

Texas Tidbits: Book surveys DBU architecture

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Blackburn book highlights history of DBU's architecture. Blair Blackburn, executive vice president at [Dallas Baptist University](#), recently wrote *A City on a Hill: Dallas Baptist University An Architectural History*. Early on, DBU President Gary Cook envisioned designing buildings on campus after some of America's most recognizable and historically significant structures. The book showcases the history of the architectural renaissance that transformed the DBU campus across 25 years. Blackburn holds a bachelor of science degree from University of Texas at Tyler, a master of science degree in higher education administration from Texas A&M University-Commerce and a doctor of education degree from Baylor University. He and his wife, Michelle, have three children—Taylor, Blair and Parker. They are members of Park Cities Baptist Church in Dallas.

Radio station and church benefit West graduating seniors. [KCBI 90.9 FM](#), a Christian radio station in North Texas, is working in partnership with [First Baptist Church in West](#) and the local school district to benefit the 2014 graduating class at West High School. Since the fertilizer plant



explosion that devastated West on April 17, 2013, students at West High School have commuted to neighboring Connally ISD for classes in portable buildings. West High School's building was condemned

due to damage from the blast and torn down. Many families continue to rebuild their homes and lives after the disaster. So, the radio station worked with the church and school district to establish a sponsorship program for graduating seniors. Donors can sponsor individual students,

providing them with laptop computers and money for books, tuition and other needs. For more information, click here (<http://lovingwest.kcbi.org/>).

BCFS awarded grant to teach parenting. The Texas Department of Family and Protective Services awarded [Baptist Child & Family Services](#) a five-year contract to lead a community-based parenting program to improve fathers' communication and parenting skills. Officials expect Fatherhood EFFECT—Educating Fathers For Empowering Children Tomorrow—to serve about 300 families annually in Cameron and Taylor counties. The program will teach families how to resolve conflict, improve communication, deal with complex emotions and overcome issues of aggression, alcohol and violence. BCFS will use the “24/7 Dad” curriculum to lead the classes, focusing on the characteristics of a good father, such as discipline and achieving a healthy balance between work and family.