

Around the State: Buckner launches Going Gold for Senior Living

May 13, 2020

To increase awareness of senior living residents and the frontline workers caring for them during the COVID-19 pandemic, Buckner Retirement Services is launching a ribbon campaign titled Going Gold for Senior Living. Buckner is encouraging individuals and families to show support for senior living communities by displaying a gold ribbon outside their homes through the end of June. Buckner senior living communities in Houston, Austin, Dallas, San Angelo, Longview and Beaumont hosted drive-through gold ribbon pick-up events on May 11 for family members of residents and staff. Buckner encourages anyone who would like to support senior living communities to purchase gold ribbon from local craft stores—while following social distancing regulations and practicing personal hygiene when in public—or buy ribbon from online retailers. “By displaying a gold ribbon outside your home, you can recognize the selfless actions and personal sacrifices made by senior living residents and staff,” said **Charlie Wilson**, senior vice president of Buckner Retirement Services. “Whether you have a family member or friend residing or working in a senior living community, or you just want to show your appreciation and support, we hope you’ll join us and go gold.”

Texas Baptist Men disaster relief volunteers completed work in response to tornadoes in East Texas after giving more than 4,600 volunteer hours. Crews worked primarily in hard-hit Onalaska, but also served at Powderly, a small community north of Paris. TBM volunteers logged more than 300 heavy-equipment hours, completed 73 chainsaw jobs, installed 21 temporary roofs and distributed more than 1,000 boxes for displaced

residents to collect and store their belongings. Their work included more than 500 personal contacts, and they distributed more than 40 Bibles. They recorded four professions of faith in Christ as a result of their work.



Howard Payne University's Student Speaker Bureau speech and debate team competed at the National Christian College Forensics Association national championship tournament. Pictured with Coach Julie Welker (left) are team members (left to right) Parker Brown, Esmerelda Maldonado, Rayden Hicks, Alek Mendoza, Devin Schurman and Rishona Raub.

Prior to the restrictions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, Howard Payne University's Student Speaker Bureau speech and debate team competed at the National Christian College Forensics Association national championship tournament. Two team members—**Alek Mendoza** and **Rishona Raub**—earned gold as national champions. Mendoza, a junior from Bangs, was national champion in open dramatic interpretation, and Raub, a sophomore from Celina, was national champion in novice extemporaneous speaking.

