



TCOG Welcomes New Community & Economic Development Director

After living in exile for more than twenty years, Ryan Gleason returns to his boyhood home of Sherman as the Community and Economic Development Director. During his two-decade long absence from Sherman, he lived for a short time in Terrell and in Albuquerque, NM until graduating from high school. He attended McMurry University in Abilene where he was awarded a Bachelor of Arts degree in History and Texas Tech where he received Master of Public Administration and law degrees.

From 2001 to 2004, Ryan was in Washington, DC, serving as a Legislative Assistant and Counsel to US Senator Pete V. Domenici. He was responsible for all judiciary, homeland security, transportation, commerce, and financial issues, including advising the Senator on the federal budget. He has served as a Legislative Analyst and Counsel to the NM House of Representatives during the 2001 and 2006 sessions. In May of 2006, President George W. Bush appointed Ryan to be the NM State Director of USDA Rural Development which delivered more than \$85 million in infrastructure, housing and business assistance last year.



Ryan Gleason

Ryan is married to Kristalyn. They have two sons: Rhett who is three and Reid who just turned two. They are expecting their third child in October.

The Sherman - Denison MPO Board
will be meeting
June 3, 2009
9:00 am

The MPO Board approves the use of all
federal and most state transportation
funds within the urban area.

Help Conserve Energy Usage

The 2009 Comprehensive Energy Assistance Program (CEAP) has served 626 low-income families thru the month of May with a total of \$352,706 being spent to date for utility bills and replacing heating/cooling appliances in their homes to help conserve energy usage.

Executive Committee

Bill Lindsay, President
Grayson County Citizens

Glenn Loch - Vice President
Mayor, City of Gainesville

Cary Wacker, Secretary/Treasurer
Councilwoman, City of Sherman

Robert Brady
Mayor, City of Denison

Roy Floyd
Mayor, City of Bonham

Pat Hilliard
Commissioner, Fannin County

Cecil Jones
Fannin County Minority

Al Smith
Commissioner, Cooke County

Gene Short
Commissioner, Grayson County

Full Governing Body
Michael Baecht
Councilman, City of Denison

Roy Brewer
Gainesville ISD

Charles Draper
Councilman, City of Gainesville

Jimmy Doyle
Fannin County Citizens

Jack Flusche
Councilman, Cooke County Small Cities

Misha Frey
Van Alstyne ISD

Scott Galyon
Pottsboro ISD

Obie Lee Greenleaf
Councilman, City of Denison

Janet Gott
Grayson County College

Lieutenant David Hawley
Denison ISD

Jim Hoenig
Whitesboro ISD

Leon Hurse
Mayor, Fannin Cty Small Cities

Bill Magers
Mayor, City of Sherman

Joe Smith
Councilman, City of Sherman

Robert Softly
Grayson County Minority

Bob Thomas
Bonham ISD

Maria Vega
Cooke County Minority

Nancy Webb
Councilwoman, Grayson Cty Med Cities

Patsy Wilson
North Central Texas College

Bill Yoss
Mayor, Fannin Cty Small Cities

Al Zorrilla
Sherman ISD

Helping Seniors Avoid Securities Fraud

The Texas State Securities Board offers a seminar entitled **"Helping Seniors Avoid Securities Fraud"**. The board was established in 1957 to regulate finances in Texas. The motto of the Texas State Securities Board is:

"Investigate before you invest!"

There are three divisions of the State Securities Board.

1. The **Enforcement** branch investigates and prosecutes fraud. To report possible fraud you can file a complaint by calling the board at: **1-888-663-0009 or 512-305-8300.**
2. The **Registration** Division is responsible for the registration of securities offered or sold in Texas and of firms and individuals who sell securities or render investment advice in Texas.
3. The **Investor Education** Division helps with financial planning and investor fraud awareness. You may call the above phone numbers or go online at: www.ssb.state.tx.us or www.TexasInvestorEd.org to get excellent information on investor's rights and warnings on investment fraud.

Many times it is the seniors who are the targets for financial fraud, but anyone of any age can become a victim. The websites have many Senior Resources that are very helpful in how to successfully invest. It also covers scams and how to avoid them by becoming more discreet in your investing. All seniors are encouraged to call the Texas State Securities Board before they invest, to be aware of high pressure brokers, and to always ask questions and be active in keeping up with their investments.

Life As A Single Mother Is Not Easy

The TCOG Case Management program is proud to have been a part of helping a client to graduate from nursing school. Bridget H. brought us a thank-you note, "Life as a single mother is not easy & it's extra hard while you're in school full-time. So, there's not much room to work. TCOG has helped to pay my tuition so that I was able to finish Nursing School. Thank You so Much."



Public Housing Program Gets Extreme Home Make-Over



The Texoma Housing Partners Consortia staff is busy, busy, busy developing the budget for the extreme home improvements each one of the 17 participating housing authorities will receive utilizing \$847,000.00 of American Recovery Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funding.

Everything from exterior painting to new flooring, appliances, kitchen counters, cabinets and lighting will be replaced over the next several months with the big REVEAL showing a beautifully refurbished housing stock.

Not only will the properties be transformed but the communities benefit too as the stimulus money will be injected into the local economies. Stay tuned for updates as the work begins.



Box Fan Donations/Distribution

Summer is upon us and we will soon experience soaring temperatures and higher electric bill costs. Senior citizens, the disabled and families with limited incomes avoid using their air conditioners because of increased energy bills, however, these populations are the most vulnerable for heat related illnesses such as heat stroke and dehydration.

Each summer, the staff at 2-1-1 Texoma, collects box fans and gives them out to vulnerable populations. A box fan can circulate the air and help reduce the temperature in a home by as much as 10 degrees. In addition to receiving a box fan, 2-1-1 Information Specialists can give other referrals to recipients about other helpful programs such as: Lite-up Texas, a program that can help citizens reduce their electric costs; Texoma Council of Governments' Weatherization Program that can help repair an existing window air-conditioning unit and the Energy Assistance Program, a program that can assist those who qualify with electric bill payment assistance.

2-1-1 is currently taking donations for box fans to distribute in Cooke, Fannin, and Grayson counties. If you would like more information on how you can help, please dial toll-free, 2-1-1 or 866-283-9662 for more information, Monday – Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. You can also drop off donations at the Texoma Council of Governments Building, 1117 Gallagher Drive in Sherman, Texas.



FYI:

Published by the Texoma Council of Governments. Contact: Mary Smith, TCOG, 1117 Gallagher Drive, Sherman, TX 75090, e-mail: msmith@texoma.cog.tx.us, (903) 813-3514. Visit our Website at www.texoma.cog.tx.us. To subscribe or unsubscribe—msmith@texoma.cog.tx.us