

Poll shows Americans divided over question of evolution vs. creation_120604

December 3, 2004

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Poll shows Americans divided over question of evolution vs. creation

By Kevin Eckstrom

Religion News Service

WASHINGTON (RNS)-A Gallup Poll suggests Americans are divided over how the world was created-either through evolution or at the hand of God-but either way, they appear skeptical that it happened exactly as described in the book of Genesis.

Handmade lap quilts a labor of undying love for Garland

man_120604

December 3, 2004

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Handmade lap quilts a labor of undying love for Garland man

By George Henson

Staff Writer

GARLAND-As a living memorial to his late wife, Jeanie, Tom Kelly continues a nursing home ministry she envisioned to warm body and soul.

Volunteers share love of reading with kids at children's home_120604

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Teachers from the Delta Kappa Gamma Society read to twin brothers during the Bountiful Book Party held on the Texas Baptist Children's Home campus. Members of the society brought three books each to share with the home's single parent ministry. Susan Lee (right), supervisor for Texas Baptist Children's Home's Family Care program, talks to one toddler about the books provided by the Delta Kappa Gamma Society of teachers during the Bountiful Book Party.

Volunteers share love of reading with kids at children's home

By Miranda Bradley

Texas Baptist Children's Home

Fifty teachers recently opened a new classroom in Round Rock on the

Texas Baptist Children's Home campus. But instead of blackboards and erasers, the two cottages, which normally house up to 10 Family Care residents, were filled with books and children. And the one lesson these volunteers wanted to teach was a love for reading.

Pro-life Democrat, pro-choice Republican likely to lead Senate_120604

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Pro-life Democrat, pro-choice Republican likely to lead Senate

By Robert Marus

ABP Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON (ABP)-Senate Democrats, whose party officially supports abortion rights, have elected an abortion opponent as their leader.

Baptist state conventions urge ban on same-sex marriage_120604

December 3, 2004

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Baptist state conventions urge ban on same-sex marriage

By Greg Warner

Associated Baptist Press

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. (ABP)- As “values voters” in 11 states sent a political message rejecting same-sex marriage, Baptist conventions in at least seven states offered a resounding “amen” by adopting resolutions against the practice.

Court declines review of same-sex marriage_120604

December 3, 2004

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Court declines review of same-sex marriage

By **Robert Marus**

ABP Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON (ABP)-The Supreme Court has denied a request to review a Massachusetts court's decision that legalized gay marriage in that state.

TBM responds to flooding in Coastal Plains_120604

December 3, 2004

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TBM responds to flooding in Coastal Plains

WHARTON-Flooding interrupted the Thanksgiving holiday for residents southwest of Houston, but Texas Baptist Men volunteers came to the rescue by providing meals and clean-up help.

Four TBM disaster relief units have responded to flooding in the Coastal Plains. In less than a week, volunteers served more than 1,000 meals, and completed about 20 clean-up jobs, as well as providing showers and

laundry service.

Bill Pyle, a member of First Baptist Church in Karnes City and leader of the Gambrell Baptist Association clean-out/shower unit, said the water had receded after several days, and volunteers finally were able to get into all previously flooded areas.

Denton Baptists use holidays to share the gospel with international students_120604

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Lee Chen,
11, (left)
catches his
brother
Yang, 9,
admiring his
piece of
pecan pie
during a
Thanksgiving
meal for
international
students.
The event is
part of a
First Baptist
Church in
Denton
ministry to
international
students at
the
University of
North
Texas.(John
Hall Photos)

Denton Baptists use holidays to share

the gospel with international students

By John Hall

Texas Baptist Communications

DENTON-Thanksgiving and Christmas are about more than turkey and dressing for some members of First Baptist Church in Denton.

Texas Tidbits_120604

December 3, 2004

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Texas Tidbits

Wayland dedicates 11 scholarships. Wayland Baptist University celebrated homecoming 2004 by dedicating a record 11 endowed scholarships. They are the Salla Stephens Bradshaw and John Ray Stephens Endowed Scholarship, the Earl and Ollie Greene Endowed Music Scholarship, the Claude Hutcherson Family Endowed Scholarship, the Vernon and Mary Wilson Jackson Endowed Scholarship, the Charles and Elizabeth Jinks Endowed Scholarship, the Jodie and Bessie Jopling Endowed Scholarship, the Lucile and Earl W. Miller Endowed Music Scholarship, the Lucian and Audrey Morehead Endowed Scholarship, the Ailese Parten/Charlene Clay Root Endowed Scholarship, the W. Neil Record Endowed Scholarship and the Guy Woods Endowed Music Scholarship.

Scholarships endowed at HSU. Music, science and math students at Hardin-Simmons University will benefit from two recently endowed scholarships established at the Abilene university. Henry and Koma Fields of Claude established the Robert and Barbara Dennis Endowed Music Scholarship. Scholarship recipients must be music majors who are full-time students and must maintain a 2.5 overall grade point average and a 3.0 grade point average in music. The Joe and Lynn Sharp Sciences and Mathematics Endowed Scholarship has been established to assist full-time Texas undergraduate students enrolled in the Holland School of Sciences and Mathematics at HSU. The scholarship may be awarded to one or more students with a 3.0 grade point average. Recipients must be active in a local Baptist congregation and be in good disciplinary standing.

Baylor faculty member named ETS officer. Francis Beckwith, associate professor of church-state studies and associate director of the J.M. Dawson Institute of Church-State Studies at Baylor University, was elected vice president of the Evangelical Theological Society at its recent meeting in San Antonio. In November 2005, he will become president-elect of ETS and serve as program chair at the organization's 2006 annual meeting in Washington, D.C. A graduate of Fordham University and the Washington University School of Law in St. Louis, Beckwith is the author or editor of more than a dozen books.

News of religion, faith, missions, Bible study and Christian ministry among Texas Baptist churches, in the BGCT, the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) and around the world.

TOGETHER: Epicenter Ground zero for revival_120604

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TOGETHER: Epicenter: Ground zero for revival

At the end of every year while I was a pastor, I gave thanks for the people who were saved and baptized that year in the church. I also prayed, "Lord, help us reach even more people for Christ next year." Years ago, someone said to me, "God is easily pleased but hard to satisfy." That's the way I felt about our evangelism efforts-pleased but not satisfied! Every pastor understands the feeling.

Where can you get help so you and your church can be more effective in reaching people for Christ?

You have asked the Baptist General Convention of Texas for help that will relate to your church.

CHARLES
WADE
Executive
Director
BGCT
Executive
Board

From Red River to Rio Grande, Paris couple blazes ministry trail for others 120604

December 3, 2004

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From Red River to Rio Grande, Paris couple blazes ministry trail for others

By George Henson

Staff Writer

PARIS-Gerald and Ora Lee Tomes have blazed a trail from the Red River to the Rio Grande that many others are eager to follow.

Ugandan microcredit

faith-based organization

focuses on investing in people_120604

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Generous Katagira (right), manager of a Christian microcredit office in Uganda, speaks with a local government official. With the government's approval, Katagira's organization provides loans to help Ugandans start businesses.

(Steve Nelson Photo)

Ugandan faith-based microcredit organization focuses on investing in

people

By Dale Hanson Bourke

Religion News Service

NTUNGAMO, Uganda (RNS)- Generous Katagira, 26, says she should be thinking about getting married. Most Ugandan women her age have already settled down and started a family.