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fingers in my mouth and said, "Daddy's gonna eat your fingers." I pretended to "eat her fingers" and went back to packing. A couple of minutes later, I noticed she was very quiet. I looked up and noticed her staring at her fingers with a devastated look on her face. I asked her "what's wrong princess?" She replied, "What happened to my booger?"

**Life Lesson: you should.... I got nothing for this one this was just gross.**

Thanks for all you do for public education. Thanks for all your support, and please donate to FCPE. Remember, my challenge is to give the same number of dollars as years you are old. I gave my 40 dollars, and I challenge you to do the same.



Linda Roney, Crestview Middle School



Pamela Taylor, Crestview

## NCOEA Regional Representatives

Pamela Taylor has been teaching at Crestview Local Schools in Richland County for fifteen years. She has five years experience in special education and ten years experience in third grade. She is presently working with the fifth grade team in the Middle School as a Resource Room teacher. Her jobs in NCOEA include chairing the Communication Committee as well as being a Richland County Regional Representative contacting the two locals in the Shelby School district, and reporting on their happenings at the monthly NCOEA district meetings. She also enjoys lobbying at the state level.

Beth Kohne is another Richland County representative for the NCOEA. She has been teaching for 10 years as an Intervention Specialist. Her first 7 years were in the Mansfield City Schools at Malabar Middle School. This is her 3<sup>rd</sup> year at Crestview Elementary School. She also serves as the Vice President of the local association (Crestview Teacher's Association). She graduated from Ashland University with a Bachelors degree in Criminal Justice and a Masters in Education, Mild to Moderate Intervention Specialist.

Beth has been married for 17 years to husband Andy. They have 3 kids. Jasmine is in 8<sup>th</sup> grade, Kyle is in 5<sup>th</sup> grade and Sarah is 4 years old. They live in the Crestview district, and enjoy camping, hiking and spending time together.

Beth says "It has been really informative and helpful getting involved with the NCOEA. It offers a lot of great opportunities and training for people who want to get more involved at the local level. Keep your eyes open for the Emerging Leaders Program that started up this fall and the workshops that are offered in the fall and spring. They are both great ways to get your feet wet and find out what we are all about, not to mention they are a great group of people to be around."

## APPLAUSE, APPLAUSE!!!

By Pam Taylor

Linda Roney, a fifth grade teacher at Crestview Middle School near Mansfield, deserves a round of applause and more. She is a teacher, serves our nation in the military, and even took on a special way of being of service to her mom.

Now a Lieutenant Colonel in the United States Army Reserve, Linda served our nation on active duty for fourteen years. She lived in places such as Germany, Honduras, and Korea as well as several locations in the U.S. Linda stated she loves

serving her country and although now only part time as a trainer it is more than the extra income. It is her way to be patriotic.

In addition to this Linda also gave of herself in a special way to her mother, Mary Farley. This past July 21<sup>st</sup>, Mary was a recipient of one of Linda's kidneys. Had it not been for this generous gift Mary would have had to go on kidney dialysis. Her kidney function was down to only seventeen percent. But, then the day after surgery her function increased to sixty-six percent. Mary was heard saying that she has not felt this good in years.

So what did Linda take away from all of this? She stated that it truly reinforced that she has always been one to believe that it is better to give than to receive. That to me seems to be the motto for this humble woman. She is a teacher, a soldier, a hero, and so much more. She is an American who serves and one who deserves our applause.

Let us take a moment to applaud this courageous and giving woman. She is more than worthy.

Applause is a part of most cultures. Whether clapping or cheering, rooting or showing support applause shows praise and appreciation towards an individual or a group of honorees. Today we focused on honoring one amongst you who has risen to the challenge of greatness. But, I know there are more. As we enter fall and come upon the holiday season let us think of others who are worthy of this honor as well. Then, simply nominate them by sending a simple synopsis with their picture to Teach621@aol.com. Maybe they will be the next person to be in our APPLAUSE, APPLAUSE section of the Chalkdust magazine. They deserve our thanks.