

House parents 'mom' and 'pop' to cottage kids for 25 years_61305

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House parents 'mom' and 'pop' to cottage kids for 25 years

By Miranda Bradley

Texas Baptist Children's Home

ROUND ROCK—John and Brenda Toner have spent all but six months of their married lives working as house parents with Texas Baptist Children's Home.

Abortion rate has not increased under Bush, but declined more slowly new data suggest_61305

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Abortion rate has not increased under Bush, but declined more slowly, new data suggest

By Analiz Gonzalez

Associated Baptist Press

WASHINGTON (ABP)—A controversial study suggesting the abortion rate has increased since President Bush took office was off the mark, its author now admits. But he also says new figures vindicate some of his contentions.

Around the State_61305

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First Church
in Paris
unveiled and
dedicated a
Texas
Historical
Marker at
the church's
151st
anniversary
celebration.
Members of
the church's
historical
committee
participating
in the
ceremony
were, from
left, Glen
Gambill,
Harold
Hunt, Tom
Hunt, Gene
Anderson,
Chairman
Debbie
Anderson,
Kathy
McMonigle
and Patsy
Davis.

Around the State

- ◆ Three people with Texas ties have received appointments from the International Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention. **Bryan** and **Stacey Intemann** will work in central and eastern Europe. Their home congregation is Wedgwood Church in Fort Worth. **Jimmy Shaw** will work in central, eastern and southern Africa as a church starter. Team Church in Fort Worth is his home congregation.

- ◆ Six new inductees, have been announced for inclusion into Hardin-Simmons University's Hall of Leaders. Honorees include **Joe Black**, golf professional; **Glen Bur-roughs**, retired oil executive; **O.H. Cooper**, former president of HSU; **Katharyn Duff**, former assistant editor of the *Abilene Reporter-News*; **Julius Olsen**, former dean and faculty member at HSU; and **Gordon Wood**, former football coach in Brownwood and other cities. The Hall of Leaders recognizes graduates, former students and prominent leaders of the university who have achieved distinguished records of achievement.

- ◆ **Arnold Oliver** and **Brad Helbert** have been named trustees at Howard Payne University, elected by the university's board of trustees. Oliver is a member of First Church in Wichita Falls and is the former head of the Texas Department of Transportation. Helbert is the retired executive director of the West Central Texas Council of Governments and a member of First Church in Abilene.



Youth at First Church in Keller worked five days at Casa Hogar Elim, an orphanage for about 120 children in Nuevo Laredo, Mexico. During that time, they also helped build two homes in an area where many families live in lean-to shelters made of tin. The 12' by 16' shelters would be remarkably small in the United States but were greatly appreciated by the families receiving them, which included an expectant mother. Lee Bradley, above, was one of 79 youth and adults making the trip. The little girl had been left at the orphanage that morning by a family who no longer could care for her.

Gunter recommended as BGCT

chief operating officer_61305

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Gunter recommended as BGCT chief operating officer

By Ken Camp

Managing Editor

Baptist General Convention of Texas Executive Director Charles Wade has taken a major step toward reorganization of the BGCT Executive Board staff by recommending Ron Gunter, BGCT regional associate for the greater Houston area, as associate executive director and chief operating officer.

Book Reviews_61305

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Book Reviews

Out of the Question ... Into the Mystery: Getting Lost in the Godlife

Relationship by Leonard Sweet (Waterbrook Press)

Leonard Sweet's new book continues his urgent call for Christians to deal with real culture. He begins with what he sees as the "No. 1 problem in the world"—people living "disconnected lives ... detached from God, from others and from creation."

"Relationship is the soul of the universe. And the soul is sick," Sweet insists.

Baptist Briefs_61305

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Baptist Briefs

Knoxville pastor potential SBC first vice president. Knoxville pastor and past Tennessee Baptist Convention President Mike Boyd will be nominated as first vice president of the Southern Baptist Convention during the SBC's June 21-22 annual meeting in Nashville. Boyd, senior pastor of Knoxville's Wallace Memorial Baptist Church since 1997, will be nominated by current Tennessee Baptist Convention President Roger Freeman, pastor of First Baptist Church in Clarksville. In addition to serving as Tennessee Baptist Convention president in 2003-04, Boyd's denominational service includes membership on the Tennessee Baptist Convention Executive Board. Boyd also is being nominated by the SBC Committee on

Nominations to serve as a trustee of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, where he earned his master of divinity and doctor of ministry degrees. A native of Memphis, Boyd also is a graduate of Union University in Jackson.

Criswell College may sell radio station. Criswell College trustees have recommended selling the college's radio station, KCBI-FM, to a California-based Christian radio corporation for \$23 million. Trustees approved selling the station and its assets to Covenant Educational Media, contingent on an acceptable contract and approval by First Baptist Church of Dallas and the Federal Communications Commission. First Baptist Church of Dallas owns the college and its related entities.

LifeWay announces staff changes. Ralph Hodge has been named director of regional operations for LifeWay Christian Resources, the Southern Baptist Convention's publishing house. He replaces Mike Miller, who has become executive pastor at First Baptist Church in Dallas. Hodge, who was a pastor 24 years, has been at LifeWay since May 1988. Mike Harland has been named director of the LifeWay Worship Music Group, which includes six imprints—Genevox, Church Street Music, Church Street Press, Children's Music Series, Dovetail Music and Made for Praise. Harland, who has published more than 150 songs and produced many choral music projects, was associate pastor for music at First Baptist Church in Carrollton three years. Bill Taylor, director of network partnerships, will retire from LifeWay July 1. Bill Henry, LifeWay's managing director of network partnerships, will serve as acting director. A formal search for the new director of network partnerships will begin July 1, with the goal of filling the position by Jan. 1, 2006.

Doctors donate services to Russian orphan_61305

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Dallas
ophthalmologist
David Stager
donated
surgery to
correct
strabismus in
10-year-old
Kristina, a
Russian orphan
visiting Dallas
as part of
Buckner Angels
from Abroad.
(Photo by
Felicia
Fuller/Buckner)

Doctors donate services to Russian orphan

By Felicia Fuller

Buckner Baptist Benevolences

A team of Dallas ophthalmologists donated corrective eye surgery to a Russian orphan visiting Dallas as part of the Buckner Orphan Care International Angels from Abroad host program.

Hands of God: Students share God's love with Guatemalan orphans_61305

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Dallas Baptist University student Ivy Quiñones of Wurzburg, Germany (left), paints a windowsill at the San Gabriel orphanage in Guatemala. Taylor Brewer of Frisco (right), a Christian studies and nursing major at Dallas Baptist University, sorts through boxes of medical aid at the Buckner warehouse. (Photos by Russ Dilday/Buckner)

HANDS OF GOD: Students share God's love with Guatemalan orphans

By Russ Dilday

Buckner Baptist Benevolences

GUATEMALA CITY, Guatemala—Ivy Quiñones steadied her paintbrush as she detailed a section of window trim. Sweeping the brush carefully across, she remarked, "It's amazing how much everything we do makes a difference."

Practice pays off at Bible drill_61305

June 10, 2005

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Practice pays off at Bible drill

By John Hall

Texas Baptist Communications

DALLAS-Winners of the Baptist General Convention of Texas Bible drill and speaking competitions credited many hours in prayer and practice for their standout performances.

Effective children's ministries involve, equip parents_61305

June 10, 2005

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Effective children's ministries

involve, equip parents

By David Winfrey

Kentucky Western Recorder

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (ABP)—“Parents are the missing element of children's ministry,” an author and children's-ministry consultant recently told a Baptist conference.

Parents ask, ‘When is my child old enough to follow Christ?’_61305

June 10, 2005

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Parents ask, 'When is my child old enough to follow Christ?'

By Marv Knox

Editor

When is a child “old enough” to become a Christian?

Churches face choices in VBS curriculum_61305

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Texas Baptist churches are choosing from a variety of Vacation Bible School curricula.

Churches face choices in VBS curriculum

By George Henson

Staff Writer

When selecting materials for Vacation Bible School, choose substance over style, a Baptist General Convention of Texas children's consultant advises.