

BCFS garners highest praise from children

May 12, 2008

LULING—The Governor’s Division of Emergency Management praised Baptist Child & Family Services for its role in caring for children taken from a polygamist Fundamentalist Latter-Day Saints ranch in West Texas. But the highest praise came from the people whose opinions matter most—the children themselves.

Concern for needy people is gospel truth, not partisan politics, CBF’s Vestal insists

May 12, 2008

WACO—God identifies with the poor and the powerless, and Christians encounter Christ when they serve the weakest of the world’s citizens, Daniel Vestal told participants in the Baylor University School of Social Work’s annual “family dinner.”

Baptism rates follow cycles, Texas Baptist statistician says

May 12, 2008

DALLAS—Dropping baptism statistics tend to refocus Baptists on evangelism, which results in growing God's kingdom, according to Clay Price, Baptist General Convention of Texas statistician.

Around the State

May 12, 2008

Hardin-Simmons University's Logsdon School of Theology has named its outstanding students. Kimberly Williams of Comanche received the Logsdon School of Theology Award, traditionally considered by the faculty to be the school's highest award for comprehensive achievement and all-around fitness for ministry.

Future Focus Committee examines giving trends

May 12, 2008

DALLAS—A committee formed to look at the long-range future of the

Baptist General Convention of Texas began by examining the past. At its initial May 5 meeting, the BGCT Future Focus Committee reviewed the work of previous study committees and examined Cooperative Program giving trends over the last 10 years.

Rogers: How to manage mix of religion and politics

May 12, 2008

ABILENE, Texas—Religion and politics inevitably will mix—especially in the U.S. presidential campaign—but that does not mean Americans should sanction a free-for-all, church-state expert Melissa Rogers insisted.

Expert offers ground-rules for religion in public schools

May 12, 2008

ABILENE—Whatever the U.S. Supreme Court ultimately decides, communities should strive to have better conversations about the role of religion in public schools, Melissa Rogers told participants at the T.B. Maston Christian Ethics Lectures at Hardin-Simmons University's Logsdon Seminary.

Good Samaritan offers testimony of transformation

May 12, 2008

BROWNWOOD—When clients arrive at Good Samaritan Ministries seeking food, clothing or school supplies for their children, some see no way out of poverty's grip. Angelia Bostick gently encourages them to look around at the facility that houses the community ministry.

"It's a testimony of transformation and what God can do," said Bostick, founding executive director of Good Samaritan.

Cameron Byler, SBC pioneer in recreation, disaster relief, dies at 79

May 12, 2008

SAN ANTONIO, Texas - Cameron Byler, a pioneer in national disaster relief and men's missions within the Southern Baptist Convention, died Apr. 28 in San Antonio after a brief illness. He would have turned 80 May 11.

Research findings to be presented at social work colloquium

May 12, 2008

Catherine Sykes was inspired by a cereal box to conduct a truth-in-advertising survey.

Kelsi Kelso in Nigeria with HandsOn Missions

May 12, 2008

Kelsi Kelso is serving with HandsOn Missions in Niger.

Baptist Immigration Services

offers help to people who left hanging

May 12, 2008

BROWNWOOD—Baptist Immigration Services of Brownwood has opened its doors to meet the need for Christian immigration services in Central Texas.

According to its mission statement, the ministry exists to “show the love of Christ by offering affordable legal immigration services to Brown County.”