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### **Pahranagat Valley High School students visit medical school**

The University of Nevada School of Medicine was recently host to a group of students younger than those usually seen in the halls of the 20-year-old school. Namely, a group of 15 juniors and seniors from Pahranagat Valley High School, accompanied by Principal Larry Lytle and teachers Rick and Lorna Hardy, spent a day at the school learning about the programs offered there.

Robert M. Daugherty, M.D., Ph.D, dean, said the Pahranagat Valley High School students were lucky to have teachers and administration so willing to give them the opportunity to learn about scientific programs.

The day began in Speech Pathology and Audiology, the only program in the state that trains speech therapists and audiologists. Students from Alamo watched videotapes of the voicebox, or larynx, at work, got to see pictures of their own larynxes working and their voices tested and learned how people with speech problems are treated.

From there students went on to the school's Clinical Lab Science department, which offers both two-year and four-year degrees that educate medical technologists and technicians. Pahranagat students viewed slides of blood cells, tapeworms and other specimens through microscopes, did an experiment showing them how laboratories find out what kind of blood we all have and learned about the different careers offered in clinical lab sciences.

Students also visited the anatomy laboratory where first and second year medical students

learn about the human body by viewing videotapes, studying cadavers donated to the school and preserved body parts. Students viewed many of those body parts and learned what was normal and abnormal.

Students had lunch with five of the school's second year medical students to learn from the students' perspectives what medical school is all about.

Other activities during the daylong visit included tours of the microbiology and physiology laboratories as well as viewing specimens through the electron microscope, a high-resolution microscope capable of magnifying objects thousands of times and showing incredible detail.

Besides the educational part of the tour, students also learned how a doctor and patient work together to treat an illness. Three neurologists, faculty members at the School of Medicine, along with some of their patients, talked to students about Parkinson's disease and strokes so students could learn how those conditions are discovered, diagnosed and treated.

Students participating in the day included Peter Castleton, Linda Garza, Lori Logan, Wendy Martinez, Kathy Zimmer, Eric Hjelstrom, Phillip Mackintosh, Mike Hartley, Reed Lamoreaux, Teresa Hatton, Mike Adams, Chris Davis, David Hansen, Kathy Perkins, and Marlo Marich.