

Ely Air Lines -

Little Eyes on the Flight Deck

by Mike Ely and Linda Street-Ely

It's natural for pilots to want to share the joy of flight. When someone asks questions with genuine interest, we're all in. All the way to, "Wanna go flying and see what it's like?"

We get especially excited when youngsters are inquisitive about flying, whether as a vocation, a hobby, or they're just "plane" curious. Take five-year-old William Hines for example. In an interview with a TV news reporter in his hometown of Arvada, Colorado, William said he loves flying because airplanes "get you from place to place a lot faster than a car does."

With a slight lisp but carefully enunciated words, William is grateful that he doesn't have to "walk seven thousand miles."

He pointed to a poster-sized photo of the flight deck of a 737 which is used to help train pilots and identified an engine monitor gauge with ease: That shows them how many degrees the engine is.

His parents had noticed early signs of mechanical aptitude, but it was when a Southwest Airlines pilot came over for a visit and showed him charts and a training manual that they saw William in his element. The pilot answered every question William had as the two talked about airplanes for two hours. As William carefully examined the image full of instruments adorning the flight deck, he noticed something seemed wrong.

Little Mr. Hines explained it with confidence. "I discovered that two terrain monitors did not match." He was emphatic. "They did not match at all." One indicated the airplane closer to terrain and the other showed terrain farther away. There are two - and their displays are supposed to be identical - one for each pilot. And, because pilots love redundancy (in case you ever need a backup). Pilots depend on that redundancy. Two displays, two sources of infor-



mation, two chances to catch something before it becomes a problem. William understood that instinctively.

Sure enough, there it was, an error in airline training material discovered by a pre-kindergartener. You can imagine William's proud parents sharing this story with friends. Turned out, one friend had just started a new job with Southwest and asked if she could tell the story (when she pointed out the error) to her manager. William's mom agreed, and somehow, the news about the savvy half-pint made it all the way to

the airline's CEO, Bob Jordan.

Airline executives appreciate good press - heartwarming stories - apparently even if the story makes a mistake public. Bob Jordan invited William and his family to Dallas for a VIP tour of Southwest headquarters. They all loved it, but William most of all.

His big eyes sparkled when he said, "I got to go in a thim-el-ator." And the thim-el-ator pilot showed him a great many secrets.

Kids are like sponges. We short-change them when we assume things are too complicated to understand. Maybe someday, when you board a Southwest flight, Captain William Hines will be up front, taking people from place to place - a lot faster than walking seven thousand miles.

ElyAirLines.substack.com

Learn how eggs develop at library

LIBERTY - Beginning April 6 and continuing through April 30, the Liberty Municipal Library will host a fun, hands-on after-school experience. All ages are invited to learn how eggs develop into chicks and see the incubation process from start to hatch day. Participants will learn about the lifecycle of a chicken, how incubators work, egg candling, the excitement of hatch day and so much more. Programs will be

held Monday through Thursday, each week, from 4:30-5:30 p.m.

The program will be overseen by Katie Clark, Prairie View Texas A&M 4-H extension agent serving Liberty County. The extension service provides research-based education and services to county communities that support youth development and improve quality of life.

To register or for information, contact the library at 936-336-8901. Library hours are Monday-Thursday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Friday, 1-5 p.m., and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The library is located inside the Geraldine D. Humphreys Cultural Center at 1710 Sam Houston Street.

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CLOTHING DONATIONS

HULL - Mt. Calvary Baptist Church, 2988 Hwy.105 East, (3 miles east of Moss Hill intersection) is accepting donations of used student clothes for its annual clothing giveaway in July. Call 936-346-6244 to arrange drop-off of your donations. Many families will be blessed by your donations. Thank you.



SMOKEY BEAR TO VISIT STORYTIME

LIBERTY - Liberty Municipal Library will host a very special visitor Wed., March 25, at 11 a.m. when Smokey Bear visits Storytime. Smokey will bring along a special friend, Brie, who will tell stories about Smokey Bear, his history and to explain how to prevent fires as well as discuss fire and wildfire safety. This special event will be held in the children's section downstairs.

Everyone is encouraged to visit that day and meet the forest service folks as well as Smokey Bear. A special thank you is extended to the Texas A&M Forest Service, Huntsville District, for making this special visit possible. The library is located at 1710 Sam Houston.

FLAGS OVER LIBERTY

LIBERTY - The Liberty Lions Club is offering an invitation to homes and businesses in Liberty to participate in the Flags Over Liberty program for 2026. The cost is \$50 annually per flag with any number of flags available. To participate, contact David Leonard, flag program coordinator, at 936-346-2358. Emails can be sent to flags@libertylionsclub.org.



Liberty Church of Christ

Bryant Perkins, Minister

Join us this Sunday for Bible Classes for all ages at 9 a.m. and stay for Worship at 10 a.m.

We meet Sunday night at 5 p.m. and Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.

We meet at 3201 North Main Street and have a parking space just for you.

We'd love to see you soon. We've saved you a seat!

3201 N. Main St., Liberty • 936.336.2213 • libertycofc.org

DPS: Download iWatchTexas app to report suspicious activity

AUSTIN - The Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) is reminding Texans of the iWatchTexas program - a critical resource anyone can use to report suspicious activity or behavior in their schools and communities. Using iWatchTexas, everyone can take an active role in keeping our state safe.

The iWatchTexas program allows Texans to report any suspicious activities or behaviors that may indicate criminal, terroristic or school safety-related threats.

The public can report behaviors via the mobile app, online at www.iwatchtx.org or by calling 1-844-643-2251. A report typically takes less than five minutes, and once submitted, each report is reviewed by law enforcement analysts. All reports

are confidential (providing contact information, which is optional, will allow for follow-up questions).

Often, preparations for crimes, terrorist attacks and threats to school safety may be seen by someone but not reported. When in doubt, DPS encourages everyone to speak up.

Here are some examples of behaviors and activities to report:

- Comments about killing or harming someone.
- Strangers asking questions about building security features and procedures.
- A social media post about a possible school attack.
- A social media account encouraging and posting about acts of vandalism, sabotage or arson.
- People requesting

sensitive information, such as blueprints, security plans or VIP travel schedules, without a need to know.

• Purchasing supplies that could be used to make bombs or weapons or purchasing uniforms without having the proper credentials.

• Taking photographs or videos of security features, such as cameras or checkpoints.

The iWatchTexas app is available at no cost to iPhone users on the Apple App Store (iWatchTexas) and for Android users on Google Play (iWatchTexas). Texans are urged to download the app now.

Note: The iWatchTexas program is not designed to report emergencies. If a situation requires an emergency response, call 911.

Special event on Texas suffragists at SHC

LIBERTY - The Sam Houston Regional Library and Research Center (SHC), part of the Texas State Library and Archives Commission (TSLAC), will host a special event on Texas suffragists on Sat., March 28, at 2 p.m.

Jessica Brannon-Wranosky, Distinguished Professor of Digital Humanities and History at East Texas A&M University, will share stories of Texas women who fought

for the right to vote when she visits the Sam Houston Center. Her research on women's suffrage has been featured in numerous publications, as a Texas Standard radio series and on PBS.

The public is invited to learn more about the strategic role Texas women had in the national suffrage movement and view a select screening from the Citizens at Last: Texas Women Fight for the Vote documentary se-

ries Brannon-Wranosky co-produced. In addition, visitors can experience a special display of historic items related to women's suffrage from the collections of the Sam Houston Center and the Texas State Library and Archives Commission in Austin.

This event is free and open to the public. No registration is required. Contact the Center at (936) 336-8821 or email samhoustoncenter@tsl.texas.gov for more information.

Sign up now for Citizen Police Academy

DAYTON - Applications for the Dayton Police Department's Citizen Police Academy are being accepted through March 28 for those 18 years or older that would like to participate in the program. Academy classes will be held March 31 through April 28, each Tuesday night, from 6-9 p.m. at the Dayton Police Department, 2004 N. Cleveland Street.

The Citizens Police Academy will provide hands-on interactive training in a comfortable envi-

ronment on topics that include Patrol Operations, Crime Scene and Evidence Collection, Traffic Stops and more.

Registration applications can be obtained from the Dayton Police Department or online at cityofdaytontx.com. Please note that this program is not a certification to become a sworn Dayton police officer. For more information, contact Jackie Ennor at 936-258-7621 or jennor@daytontx.org.

Celebrate Easter at FBC Dayton

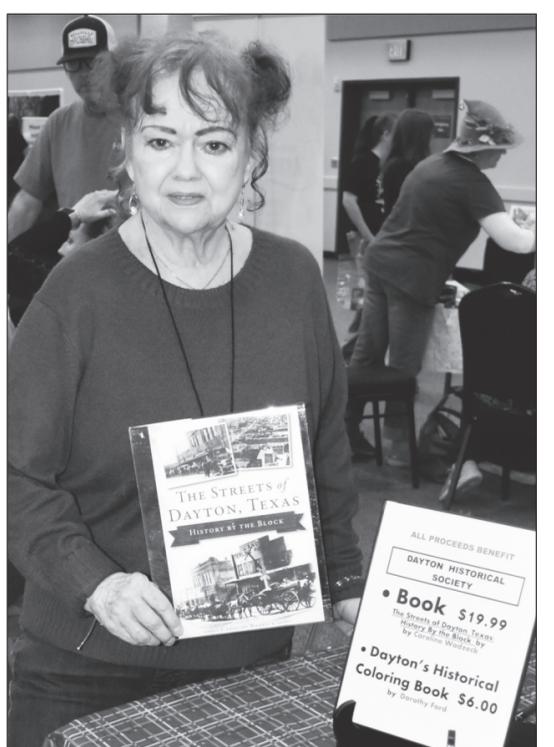
DAYTON - First Baptist Church Dayton welcomes you to celebrate Easter beginning with a service on Good Friday, which will focus on Christ's death with song, Scripture readings and celebrating communion, all by candlelight. The service is at 7 p.m., Fri., April 3.

An Easter Egg-stravaganza will take place Sat., April 4, from 10 a.m. until noon, on the church campus. Come enjoy a train ride, family games, popcorn, crafts, cookie decorating, outside egg hunt,

black light egg hunt in the gym and, of course, sharing the Good News of our risen Savior, Jesus Christ.

Resurrection Sunday Worship will begin at 10:30 a.m., April 5. Everyone is invited to a wonderful celebration of the risen Christ in a Christ-centered service worshipping our great God and giving Him glory for the resurrection of Christ, our Savior.

First Baptist Church Dayton is located at 202 East Houston Street. Call 936-258-8231 for additional information.



Amber Reed stopped by the Dayton Historical Society table at the Local Author's Event at the Dayton Community Center, Sat., March 7.

Cemetery cleanup, *Continued from Page A-1*

work gloves, bolt cutters, and a wheelbarrow to assist with edging, fence removal, and filling low spots.

Families are encouraged to remove old flowers and decorations before the cleanup to make maintenance easier.

Community service hours available for students and court-appointed individuals. Bring your

forms. For more information, voice or text 832-427-9096.

The Linney-Acie Cemetery Association is a non-profit organization dedicated to caring for and preserving the historic Linney and Acie cemeteries. We appreciate the community's support and can't wait to see y'all on March 28.