

# **Around the State: Petraeus speaks at DBU event**

January 10, 2024

Gen. David Petraeus, U.S. Army (Ret.), offered leadership insights from his 37-year military career and his time as director of the Central Intelligence Agency when he spoke at Dallas Baptist University in December. DBU's Institute for Global Engagement and the World Affairs Council of Dallas/Fort Worth jointly sponsored the event.

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# **Around the State: Mission Arlington's Christmas Store benefits families**

January 10, 2024

The annual Christmas Store at Mission Arlington benefited 7,551 families—more than 30,000 individuals—last month, allowing parents and other caregivers to “shop” for free gifts for their children.

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# **Around the State: Men of Nehemiah perform Christmas concert**

January 10, 2024

Men of Nehemiah, a nonprofit organization working to rebuild the lives of men who have struggled with drug and alcohol addiction, presented a Christmas concert at Park Cities Baptist Church in Dallas.

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# **Around the State: Student athlete receives ETBU President's Award**

January 10, 2024

East Texas Baptist University conferred 108 undergraduate degrees and 50 graduate degrees at its fall commencement ceremony. President J. Blair Blackburn presented the President's Award to Mollie Marie Dittmar of Buffalo.

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# **Around the State: Abilene church opens Hope Center**

January 10, 2024

First Baptist Church in Abilene marked the opening of its Hope Center with a Dec. 5 ribbon-cutting ceremony. The facility is home to City Light Community Ministries, GLO Day Care and the church's ministry of counseling and enrichment.

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# **Around the State: ETBU joins in Operation Christmas Child**

January 10, 2024

East Texas Baptist University participated in its eighth annual Operation Christmas Child, an outreach program organized by Samaritan's Purse. The Baylor Center for Developmental Disabilities will join With Ministries in a new program, "Worship as One: Learning with Children with Disabilities about Worship and Prayer."

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# **Around the State: Wayland recognizes international students**

January 10, 2024

On International Students Day, Nov. 17, Wayland Baptist University recognized the 77 international students enrolled at Wayland Baptist University—and noted the challenges many had to overcome to pursue their education.

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# **Around the State: HPU opens new site at New Braunfels**

January 10, 2024

Howard Payne University at New Braunfels held a ribbon-cutting ceremony to mark the official opening of its new location. Debbie Chou, who graduated from Baylor University in May, become the fifth Baylor student teacher in the last seven years to receive the statewide Clinical Teacher of the Year award from the Texas Directors of Field Experience

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# **Around the State: Orr Chair in Medical Humanities and Christian Faith endowed at Baylor**

January 10, 2024

Baylor University announced a \$2 million gift from Scott and Susan Orr of The Woodlands establishing the Orr Family Endowed Chair in Medical Humanities and Christian Faith.

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# **Around the State: Church blesses community with groceries, gas**

January 10, 2024

When a member of Cartwright Baptist Church near Winnsboro gave an offering designated to “benefit and bless the community,” members purchased food for shoppers at a local grocery store and gasoline for customers at a local service station.

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# **Around the State: ETBU presents servant leadership awards**

January 10, 2024

East Texas Baptist University awarded the Bob and Gayle Riley Servant Leadership Award to seniors Avery Abshier and Abraham Contreras.

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# **Around the State: ETBU students host fall festivals**

January 10, 2024

East Texas Baptist University's Learning and Leading classes hosted fall festivals for elementary schools in Marshall. Wayland Baptist University launches search for next president. Dallas Baptist University observes Missions Week.