



Flight of the Phoenix Aviation Museum STEaM - Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics for GISD, a Community Partnership: *Flight of the Phoenix Aviation Museum delivers its STEaM curriculum with certificated instructors, and degreed volunteer teachers from academia, military, business, aviation, and the trades: Funded 100% through private donations. FOTPAM is an IRS 501 c 3 non-profit.*

- TEXAS KIDS AVIATION ART CONTEST K-12
- YOUNG EAGLES FREE PLANE RIDE AGES 8-17
- BISHOP LEARNS TO FLY GRADE 4 ENHANCED READING AND ART PROGRAM
- CANDY BOMBER GRADE 5 PLUS GRADE 7 LIFE SKILLS
- AMERICAN AND TEXAS HISTORY GRADE 7
- VOCATIONAL AVIATION CTE & STEM AFJROTC
- ADOPT AN AIRPORT: *Don't Mess With Texas Airports* AFJROTC
- FOREIGN OBJECT DEBRIS (FOD) MANAGEMENT AFJROTC
- AOPA Airport Watch AFJROTC
- TSA GA AIRPORT SECURITY AFJROTC
- 99'S COMPASS ROSE AFJROTC
- 'GIRLS CAN FLY' LeTOURNEAU UNIVERSITY GHS GIRLS
- REDBIRD FLIGHT SIMULATOR AND CLASSROOM AFJROTC
- INDEPENDENCE DAY SERVICE AFJROTC

TXDOT AVIATION CALENDAR ART CONTEST

FOTPAM STEaM PARTICIPATES IN TXDOT AVIATION DIVISION'S ART CONTEST. LOCAL CONTESTANTS SUBMIT ARTWORK TO BE JUDGED IN GILMER. WINNERS RECEIVE CASH SCHOLARSHIPS AND FREE AIRPLANE RIDES AT THE ANNUAL FLY-IN.

Since 1989, the Fédération Aéronautique Internationale (FAI) has sponsored the International Aviation Art Contest to challenge young people to illustrate the importance of aviation through art. TxDOT's Aviation Division hosts the contest at the state level. The contest, sponsored by TxDOT Aviation Division: **ages 6-9, 10-13, and 14-17**: local, state, and national competition. The Art Contest provides the 'a for arts' in our **STEaM** and is the catalyst that makes Aviation STEM inclusive for all students K-12. Theme for the 2025 contest is **Women With Wings**.

GOLD MEDALIST **BRENDAN DARNOLD** AGE 15
GILMER HIGH SCHOOL DANIEL DODD ART TEACHER





Gilmer's 2024 Texas Aviation Art Contest Winners with Art Judge Dr Marcy Ragland, Longview High School art teacher. Gilmer art contest winners compete in State and National competition. GHS student Brendan Darnold, third from left, won state honors in the 2024 contest.

The art contest is sponsored by TxDOT Aviation Division.



***Young Eagles:** Students get their first flight experience with a free ride in an airplane and become a Young Eagle @ Fox Stephens Field



Young Eagle Flights hosted by Flight of the Phoenix Aviation Museum provided by members of the Gladewater EAA Chapter 1656, receiving mission briefing from Ronnie Godfrey EAA Chapter President. Marshall High School AFJROTC Cadets participate alongside GHS Cadets. The Young Eagles Flight Plan will unlock a number of resources, designed to help students in their aviation journey.





Young Eagles fly not just fixed-wing but rotary-wing as well. Eagles qualify for a \$350 Private Pilot Ground School Course from Sporty's and reimbursement of examination fee when they pass the FAA written exam.

***Grade 4 Reading Program: Bishop Flies With the WASP of WW II @ Upshur County Library & GES**



Waco's Nancy Allyson Parrish dedicated her wonderful book to Gilmer's 4th graders. Nancy Parrish, pictured with her Mom Deanie Bishop Parrish, WWII WASP.



***Grade 5 World History: Cold War** Candy Bomber Re Enactment and
Open House Airshow @ Fox Stephens Field



The Gilmer Mirror

Since 1877 – Upshur County's Oldest Business Institution

Vol. 145 — No. 18 © 2022 The Gilmer Mirror

Thursday, May 5, 2022

One



CHILDREN RUSH to pick up the sacks of candy at the conclusion of their trip to the Gilmer Municipal Airport Wednesday, April 27. The fifth grade students from Gilmer Intermediate School viewed various private planes and saw displays of First Responder equipment including police cars, a fire truck, ambulance and Air 1 with UT Health East Texas. The candy drop celebrates the "Candy Bomber" Col. Gail "Hal" Halvorsen activities during the Berlin Airlift, 1948-49. Halvorsen died Feb. 16 this year at the age of 101.



(Mirror photos by
Mary Laschinger Kirby)

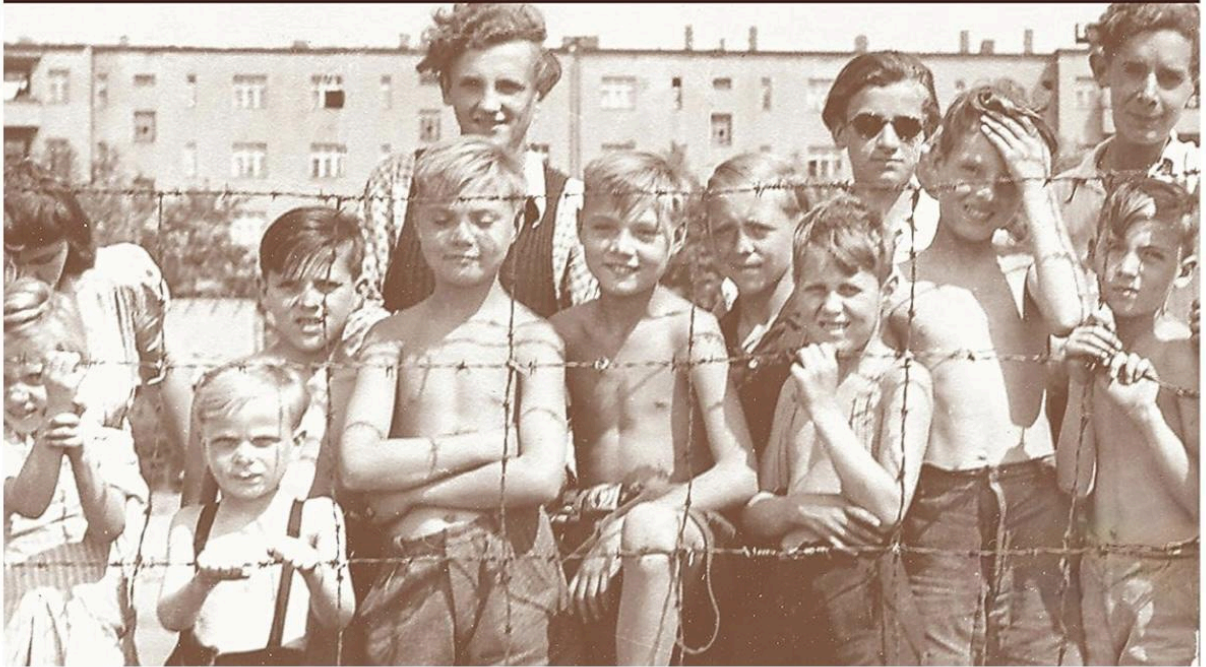
<https://www.kltv.com/video/2024/05/02/pilot-recreates-wwii-candy-drop-flights-gilmer-isd-students/>



Michael O. Tunnell

Candy Bomber

The Story of the Berlin Airlift's "Chocolate Pilot"



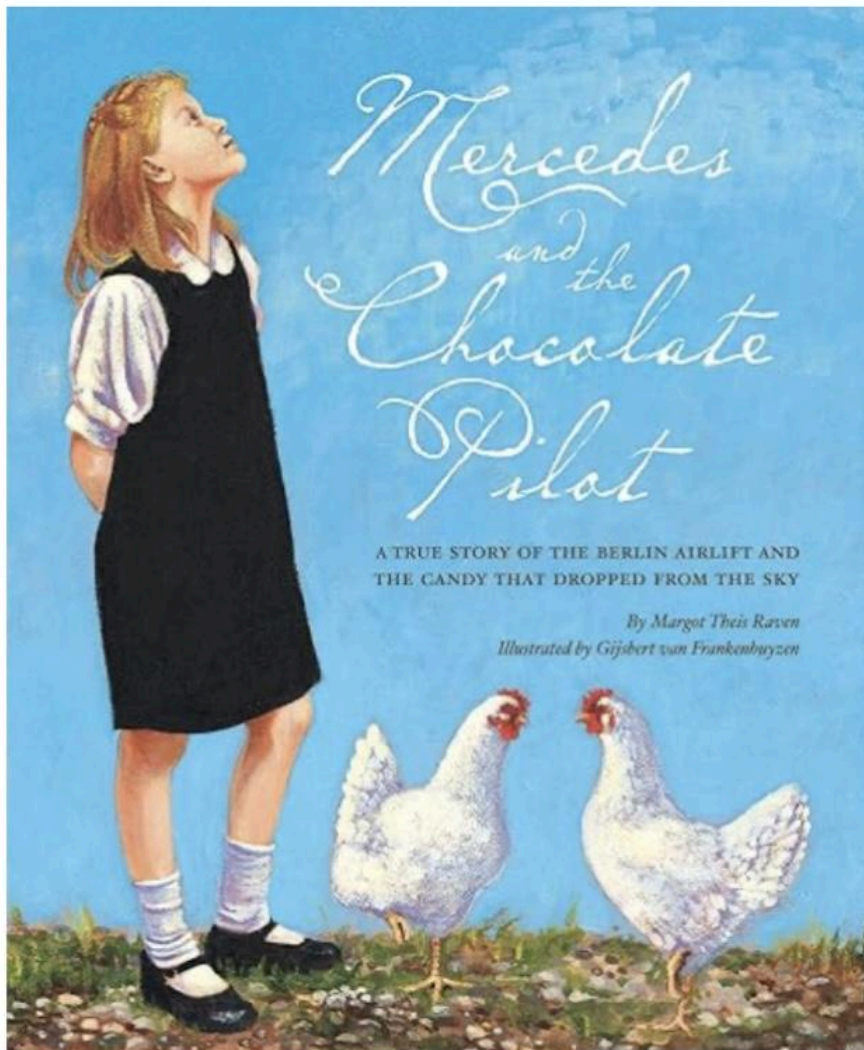


Candy Bomber Lt Gail Halvorsen chats with German children at the Tempelhof Aerodrome, Berlin, Germany in 1948.



Jones Academy students learn about The Candy Bomber. Jones Academy is a boarding school in the Choctaw Nation near Durant, OK: Transforming learning experiences for Native youth by helping them discover life pathways and cultivate a sense of cultural identity.

<https://www.kltv.com/2019/05/22/candy-falls-sky-east-texas-th-graders-re-enact-candy-bomber/>



Christmas from Heaven is the story of the humble beginnings of what became a beacon of hope to a war-torn land, the story of Gail Halvorsen, a young pilot in the US Army Air Corps who was assigned as a cargo pilot to the Berlin Airlift, in which US forces flew much-needed supplies into a Soviet-blockaded Berlin. As he performed his duties, Lt. Halvorsen began to notice the German children gathered by the fences of Tempelhof Air Base. Knowing that they had very little, he one day offered them some chewing gum. From that small act, an idea sprang: He would bomb Berlin with candy. Fashioning small parachutes, he and his crew sent them floating down as they approached the Berlin airport, wiggling the wings of their C-54 as a signal to the children that their anticipated cargo would soon arrive.

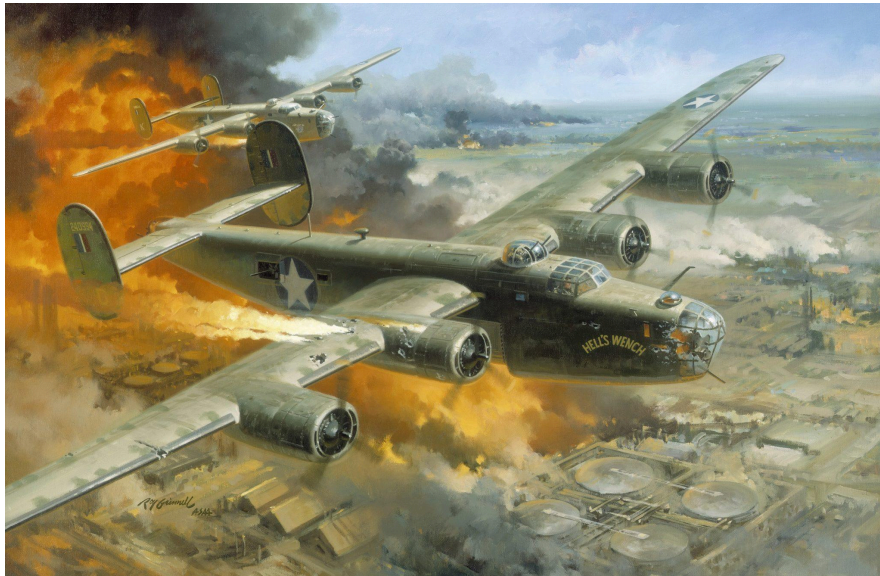
Lt. Halvorsen became known by hundreds, if not thousands, of children in Berlin as Uncle Wiggly Wings or The Candy Bomber. Word soon spread, and donations of candy and other supplies poured in from sympathetic Americans. Lt. Halvorsen's small idea became a great symbol of hope not only to German children in a bombed-out city but to all those who yearned for freedom.

***Grade 7 Texas History and American History:** classroom presentations about Fox Stephens, the Texas Aviation Hall of Fame. WW II, Korea, Vietnam, WASP and other Gilmer/Upshur County veterans @ Bruce Junior High

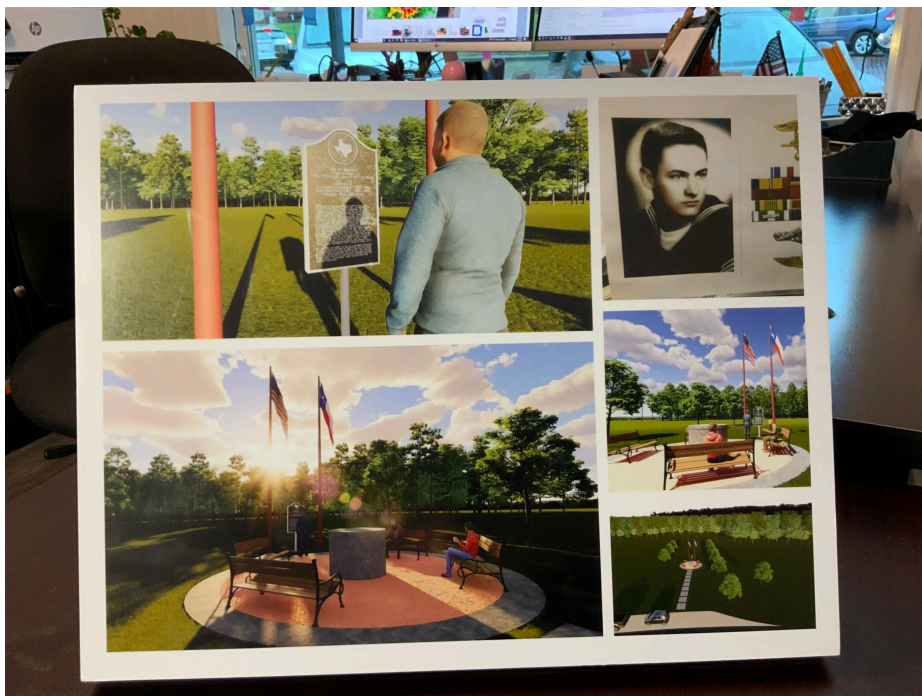


Gilmer High School graduate , Fox Stephens and his SR-71 Blackbird 1 May 1965.





Gilmer's Lt Rex Lindsey over Ploesti on 1 August 1943.



Gilmer High School graduate Chief Petty Officer Billy Machen was the first Navy SEAL killed in the Viet Nam War. He was the patrol point man on an op and encountered a VC ambush. He chose to attack rather than retreat and reveal his patrol's position. 18 August 1966

***Grades 8-12 AFJROTC @ Fox Stephens Field for AFROTC STEM**

- Vocational Aviation Day with airport open house and airshow. CTE and STEaM



High School Career Technology Education: preparing and inspiring the next generation of skilled professionals for the **aviation** and **aerospace** industries using science, technology, engineering, the arts, and mathematics. Northeast Texas Community College and LeTourneau University.

- *Don't Mess With Texas Airports*



https://www.dontmesswithtexas.org/ad_archive/confederate-air-force/

- Airport Foreign Object Debris Management program.



- AOPA Airport Watch Program



- TSA Airport Security for GA airports.



- Ninety Nines Compass rose project.

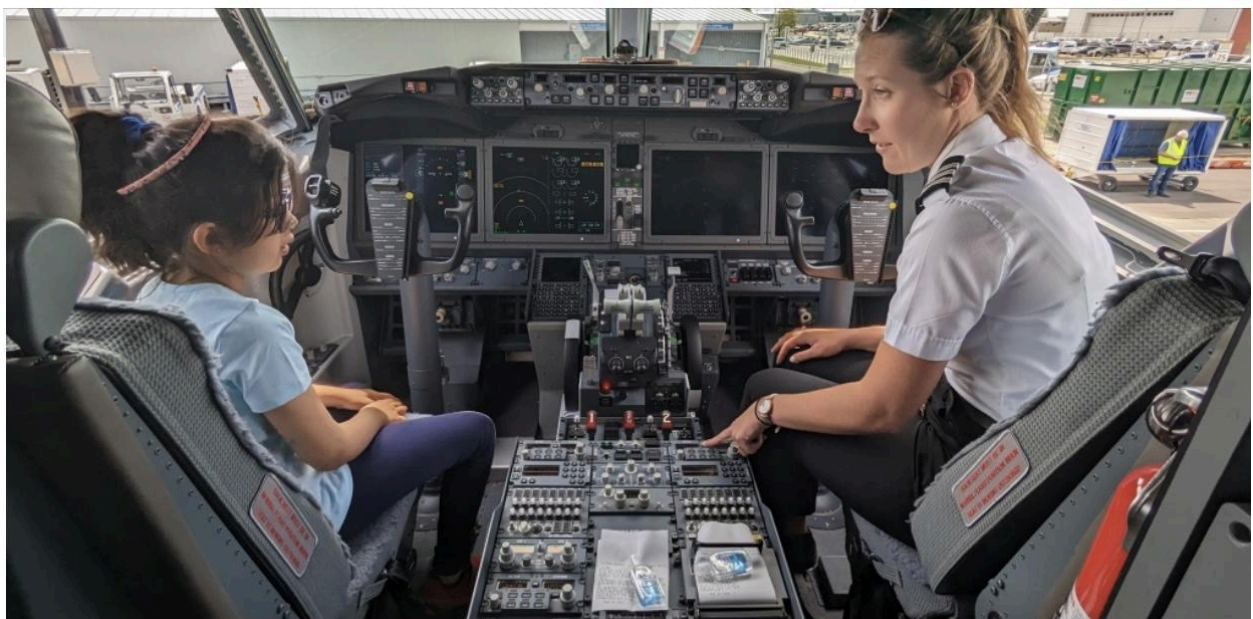


<https://www.ninety-nines.org/air-marking.htm>

***Grades 9-12 LeTourneau University 'Women Can Fly' on the LETU Campus at East Texas Regional Airport**



Le Tourneau University Women Can Fly event encourages women and girls to get involved in aviation





All Women Air Force Flight Crew



Wyoming ANG hosts first all-female crew flight

U.S. Air Force pilots, loadmasters and Fly-Away Security Team members from the 449th Air Expeditionary Group pose in front of a U.S. Air Force C-130H Hercules cargo aircraft from the Wyoming Air National Guard at Camp Lemonnier, Djibouti, Jan. 2, 2024. The crew, consisting of women deployed to Djibouti, was the Wyoming ANG's first all-female mission in a deployed environment. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Allison Payne)

Amanda Lee US Navy Blue Angels pilot



***AFJROTC** Classroom with a Redbird Flight Simulator. (to be developed) @ Fox Stephens Field





Redbird Flight Simulators and Proposed Classroom

Students will receive 6 structured 'introduction to flight' lessons in the Redbird Flight Simulator. Each flight simulator lesson includes a lesson plan. The lessons integrate seamlessly with AOPA's Aviation STEM curriculum, helping students connect classroom theory to the practical application of professional flight skills and aeronautical decision-making. Redbird training devices and content packages are used in flight schools, colleges, universities, K-12 schools, and by individual pilots worldwide.

- **AFJROTC Independence Day Airshow @ Yamboree Event Center. Community Service.** Cadets help with patriotic color guard, traffic control, parking, event set up/take down.

