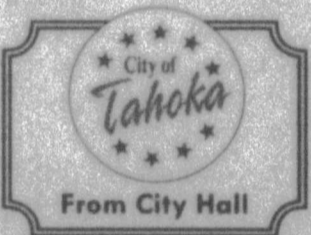




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See the award-winning **THS One Act Play** in its final performance - 6:30 pm **May 6 in the THS Auditorium.** \$5 Admission.



## CITY CLEAN UP DAY IS SATURDAY

Tahoka City-Wide Clean Up Day is set for Saturday, April 30. This will involve volunteers from the Caring Hearts Organization, Tahoka Rotary Club, and the City of Tahoka, and anyone else who wants to help. We especially need pickups, trailers, and people.

Again, we want to promote cleaning up some of the junk around our community. If you have old appliances, sofas, or anything else inside or outside you have neglected to haul off over the years, now is the time to get it hauled off at no cost. We will haul off everything you want to get rid of.

If you have anything you want to dispose of, place it at the curb in front of your house (not in the alley) - appliances, furniture, bedding, limbs, and anything else that can be accepted at the landfill.

If you need some help getting it to the curb call City Hall at 561-4211.

At 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, volunteers will begin picking up everything at the curbs and loading pickups and trailers. Everything picked up will be taken to the landfill.

This is your opportunity to get your unwanted junk picked up and hauled to the landfill for FREE. And, you could be subject to a fine between \$200 and \$500 if you receive a citation by the code enforcement officer for having the same junk in your yard. Please take advantage of this FREE service and let's clean up.

## What's Outside

NWS official readings for Tahoka

| Date   | High | Low | Precip. |
|--------|------|-----|---------|
| Apr 19 | 73   | 45  | 0.03"   |
| Apr 20 | 76   | 52  |         |
| Apr 21 | 77   | 51  | 0.20"   |
| Apr 22 | 77   | 49  |         |
| Apr 23 | 80   | 50  |         |
| Apr 24 | 83   | 54  |         |
| Apr 25 | 87   | 56  |         |

(Precipitation/temps measured as of 8 a.m. on date reported, for the previous 24-hr period)

|                         |       |
|-------------------------|-------|
| Total Precip for Jan:   | 0.23" |
| Total Precip for Feb:   | 0.12" |
| Total Precip for Mar:   | 0.39" |
| Total Precip for Apr:   | 1.08" |
| Total Precip. for 2016: | 1.82" |

## Getting there ... the hard way!

### Band Director Carroll Rhodes in hospital while Tahoka Band wins 14th Sweepstakes

by JUANELL JONES

The Tahoka High School 3-D Band stepped up in fine form last Wednesday, April 20, earning their 14th consecutive large Sweepstakes by earning superior ratings from judges in concert and sightreading contest - all while their beloved band director was lying in a hospital bed waiting anxiously for news of his band. The band contest was held at Wayland University in Plainview.

To qualify for a large sweepstakes a band must earn a 1 in marching (held in the fall), concert, and sightreading. This is the 3-D's Band 18th consecutive 1 in concert, 17th consecutive 1 in sightreading, and 14th consecutive 1 in marching. The 3-D Band, well-trained under Rhodes' direction, performed under the direction of retired band director John Gibson with whom they had only rehearsed for 40 minutes the previous day.

THS Band Director Carroll Rhodes says he is very proud of his students and appreciative of everyone who stepped in to help after he made an unexpected trip to the emergency room and ended up in Lubbock Heart Hospital.

"I cannot say enough about how wonderful and mature these students were in pulling together as a family and stepping up to a standard of focus and endeavor that was required to earn

all 1's under a different director and only one rehearsal," stated the now-recovered Rhodes. "This says not only a lot about these young people but also a very positive statement about their parents."

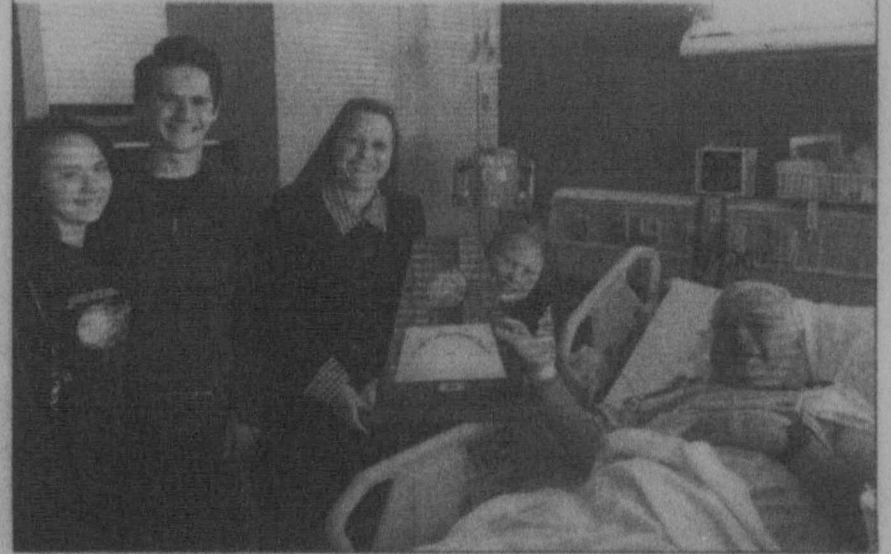
Retired band director John Gibson, who has taught from 2A to 6A schools in the Lubbock region and was the founder of Association of Texas Small School Bands, was contacted at 8:30 a.m. Tuesday and by approximately 10:00 a.m. was at Tahoka studying scores and helping to get things together for the next day's contest.

"Once I learned that John was going to direct my kids, my stress level and blood pressure went down a lot. Lora Smith, who was my assistant from 2001-2006, worked with me while I was in the ER at Tahoka and late Monday night at the Lubbock Heart Hospital trying to pull things together for another director, take care of paper work, and a multitude of details in preparation for contest. She, along with current assistant Johnathan Smith, THS Principal Jeff Perez, and several others worked together to bring to success all the hard work of the Tahoka 3-D Band," said Rhodes.

"Every time I try to talk about how all the band, staff, administration, and very dear friends helped to make this happen, I tear up. We are truly blessed in Tahoka," he said.



**Take us to our leader ...** Lora Smith, a former assistant to THS Band Director Carroll Rhodes, leads members of the Tahoka 3-D Band up to the Lubbock hospital where Rhodes was hospitalized, anxiously awaiting the results of the UIL band contest held during his absence. They performed very well in contest, with Mrs. Smith and others stepping in to assist. Since the entire band wasn't able to visit in the hospital room, Mrs. Smith and one of her daughters, as well as Mishelle and Chris Earnest, drum majors for the band, showed a proud Mr. Rhodes the first place trophy the band won.



**Bid on this & this & this ...** Several Rotary Club members, including Amy Preston, Melanie Richburg, Susan Tipton and Rebekah Filley, hold up several items in one of the auction packages, as spotters Slate May (far left) and Bryan Reynolds (in middle) keep an eagle eye out for bidders. Billy Miller (in back) was auctioneer at Saturday night's hospital auction. (LCN PHOTO by Juanell Jones)

## Impressive Area citizens give generously at hospital benefit auction

by JUANELL JONES

If you ask the citizens of Lynn County to give generously for a good cause, they respond with big hearts and deep pocketbooks. Saturday's auction event to raise funds for Lynn County Hospital reached \$43,357 after figures were totaled Monday morning, with some additional donations anticipated to be collected.

Melanie Richburg, President of Tahoka Rotary Club, which sponsored the event, reported that this year's auction was a huge success, raising almost \$43,500 at the Billy Tomlinson Memorial Hospital Benefit Auction held Saturday at the county showbarn.

The annual fundraising event also has great support from the Tahoka Volunteer Fire Department, who prepared the fried fish, hush puppies and their famous "taters-n-onions" for the fish fry, and from Lynn County 4-H youth who sold drinks at the event, with all proceeds benefitting the hospital. Providing the popular ice cream

(See HOSPITAL AUCTION, page 3)

## Local woman teaching CNA class at THS says, 'It's a God thing'

by JUANELL JONES

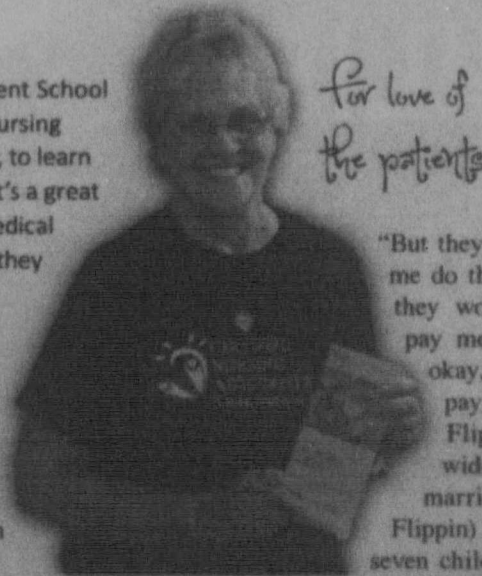
For the last two years, senior students at Tahoka Independent School District have had a unique opportunity to take Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) instruction as part of their high school curriculum, to learn a skill that, potentially, could lead to a job right after graduation. It's a great opportunity for young people who are interested in nursing or medical careers. But what also makes it such a unique opportunity is that they have an exceptional woman to teach this class ... someone whose desire to help others guided her throughout more than three decades of nursing in the medical intensive care unit ... someone who should be enjoying retirement ... and someone who readily tells anyone that she is not even supposed to be alive...

"You know I'm supposed to be dead - six years ago. But I'm still here," says Claudia Flippin, RN, the no-nonsense woman with a heart as big as Texas. At age 74, after 35 years as a Medical ICU nurse at Covenant Hospital, she has survived lung cancer long past the time her doctors told her she would have. So what did she do? She spent time with her family.

She traveled. She survived ... and then she decided to teach.

When she heard, two years ago, that Tahoka High School planned to offer a CNA class to high school students, she offered her services - as a volunteer.

"Oh yes, I wanted to volunteer," recalls Flippin, adding with a laugh,



CLAUDIA FLIPPIN

or 'gained by proxy' as the family says; 13 grandchildren, one of whom is deceased; 16 great-grandchildren; and a host of others the family jokingly says are kin by love.

Why, at age 74, after her nursing

career and surviving cancer, did she want to volunteer her services?

"Well," and she paused, then said, "You know I was supposed to die six years ago. They told me if I took all this chemotherapy and all this radiation, they gave me a year and a half. Well the good Lord gave me longer than that. In August it will be six years. God has a purpose for me, and who's to say this is not it? There are some wonderful people out there helping, working as CNAs. Maybe I can have a hand in that," she said.

It is apparent that Flippin has a heart for the nursing field, and that patient-care from loving hands is not just something she teaches, but something she believes in with all her heart, and demands from her students.

After a 35-year career as a Medical ICU nurse at Covenant - incidentally, one of the longest ICU nursing careers they have had, as that is a difficult

(See CNA CLASS, page 8)



Now that's **funny!**

“ I love mankind ... it's people I can't stand! ”

— CHARLES M. SCHULZ

The Lynn County News

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MEMBER  
**TA** Texas Press Association 2016

April is **NATIONAL HUMOR MONTH**  
Make someone laugh!

Letters to the Editor

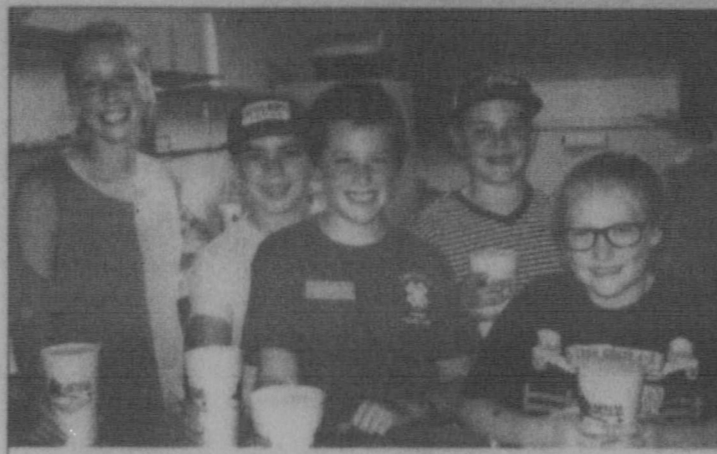
To the citizens of Tahoka:

This is in support of the Tahoka ISD Bond Election.

I served on the School Board for twelve years and in those twelve years I always felt our neighboring county schools were always one step ahead of us. They chose to tax their people to be able to remodel and/or build new facilities. In the early 90's, the hospital was in the process of hiring a physician. He and his family chose Denver City over Tahoka; the deciding factor was the school.

At this point, our facilities are in dire need of remodeling and in some cases building a new school would probably be cheaper. Thirty-plus years ago when we did have up to 900 students, the 81 year old buildings met standards. Now we may not have as many students but we need more than a Big Chief Tablet and Pencil to educate these kids. These buildings have to be able to support the many computers in use, computer labs, science labs, laptops, etc. These kids are our future and we want to provide the best education possible. The facilities are and have always been well kept but the thought of having a brand new building is a dream come true. And who knows, this may be a start to many new things to come to TAHOKA ISD. What a boost to our community.

Sincerely, Carmen Chapa



**Thirsty? ...** Selling drinks at Saturday night's Lynn County Hospital benefit were Lynn County 4-H youth, pictured here from left: Brook Tyson, Riley Cook, Connor Cook, Bryson Stone, and Laine Cook. The 4-H program has supported the hospital auction for many years. (LCN PHOTO by Juanell Jones)

Obituaries



Ruby Alene (Viney) Overman

Ruby Overman of Lubbock, formerly of New Home, stepped into Heaven on Monday, April 25, 2016 at the age of 98. Ruby was born in Fayetteville, AR, on February 24, 1918 to Walter and Maude (Hutchens) Viney. She married Curtis Overman February 26, 1938 in Haskell. They moved to New Home, in 1943 where they made their home. Together they had six children. She was a farmer's wife for 78 years. Ruby worked at New Home schools for many years before her retirement. She was a member of Joe Stokes Community Club and New Home Baptist Church where she taught Sunday school until she was 92 years old. She enjoyed surrounding herself with her family and many friends.

Ruby was preceded in death by her husband, Curtis, two daughters, Beverly Overman Labenz and Linda Overman Kennedy; son, Randy Overman; one brother; three sisters and 2 grandchildren.

Those left to cherish her memory are her daughter, Carolyn Overman Wright of Los Lunas, N.M.; sons, Jerry Overman and wife Tina of Lubbock and Rodney Overman and wife Leah of Longview; daughter-in-law, Edwana Overman of New Home; sister, Pattie Phelps of George West, TX; 14 grandchildren, 22 great-grandchildren, 15 great-great grandchildren and several nieces and nephews.

Visitation will be from 1:00 - 8:00 p.m. Friday, April 29, 2016 with family to receive friends 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. at Combest Family Funeral Home, Lubbock. Services will be 10:00 a.m. Saturday, April 30, 2016 at New Home Baptist Church with interment to follow at Tahoka Cemetery.

Please celebrate the life of Ruby by visiting www.combest-familyfuneralhomes.com (PAID)

TISD Recognizes local businesses

First National Bank of Tahoka, Designs and Daisies, and Thriftway were honored last week by district leaders for their outstanding support of the students and schools in Tahoka ISD, at the regular TISD Board Meeting for April.

"We began a process in March of recognizing local businesses as part of a program sponsored by the Texas Association of School Boards and quickly realized that this outreach to recognize local business that play such an integral part in the lives of TISD students through their partnerships with the district is something that we should do on a regular basis. Consequently, we are thankful for these local businesses and their willingness to make our job of serving the needs of our students a task more easily accomplished," said Dr. George McFarland, TISD Superintendent. "We look forward to each opportunity we can reach out and recognize our local community partners and will continue to do so monthly at our regular board meetings."

WILSON COMMUNITY NEWS

by Bonnie S. Schwertner

Send news to: bonnie\_schwertner\_wilson@yahoo.com



Congratulations to our Mighty Mustang students of the month for April! Pre-K-1: Kaylee Ayala; 2-5: Jaziel Pantoja; Jr. High: Mariela Balderas; High School: Zack Mendez

The Book Fair was a financial success, and I enjoyed meeting parents and students. Thank you to Ariel McKibben, teacher at Wilson Elementary, for her time in sponsoring the event.

Mighty Mustang track members are advancing to Regionals this week, Friday and Saturday, in Levelland! Running the 4x100m sprint are Jose Hernandez, Lance Lopez, Brandon Rowland, and Bailey Steen. Jose Hernandez will also run the 200m race. I'm so proud of these guys, especially since I don't think I could ride a bicycle that fast!

Wilson Memorial Day Ceremony, would like to pass this along: "Each year we place a wreath at the monument. If anyone would like to make a donation to help purchase the wreath it would be greatly appreciated. We are trying to raise \$300." Please "like" the facebook page, and keep up with the latest information.

Good news for all those wanting to register for the first time for Pre-K or Kindergarten at our wonderful school! Stop by Wilson Elementary (628-6271 ext. 100) on Friday, May 6, from 9-11 and 1-3. Parents are asked to bring: certified birth certificate, updated immunization records, social security card, picture ID for the person enrolling the student, and proof of residence in the Wilson district. To become one of our Mighty Mustangs, Pre-K students, who will attend school in the morning from 8:00-12:00, must be 4 years old by Sept. 1, 2016; kinder students must be 5 by Sept. 1, 2016. I'm going to brag just a little, but Wilson ISD is the place for a great education!

I absolutely love the Box Tops program! Each one is worth at least 10 cents to the school. Just clip and send in. The school gets the money.

A look back at ... Woodwork

(Reprinted from the past) Dalton Wood



CONSIDERING some suggestions that this column needs some literary upgrading, I thought I would mention William Shakespeare, who is described as the "author of the most widely admired and influential body of literature in the history of Western civilization" by one reference source

I once audited a course in Shakespeare at Texas Tech; I don't remember why. Also I don't remember anything at all that I learned, so I guess my auditing fee was wasted.

I have seen a movie (Renaissance Man) in which Danny DeVito taught a course about Hamlet to a bunch of Army underachievers. It was a good movie. Gregory Hines was the sergeant who thought studying Shakespeare was a waste of time for soldiers.

Back in 1984, or whenever it was that we last went to England, I think I saw William Shakespeare's house. The reason I'm not sure is that I am a little vague about anything that happened more than two months ago, and it may have been the cottage of Shakespeare's girlfriend, Anne Hathaway, whom he married in 1582, when he was 18 and she was 26 and pregnant, according to Grolier's Encyclopedia of Infamous Loose Livers and Lovers.

Anyway, the house had a thatched roof, covered with all these reeds, or weeds, or hay or whatever. The house is about 500 years old, which is remarkable, considering the fire hazard it poses (the floor won't burn, though; it's made of stones). This house is at a place called Stratford-on-Avon. I think Stratford is the town and Avon must be a river, although I never saw one.

A book I've been looking at says Shakespeare wrote "38 of the world's most respected and ingenious plays, several excellent poems and some 154 sonnets." (I'm so dumb I thought a sonnet was a poem).

The only picture I have ever seen of Shakespeare (pointy chin, big collar) suggests that he was an ugly dude, who was well versed in history, politics and lots of other stuff, and was a genius for hanging words together. Many of his famous lines are so well known they are quoted by persons totally unfamiliar with his plays ("Yon Cassius has a lean and hungry look; he must be on a starvation diet.")

As a high school and college student, I read some of Shakespeare's plays, including Julius Caesar, Macbeth and Hamlet. I remember bits and pieces of each of those, including Lady Macbeth's comment which later became the rallying cry of all dry cleaning establishments, "Out, damned spot!"

Shakespeare wrote some great things before his death at the age of 52, and he must have written it all by hand with a quill and whatever was used for ink those days. It makes me wonder how much good stuff he would have produced if he had owned a computer with a word-processing program.

Shakespeare had three children, none of whom apparently ever amounted to much. If they were like most kids, they grew up thinking daddy was a bubble-headed nerd (Verily, yon pater is just a couch potater).

THE LADY on Ave. L says she knows what Victoria's Secret is: "The secret is that nobody over 30 can fit into their stuff." She also said she read an article, which said the typical symptoms of stress are eating too much, smoking too much, impulse buying and driving too fast. "Are they kidding?" she asked. "That's my idea of a perfect day!" ... April 6, 2004

**VOTE**  
**Mary Gayle Raindl**  
for Lynn County Hospital Board  
*Conservative and Knowledgeable*

Pol Adv. paid for by Leah Taylor, Tahoka, TX 79373

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**RE-ELECT**  
**Brenda Martinez (Dotson)**  
FOR TAHOKA ISD BOARD  
PLACE 5

*It would be an honor to continue to represent you on the TISD Board, Place #5. Thank You!*

Election Day: May 2, 2016 • Early voting April 25-May 3, 2016  
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**PHILIP MACK FURLOW**  
FOR DISTRICT ATTORNEY  
106th JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Voters in the Primary Election, without question, sent a loud and clear message - they want a change of leadership in the District Attorney's office.

Philip Mack Furlow will bring his West Texas work ethic to the job every day to:

- ✓ Reduce the current backlog of criminal cases
- ✓ Prosecute criminals
- ✓ Cooperate with law enforcement and the victims of crime
- ✓ Efficiently manage the taxpayers' money



Mel-annie Oakley ... Melanie Richburg, President of Tahoka Rotary Club, shows a rifle up for auction, as spotter Slate May points at a bidder, at Saturday night's hospital auction.

### Early Voting continues for area elections

Early voting began Monday, April 25 and continues through May 3 for city, school and hospital board elections in Lynn County, with a school bond election and five contested races on the May 7 ballots. Tahoka ISD has a \$9 million bond issue for voters to consider, and there are contested races for Tahoka ISD Board of Trustees, City of Tahoka, Wilson ISD, City of O'Donnell, and Lynn County Hospital District.

Early voting for the Tahoka ISD Bond issue and Board of Trustees elections, the City of Tahoka election, and the Lynn County Hospital District election, will be conducted at the Lynn County Clerk's Office in the county courthouse, during regular business hours (8:00-5:00 Monday through Friday, closed during noon hour), as well as two 12-hour voting days, from 7 a.m.-7 p.m. on the first day of early voting, Monday, April 25, and on the last day of early voting, Tuesday, May 3.

The O'Donnell city election will be conducted at O'Donnell City Hall, 615 8th Street, from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. (closed during noon hour) Monday through Thursday, 7 a.m.-4 p.m. Friday, April 29, and two 12-hour voting days set for 7 a.m.-7 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday, April 27-28.

Early voting for Wilson ISD will be conducted at the Wilson ISD Business Office during regular business hours, 8:00-4:00 Monday through Thursday and 8:00-3:30 Friday, with one 12-hour voting day scheduled for the last day of early voting, on Tuesday, May 3, from 7 a.m.-7 p.m.



Fun at the auction ... Pictured here is a small portion of the crowd at the Billy Tomlinson Memorial Hospital Benefit Auction, as well as some of the auction items. Children at the event had fun investigating the playhouse, which was one of the auction items. (LCN PHOTO by Juanell Jones)

### Hospital Auction... (Continued from page 1)

at this year's event were members of the Tahoka High School FCCLA (Family, Career and Community Leaders of America) organization, with a table manned by sponsors Whitney Wilson and Amy Izzard.

The fish fry raised \$2,303 for the hospital. 4-H donated \$297 for drink sales, and the FCCLA ice cream sales raised \$372 for the event. LCHD also sponsored three raffle ticket drawings, raising \$2,078 in raffle ticket sales. In the raffle ticket drawings, Tina Marquez won the \$500 Visa Gift Card, and the two \$250 Visa cards were won by Eloy Barnhart and a Mrs. Hess (no first name available). Many door prizes were also given away.

Then there are the local and area businesses, organizations, and individuals who donate funds and auction items to be sold, and the buyers who good-naturedly bid against each other and give deeply. This year, bidders were asked to register for numbers to hold up in bidding, and the winning bidder was announced by number instead of name - which frustrated some onlookers who were sometimes unable to tell

who ended up with the final bid. But, for a complete list of bidders, see the hospital's full-page thanks ad in this edition of *The News*.

From autographed guitars and baseball bats - thanks, Coach Stephen Overstreet and the THS Baseball Team for the signed bat - to home baked delights - thanks Pam Miller for the divinity honoring the late Madeline Hegi. Tahoka's 104-year-old Centenarian who was famous for her divine divinity - to handmade quilts with Texas themes, framed works of art and much more, this year's hospital auction truly showcased the good hearts of many Tahoka area citizens.

"I was absolutely blown away by the support of Lynn County Hospital," said Hospital CEO Jeff Barnhart, who experienced his first auction event this year. "I've never seen anything like this - just to see all the support the auction generated from our employees, from the Rotary Club, the fire department, and everyone who helped put on the event, to all the businesses and individuals that give auction items - this tells me that this community sees the value in their hospital."

I was very glad to be there and see it," he said.

The hospital also presented a memorial tribute to the late Jerry Ford Sr., recognizing his devoted service to the hospital as a longtime director. Emcee Cal Huffaker, who is a member of the LCHD Board of Directors, presented a plaque in Ford's honor to his son, Jerry Ford Jr.

This year's auction funds have been committed to upgrading the kitchen and cafeteria facilities at the hospital.

Three entities have cancelled elections due to uncontested candidates who will be declared elected, including City of New Home, O'Donnell ISD, and City of Wilson.

### 'Did you know' facts ...

- Did you know dreamt is the only word that ends in mt
- Did you know the first letters of the months July through to November spell JASON
- Did you know birds need gravity to swallow
- Did you know the most commonly used letter in the alphabet is E
- Did you know a cat has 32 muscles in each ear
- Did you know Perth is Australia's windiest city
- Did you know Elvis's middle name was Aron
- Did you know the smallest bones in the human body are found in your ear
- Did you know cats spend 66% of their life asleep

## Please visit these Lynn County Churches

**Sweet Street Baptist Church**  
1300 AVENUE J • BOX 251 • TAHOKA, TX 79373 • (800) 561-5310  
DAVID EARNST, PASTOR • (806) 439-5105  
Sunday School - 9:45 am  
(A Bible Study Class for all ages)  
Morning Worship - 10:50 am  
(Uplifting Music - Message from God's Word)  
Wednesday Night - 7 pm  
(Prayer & Bible Study, Children & Youth Ministries)  
EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

**First Methodist of Tahoka**  
1801 Ave. J • Tahoka • (806) 561-4503  
Billy Everett, Pastor  
SUNDAYS: Sunday School - 9:30 am  
Sunday Worship - 10:30 am (Fellowship Hall)  
"Like" our Facebook page - facebook.com/FirstMethodistTahoka  
Let the Children Come  
LICENSED CHILD CARE 7 am-6 pm M-F  
561-4529

**NEW HOME BAPTIST CHURCH**  
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Sunday School ..... 10:00 am  
Sunday Worship ..... 11:00 am  
Wednesday Bible Study ..... 7:00 pm  
Wed. Youth/Children's Activities ..... 7:00 pm

**New Home United Methodist Church**  
CURTIS SCHRADER, Pastor  
(875) 402-2947  
Curtis@schraderr@we.com  
350 N. Main • New Home, TX 79383  
(806) 924-7549  
Sunday School 9:45 am • Worship 10:45 am

**Grassland Nazarene Church**  
2865 Cr 25 • Tahoka, TX 79373 • (806) 327-5656, 327-5655  
PASTOR: Rev. James Miller  
Sunday School - 9:45 am  
Sunday Morning Worship - 10:45 am  
Sunday Evening Worship - 6 pm

**First Baptist Church**  
1701 Ave. K • Box 1547 • Tahoka, TX 79373  
(806) 561-4557 • www.fbc-tahoka.org  
PASTOR: BILL FULLER  
Sunday School - 9:45 am  
Morning Worship Service - 10:45 am  
SML (Youth) - 6:00 pm Sunday  
Activities For All Ages - Call For Complete Schedule  
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### Remember the Good ol' Days?

*Ecclesiastes 7:2-14*  
It's easy to think the past was better than today. Most of us have selective memories. We reminisce about being single—enjoying the freedom to have ice cream for dinner—but forget how lonely we felt eating by ourselves. We recall our children as darling babies but don't remember how frustrated we were when the "terrible two's" hit. When we look at the past through rose-colored glasses, we run the risk of being ungrateful for what we have right now. Rather than seeing today's gifts, we yearn for yesterday's fun and games, conveniently glossing over the past's difficulties. Our days, months and years are made up of both good times and bad. The tapestry of life's events makes up the very essence of who we are. Think about today and the difficulties you are encountering; now consider some of the memories you're making today. Thank God for all your wonderful memories. Take the difficult things to God in prayer. Ask him what he wants you to learn from your present situation. God doesn't waste any of our experiences. The key is to remember things as they really were, to be content with things as they really are and to trust God to take care of the future. Please visit one of the churches listed here.

excerpts from - Bible Gateway

**New Home Church of Christ**  
324 N. Main • Box 188 • New Home, TX 79383 • (806) 924-7579  
MINISTER: VICTOR ELLISON  
Bible Class - 10:00 am  
Sunday Worship Service - 10:45 am  
Wednesday Evening Bible Study - 7:00 pm

**TAHOKA St. Jude Thaddeus Catholic Church**  
1029 S. Ave. M • Tahoka, TX 79373 • (806) 561-4435  
VISITING PASTOR: GABRIEL BERRY LEATHAM  
RECTOR: PETER PANAGIOLA, 443-8977  
Sunday Mass - 11:00 am - Masses 8:00 pm ACTS Good Food Group • Bakery Tuesday 9:00 am  
Confession Services Wednesday 6:00 pm  
CCC Wednesday 8:00 pm • RCIA Thursday 7:00 pm  
Prayers 6:00 pm (Prayers of the Holy Spirit)

**TAHOKA Church of Christ**  
2320 Lockwood • Box 1177 • Tahoka, TX 79373  
(800) 561-4060 • email: tcc@poka.com  
PULPIT MINISTER: STEVEN BONNER  
Sunday School - 10:00 am  
Sunday Worship - 11 am  
Fellowship & Devotion - Wednesday 6:30 pm

**Wilson St. John Lutheran Church**  
13th & Dickson • Wilson, TX 79381 • (806) 628-6573  
Sharing Christ's message of forgiveness and salvation with our community and beyond.  
TONGA FREITAG, PLM  
Sunday School - 9:30 am • Sunday Worship - 10:45 am

**Wilson St. Paul Lutheran Church**  
16th & Houston St. • Spz 136 • Wilson, TX 79381  
(806) 628-6471 • www.stpaulwilson.com  
PASTOR: DAVID W. RICHDE  
Sunday School 9:15 am • Divine Service 10:15 am  
"Where Christ Serves People"

**Wilson First Baptist Church**  
1403 13th St. • Box 67 • Wilson, TX 79381 • (806) 628-6333  
PASTOR: BILLY PARKER  
Sunday School - 9:45 am  
Sunday Worship - 11:00 am & 6:00 pm  
Discipleship Training - 5 pm Sunday  
6:30 pm Wednesdays  
Fellowship Meal & Classes for all ages  
• Bible Study & Prayer Mtg • Youth

**Draw First United Methodist Church**  
(established 1907)  
P.O. Box 496 • O'Donnell, TX 79351  
Phone (806) 428-3357  
PASTOR: REV. WESTON PENNERGRASS  
Sunday Morning Worship - 8:15 am

**Tahoka Trinity Church**  
1625 Lockwood • Box 1168 • Tahoka • (806) 561-5317  
PASTOR: PERRY SHUFFIELD  
Sunday School - 9:45 am  
Sunday Morning Worship - 10:45 am  
Sunday Evening Worship - 6 pm  
Youth - Sundays at 7 pm  
For a Ride to Sunday School or Church, call 881-3377

With some of our academic facilities over 80 years old, it is **NOW** time to make some much-needed improvements and address some very critical safety concerns.

# Vote YES!

**FOR OUR KIDS**  
Our children's safety is our priority ...

Tahoka Independent School District is seeking a 34.5 cents tax increase for a \$9 million bond with a 30-year term.

The average yearly cost increase for a \$100,000 home would be about \$21.60 a month.

Watch a video on our Facebook page: Citizens for Tahoka Youth

The bond will fund a new high school auditorium and will include the demolition of the existing 3-story middle school and auditorium along with asbestos abatement (approximately \$3 million), building a new middle school with 8 classrooms, a science lab, and an office suite (approximately \$3.5 million), elementary improvements will include security improvements at the main entry, accessible restrooms, insulated windows, and other improvements (approximately \$2.5 million).

One of our biggest concerns is safety - on average, our academic facilities are 81 years old and do not comply with the Life Safety requirements of current codes.

**YOUR VOTE COUNTS!**

### VOTING INFORMATION

ELECTION DAY: Saturday, May 7, 2016  
7:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. at The Life Enrichment Center - 1717 Main Street • Tahoka, TX

EARLY VOTING: April 25 - May 3, 2016  
at the Lynn County Clerk's Office Lynn County Courthouse

Political Action Committee  
**CITIZENS FOR TAHOKA YOUTH**

Carletta Renfro, Chair • Cal Huffaker, Treasurer

Julia Allen  
John Baker  
Cathy Box  
Scott Dimak  
Al Garrett

Lashaunda Hood  
Brandie Hudson  
Gloria Moore  
Carlos Morales

Bar Pittman  
Retha Pittman  
Marissa Villegas  
Blanda Watt  
Matt Woodley

Pol. Adv. paid for by PRC Citizens For Tahoka Youth, W. Callaway-Huffaker, Treasurer

# The Lynn County Hospital District Billy Tomlinson Memorial Hospital Benefit Auction



## was a Great Success!

**LCHD Thanks the  
Tahoka Rotary Club  
and Everyone Who  
Helped Make It Happen:**

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Janet Porterfield  
Jannis Childress  
Jeanette Redwine  
Jeff & Marci Barnhart  
Jim & Cheryl Brown  
Jim & Joy Bragg  
Joe & Jerri Brooks  
John & Suzane Baker  
John Hegi  
Jolly Time & The Spot  
Joni Keith Co/Something New  
Josh & Janae Pridmore  
Kindred Healthcare Operating

KLBK & Fox 34  
Larry & Karon Durham  
Laverne Aten  
LCHD Employees  
LCHD Fitness Center  
Leatherwood Plumbing, Heating & A/C  
Leighton & Joan Knox  
Lenda Wood  
Lessia Clem  
Lubbock Fire Extinguisher  
Lynn Co Courthouse employees  
Lynn Co Farm Bureau  
Lynn County News  
Lynnco Auto  
Lynnwood  
Lyntegar Electric  
Madeline Hegi Estate  
Main Event Entertainment  
Mark & Tina Wuensche  
Martha Pritchett  
McAlister's Deli  
Melanie Richburg  
Mesa Irrigation



Michael Munk  
Mike & Beth Huffaker  
Mike Renteria  
Mitch & Donna Raindl  
Mitch & Shannon Hammonds  
Moore Crop Ins. Agency LLP  
New Home Co-op Gin  
Nothing Bundt Cakes  
O'Donnell Oil & Butane  
Olive Garden Italian Rest.  
Pam Elrod  
Paris N Bloom (Maxine Paris)  
Philip Mack Furlow  
Phoebe K. Warner Club  
Plum Crazy  
Poka Lambro  
Pop Belly's BBQ  
Ragtown Theater  
Raising Cane's  
Randy Neugebauer  
Reed & Rebekah Filley  
River Smiths  
Robert & Sharron Smith  
Roy & Sharon Isham  
Ruby Tequila's  
Sam & Betsy Pridmore  
Sammy & DeeDeePridmore  
Sara Cerda  
Science Spectrum  
Shamburger Agency  
Shirley Draper  
Silhouettes Day Spa

Sinclair Heating & Cooling  
State National Bank  
O'Donnell  
Steve & Carletta Renfro  
Tahoka Donuts  
Tahoka Drug  
Terry Ceniseros  
Texas Land & Cattle  
Texas Roadhouse  
Thacker Jewelry  
The Links @ Sierra Blanca

The Luggage Store  
Those Iowa Girls Antiques & Collectibles  
Thriftway  
Tilda Carrasco  
Tomlinson Family  
Tom's Tree Place  
Tractor Supply  
TTU Health Sciences  
Alumni Center  
TTU-Lady Raider Basketball

TTU-Red Raider Football  
Tuxedo Junction  
US Food Service Lubbock  
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Woolam Gin  
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Donald Freitag, MD  
Philip Mack Furlow  
Mandy Graves  
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Mitchell & Shannon  
Hammonds  
Mark Hawthorne  
Ginger Henry  
Michael Hess  
Brandi Hudson  
Calloway Huffaker  
Mike & Beth Huffaker  
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Jay Kelln  
Jack & Barbara Miller  
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Donna Raindl  
Mary Gayle Raindl  
Jeanette Redwine

Caleb Renfro  
Melanie Richburg  
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Kenneth Scott  
Dan Lee & Donna Stone  
Kent & Jill Stone  
Kent & Jeanie Stone  
Della Swartz  
Na'Lyn Swartz  
Susan Tipton  
Gordon Tomlinson  
Jolene Tomlinson  
Dan Turner  
Worth Whitworth  
Tahoka Fire Dept

*Thanks!*

**Due to YOUR generosity,  
we raised \$43,500**

The 36th Annual Billy Tomlinson Memorial Auction was once again a huge success, raising almost \$43,500 dollars. The funds this year will be used to upgrade the kitchen and food service departments at LCHD and Lynnwood Assisted Living.

To each of you that donated your money and time ... thank you. I am humbled by your generosity.

I encourage you to continue to support our hospital as well as our community and local businesses.

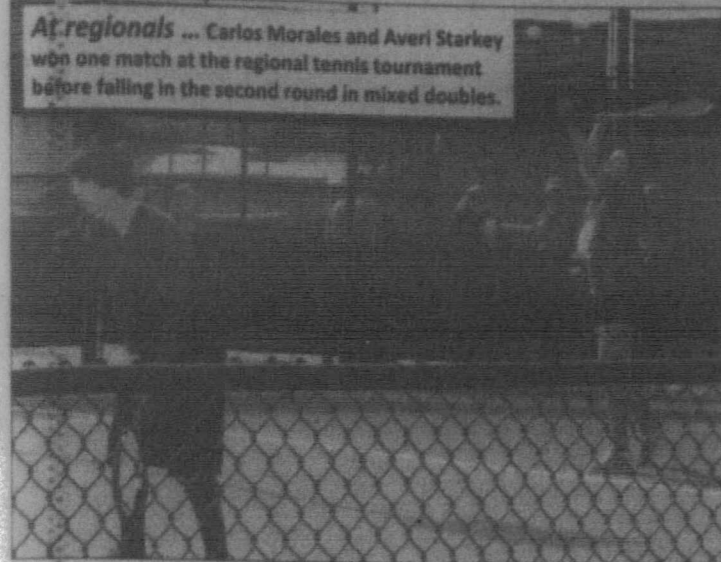
Service above Self...

*Melanie Richburg* DNP, FNPC  
PRESIDENT, TAHOKA ROTARY CLUB

In the event a person's name has been omitted, you are asked to contact Donna Raindl. We do not intend to overlook anyone who helped or contributed in any way, but it is not always feasible to write down names at the moment -- later they escape us!

### VOLUNTEERS

**Auctioneer:** Billy Miller  
**Emcee:** Cal Huffaker  
**Spotters:** Slate May & Bryan Reynolds  
**Other Volunteers:**  
Lynn County 4-H  
FCCLA  
Tahoka Volunteer Fire Dept  
Lynn County Hospital Staff  
Tahoka Rotary Club  
Lynn County Hospital Staff  
Betsy Pridmore  
Carletta Renfro  
City of Tahoka  
Lynn County Hospital Board of Directors



**At regionals ...** Carlos Morales and Averi Starkey won one match at the regional tennis tournament before falling in the second round in mixed doubles.

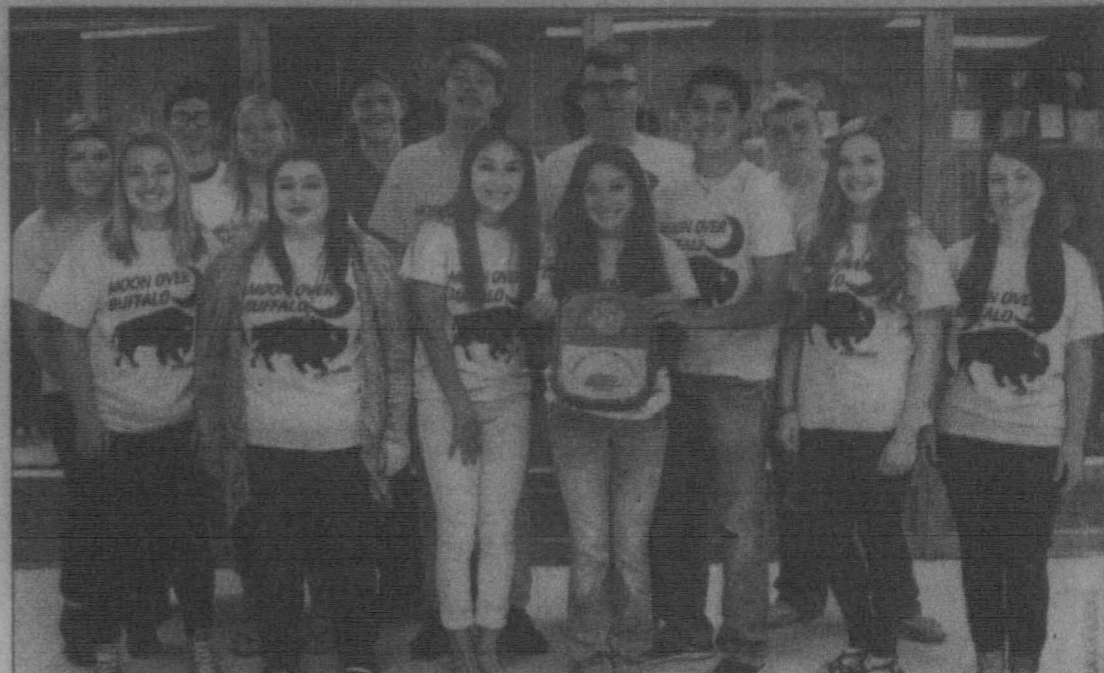
## New Home OAP advances to Bi-District

New Home ISD One Act Play competed at District on March 24th in Ropes, and advanced to Bi-District contest on April 1, at South Plains College in Levelland.

Cast and crew members are David Mendez, Brayden Kirkland, Erica Garrett, Savanna Lehman, Tanner Harrison, Nik Coldiron, Jayton Rodgers, Maddison Truhlicka, Kayla Gonzales, Jasmine Placencia, Chelsi Rodriguez, Michael Torres, Jacie Fowler, and Director Sarah Jackson.

Awards from Ropes competition were: Outstanding Technician: Jasmine Placencia; All-Star Cast-Kayla Gonzales, Erica Garrett; and Honorable Mention All-Star Cast-Tanner Harrison.

Levelland awards went to Outstanding Technician - Maddison Truhlicka; All-Star Cast-Erica Garrett, and Honorable Mention All-Star Cast-Kayla Gonzales.



**New Home OAP...** New Home ISD One Act Play competed at District on March 24th in Ropes. Cast members are; back row: David Mendez and Brayden Kirkland; middle row: Erica Garrett, Savanna Lehman, Tanner Harrison, Nik Coldiron, Jayton Rodgers; front row: Maddison Truhlicka, Kayla Gonzales, Jasmine Placencia, Chelsi Rodriguez, Michael Torres, Jacie Fowler, and Director Sarah Jackson.

## Commissioners reach tentative agreement to move CR 18 to 1961 survey location

After lengthy discussion and months of consideration, Lynn County Commissioners reached a tentative agreement Monday regarding the relocation of County Road 18, or at least the segment from FM 1328 to CR D that has been under contentious discussion with some landowners for many months. Apparently the issue is that the road not only is not located in the correct area according to easement agreements made in 1961, but according to at least three surveys in the last five years the road has moved considerably, up to 75 feet, according to information presented by local attorney W. Calloway Huffaker, who is working to mediate an agreement between the affected parties.

At Monday morning's regular session, commissioners discussed the issue at length with Huffaker, who presented information for a possible agreement between affected landowners and the county, with a solution of relocating the road to the location agreed upon in legal documentation in 1961 - which is apparently the last legal documentation of right-of-way easements granted by landowners.

"I'm asking you to approve an agreement to put the road back where easements were agreed to in 1961," Huffaker told commissioners. "If you will agree to this, contingent upon my getting all

the landowners' agreement, we can hopefully move forward with this issue. I believe if you will make this contingent agreement that I can get the landowners to agree as well," he added.

At the end of discussion, Commissioner John Hawthorne moved that contingent upon the County Attorney's approval of the agreement presented by W. Calloway Huffaker and if all landowners involved with County Road 18 from FM 1328 to CR D would agree with the configuration of County Road 18, said road would be returned to the original survey from 1961. All four commissioners voted in favor of the motion.

In other business, commissioners visited with Wade Howard, an applicant for the position of Lynn County Agriculture Extension Agent. Howard presented information regarding his background in 4-H and extension programs, and said he currently is a county agent in Eastland County, his third year there. He grew up in Sweetwater, and is a graduate of Texas Tech University, and said he is an avid proponent of 4-H programs and extension programs for both youth and adults.

County Judge Mike Bradlock requested each commissioner to provide total mileage figures for county roads within each precinct. Budget amendments and monthly bills were approved.

## Tahoka One Act Play places 3rd at Regionals

After a thirteen-year absence from One Act Play Regional competition, Tahoka became one of the top twelve shows of the UIL One Act Play 2016 season this past weekend, when they received 3rd place at Region 1-2A competition in Odessa. The team, under the direction of Zachery Kocurek and Tanis Blount, went from first place in District, to first place at Bi-district, first place at Area and third place at Region.

The students won acting and technical awards along the way. At Regionals, Senior Courtney Cummings was named to Honorable Mention All Star/Cast and Junior Emit Quintero was named to All Star Cast.

"The cast and crew consisting of Selena Arroyo, Alicia Broun, Courtney Cummings, Grant Garvin, Patrick Herrera, Callie Nevill, Leticia Olvera, Emit Quintero, Alexa Ramero, Zayne Sires, Ashton Steffy, Haley Stephens, and Shalee Williams had an incredible season," said Blount.

The troupe will be performing Jane Anderson's "Defying Gravity" one last time on May 6th at 6:30 PM in the Bulldog auditorium. Tickets can be reserved by e-mailing Tanis Blount at [tblount@tahokaisd.us](mailto:tblount@tahokaisd.us) any time before noon on May 6th, and will be available at door for \$5 each. Come see this award winning State Alternate play and support the Bulldog Theatre.

*Volunteer ... and help others!*  
**MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN YOUR WORLD.**

### My name is Jann Ford and I am running for the Tahoka ISD Trustee Place 5.

For those who may not know me, I am married to Jerry Ford, Jr. and I am the mother of Mason King, Melodie King and Charles Mayes. I am offering the following as my qualifications to represent Place 5 on the Tahoka ISD Board. I have been a Director of an Early Learning Center and hold a Directors License with a Child Development Associate and Business Management. I also have had numerous Continuing Education Units (CEU's) for child development over the years. I have volunteered and was a substitute in the school district where my children attended school while living in New Mexico. Since moving to Tahoka in September 2011, I have not been able to volunteer because I was a single mother trying to support my family, but I stay involved with their activities and what is going on with the schools. I am seeking this position because I believe my voice will support what the community is wanting on the Tahoka ISD School Board. I would appreciate your vote in the upcoming election on May 7<sup>th</sup>.



Photo provided by Jann Ford, Tahoka, TX

Sincerely, Jann Ford



O'Donnell ISD is Accepting Transfers. Transportation will be provided.  
**Contact 806.428.3241 for more information.**

- 1 to 1 technology - Students Prek - 12 have IPADS
- Small Class Sizes
- Updates facilities - New Construction complete August 2016
- UIL District Champions
- Robotics and Chess programs
- Dual Credit Classes
- State Participation in Cross Country, Track and UIL Academics
- Regional Participation in Cross Country, Track, UIL Academics and Basketball
- Welding, Culinary Arts, Floral Design and Technology Certifications

*Flying Strong .... Challenging Minds and Building Futures*

## Seven TISD resignations reported, one new teacher hired for next year

Tahoka Independent School District Board of Trustees approved a contact for one new teacher for the 2016-17 school year, and approved pay increases for district staff during their April 21 board meeting. Six staff resignations were reported, with one additional resignation - the head boys basketball coaching position - occurring on Friday after the board meeting last week.

Contracts for district teachers were approved for the 2016-17 school year, including one new teacher. Cristalina (Amador) Burse will become the new assistant band director, to fill a vacancy left by Jonathan Smith, current assistant director, who submitted a resignation earlier that will take effect at the end of the school year. Mrs. Burse is a former THS grad and band student, and told *The News* that she is "very honored" to come work with Band Director Carroll Rhodes, her mentor. Mrs. Burse formerly was a band director at a McKenzie Junior High in Lubbock.

Several other resignations have been submitted effective at the end of the school year as well, with those positions to be filled later. Resignations as of April 25 include: Reggie Gibbs, HS PE/Head Boys' Basketball Coach; Tanis Blount, HS English; Lynn Lankford (retirement), MS Social studies; Zach Kocurek, MS English/One Act Play; Will Durham, HS English/Girls' Coach; and Karon Moss, DAEP.

The board approved an adjusted paraprofessional/auxiliary worker pay scale that gives those employees a 2.5% pay raise for the 2016-17 school year, which is the same percentage that teachers will receive for the school year. Trustees also approved providing a \$1000 pay increase to campus principals for the 2016-17 school year. Dr. George McFarland, Superintendent, noted that teachers will receive a step increase next school year, but since principals are not on the teacher pay scale, they do not automatically get any increase.

"This pay increase will be an equivalent for a step increase

for our principals since neither group will be targeted to receive pay increases for next year other than their step increases," explained the superintendent.

After hearing a presentation by Elementary Principal Christa Ritchey and teachers Heather Tekell and Jamie Reglin, on the Leader In Me program, the Board voted 4-1 to approve the use of funds to implement the Leader In Me program at the elementary campus. Trustee Clay Taylor had the lone dissenting vote, with trustees Cathy Box, Scott Dimak, Brenda Dotson and Matt Woodley voting for the issue.

The Leader In Me program, by Franklin Covey, is designed as a whole school transformation process. It teaches 21st century leadership and life skills to students and creates a culture of student empowerment based on the idea that every child can be a leader.

"At Tahoka Elementary, we are excited to begin The Leader in Me process," explained Principal Ritchey to *The News*. "Over the past year, our campus has explored The Leader in Me process through a campus-wide book study, research, and through visiting Leader in Me schools. We believe that this is the next level of work in striving toward our district and campus vision. The 4 C's of our district vision include 'Community, Character, Civic Involvement and Continuous Improvement,' and our campus vision is 'Building a Community of 21st Century Learners,'" she said.

The Leader in Me is aligned to many national and state academic standards. The process teaches students the skills needed for academic success in any setting, including critical thinking, goal setting, listening and speaking, self-directed learning, presentation-making and the ability to work in groups.

In other business, trustees approved contracting with Texas Association of School Board (TASB) to provide the district's

worker's compensation coverage; approved the continuation of contracting with Covenant Health to provide the district's athletic trainer services for next school year; and approved the appointment of a committee that will work together to possibly develop an innovation plan for the district to use as part of the District of Innovation concept. Prior to the regular board meeting, a public hearing was held at 6:00 p.m. on the topic of Tahoka pursuing the concept of becoming a District of Innovation.

The board recognized three local businesses for their partnerships with the district, including First National Bank of Tahoka, Designs and Daisies, and Thriftway Grocery, expressing appreciation for their service to the school district.

Campus principals presented reports, and recognized outstanding employees for the month of February and those teachers recognized students they had selected, including Elementary teacher Heather Tekell and 5th grade student Anelyssa Elizondo; Middle School teacher Shirley Holloway and 8th grade student Kayla Salas; and High School teacher Carroll Rhodes, who was unable to attend the meeting.

The meeting included a closed session for an hour and 15 minutes for personnel recommendations and contracts.

Board President Dr. Cathy Box led the meeting, with trustees Scott Dimak, Brenda Dotson, Matt Woodley, and Clay Taylor present. Trustees Jim Bingham and Abraham Vega were absent.

The next regular board meeting will be May 19 at 6:30 pm. Prior to that date, the board will have a time set that they canvass election results for the trustee seats and the bond election. That date is not yet set, but it will only require two board members to represent a quorum for the purpose of canvassing an election.

POST ART GUILD, INC. PRESENTS



*On Main Street*

**56th Annual Art Show 2016**  
May 4 - 7

Post Community Center · 113 West Main Street  
Entries May 4th Only: 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Show runs through Saturday, May 7th 5 p.m.

For more information call (806) 410-0208 or visit

**PostArtGuild.org**

These local firms are sponsoring this

**FARM NEWS:**

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Travis Ferguson and Mike Metzger

**Capital Farm Credit**  
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**Farmers Co-op Association**  
No. 1

**Lynn County Farm Bureau**



**State-bound ...** The New Home FFA Livestock Judging Team are headed to College Station this weekend to compete at state after placing 3rd in the area competition April 16th. The team is comprised of senior Ian Cobb, freshman Brook Tyson, freshman Celee Smith and senior Parker Smithson. Ag teacher is Seth Bryan.

## Fights, theft, drug charges investigated by officers here

Lynn County Sheriff's deputies investigated several domestic disturbance calls during the past week, including a call just after 10 p.m. last Tuesday involving two men fighting at a Wilson residence, and a call at 10:47 p.m. Saturday reporting a man and woman parked on the side of Hwy. 87 near FM 211 were fighting. No charges were filed in these reports.

Investigation continues in another domestic case that occurred Sunday night on Hwy. 87 between Tahoka and O'Donnell about 10 p.m. Two vehicles were reportedly boxing in another vehicle on the highway in a child custody case involving a mother with a child in one vehicle, the father in another vehicle, and the mother's boyfriend in the third vehicle. Sheriff's Dept. reports indicate that deadly conduct charges may be filed as two shots were reportedly fired into the air from one of the persons brandishing a weapon. No injuries were reported.

On Tuesday morning, about 9:30 a.m., a minor accident was reported on Hwy. 87 about 10 miles north of Tahoka, when a part fell off a semi-truck traveling northbound and a car following behind ran over the part, causing minor damage to the car.

A 38-year-old woman and a 31-year-old man, both of Tahoka, were arrested by Tahoka Police just after midnight last Thursday night, after the couple were stopped in a vehicle following a report of domestic disturbance. Both were arrested on outstanding warrants — the women for child support and the man for bond forfeiture, and the woman was also held for possession of drug paraphernalia after officers searched the vehicle.

On Saturday night, a Tahoka woman reported her coin purse containing \$55 and change was stolen from a local convenience store after she laid it down on a counter and turned away to get an item. Two male subjects were identified in the store's surveillance video, and the investigation continues this week.

Tahoka Police arrested an 18-year-old Tahoka female and cited a 19-year-old Tahoka male in the early morning hours of Friday (1:25 a.m.) on narcotics charges, after the couple were stopped in a vehicle in the 2200 block of Lockwood. The female driver was placed under arrest for possession of a controlled substance (methamphetamine) and the male passenger was issued a citation for possession of drug paraphernalia.

Lynn County Jail held 46 inmates this week, including 25 for Ector County, 20 for Lynn, and 1 for Dawson County.

## TISD Bond Election addresses most pressing needs of the district

by JUANELL JONES

Early voting began Monday, April 25 for the May 7 bond election for Tahoka Independent School District, and continues through May 3 at the Lynn County Clerk's Office in the county courthouse. The \$9 million bond proposal is for funds for asbestos abatement and demolition of the existing three-story middle school building and auditorium, building a new auditorium and one-story middle school, and for improvements to the north elementary campus. If approved, the tax impact would add an additional 34.5 cents per \$100 of property valuation on the Tahoka ISD property taxes.

Although there are many other issues with school facilities and the need for updating in other areas, this bond proposal addresses the most pressing physical needs of the district at this time, based on an assessment of facilities conducted by an outside company.

Some citizens have voiced opinions that this bond election is merely a band-aid for all of the physical needs of the school district, and have asked why school officials haven't presented a more encompassing project that would build an entire new school complex on nearby land that the school district owns.

The biggest problem with building a new high school/middle school campus with athletic facilities and auditorium is finding the funds for such a project. The price tag for such a project is far beyond the \$9 million proposal that voters are considering in this bond election.

"What people just don't realize is that our property values are so low that even if we taxed the maximum that the law allows — that's 50 cents per \$100 of property valuation — we would only raise 12 million dollars. That's not enough to build an entire school," said TISD Board President Cathy Box.

The board has considered many different construction options, well aware that citizens

might be more in favor of building a new high school gymnasium, or other options, including building a new elementary campus on the school-owned property north of N. 5th Street, but all options had problematic issues.

"Even if we built a whole new elementary school on that lot, students would have to walk back and forth to the cafeteria (or prepared food would have to be shuffled over to the school), auditorium, auditorium and gym, and several teachers share duties on both campuses," explained Dr. Box.

"And we would be completely maxed out tax-wise, and that still wouldn't address doing something with the other buildings that are 90 years old," she added.

Bond elections are always a complex issue that involves taxpayer funding, and no taxpayer wants to pay more than necessary. In this bond election, school officials are trying to address the most pressing needs with the most efficient use of tax funds. It has been nearly 60 years since Tahoka ISD has approved a bond election for new construction, and that was for building the new high school in 1963.

The \$9 million bond debt, if approved, would be scheduled over a period of 30 years. On a home valued at \$100,000, with a \$25,000 homestead exemption, property taxes would increase by \$258. A home valued at \$75,000, with a \$25,000 homestead exemption, would have a tax increase of \$172. However, homeowners whose taxes are frozen due to being age 65 or older, or disabled, would not see a tax increase (as long as they remain in their current home).



**Mother's Day program** ... Leigh Apolarin holds a model of the candy bouquet kids will make for their mom at our Mother's Day program that is scheduled for Thursday, May 5th from 5:30-6:30pm, at the City-County Library.

## News from the Library

CITY-COUNTY LIBRARY  
1717 Main St. • Tahoka TX

**Mother's Day Program**  
Kids bring your mom and make her a candy bouquet. Our Mother's Day Program is scheduled for Thursday, May 5th from 5:30-6:30pm. The Library will supply all the materials needed to make the candy bouquet. One candy bouquet per family. Come and go while supplies last.

**Stuffed animal and Legos**  
The Library is looking for donations of gently used stuffed animal and Legos for the kid's space in the Library. Drop-off at 1717 Main Monday-Friday.

**Field trips**  
The Library offers field trips and teachers can choose from puppet shows, scavenger hunts, crafts, or other activities. The Library will supply popcorn and a drink. Call 561-4050 to book one.

**Summer Reading**  
Summer Reading Begins June 1st. This year, the Library offers Read to Me, K-1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th-5th reading program ages. Age groups will be for the 2014-2015 school year. There will again be 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place trophies for all age groups. Children will read books and play the prize drop game for prizes throughout the program.

## Letters to the Editor

In support of bond issue

I am writing to support the **NOTE YES FOR OUR KIDS** bond issue and I ask others to do the same. This community has been good to my family. My husband has worked his entire career here for Lyntegar Electric Coop (30 years) and this is our home. I have lived in our community for almost 15 years and I have heard many say that we need to improve our school facilities. In doing so would help our town economically because it would bring in more families and more tax base. It would keep our future alive for our children. I believe these are all true statements. The time is now. It is time for good citizens to step up and put their words into ACTION. I ask you again to **NOTE YES FOR OUR KIDS**.

~ Julia Allen

... This is my editorial to the editor opinion, may not be worth much, but it's my opinion. This is my perception.

I agree we are in need of 21st Century upgrade of facilities. Benefits Everyone! Educate our future in a secure, safe and compliant environment. We'll see how much emphasis of importance our district citizens value our youth when it comes to safety, security, and overall compliance instead of being concerned about taxes and such. Tahoka will still move on regardless. It will cost a lot more if OSHA and/or other agency programs come in and inspect our TISD negligence overdue environment. Russian Roulette of sorts.

I say enough of cutting corners and wasting more dollars on buildings that eventually cause financial distractions and endangerment. Hope "YES" is the ballot marked for the Cause.

Looking for a bright educational future in a safe, secure and compliant facility at TISD.

~ Mr. Carlos Moralez

CITY CLEAN UP DAY  
IS APRIL 30TH

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Where in the world is  
**The Lynn County News?**

**Wyoming**

Wyoming... The Lynn County News made it to Cheyenne, Wyoming with Mitchell Elrod, Trey Thomas, and Tonya Elrod. This was Thomas' first out of state trip, seeing three different states in four days. Cheyenne is approximately 663 miles from Tahoka.

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**CARDS OF THANKS**

Words are not enough to express my truly "heart-felt," no pun intended (maybe a little), appreciation for all the prayers that were offered up for the Tahoka 3-D Band as they went to contest without me and for my own recovery. Seeing all the notes about prayer on Facebook plus the words and text messages of many others is truly very humbling.

It is through the prayers of such wonderful people as live in Tahoka that their 3-D Band performed so well, especially with a different director with whom they only rehearsed once, and I have made a good recovery.

Thank you's to the Tahoka ER staff which included three of my former band kids, the Lubbock Heart Hospital staff, John Gibson (who directed for me), Johnathan Smith, Jeff Perez, Dr. McFarland, some very special "band nerds" who not only set up the rehearsal area and also loaded the trailer and met many other needs, and especially my wonderful band students who focused and reached beyond themselves to bring home the Sweepstakes trophy.

A very special thank you goes to my former assistant and mother of four of my grandchildren, Lora Smith, who stayed at the hospital past 1 a.m. Monday night and was back at 7 a.m. Tuesday, helping to pull together all the details and arrangements that needed to be done for the contest. In addition, she went and helped coordinate the details at contest.

When job emergencies required my son, Jonathan, to be in Austin, my daughter drove in late Tuesday night from Dallas and returned late Wednesday night just to make sure her Daddy was behaving himself. It did my heart good.

God has blessed me with a wonderful family called Tahoka.

~ Thank you, Carroll Rhodes

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- LVN - at Medical Arts Health Clinic
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## LEGAL NOTICES

**NOTICE OF IMPOUNDMENT OF ESTRAY**

Case No. 2016-04-0033  
Date: 04/13/2016

On the 11th day of APRIL, 2016, I impounded the following estray:

|   |                |
|---|----------------|
| Kind of Animal: HORSE                           | Breed: UNKNOWN |
| Color: BAY                                      | Sex: MALE      |
| Age: 3-4  | Size: 800 LBS. |
| Brand, Marks, Identifying Characteristics: NONE |                |

And on the 14th day of APRIL, 2016, I filed a Notice of Estray in the Estray Book of Lynn County, Texas.

I have made a diligent search of the register of records brands in Lynn County, Texas, for the owner of the said estray, but the search did not reveal the owner. Notice is hereby given that, if the ownership of said estray is not determined by the 2ND day of MAY, 2016, said estray will be sold at public auction/sheriff's sale at the Lynn County Courthouse.

WITNESS my hand this 13th day of APRIL, 2016.

/s/ Jordan Jones  
Sheriff or Designee of Lynn County, Texas

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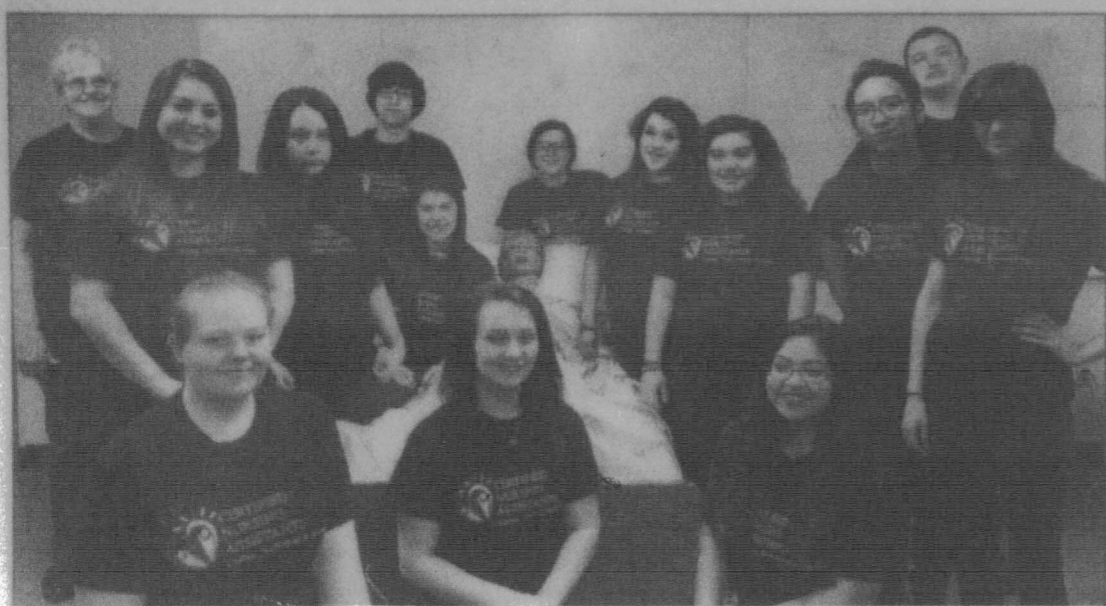
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**CNA class ...** Claudia Flippin (back left) teaches the CNA class at Tahoka High School, which this year includes Carlos Morales, Kelsi Hilger, Sarina Ybarra, Mason King, Selena Arroyo, Adriana Gonzales, Andrea Garcez, TariAnna Pena, Josh Robles, Esperanza Ramirez, Lacy Goodell, Michelle Earnest and Elida Ramirez. (LCN PHOTO by Pam Elrod)



**That tickles ...** Tending to patients' feet is another skill students learn in Tahoka High School's CNA class, and in this photo Andrea Garcez (left) seems to be having some fun with it, as she tends to classmate Michelle Earnest's foot and teacher Claudia Flippin observes. (LCN PHOTO by Pam Elrod)

## CNA class trains students to care for patients ...

(Continued from page 1)

arena in which to work – Flippin decided that the new nurse aides she was working with weren't getting the right training. They were getting the knowledge, but she believed they were not getting the 'heart' and the loving attitude that she believes is critical to the profession.

"I don't want people to be in nursing for the money – they need to be in it because they have a heart for it, and a love for their patients!" says Flippin.

She recalls how she first became involved in nursing.

When she was just a young mother, married with two babies, she worked at a grocery store in Tahoka to help make ends meet.

"I worked for Turner Rogers' grocery store, and I hated it," she declares. "I hated it, hated it, hated it. And he knew it. So you know what he did? He fired me!" she says with a delighted laugh. "It's the only job I've ever been fired from. And so I had to have a job because I had two little babies, and my husband (first husband) couldn't be counted on. So I went out to the Tahoka nursing home and got a job. And I worked out there, and oh my gosh, I had found my place in the world," she says, with awe in her voice. "I loved it! Oh I loved those people, we had some great times!"

The staff at the nursing home encouraged Flippin to go to nursing school, so she did. "I

went to LVN school and got my LVN, and they hired me at Covenant Hospital in Medical ICU as an LVN – that was the last rotation I took – and then I got my RN, and I worked there for 35 years.

Then, she began noticing that that nurse aides she was working with didn't seem to have what she believed was the right "heart" for the job.

"By then I had been working for 35 years, and I am getting tired of these young whippersnappers coming in and not having a heart for nursing. They would say, 'Oh he doesn't need that right now, I'll see about it later' or they would complain about helping someone. It was just killing me. So I said I was going to quit working before I started hating the people I was working with! That's when Covenant came to me and said, oh no, don't quit, we need to get all our nurses certified. So they had me fill out an application to teach, and of course they had a bunch of people apply. But I was the only one that applied that had a background with a nursing home,

and that was a requirement to be the director of the program. I was the only one in all of Covenant that had that, so it is kind of a rare thing. So I got it."

Within a few years, Flippin had trained 200-300 people to be CNAs. Then came a diagnosis of lung cancer.

One of her daughters, Dee Dee Pridmore of Tahoka, said she was there with her mother when the doctor came and told her that she had lung cancer.

"To this day I remember the first words out of Mom's mouth were, 'Well... I wonder who God wants to reach through me?' Is that not the very definition of love, and the very definition of a nurse? At that time, she was teaching the nurse certification at Covenant and she was barely able, with help, to finish teaching that class. And then she had to quit, because she was so very sick, and taking treatments," says Pridmore.

"That first year after her diagnosis (and after they told her she only had maybe a year and a half to live, at most), we (two of the daughters) began taking trips with her. We went everywhere she wanted to go, and we fulfilled her bucket list. And she stayed with us ... and then she made another bucket list, and we're working on that one too. God's not done with her.

"She has a beautiful story, and I know she shares some of that with her students in her classes. She was so fulfilled when she started teaching the CNA classes, just so in love with teaching these young people starting out in the medical field that patient care is so very important. And she's so willing to spend the time with them. It really is a God thing for her," said Pridmore.

Flippin agrees. "It's just God in my life."

She is eager to go to her class each day, and while she has a hard-held belief that this is God's purpose for her, she is no pushover as a teacher. She has a no-nonsense approach to teaching her students, and insists that they learn to have a loving attitude towards patient care.

"What my class does is, #1, it gives them an idea of whether this is something they would like to do for the rest of their life, and #2, it gives them a way to enter the workforce and pay for their college, if they want to do something else," says Flippin.

"This can be a lifetime job or a stepping off place into anything going on in the medical profession. Even people that are getting their respiratory therapy, x-ray, that sort of thing, those people have direct patient contact and so the skills that they learn in the CNA class will help them in anything in the medical profession that they choose to do.

"This is my second year teaching the CNA class at Tahoka High School. I had nine students last year, and 13 this year. Grace Hospital has told me they want every student I teach to put their application in there. Covenant Hospital has gone so far as to say they will hire everyone that I train – they must pass the test first – and of course the hos-



**Shave and a haircut ...** Actually, it's just a shave, but shaving another person can be somewhat tricky. That's just one of the hands-on skills students learn in Tahoka High School's CNA class. In this photo, student TariAnna Pena practices her shaving skills on classmate Mason King, as teacher Claudia Flippin observes. (LCN PHOTO by Pam Elrod)

suitable," she says, firmly.

The THS class is a full year, and at the end students must take the state-mandated certification test, which is a one-day test given by a proctor that includes written and hands-on skills. Last year Flippin's students were able to go to Lubbock to take the test,

with a proctor that came from Dallas. This year her students are having to go to Midland to test, and Flippin has decided that her next project is to recruit any local or area nurses who would be willing to be proctors. Flippin, while qualified, cannot be a proctor for her own students.

"I am looking for nurses who would consider becoming a state-paid proctor. My classroom here at Tahoka ISD is much better for testing than the others I have seen – it is set up perfectly and I had the state send me a list of everything I need to be a test site, and I've got every single thing," she said.

"This year's class will test in mid-May, so it is too late to get the testing site set up here for this year, but we could get it set up for next year. As soon as somebody becomes a proctor, there will be many places they could go to proctor, not just here. And the state needs them so desperately, they will take whatever time commitment a proctor is willing to give. Please contact me if you are a nurse, and would consider becoming a proctor," she added.

Flippin enjoys teaching the class here, and says she can get a feel right from the get-go as to whether these youth will have the heart that will lead them

into patient care.

"But this class gives these young people the opportunity to learn if that is something they want to do. And the school pays for it! The school is paying me, and the school is paying for their state-mandated test! What a great opportunity for them."

"I've got a couple of kids in my program right now, that want to be EMTs or go into radiology or physical therapy, and that's great. But some seem to think that what they are learning as CNAs won't apply, that they can go to work in the medical field somewhere and never have to look at someone's naked bottom – but I'm telling you right now that's not the way it is. They've got to do some patient care – the medical profession is a tough job."

"I wish that some of them would go into nursing home care. I know that being a CNA is not really a high aspiration or goal, maybe, because you can go on to be nurses. But I wish that some would continue to be CNAs. I have a couple of students right now that have that 'heart' for it – and right this minute I would let them take care of me in a hospital. And they would volunteer in a heartbeat at the nursing home," said Flippin.

Flippin is very focused on giving her students not only the knowledge and expertise of how to care for patients, but also the firmly-held belief that a deep-down love is vital for truly providing the best care. It's a life lesson that has guided Flippin her entire life.

It is Flippin's hope, and quite likely part of her legacy, that these lessons will influence the next generation of nurse aides.

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