


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.

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

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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

OBITUARY

• **WALTER TAYLOR**

LIBERTY - Walter “Edward” (Willie B) Taylor came into this world on February 12, 1951. He was welcomed by his parents, Walter L. Taylor and Pheroby Flower Tilton, and his sister, Teresa.



He loved the fact that he was born on Abraham Lincoln’s birthday at Mercy Hospital in Liberty, Tx, which sits on the Trinity River. Edward grew up in Hull-Daisetta. He spent his youth hunting and fishing with his friends and playing football for the Bobcats. His football ability earned him a full scholarship to Baylor University, where he played for the Baylor Bears. Edward gave his life to Jesus at a stadium crusade in Daisetta when he was 15 years old. It was a truly life-changing event for him. After college, he coached football for five years at Liberty High School and then became an engineer for Baroid.

At the age of 31, he married the love of his life, Sara Miller, whom he had met at church when she was 11 years old. Together, they had five beautiful daughters, Jenny Suzanne, Jessica Brooke, Lacy Jordan, Lauren Nicole, and Meredith Leigh. Edward was a great “girl dad.” At 45, Edward stepped into full-time ministry, starting The Father’s House Church, where he pastored for 25 years. Nothing meant more to him than preaching the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ and seeing people saved, healed, and delivered. It was his passion, and now he is enjoying the “fruit of his labor.” After a four-year battle with dementia, Edward went home to be with the Lord on February 2, 2026, at the age of 74. Edward was a pillar in the lives of so many – an incredible role model, a true man of God-living as a “LIGHT” in a dark place. He is preceded in death by his parents, Walter L. Taylor and Pheroby Flower Tilton; sister, Teressa Graham and daughter, Jenny Walsh.

Ely Air Lines –

Piece by Piece

by Mike Ely and Linda Street-Ely

William T. Carter Jr.’s idea to bring air mail to Houston was brilliant, even if the city council couldn’t see it at the time. Carter believed aviation mattered. Not someday, but now. And when the city wouldn’t build an airport, he did it himself. The field he created eventually became Hobby Airport, and today, on that same ground, the 1940 Air Terminal Museum preserves the story of how Houston learned to fly.



That story is still being written.

Recently, the museum shared news of a creative new effort: a LEGO model of the 1940 Air Terminal itself. Created by long-time museum volunteer and board member Blair McFarlain, the model has been submitted to the LEGO Ideas program, where projects that gather 10,000 supporters are reviewed for possible production as official LEGO sets.

And like many great ideas, this one began with a single piece.

Blair noticed a nonstandard LEGO shape – the 1x4 Log brick – and something clicked. On the museum’s exterior, the architectural detailing between the windows has a distinct shape, very much like that LEGO brick. Maybe it takes a trained eye to

see the connection at first, but once you do, you can’t unsee it. That small spark turned into a full design.

For the past five or six years, Blair has been perfecting a large model of the terminal. That model, still under development, is ambitious – roughly 7,000 pieces so far and will occupy eight 48x48 baseplates arranged in a 2x4 layout. That many bricks will cost several thousand dollars. He jokingly calls it a “monstrosity,” though clearly, it’s a labor of love.

Realizing it might be impractical for now, Blair created a smaller Architecture-style version to submit to LEGO Ideas. Using the original 1940 blueprints, he carefully laid out the design. The scale, which he is perfecting, is about 90 percent accurate and far more precise than his early attempts based solely on photographs.

If the project reaches 10,000 supporters, LEGO will review it for possible production. That doesn’t guarantee approval; ultimately, LEGO must decide if it makes business sense. Still, reaching that milestone would be a remarkable achievement in itself.

Blair’s vision extends beyond simply producing a model. He would love to see a dedicated “kids’ room” in the museum featuring a LEGO build station, where young visitors could assemble their own versions of the terminal and learn about aviation history piece by piece. The larger model, if ever completed, could travel to LEGO conventions to promote both the museum and Houston’s aviation heritage.

The museum board is fully behind the effort.

Supporting the project is simple and free. Creating an account on the LEGO Ideas site, then clicking “support” takes only a moment. But those small clicks add up – just like bricks.

Big ideas often start with individuals willing to act. William T. Carter Jr. once saw open prairie and imagined runways. Blair McFarlain looked at a LEGO brick and imagined a landmark, quite literally, piece by piece.

ElyAirLines.substack.com



Frankly Speaking –

Remembering When Heroes Were Heroes!

by Frank Jordan

The early 1950s were the home to many of our most precious memories and particularly the western heroes. My personal experiences with the stars were very few, but certainly memorable looking back to yesteryears.

At what was then the Houston Fat Stock Show and Rodeo, Hopalong Cassidy of the fast two guns and hearty laugh was appearing on his magnificent white horse, Topper. At the time Hopalong had a top rated television show, comic book adventures and every kind of marketing gadget you can imagine.

As the entertainment, Hoppy followed Roy Rogers and Dale Evans with Bullet, the wonder dog, together with Pat Brady and Nellybelle the Jeep from the previous year. The Roy and Dale show included Roy singing his classic “Don’t Fence Me In” and, with Dale, “Happy Trails.” Then there were stunning animal per-

formances from Roy’s horse, Trigger and Dale’s Buttermilk, joined by Bullet their magnificent dog.

As was tradition, the stars featured at the rodeo circled the arena after their performance and, as was also common, children lined the arena fence to touch or shake the hand of their western heroes. I grabbed Roy’s hand and would not let go. The singing cowboy stopped, smiled and said, “I’ve gotta go, wrangler!” I let go just before my father had decided to saw my arm off in embarrassment.

But this was the next year as Hopalong Cassidy had finished and was riding around the arena. As he appeared in front of me, I shook his hand and asked, “Why don’t you sing and have a dog?” The famous laugh of the great cowboy was heard loudly by hundreds around me! My father swore off taking me to shake the

stars’ hands from that date forward and that was sad as the gorgeous Annie Oakley (Gail Davis) appeared later.

Another great memory occurred much later in life when I was traveling west by air and had an opportunity to talk with Clayton Moore, who starred as the Lone Ranger on TV with Silver and Tonto for many years. In later years, after the TV Series ceased, he appeared at public relations events throughout the nation.

As he told the story, on one occasion when giving his talk on being a good citizen, a man ran near him, grabbed a woman’s purse and jumped in a nearby car to speed away. Clayton Moore, dressed as the Lone Ranger, commandeered another nearby driver to follow the getaway car with him sitting in the passenger seat. As the thief’s car stopped for a red light, thinking no one

was following, the Lone Ranger had his driver pull alongside and honked loudly as he rolled down his window.

The getaway driver and purse snatcher were stunned to look out and see the Lone Ranger pointing two pistols at them and telling them to pull over and give back the purse! In shock, the purse was handed over and the two sped away, but the Lone Ranger had ridden again to save the day and the damsel in distress!

Frankly speaking, we need heroes today for all ages to again tell us how to do right, shoot straight and obey the law. Hoppy, Roy, the Lone Ranger and so many more are gone now, but their spirit of patriotism, doing right and wholesome habits still guide many in aspirations and often in their actions. For this we say thank you and happy trails!



DAR VISITS LDRMC

Pictured (l-r): Joyce DeBarge, RN; Larry MacNeil, Community and Marketing; Amanda Williams, Radiology Manager; Ann Rogers, Regent Libertad DAR Chapter; Rhonda Campbell, RN, CEO; Maddie Bearden, RN, CNO; Kimberly Fore, Physical/Occupational Therapist; Dana Arthur, RN, BSN, Patient Family Engagement; Jordan Skinner, Human Resources/Payroll; and Bruce Stratton, Hospital Board President.

DAR members treated to special tour of LDRMC

LIBERTY - On January 15, members of the Libertad Chapter DAR (Daughters of the American Revolution) were treated to a PowerPoint presentation, personal introductions and information on the Liberty-Dayton Regional Medical Center (LDRMC). Administrative staff members, led by Dana

Arthur, RN, BSN, informed members about the newly remodeled nurse and ER stations, patient rooms that include new recliners and larger TVs. She discussed the “Swing Bed” program and, the helicopter that is home-based across the street. She noted an increase in staff to 80 due to the additional services

that are now offered.

Patricia Edgell, RN, also gave the members a first-class tour of the newly remodeled ER and patient rooms. She explained the mobile nurses stations and future plans, that would include improvements to the patient restrooms. Also, it was also explained that the public can request to have

lab work done here in the convenient and updated lab!

Of note: All physicians working in the emergency room, not only hold a medical license, but are “ER certified,” which is special certification. The LDRMC is the only hospital in this area in which all physicians have this additional certification.



BRIDGEHAVEN



CASA

Senior Boxes at VFW, Fri., Feb. 27

LIBERTY – This month’s Senior Box Food Distribution Program will take place Friday, February 27, from 8-10 a.m. at Liberty VFW Post 5621. The commodities from the USDA/TDA are distributed through the Houston Food Bank. No new applications are being accepted at this time

To qualify, senior applicants must be age 60 or above and will be subject to verifying their age, residence and household income. Those unable to make the distribution, can designate a person for pick up. This person must present a written letter (dated and signed) along with a form of the recipient’s ID (copy/picture of your ID or apple/food bank card) giving permission for pick up. The designated person must also bring

their ID for verification.

The Liberty VFW Post is located at 1520 N. Main Street.

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WILD HORSE AND BURRO EVENT

NORMAN, OK - The Bureau of Land Management will hold a two-day wild horse and burro event in Livingston, February 27-28, at the Barney Wiggins Memorial Arena. The two-day event, featuring 150 wild horses and burros, will begin at 8 a.m. on Fri., Feb. 27. Adoptions will be held from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. on February 27, and from 8 a.m.-noon on Sat., Feb. 28. Animals are eligible for adoption. For more information, call 866-468-7826 or visit www.blm.gov.



CPS



AGAPE LOVE

LIBERTY LIONS CLUB CONTINUES CHARITABLE SUPPORT OF LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS

During February, the Liberty Lions Club provided financial support to four organizations which they have supported over prior years – CASA of Liberty and Chambers County, Children’s Protective Services in Liberty, Bridgehaven Children’s Advocacy Center and Agape Love. These efforts underscore the club’s commitment to return to the community funds raised through its concession stand at Liberty Memorial Stadium’s LHS football games, as well as the “Flags Across Liberty” program.

Club members proudly set up flags for Presidents Day at locations that have subscribed to the Flags Across Liberty program. If you are interested in participating in this program, the club will place your location on its route and display the flag five times a year. The donation for participation is \$50. Please contact Lion David Leonard at 936-346-2358, if you would like to participate or you may contact the Liberty Lions Club at flags@libertylionsclub.org.

Local students achieve Deans’ List

MISSISSIPPI STATE, MS - Allison Longorio of Dayton and Rachel La Cour, of Liberty have been named to the Mississippi State University fall 2025 Deans’ List. Students named to the

Deans’ List must have achieved a GPA between 3.5 and 3.79, based on a 4.0 scale, while completing at least 12 semester hours of coursework with no incomplete grades or grades lower than a C.

Pate named to UA Dean’s List

FAYETTEVILLE, AR - Callie Pate of Dayton has been named to the University of Arkansas Dean’s List for the 2025 Fall Semester.

Pate joins a distinguished group of students recognized for outstanding academic achievement by earning a grade-point average of 3.75-3.99 during the semester while

completing at least 12 credit hours required for graduation.

LIBERTY GAZETTE

936-336-6416