



# IN PLAIN VIEW

Summer 2015

Hope....Believe...Achieve...Together!

## 2014-2015 Campus Educators of the Year

Ten outstanding educators were recognized by the Plainview ISD Board of Trustees at the regular meeting on May 21.

The honored educators are recipients of the 2014-2015 Educator of the Year awards for their respective campuses.

The award is the highest award given to teachers by the district.

Recipients, selected by vote of their campus peers, will also be honored during convocation ceremonies in August. Their names will be engraved on plaques at each campus listing previous honorees.

Profiles of Educators of the Year:

**Jennifer Castaneda**, College Hill Elementary, is completing her tenth year with the district. The last two years she has worked as the reading specialist at College Hill. She previously worked as a kindergarten teacher for seven years and a second grade teacher for one year.

**Wes Godsy**, La Mesa Elementary, is in his fourth year as a fourth grade teacher. Prior to taking his current position, he worked as an instructional aide at Ash Learning Center.

**Sara Hanoch**, Houston School, has



Educators of the Year for 2014-2015 are Anne Kelley, Thunderbird (seated, left); Jennifer Castaneda, College Hill; Pam Putnam, Edgemere; Melissa Knight, Estacado (standing); Wes Godsey, La Mesa; Dean Kellum, Coronado; Janelle Styne, Highland; and Walter Wright, PHS. Not pictured: Sara Hanoch, Houston School, and Judy King, Hillcrest.

## First La Cosecha Scholarships awarded

Now in its inaugural year, the La Cosecha (The Harvest) Scholarship, founded by the Plainview ISD Migrant Education Department, honors the academic achievement of migrant students and supports goals for higher



education. The first recipients of these \$500 scholarships are Maria Lucrecia Ramirez (left), Luis Martinez, and Dania Martinez.



been an educator for 13 years. She is completing her tenth year with Plainview ISD and is currently teaching high school English. She previously taught fifth grade reading, sixth grade English and reading, and seventh grade social studies. She serves as an ESL representative, a team leader, and a department chair. Before joining the district, she taught at Plainview Christian Academy and Olton High School.

**Anne Kelley**, Thunderbird Elementary, is a third-time recipient of this award. She is in her second year

of teaching fifth grade science at Thunderbird. Prior to moving to Thunderbird, she taught sixth grade science at Ash Learning Center. She also taught special education students for three years in Auburn, Alabama, before joining the Plainview ISD staff eighteen years ago.

**Dean Kellum**, Coronado Middle School, is in his fifth year of teaching. He has taught eighth grade math for the last three years and has served as Math Department chair for two years. Prior to joining PISD he taught at Kress High School for two years.

**Judy King**, Hillcrest

Elementary, is completing her seventh year as a fifth grade reading teacher. She was a paraprofessional for five years before becoming a teacher.

**Melissa Knight**, Estacado Middle School, teaches eighth grade social studies. She is completing her second year as a teacher.

**Pam Putnam**, Edgemere Elementary, is in her second year as a second grade teacher. Prior to her current position, she taught fourth grade. She has twelve years with Plainview ISD and 23 years total in education. She previously taught at Fritch Elementary and Canadian Elementary.

**Janelle Styne**, Highland Elementary, is completing her second year as a math specialist. Prior to taking her current position, she taught third grade. She taught for one semester at Rider High School in Wichita Falls before joining the Plainview ISD staff nine years ago.

**Walter Wright**, Plainview High School, has served as Choral Director for PHS's award-winning choirs for 31 years. He has 35 years in education, beginning his career in Midland ISD. He is also a recipient of the Silver Star Award presented by the Plainview Arts Council.

## 2014-15 Plainview ISD Employee Long-Term Service Awards

Long-term service employees will be recognized during Convocation in August.

### 10 years

- Virginia Arteaga, La Mesa
- Stephanie Baeza, Houston
- Lyn Baker, Edgemere
- Jennifer Castaneda, College Hill
- Jill Craig, Coronado
- Paulina Gonzalez, Hillcrest
- Sara Hanoch, Highland
- Margarita Hernandez, PHS
- Sylvia Hinojos, SPED Office
- Sara Marquez, Thunderbird
- Monica Nunez, Houston
- Angie Perry, College Hill
- Linda Quezada, Admin Office
- Robin Sweeney, PHS
- Kylie Vanpelt, PHS
- Beatriz Villa, PHS
- Misty Williams-Batista, College Hill

### 15 years

- Karen Fisher, Thunderbird
- Anita Flores, Admin Office
- Adeela Harrell, PHS
- Elizabeth Hernandez, Hillcrest
- Kent Holt, Service Center
- Luis Luna, Hillcrest

### 15 years (cont.)

- D'Lee Marble, PHS
- Robin Marlar, Highland
- Rick McKay, PHS
- Sheila McKay, PHS
- Eugena Nunez, Service Center
- Chris Richardson, PHS
- Brent Richburg, Tech Center
- Leslie Richburg, PHS
- Ritchie Thornton, Estacado

### 20 years

- Daphne Alcala, College Hill
- Elaine Barnes, La Mesa
- Teena Bennett, Estacado
- Jeff De la Garza, SSS
- Sharon Lambeth, Highland
- Delia Larralde, Hillcrest
- Rosie Licerio, CO
- Terry Miller, Estacado
- James Pharis, Service Center
- Maria Porras, College Hill
- Sheila Ramirez, Houston
- Lori Rankin, Estacado
- Maria Saucedo, La Mesa
- Mandy Steen, PHS
- Molly Summers, Highland
- Roger Thompson, PHS
- Ana Trusler, Coronado

### 25 years

- Sheila Alexander, College Hill
- Lana Branam, Thunderbird
- Michael Dawson, PHS
- Larry Keltz, Houston
- Carla Lambright, Highland
- Victoria Martinez, Houston
- Becky Mize, Edgemere
- Cynthia Oles, Edgemere
- Karen Sandlin, Tech Center

### 30 years

- Charlotte Adams, Edgemere
- Darlyne Bothwell, College Hill
- Diana Brumley, Thunderbird
- Leslie Carlisle, PHS
- Rita Robertson, Highland

### 35 years

- Rita Blanco, Highland
- Angie Garcia, Edgemere
- Olivia Howard, Coronado/Est.
- Mary Marroquin, Coronado
- Nina Perez, Thunderbird
- Lisa Wright, Hillcrest

### 40 years

- Neisha Halencak



# Mary Elizabeth Dickerson named TEPSA Region 17 Assistant Principal of the Year

The Texas Elementary Principals and Supervisors Association (TEPSA) named Mary Elizabeth Dickerson of College Hill Elementary Region 17 Assistant Principal of the Year.

The peer-based award recognizes assistant principals for their commitment to student learning as evidenced by exceptional school leadership.

Honorees will be recognized at the TEPSA Awards Reception Wednesday, June 10, at

the Austin Renaissance Hotel.

“Assistant principals play a critical role in their students and school’s success. We are proud to recognize them for their leadership and dedication to Texas students,” said TEPSA Executive Director Harley Eckhart.

Dickerson is a proud graduate of Plainview High School, Texas Tech University HSC, and Texas Tech. She taught for the Dallas Regional Day School Program for

12 years. She returned to Plainview two years ago as the Assistant Principal at College Hill Elementary. She was recently named as Principal of College Hill beginning in the 2015-2016 school year.

TEPSA, whose hallmark is educational leaders learning with and from each other, has served Texas PreK-8 school leaders since 1917. Member owned and member governed, TEPSA has more than



5,800 members who direct the activities of 3 million PreK-8th grade school children.

## Aramark Service Awards 15 years

- Gricelda Pardo- Coronado
- Sandra Ramirez- Office
- Ermalynda Rivera-Estacado

## 20 years

- Lynda Cate- Coronado
- Debbie Ellena- Highland
- Maria Garcia- Coronado
- Gloria Gonzales- LaMesa
- Betty Gray- Thunderbird
- Mary Halcomb-PHS
- Janice Hall- PHS
- Margaret Johnson- Edgemere
- Yolanda Moreno- Estacado
- Sharon Newsome- Edgemere
- Martha Recio- Coronado
- Dora Rivera- Edgemere
- Paula Salas- College Hill
- Vera Sansom- Hillcrest
- Judy Shuping-College Hill
- Dora Sifuentes-Sanchez- Office

## NJROTC student makes donation to the program



1st year NJROTC Cadet Tony Hernandez provided a personal donation in the amount of \$101.00 to the PHS NJROTC.

When asked the reason for his donation, he said, “I have had a good year”.

ROTC Instructor Eric Mears said, “His donation is a wonderful example of our program’s core values of Honor, Courage and Commitment. He honors us with his dedication to our program, he shows courage by making choices that have helped him become a well-rounded young man and he has made a commitment of his own money that will help his peers learn the values that he has embraced. I am very proud of his selfless donation to others.”



# 2014-2015 retirees begin new chapter



Michele Neil (seated), Margaret Rose, Frances Alvarez, Rita Robertson, Neisha Halencak, Gayla Aycock, Terry Miller, Libby Howard, Judy Dwyer, and Darlyne Bothwell.



Walter Wright (seated), Beverly Sharp, Linda Watson, Janie Hart (standing), Linda Eversole, Pam Kennedy, and Jana McCoy. Not shown: Jan Cartwright, Donna Isaacson, Sandra Marshall, Joyce McCormick, June Sherman and Anna Trusler.

Twenty-five district employees retiring during the 2014-2015 school year were honored with a retirement reception held on May 19 at the Fair Theatre.

The retirees, representing a combined total of 722 years in education, are Frances Alvarez, Gayla Aycock, Darlyne Bothwell, Jan Cartwright, Judy Dwyer, Linda Eversole, Neisha Halencak, Janie Hart, Libby Howard, Donna Isaacson, Pam Kennedy, Sandra Marshall, Joyce McCormick, Jana McCoy, Terry Miller, Michele Neil, Rita Robertson, Margaret Rose, Beverly Sharp, June Sherman, Linda Strickland, Katherine Tanner, Anna Trusler, Linda Watson, and Walter Wright.

Dr. Rocky Kirk, Superintendent of Schools, thanked the retirees for their service to the district and urged them to use their retirement years to get back in touch with the unique things that are a part of each of them.

“Although we retire from the work we are doing; we do not retire from life,” Kirk said. “If anything, the years you have put in have

given you the right to be intentionally unintentional. You have an opportunity to get back in touch with the things that are unique to you. I hope you will fingerpaint or do whatever it is that takes you back to that time in life when you lived unintentionally.”

“I do not have the words to express what this district and this community owes you in terms of what you have left and what your legacy is,” said Kirk. “I suspect as you step away from it, it will be like stepping out of the forest. You will be able to see the trees again. Perhaps you will get a better sense and more clarity of what your worth is all about and how you have affected other people.”

“Today I thank God for you. You did it well. You did it right. And there is so much more waiting for you if you will just grab ahold of it and go do it.”

The Human Resource Services Department, under the leadership of Executive Director Brandy Merrick, hosted the

reception. They presented gifts of appreciation to the retirees.

Entertainment was provided by members of the PHS Choral Department. They performed “Irish Blessing,” “Save the World” and “the Lord Bless You and Keep You”.

Houston School Student Council Officers served as ushers for the event.

Greg Brown, Executive Director of Administration, was master of ceremonies. He shared biographical information on each of the retirees:

**Frances Alvarez**, La Mesa third grade bilingual teacher, is retiring from a 42-year career in education. She began her career as an assistant in Hale center ISD where she worked for seven years. She then Joined Plainview ISD as an assistant at Highland for two years. During that time she attended college in the evening and summer in order to earn a degree and her teaching certification. She spent 32 additional years at Highland



## 2014-2015 Retirees (cont.)

teaching bilingual classes in first, second, and third grades and computer classes before moving to La Mesa Elementary last year as a bilingual teacher. She says she is anxious to see what God has in store for her in the next chapter of her life. Until then her plans are to relax, spend time with grandchildren, travel to visit siblings, and continue to volunteer with her church. Her words of wisdom: "Always let your students know you love them and recognize what a blessing it is to have a hand in impacting many lives."

**Gayla Aycock**, Hillcrest resource teacher and homebound teacher, is retiring from a 33-year educational career. She taught a year in Crosbyton and then seven years at the MHMR in Plainview prior to joining the district's Special Education Department 24 years ago. She has spent the majority of her career teaching homebound students in both special education and regular education programs. She has worked with students from birth to 22 years of age. Her retirement plans include traveling, spending time with family, and relaxing. Her words of wisdom to aspiring teachers: "Try to teach each child every day to try his/her best at everything he/she does. Work smarter and not harder. Last but not least, try to find some enjoyment in every day."

**Darlyne Bothwell**, computer lab instructor at College Hill, is

retiring from a 30-year career in education. She began her career as a kindergarten assistant and worked at Thunderbird prior to moving to College Hill. Her retirement plans include reading, spending more time with family and friends, traveling, and just enjoying life. Her words of wisdom: "Don't focus on the entire year ahead. Break it down into a week or even a day at a time. Then the year ahead will not seem so overwhelming."

**Jan Cartwright**, College Hill fourth grade teacher, is retiring following 23 years in education. She began her career as a ninth grade teacher in Arlington for two years before spending 11 years working as a social worker. Following that period, she returned to the teaching profession as a fifth grade teacher at Lakeside. Since moving to College Hill, she has taught third and fourth grades. Her retirement plans include becoming a full-time "Noni" to her grandchildren, River and Rumer. She also wants to spend some time traveling and hanging out in Seattle on their new fishing boat that she has yet to see.

**Judy Dwyer**, Edgemere fourth grade reading and language arts teacher, is retiring following a 28-year career in education. She began her career as an assistant at Thunderbird for nine years and became a teacher with the encouragement of former principal L.D. Williams and teacher Lou Ann Northcutt. She taught reading for 17 years at Lakeside

Learning Center prior to the campus closing. She has been on the Edgemere staff for two years. Her retirement plans include spending more time with her husband, children and grandchildren.

**Linda Eversole**, Associate Principal for Curriculum & Instruction at Plainview High School, retired in January after 33-year career in education. She has served the district as a business teacher, assistant principal for PHS and the Freshman Learning Center, and interim principal at Houston School. Her retirement plans include spending more time with her daughters, Lisa and Julie, and her four grandchildren – Seth, Megan, Brylie, and Hadley. She also hopes to travel and work on her "bucket list." Her words of wisdom: "Every student comes to you with his/her own baggage. Find a way to make a positive connection with each one and find something to like about each kiddo, even in their most unlikeable moments. Think of your own role model, mentor, or inspiration; then, be one! Enjoy what you do!"

**Neisha Halencak**, College Hill fifth grade reading teacher, is retiring following a 41-year career in education. She taught one year in Tulia ISD before being hired by the district in 1975. She has taught 2nd, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> grade classrooms and was a reading teacher. Her service to the district includes 28



## 2014-2015 Retirees (cont.)

years at Lakeside, 3 years at La Mesa, 7 years at Thunderbird and 2 years at College Hill. She plans to spend her retirement just enjoying life. Her words of wisdom: "Teaching is only a small part. Loving the child brings it all together."

**Janie Hart**, Coronado school counselor, is retiring following a 38-year career in education. She has been a school counselor at Hillcrest, Ash, and Coronado for a total of 21 years. Prior to joining the district, she taught first and fourth grades in Okeene, OK, and taught junior high in Olton before becoming the counselor for elementary and junior high there. Her retirement plans include spending more time with her grandkids, traveling, honing her domestic skills, reading, and "bossing" her husband. Her words of wisdom: "Every job is a self-portrait of the person who does it. Autograph your work with excellence." She adds that it is important to mix humor into every day, look for the good in others, see mistakes as opportunities to learn and grow, and most of all to be "who the Father created you to be."

**Libby Howard**, Coronado / Estacado, is retiring after a 38-year career as a school nurse. She began her career as a school nurse in Tulia for three years. She joined Plainview ISD thirty-five years ago as the school nurse at Ash, Coronado and Estacado. She was also the varsity girls golf coach for eight years and has

been on the School Health Advisory Committee (SHAC) since its formation. Her retirement plans include playing golf every day the course is open, spending as much time as possible with her five grandchildren, working in the yard in her spare time, and reading all the books she has been putting on the back burner. Her words of wisdom: "Love what you do and do what you love."

**Donna Isaacson**, College Hill school counselor, is retiring from a 25-year career in education. Beginning her career in Lubbock, she spent three years teaching in private school and two years in public school prior to joining the PISD staff twenty years ago. In the District she was a kindergarten teacher at Highland and Edgemere, a third grade teacher at Edgemere and Thunderbird, and taught reading in a split campus position at Highland and Thunderbird before becoming a counselor. She plans to spend her retirement enjoying time with her family.

**Pam Kennedy**, Career and Technical Education teacher at Houston School, is retiring from a 22-year career in education. She began her career in Hart ISD and joined PISD more than 17 years ago as a CTE teacher. Her plans for retirement include having more "Me" time. She hopes to see more of her daughter and sister and will possibly pursue a second career. Her words of wisdom: "Keep smiling, love your students (even when they aren't particularly loveable), stay calm,

celebrate the successes and work harder on the not so successful. And as I always tell my daughter, HAVE FUN!"

**Sandra Marshall**, College Hill special education teacher, retired earlier this year following a 31-year career in education. She began her career as a physical education assistant at Thunderbird Elementary. She has also worked as a substitute teacher, a physical education assistant at Edgemere, a physical education teacher at Highland, and a special education teacher for 14 years at College Hill.

**Joyce McCormick**, College Hill first grade bilingual teacher, is retiring from a 40-year career in education. She joined Plainview ISD and the College Hill staff 36 years ago. In addition to teaching first grade, she has taught third grade, fourth grade, and reading intervention. She also as the campus librarian. Prior to joining the district, she taught fourth grade in Floydada for four years. She has been so busy teaching that she hasn't thought a lot yet about retirement. She plans to find a part-time position that will allow her to get out of the house and stay busy. Her words of wisdom: "Keep your eyes on the children. They are really the reason we are here, but sometimes they get lost in the shuffle."

**Jana McCoy**, business teacher and department head at PHS, is retiring from a 32-year career in education. She began her career



## 2014-2015 Retirees (cont.)

as an English teacher at PHS before transitioning to the Business Department. She has been on staff at PHS for her entire career. Her retirement plans include the possibility of moving to an area of Texas with more trees and lakes. She plans to continue to work, but in a job outside of teaching that allows her more flexibility with her time. Her words of wisdom: "Be flexible, adaptable, and open to change. Do your job to the best of your ability, but make time for your life outside of school. Bite your tongue, count to 10, and don't do or say anything when you are angry or upset...and don't post anything about it on Facebook!"

**Terry Miller**, science teacher at Estacado and PHS girls' golf coach, is retiring from a 39-year career in education. She began her career in Borger where she taught math and gifted and talented students at the 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade level for 19 years. During that time she served as a golf coach for five years. She then spent a year in Hale Center ISD teaching seventh and eighth grade science before joining Plainview ISD 19 years ago as a 6<sup>th</sup> grade science teacher at Ash Learning Center. Her retirement plans include having many "Nana moments" with her seven beautiful grandchildren and enjoying her three daughters and sons-in law. She also hopes to find time to play golf and work on projects. Her words of

wisdom: "Find the creative ways that you think will capture the student's attention, and use those techniques to teach the TEKS. If this means you have to be silly or dress funny, sing a song, or repeat until they recite the material in their sleep, they will remember those moments and pieces of information. Find stories to tie to your topic, find a video, a cartoon and use those to anchor their learning. Most of all, love what you are doing. You are an actor on a stage and they are your audience, draw them in, allow them to take part, help them set the stage, remember their lines, correct them when they need it, applaud when they are successful, cry with them when they are not and most of all direct them from your heart."

**Michele Neil**, interventionist for K-2 reading at Hillcrest, is retiring from a 30-year career in education. She taught for three years in Richard ISD and one year in Frenship ISD before joining the district 26 years ago. She taught 1<sup>st</sup> grade for 15 years before moving into her current position. Her retirement plans include working on community literacy projects and helping her husband Glenn in their business, Weekends BBQ. Her words of wisdom are the words told to her on the eve of her first day as a teacher that helped her through her first weeks as a teacher: "Just do it the way your first grade teacher did it. Kids still have glue and crayons. They still raise their hands and line up in

the halls."

**Rita Robertson**, College Hill / PHS school nurse, is retiring after 30 years as a school nurse. During that time, she was school nurse at Hillcrest, Highland, College Hill, and PHS. Before joining the district, she was a nurse in Plainview for 12 years serving at the hospital, a home health agency, the county health department, Dr. George Benzon's office, and Dr. Carl Weidenbach's office. Her retirement plans involve her family. She has three daughters – Amy Scott, a teacher in Lubbock ISD; Angela Davis, a hair stylist in Lubbock; and Amber Miller, a social worker who lives on a ranch near Paducah. She hopes to spend more time with her children and grandchildren and be more actively involved in their activities. She also plans on traveling, volunteering in the community, and possibly working part-time. Her advice to new nurses: "Embrace and enjoy your position as a nurse. Students can't focus and learn when they don't feel well. Be proud of the work you do and the contributions that you make toward helping your students reach their maximum potential."

**Margaret Rose**, Highland and Hillcrest music teacher, is retiring after 23 years in education. She taught junior high and high school students a year in Kingfisher, OK, before joining the district 22 years ago. Her retirement plans include



## 2014-2015 Retirees (cont.)

visiting family, including nine grandchildren, in Oklahoma more often, catching up on reading, friends, and sleep. Her words of wisdom: "Be flexible, be a team player, and stay just long enough so that you still love your job when it's time to go."

**Beverly Sharp**, Coronado resource teacher, is retiring from a 35-year career in education. She has been with Plainview ISD for two years. Prior to coming to the district, she taught at Olton, Cameron, and Rockdale in both private and public schools. Her retirement plans include helping to care for her father and to be actively involved with her 24 year-old special needs daughter, Sarah. Her words of wisdom for new teachers: "To love teaching and learning and to pass that on to the students."

**June Sherman**, PHS social studies teacher, is retiring with 28 years in education. She has 17 years with Plainview ISD. Prior to that she taught in Marianna, AR; Lamesa, Silverton and Lockney. Her retirement plans include "time to be a grandma, work on genealogy, and catch up on reading." Her advice to aspiring teachers: "Listen to your mentor teacher."

**Linda Strickland**, PHS health science teacher, is retiring for the second time. She retired in May 2014, but returned to PHS at the district request to fill a teaching position. She has now served 18 years in education – 11 as a school nurse and 7 as a teacher.

Prior to joining the district, she was a school nurse in Frenship ISD and Amarillo ISD. Her retirement plans include "living without a schedule." She also plans to enjoy family, camp, hike, and relax. Her words of wisdom to new teachers: "Enjoy yourself-life is too short to let your job be 'work'."

**Katherine Tanner** passed away on September 29, 2014 and is being honored posthumously. Katherine was an educator for 17 years, 15 of those years in PISD. She began her career in the district teaching third grade at Highland Elementary. In 2008 she became the art teacher for Estacado and Ash. Prior to moving to Plainview, she also taught at the American School of Kuwait as an art teacher for two years.

**Anna Trusler**, instructional aide at Coronado, retired in January following a 20-year career with the district. She worked as a personnel records clerk at the Administration Office for 14 years before moving to Ash as a special education aide. Following the closing of Ash, she joined the Coronado staff where she worked as a library aide and an instructional aide. She is enjoying spending more time with family in her retirement.

**Linda Watson**, principal of College Hill Elementary, is retiring following a 26-year career in education. She began her career as a teacher at La Mesa Elementary. After six years she moved to Coronado and taught science for a year before taking on

the role of assistant principal at Hillcrest for 1 year. The next year she was named principal at Lakeside. She was there for 11 years before moving to the principal's position at College Hill. She is the ninth principal in the history of College Hill. She plans to spend her retirement enjoying time with her husband, Richard, and her children – Monty Watson, his wife Misty, their daughter Bryndal and Kimberly Haresnape, her husband Dave, and children Brooks, Jay, Wrangler, and Slade. Her loving words of wisdom: "1. Set procedures and stick to them! 2. Roll with the punches! 3. Love your students unconditionally as I have with every student!"

**Walter Wright**, PHS choir director, is retiring following a 35-year career in education. Wright began his teaching career in Midland ISD before coming to work for Plainview ISD 31 years ago as choir director. This fall he will be the sabbatical replacement choir director at the Punahou School in Honolulu, Hawaii. Following that stint, his retirement plans include consulting, UIL judging, traveling and spending more time with his grandchildren. His words of wisdom to new teachers: "Never underestimate the positive influence you can be to your students. Always remember that to some child, you are their role model, their inspiration, their hero."





# GenTX College Decision Day & Pass the Torch

Plainview High School participated in the inaugural GenTX College Decision Day on May 5 to celebrate the seniors of the Class of 2015 as they officially announced their intent to pursue their postsecondary education through colleges, trade schools, certification programs and the military.

As of May 5, 90% of the Senior Class of 2015 had been accepted into a postsecondary pathway. This is a record for Plainview High School, and will definitely help in promoting a college-going culture in our schools and the community. With 231 students accepted into a postsecondary pathway, it is clear that students are beginning to understand that education is the key to unlocking the future they want for themselves. This is also a great testament to the quality of education students in Plainview ISD can access as well as to the excellence and dedication of the PISD faculty and staff.

The celebration included a Seniors only program in the PHS auditorium. Seniors received information on what to do next now that they have been accepted into college.

They listened to guest speakers offer advice and encouragement. Seniors were also asked to write a thank you note to someone on the PHS staff who

made a difference in their lives during their time at PHS. Students were then taken to the east gymnasium to meet with their parents and family members.

At 3:15, the official signing ceremony began in the PHS gymnasium. The entire PHS student body, faculty and staff were in attendance to watch the ceremony and celebrate with the honored seniors. Each PHS senior was introduced and their chosen postsecondary institution named. Students were escorted in by parents or family members. Once all students were seated, they were allowed to sign a "Letter of Commitment", which was inspired by the



letters of intent that NCAA athletes sign when declaring their intent to compete at the college level.

Following the signing, Principal Tye Rogers addressed the students.

The ceremony ended with a drawing for all honored

on Thursday, May 7, with the first ever "Passing the Torch" event. All seniors eligible to participate in GenTX College Decision Day were also eligible to participate, voluntarily, in the Passing the Torch Event. 162 of the 231 recognized seniors chose to participate.

On Thursday, these students traveled to one of the elementary or middle schools where they spoke with younger students about pursuing post-secondary education. The seniors were on each campus from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. They were able to serve as role models for younger students by sharing their plans and encouraging the younger students to place a high value on their education and work hard to pursue their dreams.

Organizers hope both events will be the beginning of some wonderful traditions to promote and celebrate a college-going culture within our schools and city.

For more information about how you can help with next year's Plainview High School GenTX Decision Day or the Passing the Torch program, please contact Amy Hagerman at PHS.



seniors. Twenty-four prizes were given including laptops, iPads, tablets, printers, microwaves, dorm-sized refrigerators, and gift cards. Only students present could win. These prizes were purchased through funds raised by the PHS faculty and staff and through donations by Walmart.

The celebration continued





# Photos from Pass the Torch Day at the campuses





# Staff Spotlight: June Sherman

Who was your most inspiring teacher?

Many of us know exactly which teacher it was that connected with us in a way that launched what often becomes a lifetime interest in literature, history, science, arts, drama, music, athletics, engineering, photography, technology, or more. Perhaps one of the greatest achievements someone in our field can achieve is to inspire someone in the next generation.

June Sherman remembers who it was that inspired her to be a teacher.

"I had a wonderful world history teacher in high school," June said in explanation for her decision to become a social studies teacher.

For the last 17 years she has been a social studies teacher at Plainview High School where she currently teaches geography.

Prior to coming to the district, she taught developmental reading and World History at Marianna, Arkansas; Language and Learning-Disabled Resource classes at

Lamesa ISD; Government, United States History, World History, American History, Texas History, art and spelling in Silverton ISD; American Government, Economics, United States History, and World History at Lockney ISD.

It all adds up to a 28-year career in education.

She says what she has enjoyed most about her job is that she has "made lifelong friendships with fellow teachers and students."

This year, she has decided, is the right time to retire and although she will no longer be walking the halls of PHS, she is not giving up her role of instructor.

June is a Texas Department of Public Safety certified instructor for the Concealed Handgun Law. The law was passed in 1995 and went into effect in 1996. She attended a week of instruction in Austin in 1995 and began teaching classes in 1996.

June's husband, Tommy, teaches a free ladies beginner gun class and she teaches the course for the Concealed Handgun License.

She, like our other retirees, will find



plenty to do with her retirement years.

She is a member of Northwest Church of Christ.

She also is excited about a new addition to the family on the horizon. Her son and daughter-in-law, Rolf and Shasta Sherman, are in the process of adoption. Becoming a grandma is in her near future and she is eagerly awaiting the opportunity.

It's possible that she will also find time to travel. She spent two weeks in Norway, Sweden, and Denmark one summer when she was a single teacher. It only seems fitting and right that a retired geography teacher would make time to explore.



June as a child with her father.



June Sherman at a wedding



# Love in Action at Houston School

Note: This was written and submitted by Houston School.

A part of the Mission of PISD, is to “address the needs” of our students. I believe the heart of the employees of our district is not just in addressing the needs of our students; but addressing the needs of everyone who is a part of the district.

That heart was shown in a real way on Friday May 15, 2015.

An unnamed person of our district recognized a need and after much prayer and patience was able to gather the help of others to fulfill the need. That need was for a wheel chair lift for a vehicle that has enable Wes Delz to use an electric scooter chair rather than the non-electric chair he has been limited to for the past several years.

The story began about two years ago when the unnamed person was talking with Wes and realized that due to financial issues, he was unable to use a scooter chair that just sat in his home.

The problem was the cost of a lift. A good lift runs about \$2,000 dollars installed on a vehicle. A cheaper version could have been purchased but the desire of this unnamed person was for Wes to have something that would make his life easier.

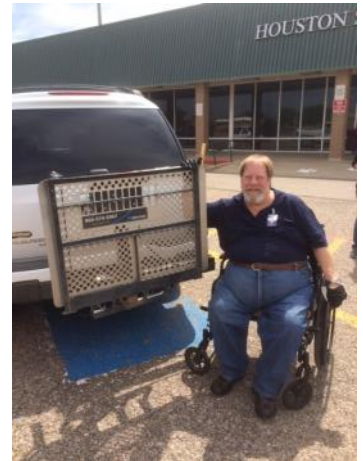
Three week ago it became possible when a used lift at a reasonable cost was found. The person who wishes to remain unnamed made contact with others he felt would have similar concerns for Wes and asked if they wanted to help.

The financial help came through and the lift was purchased, installed on Wes’s vehicle and some additional cash was donated to Wes to help with other needs in his life.

Monday morning found Wes wheeling around Houston School on his electric scooter with a smile from ear to ear. He wanted to thank everyone who gave even though he doesn’t

know who they all are. We put our students ahead of our own needs often and this time we put one of our own above our own needs.

In Matthew 22:39 Jesus tells us that the second greatest commandment is to love our neighbors. We have an example of that love in this story. So to all who



donated and have expressed your love for Wes; he says Thank You!

## Thank You

On May 15, the Houston School staff were waiting by my car to present me with a chair lift for my power chair. I’ve owned the power chair for three years, but could not afford the lift for my car to transport it so I have been using a wheel chair at school. The Houston School staff, SURGE staff, and other people around the district, chipped in to purchase the needed lift. Kimmet Bellows led the efforts, but I do not know who all helped to make this happen. It is a God-send to be able to use this chair, rather than my regular wheel chair. I just want to let you all know how much I appreciate the love and care that has been extended to me. I thank God every day for allowing me to work with such awesome people.

Sincerely,

Wes Delz

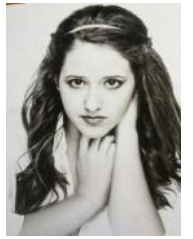


# Class of 2015 begins a new journey

**Jarel Rosas**, son of **Elena Azua**, is graduating with the Class of 2015. He has signed with Wayland Baptist-University to play Track/Cross country on a full ride scholarship. He plans to will be become a teacher and coach.



**McKenzie Rhoades**, daughter of **Ryan (PHS)** and **Robyn (La Mesa) Rhoades** is graduating with the Class of 2015. She has been accepted into Honor College at Texas Tech. She loves to read and is interested in the medical field. She's super excited to be a Red Raider.



**Morgan Blair Sweeney**, 2015 graduate of PHS, will wed Lance Corporal **Austin Kyle Stephens**, USMC, a 2013 graduate of Sherman High School, on June 6 in Sherman, Texas. Morgan is the



daughter of **Robin Sweeney**, PHS counselor, and Dr. **Kevin Sweeney**, WBU professor. The couple will make their home at New River Marine Air Station in North Carolina, where he is stationed as an air traffic controller. Morgan has been accepted to Campbell University and plans to begin her studies at their base branch in the fall.

**Richard Salinas**, son of **Carmen Salinas** (College Hill) will graduate with the PHS Class of 2015. He will be attending South Plains College this fall.



**Ashley Roberts**, daughter of **Tim** and **Shelley Roberts** (Technology) was named salutatorian of Lockney High School Class of 2015. She will attend Texas Tech University to major in electronic media and communications and minor in atmospheric science. She plans to earn a master's degree and pursue a career in meteorology.

## Military News

**Christopher Brooks Cannon**, PHS Class of 2012, graduated from the Naval Boot Camp on April 24, 2015. He graduated as an E3 and was a division leader. He will continue his Navy Career as a Fire Controlman. Brooks is the son of **David and Kimberly Haresnape** and the grandson of **Richard and Linda Watson**. Brooks' family and friends are very proud of his accomplishments.



**Emily Rose**, granddaughter of **Johnny** and **Margaret Rose** (Hillcrest / Highland) will graduate high school at Metro Christian Academy in Tulsa, OK on May 21. She is still deciding, but she may be attending Southern Nazarene University in Bethany, OK.



**Kyle Peggram**, son of **Rosemary Peggram** (PHS) is graduating with the Olton High School Class of 2015. He will be attending McMurry University to play football. He plans to become a coach.



**Miriam Naomi Banda**, daughter of **Diana Banda** (Support Services), will graduate from Kress High School on May 29. Miriam plans to attend WT this fall to study sports medicine.



**Daniel Castillo**, son of **Estella Salas** (Houston School) and brother of **Cynthia Mendoza** (Houston School), graduated From Lackland Air Force Basic Training on May 15. He will continue his training in Security Forces.



# Cheers, Kudos & High Fives...

**Kieffer & Adrienne (McCaleb) McBeth**, both PHS Class of 2012) bought their first home in



Amarillo, TX. Adrienne is a Realtor at Keller Williams, Amarillo, and the Transaction Coordinator at Elite Real Estate Group.

**Aaryn McCaleb**, a 2013 graduate of Plainview High School, will be starting school at Amarillo College this summer to pursue an Occupational Therapy Assistant degree. Both Aaryn and Adrienne are the daughters of Dickie and **Janet McCaleb** (PHS).

graduate from college. His family is extremely proud of him.

**Cameron Hurta**, son of **Dina Hurta** (La Mesa) will compete in the UIL Academic State Meet on May 25. In March, he placed 1st in Literary Criticism, 2nd in Editorial Writing, 2nd in Headline Writing, and 4th in Ready Writing at the district level competition. This qualified him to advance to regional competition. At the regional competition in April, he placed 3rd in editorial writing qualifying him for the State Meet. He is also an alternate in UIL State Ready-Writing.



**Sarah Noel Rodriguez**, daughter of Oscar and **Minga Rodriguez** (Highland), graduated from the University of Oklahoma on May 9 with a degree in Anthropology with distinction. Sarah, a member of the PHS class of 2011, will be attending graduate school at Marist College in Florence, Italy. She plans to earn a master's degree in Museum Studies.



**Tina Romero**, daughter of **Rosie Romero** (Technology Center) graduated from Eastern New Mexico University on May 16. She earned a Bachelor of Social Work degree.



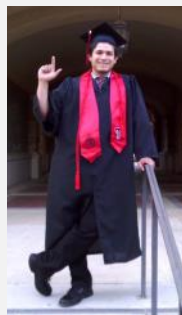
**Rustin Rogers**, son of Steve and **Debi Rogers** (Estacado), was married on February 28 to Rachel Tapp-Miller.



**Onofre Rodriguez, Jr.** son of Linda (Coronado) and Onofre Rodriguez, Sr. graduated from the University of Texas at San Antonio on May 9. He received a BS in Kinesiology with an emphasis on P.E. and Sports Psychology. His short term goal is to be a teacher and coach. His long term goal is to become an Athletic Coordinator. Onofre Jr. is married to Sandi Soliz Rodriguez and they have two sons Justin, 15 and Kaden 6.



**Eli Villarreal**, son of former teacher Sue Villarreal and nephew of **Rebecca Ybarra** (Highland), is graduating from Texas Tech with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science. He is the first grandchild on his mother's side of the family to



## BABY NEWS

**Chad** (PHS Asst. Principal) and **Sarah Sanders** (PHS interventionist) are the proud parents of their fourth child, **Abigail**, born on March 27. She weighed 6 lbs. 13 oz. and was 19 1/2 inches long.



**Georgia Grace** was born on April 15th to **Abby Carlisle Long**, **Chase Long**, and big brother **Beckett** of **San Angelo**. Her **GiGi, Leslie Carlisle**, is very proud of this new little bundle.



**Jared and Alyssa White** announce the arrival of a son, **Dean Ryan**. He was born on March 29 weighing 6 lbs. 9 oz. The proud new grandfather is **Rusty White** (Houston School).



College Hill teacher **Ashley Carthel** is expecting her third child in June. She says they do not know if it is a girl or a boy and will wait for the birth to see.





# Buy, Sell, Rent, Trade, Give Away..

**WANTED: Christina Salazar** (Admin Office) would like to buy a **rocker /glider** for her daughter. If you have one to sell, please contact her.



**FOR SALE: Baldwin piano.** Excellent condition. Asking \$1200 but will consider reasonable offers. Contact **Kay Stambaugh** at 292-0836 or through school e-mail.



**FOR SALE: Electric hospital bed .** Works great. \$400.00. **Ramp**, \$400.00 Contact **Lupie Perez** (College Hill) if interested.



**HOUSE FOR RENT:** In Westgate (4123 Villa Dr.) 3 bedroom, 1 ½ bath, single car garage; rents for \$875/month; \$500 deposit; will accept pets. Contact **Tracy Dawson**, 806-292-0291

**FOR SALE: 1997 Nissan Maxima.** Will consider any reasonable offer. Contact **Brittany Douglas** through school email or by phone/text 806-292-7713.

**WANTED: Washer & Dryer** for a college student. Contact **Torri Hatch** (806) 292-9986.

**WANTED: Magazines** - Anything housing related ( Architectural Digest, Interior Design, House Beautiful, Better Homes and Gardens, etc) and fashion related (Elle, Marie Claire, Glamour, People, etc) We also need **fabric, notions, thread, zippers, etc. Anything that could be used for a fashion project.** Contact **Rosemary Peggram , Fashion Design & Interior Design teacher at PHS.**

**EPIC Computer Solutions**, 910 Quincy (owned by **Johnny and Margaret Rose**) offers **laminating services** for teachers on Monday through Friday 10:00—6:00 pm and Saturdays, 10:00 am—4:00 pm. Teacher rate

is \$1.50 for 8” x 11” and \$2.15 per square foot based on 27” width.

**FOR SALE: Yamaha Flute.** Daughter used it only one year. Contact **Lisa Wright** (Hillcrest).

**WANTED: Rebecca Gallardo** (College Hill) asks that if anyone has **Lakeside t-shirts** they do not want, please send them to her or call her and she will pick them up.

If you are on Facebook please join us. We share school and non-school related information of interest to staff through this medium.



Plainview ISD Staff

(closed group for staff only)

Plainview Independent School District  
(Public Facebook)



Twitter - @PLVW ISD



*Sincere  
Sympathy*

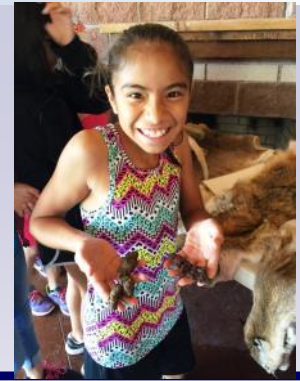
To **Margaret Rose** on the passing of her father, Mike Courtney, on April 23. It has been a tough year for Margaret. She lost her mom, Ruth, last September.

To **Bernard (Service Center) and Misty Batista** (College Hill) on the passing of Misty’s mother, Allene Stone, on April 28.



# Field Trip to Caprock Canyon State Park

Edgemere third grade students took their learning outdoors and explored some of the natural beauty in our area by taking a field trip to Caprock Canyon State Park. The photo below shows students attending a "Skulls & Skins" presentation.



## Yes, we still teach cursive!

Using the combination of a highlighter and a projector light, third grade students in Penni Chappell's and Jill Horne's classes at Edgemere work on perfecting their cursive handwriting with glow writing. Because Edgemere has no windows, the rooms are dark with the lights out. Penni explains that when she unplugs the document camera, the projector screen is blue. When the projector is directed toward the ceiling it gives the effect of a black light.

# Thunderbird Fundraising Fair

Thunderbird held a Fundraising Fair in April to benefit a student who has been diagnosed with advanced Lupus. Students paid a small fee to participate in games.



# Hillcrest Science Fair







# Hillcrest Pre-K Cinco de Mayo



Students in Florinda Hayes’s bilingual class celebrated Cinco de Mayo by dancing the La Raspa, breaking a pinata and eating enchiladas.

## PHS Fashion design students service learning project



The Advanced Fashion Design class at PHS completed a service learning project last fall.

The class of eight students, headed by Dr. Rosemary Peggram, volunteered to be in charge of the costumes for the PHS Theatre Departments production of “Annie”.

The students studied the 1940’s, the time period in which the play took place, and shopped for clothing that would be appropriate for that time period. They re-purposed clothing already owned by the Theatre Department, altered countless items to fit different cast members, and constructed several clothing items from scratch. Many afternoons were spent after school fitting cast members.

When the Fashion Design students were able to see their costumes in the play on the first night of the production, you could see the pride and satisfaction on their faces.

Many of them stated “That’s the outfit I worked on!” or “That costume turned out perfect for that character!”

Dr. Peggram, who is new to PHS, has conducted many service learning projects during her years of teaching and hopes to continue.

“I think it is one of the best ways for students to learn a concept or develop a skill. Learn by doing – but more than that, learn by doing it in a real life situation that is helping someone else. It’s a win-win situation all around. Besides that, it’s fun!”

The students further developed their sewing skills, learned about many alteration techniques, got creative with re-purposing ideas, worked with a deadline, learned organizational skills and about a career in costuming. Dr. Peggram said, “It was a LOT of work, but I think it was worth it”.

## States on Parade - 2nd Grade GT Projects

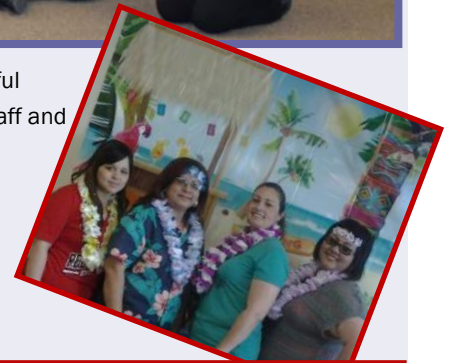




# Aramark End-of-Year Family Fun



Aramark celebrated the ending of another successful school year in a big way with a party for Aramark staff and their families on May 16.





# Culture & Career Day at Coronado

Humberto (Migrant Department) and Gina Gonzales (HR Department) share their personal story of overcoming obstacles and the importance of education during the Culture & Career Day at Coronado.



# End of Year Luau for Migrant Families





# Thunderbird Mother's Day Tea



Annalyse, daughter of Krystal Gill (librarian at Estacado) reading about how much she appreciates what her mommy does for her.

# Coronado NJHS Service Learning



Coronado National Junior Honor Society held a school-wide clothing drive in March to benefit Broadway Treasures. On May 14, they returned to Broadway Treasures to help sort, dust, and organize as a service project.



# Student Council Fundraiser & Dance



# Student Projects



Students in Linda Rodriguez's classes display their biography projects. The assignment was for each student to check out a biography from the library, read it, then write a five paragraph report and create an accompanying project depicting some of the most important events in the life of the subject of their biography.



# Students vs. Staff At Estacado

Estacado Staff vs. Students volleyball game was held recently. The staff took the championship. The outcome of the Teachers vs. Coaches game was not clear. Although coaches claimed the win, some teachers believe the referee made some questionable calls.



# Highland Field Trips



# College Hill

# Spelling Bee



# Mother's Day Luncheon