The Herald Democrat in Sherman, Texas, seeks an executive editor to manage its editorial division, which includes five newspapers, multiple magazines and websites. Info.

The Dallas Morning News has an opening for an account executive. Info.

UT Arlington, seeks a digital and social media game changer and entrepreneur) seeks a digital and social media specialist. Info.

The DFW Bloggers Classroom is a Fort Worth Area Journalists Meetup. Info.

The DFW Bloggers Classroom is an Arlington-based L3 Technologies (“a company of innovators, game changers and entrepreneurs”) seeks a digital and social media specialist. Info.

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Fort Worth $4,600, and A Texas law A former Richardson ISD and Texas counties that demanded tens of thousands led him to conclude the company

moderator of NBC’s “Meet the Press,” with Worth SPJ president) immediate past Region 8 director (and former Fort

Pewitt-Jones promotion for next year’s national conference in San Facebook live “Blue Light Special” videos plumbed the wackiest school

school board member sued the school district and its board of trustees, needs to be broken into pieces. And he reports progress on his campaign

DMN Watchdog POWER TO THE PEOPLE

Aim at making it easier to dismiss meritless lawsuits intended to chill speech should apply in federal court, the Reporters Committee for

Freedom of the Press and 39 media organizations argued in a friend-of-the-court brief filed in the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals. In the brief, the

media coalition urges the federal appeals court to reverse a district court’s ruling and hold that the Texas Citizens Participation Act applies in federal

lawsuit that the school board has participated in a long-running practice of violating the state’s open meetings laws. The result, he alleged, has been

a cited violation of the state’s open meetings laws. Alleging “continuous and systematic” violations of the state’s open meetings law. Details.

The ability to find information on the internet quickly has led to fewer lawsuits, plus people don’t believe everything that’s on the internet.

Third-party comments on a website are immune from libel. However, the commenter can be sued. – Karen Gavis

Karen Gavis


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EXCELLENCE IN JOURNALISM 2018

Fort Worth SPJ never misses the national convention, this year held in Baltimore, and representatives often return home with recognitions and always with seascapes taken.

Chapter member Kathryn Jones Malone replaces Fort Worth’s Kay Pirtle, 2017 Region 8 director, and new president, J. Alex Termini named two Fort Worth members in national positions — Gallagher to chair the Nominations Committee (“I’ve go my instruments” plan, as if that would have happened?) and Rebecca Aguilar to lead the Diversity Committee.

Among the takeaways...

Stop Scanning: Gathering Better Information from Police Communications

• Lay a good foundation. Build relationships with PIOs. It’s really important.
• Do not report until information is confirmed. Otherwise you risk the situation being a training exercise.
• Ask, “What can you say that won’t put your case in jeopardy?”
• Do a ride-along.
• Drop by regularly and ask, “What’s going on in the precinct this week?”
• Ask, “What can you say that won’t put your case in jeopardy?”
• Have a bad relationship with someone? Invite him for coffee.
• Make yourself available. The police need reporters to get information out for them, too.

Libel and Invasion of Privacy

• Libel is a false statement of fact, and guilt has much to do with perception. It’s hard to say where the lines cross.
• To be sued for libel, a false statement of fact has to be published and defamatory. While defamatory comments typically concern sex, drugs, alcohol, crime or finances, the issues can change over time.
• The statement must damage reputation.
• An opinion is a bit of a safeguard, but facts still need to be checked.
• To qualify for libel, the individual or entity must be identifiable but not necessarily named. A group of 25 or fewer can sue.
• Scrutinize quotes as closely as facts.
• The ability to find information on the internet quickly has led to fewer lawsuits, plus people don’t believe everything that’s on the internet.
• Third-party comments on a website are immune from libel. However, the commenter can be sued. – Karen Gavis

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POWER TO THE PEOPLE

DMN Watchdog Dave Lieber’s most recent Facebook live “Blue Light Special” during the national SPJ convention in Texas, how someone robbed his bank account of $4,805, and how he took to Amazon and苏宁 him to control the company needs to be broken into pieces. And he reports progress on his campaign to focus the Public Utility Commission more on electricity users and less on electricity providers.

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Freedoms of Information Foundation of Texas update: Show us the money, then let us see how your dollars are spent. A former Richardson ISD school board member sued the school district and its board of trustees, alleging “continuous and systematic” violations of the open meetings law. Details.

David Tyson, Jr., a black businessman who has challenged the validity of the all-white board in the diverse district, said in the civil lawsuit that the school board has participated in a long-running practice of violating the state’s open meetings laws. The result, he alleged, has been a cited violation of the state’s open meetings law. Alleging “continuous and systematic” violations of the state’s open meetings law. Details.

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A Texas law aimed at making it easier to dismiss meritless lawsuits intended to chill speech should apply in federal court, the Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press and 39 media organizations argued in a friend-of-the-court brief filed in the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals. In the brief, the media coalition urges the federal appeals court to reverse a district court’s ruling and hold that the Texas Citizens Participation Act applies in federal court.

Details.

Details.

Details.

Details.

Details.

Details.
Story theft brings tools for handling copyright infringement

by Joe Smil

It was during a mindless scroll through my Facebook feed one early Wednesday morning that I came across a photo of a small vertical gardening system filling in under-utilized urban walls. It showed a kit for building a ‘longhouse’ style timber-building prototype modeled after the longhouse. I was immediately intrigued, as I am about innovative vertical farming systems that seek to do more than grow food. The saga of Tarleton State assistant professor I stopped on an article my friend shared from the Assyrian International News Agency (AINA) titled “Dallas, Texas fights to restore Assyrian News Agency (AINA) is known to remove bylines and post entire articles. A journalist colleague in D.C. said AINA stole four of his stories and he was fighting for recognition. The e-mail was direct and set a tone, and it worked. The next day, AINA sent an e-mail confirming their error. They told the importance of a “Terms and Conditions of Use” page. If my content gets stolen again, I now know that a simple cease and desist letter can be very effective. Most importantly, I learned that journalists should consistently take action to protect their work.

PEOPLE & PLACES

At a pride to its Centennial celebration in 2019, the UTA Shorthorn received the Pacemaker Award from the Associated Collegiate Press at the national ACP convention in October in Louisville, Ky. The Shorthorn is considered college journalism’s highest honor; the ACP gave out 11 this year. The Shorthorn won in the newspaper category for the fourth consecutive year.

OVER & OUT | John Dycus

NOVEMBER 2018

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