. But most societies evaluate it as at least a misdemeanor." — science fiction writer **Robert Heinlein**

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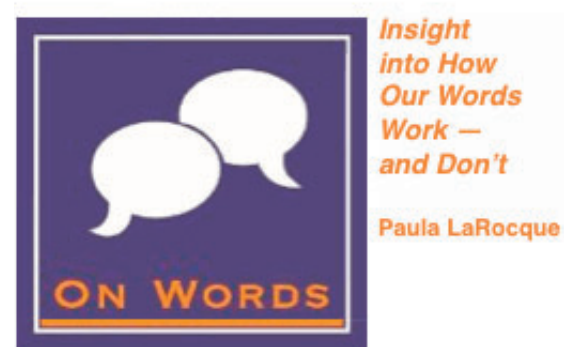
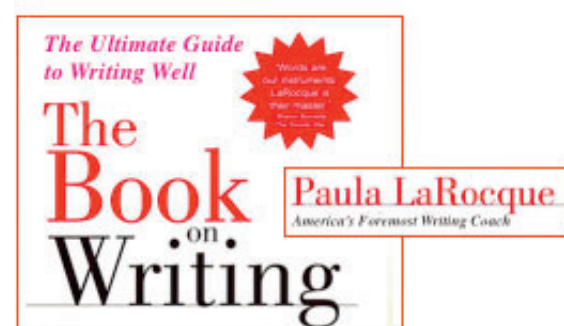
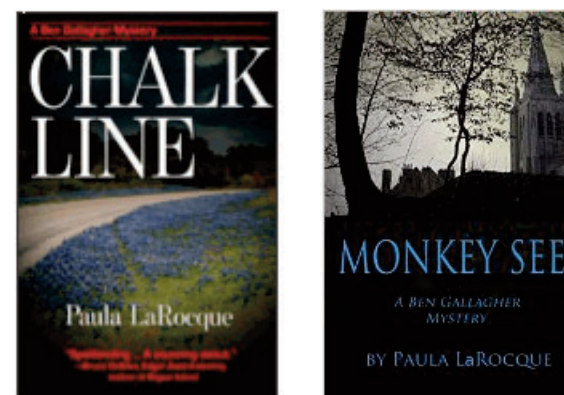
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