Trum...
When the president drops by to chat

Matt Hall, the 104th SPJ president and the first to be inaugurated in a virtual ceremony, alternately waxed philosophical, fiery and funny with Fort Worth SPJ in an hour-long town hall-style meeting Oct. 14. “SPJ is the Swiss Army knife of journalism,” he said via Zoom.

Strategic plans revolve around what he calls the Core Four: Champions for Journalists, Fighters for the First Amendment, Stewards of Ethical Journalism, and Producers of Journalism’s Future. Among his agenda items — diversity, strategic planning — he emphasized supporting working journalists, newsrooms and appropriate content. He encouraged news outlets to take digital issues when they couldn’t print the paper.

And when the president drops by, he cited SPJ’s Legal Defense Fund, which provides legal or direct financial assistance, and the First Amendment Forever Fund, a permanent endowment with a more proactive stance. Fort Worth SPJ contributed $400 to the LDF at this year’s national convention. Hall’s term as president will affect his presence at The San Diego Union-Tribune, where he’s editorial and opinion director. He predicted for SPJ an “important, busy year, made a little more difficult by covid.” But he added that things actually are easier on the budget because nobody’s traveling. He reached Hall at @sduncovered, mhall@spj.org or 619-987-7786.

— Laurie Barker James

PEOPLE & PLACES

Laud, laud! The Associated Collegiate Press in late October awarded a Pacemaker — the Pulitzer Prize of college journalism — to The Collegian at Tarrant County College and The Shorthorn at UT Arlington. The Associated Collegiate Press in late October awarded a Pacemaker — the Pulitzer Prize of college journalism — to The Collegian at Tarrant County College and The Shorthorn at UT Arlington. The Associated Collegiate Press in late October awarded a Pacemaker — the Pulitzer Prize of college journalism — to The Collegian at Tarrant County College and The Shorthorn at UT Arlington.

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Leonard: Ground in battleground states and 35 photographers across the country with editorial, the staff shared that it “made a promise to prioritize mental health at every step.” Clean energy economy: Business and education lead the way. Tracking the sales boom: How many guns did Americans buy last month? How big oil misled the public into believing plastic would be recycled. "Live PD" is back to p. 1

PROPERTY TO THE PEOPLE: footway code https://dmn.pub/watchdog

- Is home title theft a real thing? Yep, and here’s how to protect yourself from it
- Magazine subscription company rips off customers who can’t fight back
- Grade F: Texas lawmakers’ report on internet privacy is a waste of time
- Post Office knocks it out of the park on mail delivery test
- Getting overcharged on a plumbing job: It can happen to anyone

WASHINGTON: „I stand with all those victims of sexual assault and harassment,” Texas Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick said. "We’re going to hold those who commit abuse accountable, but we’re also going to support victims as they speak out." With nearly 1 million homes at risk, Washington is losing the wildfire fight. Why a fast-tracked covid-19 vaccine will still be safe

POWER TO THE PEOPLE: property tax study: If homeowners get help on how to protest, they will pay less. Mystery seizures haunt Marine units a decade after deployment. Why a fast-tracked covid-19 vaccine will still be safe

ON THE inertial and the role of new journalists in the digital age...

The city where someone was bitten by a police dog every five days. All but four people on staff at the student newspaper Washington Square News resigned as a result of terrors building after the post got a new editor-in-chief. According to the student body, the university approved the resignation when the paper’s editor-in-chief was “fired without warning.”... Opinion: Geoengineering is the only solution to climate calamities. The Boise State Mercury is in an unprecedented emergency. Details. Getting their 6: A call to action from the Freedom of Information Foundation of Texas on public information amid the pandemic. The FOIFT is tracking these developments...

F.I.G.U.P.S. UPDATE: • Property tax study: If homeowners get help on how to protest, they will pay less. • Magazine subscription company rips off customers who can’t fight back. • Grade F: Texas lawmakers’ report on internet privacy is a waste of time. • Post Office knocks it out of the park on mail delivery test. • Getting overcharged on a plumbing job: It can happen to anyone. • Is home title theft a real thing? Yep, and here’s how to protect yourself from it.

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Garrison Keillor: "Mystery seizures haunt Marine units a decade after deployment. Why a fast-tracked covid-19 vaccine will still be safe." Garrison Keillor is a radio host and humorist known for his work on "A Prairie Home Companion." His work has been widely recognized and awarded, and he has been inducted into the Radio Hall of Fame.

Raymond: "We’re going to have newsmakers and experts but no pundits," he told the Associated Press. "We’re going to leave the opinion to others." Raymond is a veteran journalist known for his work in the media industry. His words are often quoted and included in discussions about the role of journalism and opinion in society.

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