

THE FALLON POST



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Planning Commission Denies Wood Pellet Plant in Ag Zone

By Rachel Dahl

The Churchill County Planning Commission voted 3–1 to deny a request by resident Alex Peden to convert a former grain handling facility on McLean Road into a wood pellet production plant, determining the proposal was more akin to industrial timber processing than agricultural crop processing.

The debate centered on whether Peden’s plan to use a hammer mill and pellet press—equipment also used for alfalfa and corn stalks—could be considered a use similar to grain processing, which is allowable under a special use permit in the A-5 zoning district. The commission ultimately concluded it was not.

Planning staff had asked commissioners first to decide whether the use was more similar to crop processing or timber processing—the latter of which is prohibited in agricultural zoning.

Peden defended his proposal by referencing small-scale pellet operations in Pennsylvania and Maine and his own plans to process agricultural byproducts like



“Once a tree falls, everything downstream is industrial.”

corn stalks. “There’s hardly any pellet manufacturing in Nevada,” Peden said. “I talked to Chris at the Business Environmental Program at UNR, and even they couldn’t find anything on record here. But this is the same equipment used in other ag applications.”

He acknowledged the potential for dust and noise but pointed to mitigation efforts such as filters, enclosures, and “hush houses” used by other operators.

Commissioner Mark Hyde, who tabled the issue at the May 14 meeting for further research, returned with a firm position. “I studied this off and on for the last month,” Hyde said. “As long as you’re

growing a tree, it’s farming. But once that tree falls, everything downstream is industrial.”

Hyde explained that while the mechanics of processing wood and crops might be similar, the substances—and their impacts—are not. He cited research into volatile organic compounds (VOCs), including naturally occurring emissions like methanol and formaldehyde, which are released when wood is heated, dried, or ground.

“These VOCs are invisible, but in high concentrations, they’re harmful. They contribute to ground-level ozone and are regulated under the Clean Air Act,” Hyde said. He warned that even a small operation could face compliance issues under Title V of the federal law.

“Other states don’t allow this in ag zones,” he added. “Not one of our neighboring states permits timber processing in agricultural areas.”

Commissioner Tami Edgmon, who also researched the issue following the May meeting, echoed Hyde’s stance. “Great idea, great concept, but this belongs in industrial,” she said.

Commissioner Joe Frey offered a more nuanced view, acknowledging that crop and timber processing share mechanical

[Planning Commission continued on page 3]

Spross Hired as County Manager After Split Vote, Updates Commission on Current Projects

By Christy Lattin

At a meeting held June 12, commissioners Matt Hyde and Myles Getto voted to hire, while Commissioner Eric Blakey voted against it. Spross will start his new position on July 7, leaving his current position as Assistant County Manager.

The proposed contract will move Spross to Grade 96, Step 3, with a base salary of \$175,094.40. He is eligible for annual merit increases of 5%, limited to the maximum of Step 13, which he could reach in five years. He will continue to receive a \$7,200 annual vehicle stipend for using his personal vehicle and will not be as-



Chris Spross. Photo courtesy of Churchill County.

signed a county-owned one. Retiring County Manager Jim Barbee will return his county vehicle to the fleet.

Commission and Vice-Chair Eric Blakey took issue with Spross starting at Step 3 and receiving 5% annual increases, whereas standard county policy states that internal promotions are placed at Step 1 in the pay grade with a 2.5% increase.

Blakey said they were setting a precedent for the future by starting Spross higher than Step 1 and that it goes against the policy for all employees. He also did not support the vehicle stipend of \$7,200, as a county vehicle was already assigned to that office.

Blakey voted against the contract because the negotiated terms differed from the policies outlined in Title 3, the county’s employment and personnel policies document. He felt the deviations would be seen as unfair by other employees.

Chief Civil Deputy District Attorney Joe Sanford said Spross initially wanted to start at Step 6, so starting him at Step 3 was a compromise. He also explained that employees with school-aged children often opt to use their own transportation because county policy prohibits children from riding in county vehicles.

Blakey made a motion to hire Spross at Grade 96 Step 1, but it did not receive a second. In further discussion, Blakey made it clear that his issues with the contract were

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THE FALLON POST

Publisher/President
Rachel Dahl
rachel@fallonmediallc.com

Editor
Leanna Lehman
LeannaLehman@thefallonpost.org

Advertising
For advertising contact:
775-481-3582, or email
Advertising@FallonMediaLLC.com

Layout & Ad Design
Christine Bryner
christine@studio509llc.com

Office Manager
Cheryl Venturacci

Logistics Manager
Denice Pinder

Contributors
John Baker
Winston Brooks
Nancy Chapman
Stuart Cook
Allison Diegel
Suzann Gilliland-Peterson
Isis Harris
Sonya Johnson
Vicki Jones
Kelli Kelly
Christy Lattin
Trina Machacek
Michon Mackedon
Anne McMillin
Teresa Moon
Sylvia Nash
Robert Perea
Kelli Perez
Kaitlin Ritchie
Angela Viera
Patricia Whitten
Vic Williams

Volunteers
Victoria Crystal
Nancy Coon
Jim & Tina Dakin
Tess Fife
Mike & Beth Reese
Harry Smith

Mail
169 E. Center Street
Fallon, Nevada 89406
775-423-4545
admin@thefallonpost.org

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FROM THE PUBLISHER

Captain’s Log

Shop Cats

By Rachel Dahl

“There’s a cat in the drawer,” said Denice, wholly pleased at her good fortune.

Sure enough, little Samuel Clemens was curled up and fast asleep in the top, right-hand drawer of Denice’s desk in the office. His brother Buckley as in William F was nestled across my shoe, snoring away. I take my flip flops off when I’m in the office and the little guy loves to make himself a cozy bed on them.


We’ve decided to make these little orange tabbies shop cats. I wanted to keep Buckley as in William F but didn’t want him to be lonely, and Denice loves orange tabbies, but she also loves being married, so Samuel Clemens could be hers if he lived not in her house. They needed a home, and we need to make sure mice don’t get in the archives and make nests of the magazines.

That’s how that justification went and now we have shops cats.

Office supplies now include kitty litter and cat food. Add cat slings to the supply list – Denice thinks it would be easier to work if she had a cat sling instead of having the cat perched and purring under her chin. Which appears to be the favorite perch of these little twerps.

Stressful days are made better instantly with purr breaks or the silliness of a kitten walking across your keyboard. Which during layout often changes the first paragraph into ffffffffsThis is the ...

These little boys also have adorable brothers



if anyone needs shop cats of their own. Orson Wells and Oscar Wilde are quirky little black and white tuxedo kittens, and Jack Kerouac is fluffy and really chill. We got roped into helping them find their own families which has turned this column into Pet O’ the Week part II. Don’t forget to spay and neuter. For reals.

So while we enjoy these sweet babies, we’ll be right here...

... Keeping you Posted.

Rach

[County Manager continued from page 1]

based on policy deviations and not personal animosity against Spross.

Following the final vote in Spross’ favor, he and Sanford met during a recess. Spross returned and accepted the final terms of a modified contract. He will begin his new position on July 7.

Outgoing County Manager Jim Barbee, who joined the county in 2018, was at the highest step on the pay grade scale, earning \$224,102.

SPROSS’S PLANS FOR THE COUNTY

Spross plans to continue moving the county forward on several projects currently underway. During County Manager interviews, Spross told commissioners that his first goals include making progress on two lands bills that can benefit residents. The National Defense Authorization Act and its withdrawal of public lands will affect grazing permit holders near the B-16 bombing range and includes the realignment of Lone Tree and Sand Canyon roads south of Fallon. He described how painstakingly slow and disjointed process the project has been due to federal partners.

Spross said during the next year, the Lone Tree Road portion of the project will be in the design phase, followed by construction. He anticipates Sand Canyon Road will be under construction within the next two years.

The second lands act he plans to focus on is the Southern Nevada Public Lands Management Act, where Spross secured \$42 million for projects planned in Churchill County. The plans include improvements to the fairgrounds property and the North Maine Street ballparks. The county has already used SNPLMA funds to purchase six acres of property adjacent to the ballpark.

A major infrastructure project spearheaded by Spross includes collaboration with the Environmental Protection Agency to secure grants for water tanks. One project, still in its early stages, was awarded \$3 million in grant funds to secure a reclaimed tank. Spross reported that the project is in the process of passing the necessary environmental clearances.

Regarding the secondary water treatment plant, Spross stated that the drilling of the first well is complete, and the second is currently under construction. The plant is in design, with the demolition of the abandoned sewer treatment plant at the golf course complete. The site has been leveled and prepared for the construction. Spross also noted that all work must be completed by the end of 2026 to meet the deadline for spending the grant funds.

Spross said his work has already introduced him to some partners across the state, and he helped support State Assemblyman Greg Koenig during the 2025 Nevada Legislative Session.

“Early this year, I had the opportunity to visit Washington, DC. I was able to meet with our state congressional representatives, Sen. Rosen, Sen. Cortez-Masto and Congressman Amodei, and discuss the challenges that the county is facing with respect to the Fallon Range Training Complex expansion. This also afforded me the opportunity to thank them for their support in their role in making Churchill County eligible for Southern Nevada Public Lands Management Act funding for recreational projects,” Spross said.

Looking to the future, he said that any growth in Churchill County needs to be managed responsibly, ensuring we have sufficient infrastructure in place. He wants to “become known as a user-friendly county” by streamlining the permitting process from start to finish.

“I envision a future where rural character, economic vitality and community well-being go hand in hand. We should be committed to expanding housing opportunities that reflect the needs of our growing and diverse population – from young families to aging residents. This can be attained through well-planned housing options that preserve open space, respect our agricultural heritage, and strengthen the fabric of our community.”

Spross and his family have lived in Churchill County for five years, but he has been familiar with the Fallon area for over 20 years, having worked with A&K Earth Movers from 2002 to 2014.

“We enjoy the outdoor recreation opportunities that the area offers such as hunting, fishing in Lahontan Reservoir and spending time in the side by side out in the desert,” Spross said.

“We’ve had family and friends in this area for over 20 years and it’s always great to spend time with them. Churchill County is a fantastic place to raise a family.”

FEATURES

WNC Professor Recognized as Community Hero

Staff Report

Nigel Harrison, a construction project management professor at Western Nevada College, was recently recognized as a Community Hero by Greater Nevada Credit Union, which honors local heroes in education, first response, law enforcement, health care and military.

“It’s amazing to be recognized for this honor,” Harrison said. Before teaching at WNC, Harrison served in the military for nearly 30 years and raised eight children. He also volunteered as a youth sports coach. “We are extremely proud of Nigel for receiving this honor from Greater Nevada Credit Union,” said WNC President Dr. J. Kyle Dalpe. “Not only has Nigel worked tirelessly for our students, but he has continually given back to this country and our community. In February, Harrison and his students assisted senior residents at Carson Solista with repairs and installations to their apartments. Harrison and another group of students also volunteered several months ago to build an office wall for Genoa City Manager Jody



WNC 2025 Community Hero Nigel Harrison.



Brunz in the city building. As a Community Hero, Harrison was recognized at the Reno Aces game on May 23. He also received an Aces jersey and four tickets to that day’s game. Greater Nevada Credit Union thanks each Community Hero for making communities safer, smarter and greater. Harrison earned a bachelor’s degree in construction project management from WNC and a master’s degree in education from the University of Nevada, Reno. He earned tenure at WNC in 2024. ABOUT WNC: Since 1971, Western Nevada College has helped students embark on the road to success by preparing them for a variety of careers through associate and bachelor degree programs, industry certifications and workforce training. WNC offers exemplary academics, affordability and student satisfaction. Many WNC grads become leaders in their communities and excel in their professions. Through multiple campuses, resource and learning centers, cohorts and robust online offerings, WNC is able to meet many students’ needs, whether they are residing in remote parts of Nevada or trying to fit in their education while raising a family. To learn more about WNC, visit wnc.edu or phone 775-445-3000.

[Planning Commission continued from page 1]

similarities but concluded that under Churchill County’s code, wood pellet production was more closely aligned with timber processing. “Unless you’re growing your own trees, I don’t think this qualifies as ag,” Frey said. Only Commissioner Jeff Goings dissented, viewing the proposal as a potential incubator business that could start small and relocate if it grew. “He’s using existing infrastructure. If it takes off, then he could move it. But this gives him a chance to start,” Goings said.

Public comment overwhelmingly opposed the permit. Residents cited health concerns, property values, and a desire to maintain the agricultural character of the neighborhood. Several studies have linked wood processing to the emissions of particulate matter, VOCs, and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), which are known carcinogens. “This isn’t just noise and dust, it’s about emissions that affect air quality and health,” said Julie Lynch, who cited EPA research on wood dust as a Group 1 carcinogen. Ben Shopf, a neighbor, said he generally

supports small businesses but warned, “If you need a long list of conditions to make a use compatible, it probably doesn’t belong there to begin with.” In the end, Hyde made the motion to declare wood pellet production not similar to crop processing, thus prohibiting it in the ag zone. Edgmon seconded, and the motion passed 3–1, with Goings opposing. “This is about zoning, not emotion,” Hyde said. “Our job is to keep the lines clear so that agriculture remains agriculture.”




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Western Nevada College



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Churchill County Sheriff’s Deputy Involved in Fatal Shooting



Staff Report

The Churchill County Sheriff’s Office has confirmed that a deputy was involved in an officer-involved shooting on Monday, June 16, 2025, which resulted in the death of the other individual involved.

In accordance with standard protocol, the incident is under investigation by the Nevada State Police, Division of Investigation. No further details have been released at this time. The Sheriff’s Office stated that updates will be provided as more information becomes available.



May Births

at Banner Hospital

Isaac Aiden Martinez, born May 1 to Gisel Martinez, weighing 7 lbs., 13 oz. measuring 20.25 inches.

Ember Pedadu Oske Hoferer, born May 2 to Sara Lynn Twiss and E’sha Hoferer weighing 5 lbs., 11 oz., measuring 19.25 inches.

Elijah Xander Garcia, born May 17 to Aaron and Cheyenne Garcia, weighing 7 lbs., 7 oz., measuring 20 inches.

Nicholas Sean Travis, born May 20 to Kenneth and Bryanna Travis, weighing 8 lbs., 15 oz., measuring 21.5 inches.

Let us add your newborn to our birth announcements, no matter where they were born. We would love to share the great news!



May Marriages Licenses Issued

5/2/25	Carlie Marie Lewis, 32, to Kenneth Ray Jackson II, 34, both of Fallon
5/5/25	Riley John Bigger, 29, to Alicia Angela Reynoso, 30, both of Fernley
5/5/25	Gerald Lee Birgy III, 31, to Emma Rose McKenzie, 29, both of Fallon
5/6/25	Kylee Raye Niday, 24, to David Anthony Castro, 25, both of Lovelock
5/7/25	Jose Isrrael Gonzalez Carrillo, 42, to Indilsa Carolina Lopez Gomez, 33, both of Fallon
5/12/25	Tara Louise Leyva, 48, to Douglas Paul Haas, 48, both of Fallon
5/13/25	Amber Nicole Templin, 28, of Fallon, to Zachary Bryan Ackerman, 30, of Pueblo, CO
5/14/25	Mallory Noel Goodrick, 28, to Clint Conner Grinsell, 30, both of Reno
5/14/25	Luis Leonardo Ramos Huerta, 31, to Taryn Rae Hughes, 34, both of Fallon
5/15/25	Dylan Michael Thiede, 27, to Alexis Taylor-Ann Stangl, 25, both of Fallon
5/19/25	Kyle Wayne McClelland, 39, to Joy Margette Vanzant-Thunder, 33, both of Fallon
5/19/25	Shalone Dawn Jimmy, 42, to Cesar Armando Alvarado, 47, both of Fallon
5/20/25	Marvin Michael Burns, 44, to Charidy Rebecca Ellingworth, 44, both of Fallon
5/30/25	Andrew Noriega, 23, to Ariana Christina Aguilar, 23, both of Fallon

Congratulations!





Visit us at our new location
169 E. Center Street

Adorable Pets for Adoption



This is Isu (D-462). Isu is a happy-go-lucky kind of boy—four years young, playful, and affectionate. He gets along with other dogs, knows sit/stay/shake, and is already house-trained and leash-trained.

Isu is an owner surrender due to a child’s extreme allergies to his dander. He’s a big ole meatball who’s ready for his new home! If you think he’d be a good addition to your household, please give us a call or come by.

City of Fallon Animal Shelter
1255 Airport Rd, Fallon
775-423-2282

PETS OF THE WEEK

Dante is Ready for Adoption



Bark in the Park is over, and it went so well! We’d like to thank our Guardian Sponsors: Speedway, Rotary Club of Fallon, Fallon Veterinary Clinic, Mendoza’s Carniceria Taqueria, and Lahontan Valley Veterinary Clinic.

This is Dante. He’s a sweet and fun 2-year-old mixed breed who enjoys playing fetch and getting the zoomies out. He gets a bit nervous on car rides and in some social situations, but he knows some basic commands and seems eager to learn and please. Dante has an ACL injury and early-stage arthritis in one leg. He’ll be in a foster home for up to three months while he heals. Please contact us if you’d like to schedule a meet and greet.

Churchill Animal Protection Society
5894 Pasture Rd, Fallon
775-423-7500 | capsnevada.org
caps@cccomm.net

Say Hello to Theo



Meet Theo. Theo is a stunning 1-year-old long-haired tabby boy looking for a forever home where he can truly shine. He’s already neutered, fully vaccinated, and ready to bring warmth and love into someone’s life.

Theo has a gentle, calm personality and thrives in a peaceful, loving environment. While he may be a little shy at first, he warms up quickly—especially if you’re patient and kind.

He absolutely adores being brushed; grooming time is bonding time for him. Theo would do best in a quiet household where he can settle in at his own pace and become part of the family.

Fallon Animal Welfare Group is a 501(c)(3) charity supporting the welfare of cats in Churchill County, Nevada. Questions? Call 775-217-4745 or, for barn cats, call Pat at 775-217-7248.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Carter McBee with nursery owner, Jerry Llamas.
Photo by Dr. Sue Segura.

CCHS Intern Spotlight

J&K Llamas Landscape & Nursery: Growing Students and Community Roots

Staff Report

J&K Llamas Landscape & Nursery has been a proud business partner since the inception of Churchill County High School’s Work-Based Learning program—one of the first to step up and help cultivate real-world skills in local students.

For the past three years, senior Carter McBee has interned with Llamas Landscape, gaining hands-on experience that’s helped prepare him for college and beyond. Now in

his final year at CCHS, Carter represents the kind of student success made possible through strong local partnerships.

Llamas Landscape has been a staple in Churchill County for 40 years. As the business prepares for retirement, its legacy lives on in the students it’s supported and the roots it’s planted—both in the ground and in the community.

It’s businesses like J&K Llamas that make Churchill County not just a place to live, but a place to grow.

Celebration of Life

LAVERNE FITHIAN RICHARDS
June 18, 1967 – February 23, 2025

Saturday, June 21, 2025 from 4-6 p.m.
American Legion Post 16, 90 N. Ada St., Fallon NV
Attire is casual. No food please.

Laverne passed away on February 23, 2025, after a brief battle with ALS. As per Laverne’s request, we would like to invite her family and friends to gather to celebrate her life. Please bring a story to share as we remember and honor Laverne and all the lives she touched in so many ways.

FALLON ANIMAL WELFARE GROUP

BINGO NIGHT
Friday, June 27
Doors open 5 p.m. | Game starts 6 p.m.

50/50 RAFFLE
Enjoy Drinks by Tipsy
Tumbleweed Mobile Bar

Pre-sale starts now:
Limited Event—only 60 tickets available!
Purchase tickets: 775-426-9345
\$20 - pack of 5 games of 3 Bingo cards and a dauber. Additional cards are \$10 each.

90 N. Maine Street, Fallon
All proceeds benefit Fallon Animal Welfare Group (FAWG) to aid the community and its cats.

WATER LEVELS
Measurements Taken June 16, 2025, at 5:30 p.m.

Lahontan Reservoir	196,700 af
Carson River Below Lahontan	790 cfs
Truckee Canal at Wadsworth	364 cfs
Truckee Canal at Hazen	271 cfs
Carson River at Ft. Churchill	287 cfs

June 16, 2024	June 16, 2023	June 16, 2022
299,346 acre feet	247,184 acre feet	150,369 acre feet

Cfs - Cubic Feet per Second | Af - Acre Feet | TCID.org & Water Data.USGS.gov

PRESENTING FALLON’S 2025
4TH OF JULY PARADE

America the Bee-Autiful
Friday, July 4 | Parade Begins @ 10 a.m.

A Community-Wide Celebration!
Food Trucks & Maine Street Business Specials
Pie Bake-Off, Window Decorating Contest
Fireworks at Battlesnake Raceway begin at Dusk

For more information, to enter a float or fill out a sponsorship form, go to:
churchillcountyrecreation.org

FALLON'S 4TH OF JULY

Churchill County Parks & Recreation

the FC

THE OASIS OF NEVADA FALLON

SENIOR CENTER MENU

WILLIAM N. PENNINGTON LIFE CENTER 952 S. MAINE STREET, FALLON, NV | 775-423-7096
Lunch Served Monday - Friday 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. | Lunch is \$6 for those under 60 and a suggested donation of \$3 for those 60 and older.

Monday, June 23 Herb Baked Chicken Au Gratin Potatoes Garlic Green Beans Fruit Cocktail WW Roll	Tuesday, June 24 Ham & Cheese Wrap Spinach Cucumber with Swiss Cheese 4 Bean Salad Spiced Peaches Baked Potato Chips	Wednesday, June 25 Spaghetti w/Meatballs Zucchini Colorful Salad WW Bread Orange Mango Cup	Thursday, June 26 Turkey Bean Burrito Corn Mixed Green Salad French Dressing Mixed Fruit Cup	Friday, June 27 Mediterranean Shrimp Salad Cannellini Beans Fresh Orange Slices Fruited Jell-O WW Roll LF Baked Potato Chips
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FALLON DAILY BREAD

WOLF CENTER | 457 ESERALDA AVE., FALLON NV | 775-423-4714
Meals are served Mondays and Thursdays from 5 - 6 p.m.

Monday, June 23 Walnut Pesto Pasta Salad & Dessert	Thursday, June 26 BLT Sandwiches Potato Salad & Fruit	Monday, June 30 BBQ Chicken Pasta Salad & Bread	Volunteer groups needed to help serve once per month, 3 p.m. until 6:30 p.m. Call for information.
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COMMUNITY

Fallon Theatre Movies & More June 20 & 21

By Kelli Perez

Summer is in full swing at the Fallon Theatre, and we’re serving up another batch of fun, fantasy, and family-friendly entertainment. Join us this weekend for two free films that span generations and spark the imagination.

At 6 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, catch “Labyrinth” (1986), Jim Henson’s fantastical classic starring Jennifer Connelly and David Bowie. When teenage Sarah finds herself in a strange world trying to rescue her baby brother from the mysterious Goblin King, she must brave a labyrinth filled with bizarre creatures and mind-bending challenges. Rated PG with a runtime of 1 hour and 41 minutes, this cult favorite is a magical trip through imagination and perseverance.

Additionally, at 7 p.m. we’re showing “Harold and the Purple Crayon” (2024), a fresh and playful adaptation of the classic children’s book. Harold’s magical crayon brings his drawings and dreams to life as he navigates a world of wonder and creativity. This heartwarming tale of creativity and self-discovery is rated PG and runs 1 hour and 30 minutes.

Then on Tuesday, June 25 at 6 p.m., we’re partnering with the DeGolyer Bucking Horse & Bull Bash to present a special



screening of “Cowboy Up” (2001) as a pre-rodeo celebration. This modern Western drama explores the world of rodeo riders and the bonds of family. It’s a thrilling way to gear up for the action-packed weekend to follow, and admission is free.

On Saturday, July 19 at 7 p.m., get ready for a high-energy night of live music

featuring two rockin’ local bands: Acid Box and Cryptilians. Fallon-based Acid Box fuses hard rock, heavy metal, punk, and blues into a loud, electric set, while Reno’s Cryptilians deliver a sharp, no-frills punk-adjacent sound that hits hard and leaves nothing wasted. Tickets are just \$10 at the door so don’t miss this one!

As part of Fallon’s upcoming Community Reunion celebration, we’re thrilled to host a free concert here at the theatre on Friday, Aug. 15, at 7 p.m. – a perfect way to kick off a weekend of reconnecting and reminiscing. Then on Saturday, Aug. 16 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., stop by for guided tours of our historic theatre. Whether you’re seeing it for the first time or rediscovering it after years away, we’d love to share the stories, restoration updates, and charm of this beloved community landmark.

And don’t forget – the community-favorite fundraiser Show ‘N’ Shine rolls in on Saturday, Sept. 27 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.! This free event features classic cars, local vendors, music, food, and fun for the whole family. Want to show off your ride? Registration info is live now at fallontheatre.com.

As always, admission to our weekly movies is free, and our concession stand is open with candy, popcorn, and \$5 soda floats, back just in time for summer. To rent an auditorium or schedule a Marquee Message, contact us at 775-423-6210 or email thefallontheatre@gmail.com.



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JACKPOT BASH

Thurs 6 - 9:30pm

SUN	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
STARS & STRIPES 12pm-4pm	KENTUCKY DERBY Dash for Cash 6pm-10pm	JACKPOT BASH 6pm-9:30pm	CASH BINGO 12pm-4pm TOP DOG POKER 7pm-11pm	PRESS YOUR LUCK 7pm-11pm

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May Divorces

Involved Parties	Disposition
Blume, Anthony v. Stolling, Julia Vanessa	Annulment
Fakatoumafi, Priscilla v. Fiatau, Solomona	Annulment
Ospittia, Maria v. Castellanos-Juarez, Estela	Annulment
Bianco, Brandon Lynn v. Bianco, Rachel Marie	Divorce
Brown, Keanbe Kena v. Alcantara-Alcocer, Emmanuel	Divorce
Capen, James Philip v. Edwards-Capen, Mary Theresa	Divorce
Cogsdill, Paige Julianne v. Cogsdill, Conner John	Divorce
Hammer, Amanda R. v. Hammer, Darin R.	Divorce
Hardy, Troy v. Hardy, Abby	Divorce
Jackson, Fonda v. Geter, Vernard	Divorce
Kamai, Gina v. Kamai, Michael	Divorce
Midgley, Sarah v. Midgley, Clinton	Divorce
Moorehead, Stephen Ryan v. Klatush, Kelsie Violet	Divorce
Nicasio, John Andrew Mesina v. Nicasio, Vicel Mercado	Divorce
Nigg, Eva Z. v. Nigg, James E.	Divorce
Orduna, Megan E. v. Orduna, Miguel	Divorce
Paterson, Michele v. Paterson, David	Divorce
Rodriguez, Sergio v. Rodriguez, Gabriela	Divorce
Rue, Autumn v. Rue, Michael Dean	Divorce
Smith II, Stephen Leroy v. Smith, Tammy Lynn	Divorce
Trowbridge, Amber Rae v. Bernard, Troy Randall	Divorce
Trumbull, Kassia v. Trumbull, James	Divorce
Tzangauker, Gal v. Hill, Leilani Brianna	Divorce
Valdez, Richard Miguel v. Valdez, Corina Sue	Divorce
Webb, Payton L. v. Hummel, Dustin L.	Divorce
Withers, Charity M. v. StPierre, Jason A.	Divorce



GARDENING

Tree Pruning in Nevada



File photo.

By Marco DiGiacinto, M.D tree surgery

There are several reasons for pruning: liability, safety, hazardous branches or whole trees that should be removed from your property. What about diseased and broken, dead branches. How do you know?

You ask for an ISA Certified Arborist. We are educated to identify the hazards, the diseases, issues with roots. There can be many complex issues affecting the health of

your trees, but the worst offender is topping. This old, outdated method has been scientifically proven to be detrimental to the tree’s health and safety. DO NOT TOP your trees. Despite over 25 years of literature and seminars, sadly the topping of trees is still done especially in rural Nevada. Be smart and do research before having any work done on your trees.

There is only one right alternative to pruning your tree. Every tree is different and is a separate eco system all to itself. Pruning a branch can influence the future growth and condition of a tree. It’s not just your tree; it’s our community’s tree and our

city’s. Please be diligent. Our trees provide life, give oxygen, clean the air and so much more. Trust your trees to an ISA Certified Arborist at M.D Tree Surgery. We offer the right alternative to topping or wrong pruning of your trees.

Contact Marco DiGiacinto at M.D Tree Surgery by calling 775-867-2944 or emailing him at Marco@mdtreesurgery.com. For emergencies, call 775-217-9009.

Be smart and do research before having any work done on your trees.

GOVERNMENT

City Council Approves Construction Contracts and Business Applications

By Riffin Stonebarger

Fallon City Council met on June 17 to consider multiple construction contracts for city improvements. Among the largest items is a professional services contract with J-U-B Engineers Inc. for engineering design services related to the Construct New Taxilane and Extend Existing Taxilane projects at the Fallon Municipal Airport. The contract, not to exceed \$67,700, would see the Federal Aviation Administration cover 95% of the costs, with the city’s share at approximately \$8,185. The City Council approved the motion.

Additionally, the council reviewed a construction contract with Cheek Construction of Fallon for the National Fitness Campaign Fitness Court Studio Concrete Slab project for \$49,915.

A significant water infrastructure project was also on the agenda, with the council considering approval of a construction contract for the Rattlesnake Hill Water Tank Demolition and Site Preparation Project with local general engineering contractor A&K Earthmovers. City of Fallon Public Works Director Brian Byrd explained that the tanks consist of concrete portions with visible cracks and erosion, as well as exposed steel reinforcement. According to Byrd, the tank was built in 1977 and is approaching 50 years in service.

Councilman Paul Harmon expressed hesitancy, stating, “It’s cheaper to demolish than to build.” Despite his concerns, Harmon made the motion to approve the project,

and the council voted 3-0 in favor. The project carries a total cost of \$1,095,000.

The council also addressed several business-related applications, including approval of a mobile food vendor license application by Paul Pryor for Lucian, LLC, operating under the name “Otis’ Grill.”

Another business matter involved reviewing an application made by Sarah Lucas to operate a daycare facility serving children from three months to 12 years at 160 Industrial Way. The City’s LI zone has specific designated permitted uses, which do not include daycare facilities but allow for other uses subject to council approval. The City Council has previously approved this location for the former daycare facility Ivy Land.

Councilwoman Kent raised concerns about capacity, but Lucas informed the council that she was reducing the number of enrolled children from 55 to 45. Based on the adjusted numbers, the council approved the motion.

Regarding various operational matters, the council approved warrants for accounts payable, payroll, and customer deposits. The meeting also included consideration of minutes from previous council meetings dating back to December 2024.

The meeting included a designated time for public comments, with the standard provision that general matters not related to specific agenda items may be addressed; however, no action may be taken on such items until they are included on a future agenda.

Supporting materials for the meeting were made available to the public on the city’s website at fallonnevada.gov and the State of Nevada public notice website. Information about the next regularly scheduled Fallon City Council meeting can also be obtained by contacting the City Clerk’s Office at 775-423-5104.



CHURCHILL COUNTY COURTS

Tenth Judicial District Court

Tuesday June 10, Judge Robert Estes Presiding

By Teresa Moon

Brandon Jean Herrera pleaded guilty to Battery with a Deadly Weapon, a Category B Felony that carries a potential penalty of 2–10 years in the Nevada State Prison and a fine of up to \$10,000. The factual basis stated that Herrera unlawfully used force or violence upon another person by inserting or attempting to insert a foreign object into an individual’s mouth without consent. Judge Estes ordered a Pre-Sentencing Investigation and set sentencing for August 12.

Jeremy Gabriel Villanueva, in custody at Northern Nevada Correctional Center, pleaded guilty to Attempt to Possess or Receive a Forged Instrument or Bill. A wobbler charge may be sentenced as either a Gross Misdemeanor or a Category D Felony. As a gross misdemeanor, the offense is punishable by up to 364 days in jail and a fine of up to \$2,000. As a felony, it carries a prison term of 1–4 years and a fine of up to \$5,000. The factual basis stated Villanueva possessed a forged \$100 bill. Judge Estes ordered a Pre-Sentencing Investigation and set sentencing for August 12.



Daniel Allen Wright appeared for sentencing on Non-Support of a Spouse, Former Spouse, or a Child, a Category C Felony, to which he pleaded guilty in January 2024. Per a negotiated agreement, the state reduced the charge to a Gross Misdemeanor after Wright made his support payments in full and on time for over a year.

Deputy District Attorney Lane Mills said, “I think everybody in this courtroom knows the importance of being a parent. Being there, providing financially for your child — how important that is to every child’s development.” Mills noted that Wright had met his obligations for 13 months. “We want to encourage him to continue to do that, to live up to his obligations — as a law and as a man.” The state requested a 12-month suspended sentence and probation, conditioned on continued complete and timely payments.

Churchill County Public Defender Jacob Sommer said, “Daniel has worked very hard to comply with his obligations and take advantage of this agreement. He is thankful for the opportunity.” Sommer requested a 90-day suspended sentence with probation, also contingent on continued monthly payments of approximately \$650.

Wright addressed the court: “I did fall off a little bit a year and a half or so ago. But I have been working extremely hard to correct my mistake.”

Judge Estes placed Wright on probation for a year, with a suspended sentence of six months in jail, subject to the condition that he make every payment on time.

Charles Lee Gilmore, in custody, pleaded guilty to Possession of a Controlled Substance (methamphetamine), a Category E Felony with a potential penalty of 1–4 years in prison and a fine of up to \$5,000.

Senior Deputy District Attorney Chelsea Sanford told the court that Gilmore was sentenced in April on two unrelated Gross Misdemeanors and was granted probation. At that time, it appeared the root of his criminal behavior was anger, not substance use. However, just 18 days later, he was arrested for DUI and found in possession of methamphetamine. Sanford reminded the court that this is a mandatory probation case and requested a suspended sentence of 12–48 months in prison.

Churchill County Alternate Public Defender Hampton Young said Gilmore is a Navy veteran with PTSD who is remorseful for his behavior. “He’s been in contact with the criminal justice system just for a very short time,” Young said. The defense asked the court to place Gilmore in the Western Nevada Drug Court program as a condition of probation.

Gilmore addressed the court, stating, “ I want to take care of me to be better as a person.” He said he is eager to take responsibility, care for his children, and participate in the Drug Court program. “I just want to do right,” he said.

Judge Estes granted Gilmore probation on a suspended sentence of 12–48 months in prison, with the condition that he complete the Drug Court. Gilmore’s Sentencing Violation Hearing continued to July 1.

Steven Henry Gainey’s arraignment continued to July 8.

DeWitt in Custody on Three Sexual Assault-Related Charges, Similar Charges Pending in Carson



Brian DeWitt. Photo courtesy of CCSO.

By Leanna Lehman

Brian DeWitt, in custody in Carson City Jail, appeared via Zoom in New River Township Justice Court in Fallon before Judge Benjamin Trotter on June 5, 2025. DeWitt is facing two counts of Sexual Assault on a Child Under the Age of 14 and one count

of Lewdness with a Child Under the Age of 14. All are Category A felonies that carry potential life sentences with the possibility of parole.

The charges stem from alleged incidents between 2019 and 2020 in Fallon and involve two victims who were between 7 and 9 years old at the time of the alleged acts.

DeWitt, represented by Churchill County Public Defender Jacob Sommer, waived his right to a preliminary hearing within 15 days.

“These are serious charges,” said Deputy District Attorney Priscilla Baker. “He’s under very similar charges in Carson City with one of the same victims in this case. He’s facing quite a bit of time in custody for mandatory prison sentences.”

Judge Ben Trotter confirmed that DeWitt remains in custody in Carson City on related charges involving the same victim or victims and will be transported to Churchill County Jail at a later date for further proceedings.

“I’ve been in touch with Mr. DeWitt several times about this case. So, we are in the process of working on a resolution,” stated CCPD Sommer, who indicated that counsel

is pursuing a global resolution across both jurisdictions.

Court records show that DeWitt was convicted in 2022 in Churchill County District Court for Abuse, Neglect, or Endangerment of a Child—a charge that involved one of the same alleged victims in the current case. At that time, DeWitt was present while another individual struck the minor child several times, inflicting injuries that met the statutory requirement of the charge. Sommer, who also represented DeWitt in that matter, stated that DeWitt did not respond quickly enough to keep the child safe. He received probation on a suspended prison sentence of 24-72 months and was ordered to serve six months in the Churchill County Jail by Senior District Court Judge Robert Estes.

DeWitt will remain in Carson City custody until proceedings there are resolved. Judge Trotter made no changes to DeWitt’s custodial status during this hearing as he has not been formally arraigned in Churchill County; the warrant in Churchill County remains active.

A status hearing was scheduled for July 17 at 10 a.m. in Justice Court.

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- Valley Electric
- Baker Hughes
- Mills Industrial and Grant Mills
- Jim Menesini Petroleum
- Nevada Energy Systems
- Davison Van Cleve and Curt Ledford



CHURCHILL COUNTY COURTS

Multi-Count Child Exploitation Case Moves to District Court on Heels of Plea Agreement

By Leanna Lehman

One of Fallon’s most serious—and expansive—child exploitation cases has recently been making its way through Churchill County courts. Arrested on March 13, 2025, Eugene Norbert Fonder, who was facing numerous charges related to the exploitation of children and the use of technology to lure a child, accepted a plea agreement that dropped 52 of the 56 counts with a provision that no other charges related to the case would be prosecuted.

While more commonly referred to as child pornography, the term child exploitation is increasingly favored by experts, as pornography typically involves consenting adults or actors. Children cannot legally consent to the creation of explicit materials. Any depiction of a minor in sexually explicit content constitutes exploitation. This article will use the term child exploitation, except when citing legal terminology, court documents, or statements made in court.

The Churchill County District Attorney’s Office initially charged Fonder with 54 counts of Prepare, Advertise, or Distribute Material Depicting Child Sexual Abuse. Under Nevada law, it is a felony to knowingly create, promote, or share material that shows a minor engaging in or simulating sexual acts or the exhibition of private body parts. A child only needs to appear in a sexual image for the charge to meet the legal threshold for exploitation. Each charge constitutes a Category B Felony, punishable by 1–15 years in prison and a fine of up to \$15,000.

In addition, Fonder was charged with Lure or Attempt to Lure a Child or Mentally Ill Person Using Technology to Engage in Sexual Conduct. This cyber-luring charge is a Category B Felony if the accused intended for the victim to engage in sexual activity. It carries a penalty of 1–10 years and a fine of up to \$10,000. If the luring involved soliciting or receiving explicit images, it can be filed as a Category C Felony, punishable by 1–5 years and a fine up to \$10,000.

Fonder, age 55, also faces one count of Possessing Visual Pornography of a Person Under the Age of 16, a first offense. That charge is also a Category B Felony, with a sentence of 1–6 years and a \$5,000 fine.

If convicted, Fonder could be classified for 25 years as a Tier II Sex Offender—Nevada’s second most serious classification—and could be subject to lifetime supervision.

In cases involving multiple charges of the same offense, prosecutors often rely on separate dates, images, or victims to support each count. According to the criminal complaint, 54 video files span the summer of 2024 and appear to involve unique content across multiple dates.

Counts 1–14 allege that Fonder, “within Churchill County, knowingly and willingly had in his possession for any purpose any film, photograph, or other visual presentation depicting a person under the age of 16 years as the subject of sexual conduct.”

Counts 15–54 allege that he knowingly prepared, advertised, or distributed visual material depicting the sexual exploitation of a minor. Specifically, the complaint states he sent videos of minors to another user on the KIK. KIK is a username-based messaging app (not phone number-based) that is frequently cited in child exploitation investigations due to its anonymity, ease of creating fake ac-



Eugene Norbert Fonder. Photo courtesy of CCSO.

counts, and lack of moderation. Count 55, the cyber-luring charge, alleges that on August 8, 2024, Fonder knowingly attempted to communicate with someone under the age of 16 and at least five years younger than himself with the intent to solicit or persuade the person into sexual conduct. The complaint states that Fonder believed he was communicating with a 14-year-old. It is critical to understand the uniquely devastating nature of child exploitation crimes. Unlike other offenses, the harm does not end when the abuse stops. Psychological research shows that each time an explicit image is shared or viewed, the victim is forced to relive the original trauma—enduring the emotional and psychological impact again and again. The U.S. Department of Justice states that the creation of child sexual abuse material (CSAM) results in a permanent record of the abuse. Once distributed online, that record can never truly be erased. In most cases, these images or videos are

shared countless times with no way to realistically track how many times they are viewed. Some victims face lifelong trauma says the DOJ. Simply “knowing the documentation...is on the internet, available for others to access forever,” often causes revictimization, even if they are fortunate enough to never personally encounter the images in their lifetime. Fonder first appeared in New River Township Justice Court before Judge Benjamin Trotter on March 13. At that time, Trotter determined that Fonder qualified for court-appointed counsel and assigned Churchill County Public Defender Jacob Sommer to the case. At a March 19 hearing, Fonder waived his right to a preliminary hearing within 15 days. The matter was continued until June, at which point the court vacated proceedings following a negotiated plea agreement. Court documents show that at that time, Fonder pleaded to four category B Felonies: three counts of Distribution of Pornographic Material Involving a Minor and one count of Possession of Pornographic Material Involving a Minor. All four are Category B Felonies. While Fonder is now facing four felony charges instead of the original 56, the penalties remain substantial. Each of the three distribution counts is punishable by 1–15 years in prison, with the possession charge carrying 1–6 years. In plea negotiations, prosecutors often reduce the number of charges in exchange for a guilty plea. This can spare victims from testifying, streamline court proceedings, and still result in a substantial sentence—especially when the remaining charges carry significant prison time, as they do in this case. Because the three distribution charges are of the same class and type, the court has the discretion to order the sentences to be served consecutively. If imposed this way, Fonder could face up to 51 years in prison and \$50,000 in fines. He would also be required to register as a Tier II sex offender for 25 years, with his identity publicly accessible online. Additionally, he may be subject to asset forfeiture of any money or property tied to the distribution of the material. Fonder will be probation-eligible if a psychological risk assessment determines he is not at high risk of reoffending. The agreement also states, “All remaining charges or potential charges in this case or arising from this matter will be dismissed or not pursued.” The case has now been bound over to the Tenth Judicial District Court in Fallon as Justice Courts in Nevada cannot sentence felony matters or impose prison terms. Fonder is scheduled for District Court arraignment on June 17.



MEETINGS

June 23–27, 2025

Churchill County School District
4th Wednesday of the Month at 5:30 p.m.
690 S. Maine St, CCSD Admin Bldg.

Fallon City Council Special Meeting
June 27 at 9 a.m.
Regular Meetings:
1st and 3rd Tuesdays at 9 a.m.
City Hall, 55 W. Williams Ave.

County Meetings 155 N. Taylor St.

TCID Next Meetings:
Jul 8, Aug 5, Sept 2 at 9 a.m.
2666 Harrigan Rd.

Planning Commission
Tuesday, June 24 at 6:30 p.m.

Central Nevada Health District
Thursday, June 26 at 1:30 p.m.

Library Board of Trustees
Wednesday, June 26 at 3:00 p.m.

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

On June 16, 2025, there was a crash with fatality on I-80 near Mustang. In this case, it was due to a wrong-way driver. But this brings what is on many of our minds to the forefront: The section of I-80 from just west of Wadsworth to Vista Boulevard in Sparks continues to become more congested and more dangerous, with the most dangerous portion being between USA Parkway and Vista Boulevard. It seems to many of us that crashes occur nearly daily. According to the Nevada Department of Transportation (NDOT), the volume of traffic on this section of I-80 has increased by over 70% since 2013. Another analysis shows 720 crashes with 9 fatalities from 2018 to 2022. That’s an average of just under one every two days. Today, it wouldn’t be surprising if it was considerably higher.

One recent study shows that I-80 at USA Parkway sees an annual average of about 52,000 vehicles per day. The general guideline for the capacity of interstates (given in vehicles per hour, per lane) translates to about 105,000 vehicles per day. (This guideline can be influenced by many factors, including speed, curves, vehicle mix, and weather conditions.) It sounds like we’re well within the capacity of that stretch, but the challenge comes because there are very large traffic peaks around the times of shift change at Tahoe Reno Industrial Center (TRIC). During those times, traffic is likely at or above the highway’s capacity. There are other peaks near conventional commute times.

When we see almost constant crashes on a road that many of us use frequently, it’s pretty normal to get angry. We don’t want our loved ones to get hurt or killed. We think we should be able to get where we’re going, on time, and without risking our lives. We want something DONE.

Of course, there is a plan to widen the stretch between Vista Boulevard and USA Parkway from 2 lanes each way to three. Due to the canyon, the river, and the train tracks it will be extremely expensive. At a time when state and federal budgets are seeing a lot of pressure, it may get worse in the near-to-medium term.



Since 80% of the USA Parkway traffic comes from the west, and since 80% of those commuters live north of I-80, there has also been a project proposed to put in a new road, a bypass if you will, from the Spanish Springs area directly to USA Parkway. That would also be extremely expensive. (It has been suggested that this could be a toll road, but current Nevada law does not allow that.)

Regardless of whether one or both of these projects come to fruition, they are both, at least, several years down the road. Between finding the money and actually getting the work done, these are very long projects.

So what do we do in the meantime? Increase enforcement? I personally believe that there does need to be more Highway Patrol presence. I recently had to go from Fallon into Reno and back on two consecutive days. I saw exactly zero Highway Patrol. Zero. (This doesn’t mean there weren’t any, but I don’t think there were very many.) During those trips, of course most people were above the speed limit. Even more dangerous, multiple times I saw groups of three to six or more cars, all 1-2 car lengths apart, and multiple examples of vehicles cutting off others to change lanes where there wasn’t room to do it safely.

Again, the problem is that purchasing, maintaining, driving and staffing patrol vehicles is very expensive. There’s that budget issue again. In addition, most law enforcement agencies are experiencing challenges hiring enough qualified officers. So what do we do?

Drones.

Hundreds of law enforcement agencies across the country have already started using drones for several different purposes. Of course, drones can’t replace patrol cars. But they can make the number of patrol cars we have much, much more effective. Drones can easily detect speeders and read license plates. They can be programmed to detect violations such as tailgating and unsafe lane changes. They can be programmed to photograph or video-record flagged behaviors such as the ones above. They can be programmed to fly specific routes autonomously. Multiple drones can be managed by one person in a central location. For the price of purchasing and outfitting one patrol car, many drones could be purchased and programmed. Having traffic monitored by drones would allow patrols to focus on known infractions, rather than just waiting to observe one.

—Eric York

EDUCATION



Ms. Emma's Kindergarten 4 class.

Veritas Preparatory School

Kindergarten 4 - Classical Christian Classroom Lays Foundation for Academic Success

Summer can be a busy time for parents of young children — especially those exploring Pre-K options for their littlest learners. Veritas Preparatory School offers a K4 classroom designed for young students just beginning their academic journey. Utilizing a Classical Christian model, Veritas provides an academically rich, faith-centered environment where children can grow in both knowledge and character.

The K4 program at Veritas serves as the first step in a classical Christian education. Designed to nurture a child’s sense of wonder, the classroom introduces students to foundational learning through joyful discovery, structured routines, and meaningful play. Rooted in biblical truth and guided by time-tested educational practices, the program helps young learners develop habits of attentiveness, respect, and curiosity.

“The goal in K4 is not only to prepare children for kindergarten, but to help them fall in love with learning,” says instructor

Ms. Emma. “We sing, dance, memorize scripture, learn numbers and the alphabet, and work together to build both academic skills and Christian character.”

The Classical Christian approach emphasizes language development, fine and gross motor skills, and social-emotional growth through a carefully structured curriculum. Students are introduced to age-appropriate classroom expectations that pave the way for future success in traditional kindergarten and beyond.

At Veritas, parents are viewed as essential partners in the learning process. The school offers regular opportunities for family involvement and school-wide events that reinforce the values taught in the classroom.

Enrollment is open to children who turn four years old by the first day of classes (August 18, 2025). For application and enrollment information, please visit www.veritasfallon.org, call 775-217-0069, or email office@veritasfallon.org.

COLUMNS

What’s Cooking in Kelli’s Kitchen:
The Rewards of Saying Yes

By Kelli Kelly

Sometimes my life feels like a juggling act. There are my work obligations, maintaining the relationships that are important to me (friends, family), general community involvement (The Fallon Post, American Legion, golf tournaments), side hustles (cooking), and the icing on the proverbial cake (school and advocacy). Every time things start to slow down a bit, I say “yes” to something new. I suppose I enjoy being busy! There are times when all this work yields rewards, and last week was one of them.

After two years of listening to small business owners, thinking about creative solutions to challenges limiting their ability to grow, advocating for change, negotiating with countless groups of stakeholders, and organizing supporters to show up and speak out at the legislature, our food systems bills were signed by Governor Lombardo and will become Nevada law. Senate Bill 373 appropriates \$800,000 over the biennium to buy produce and other agricultural products for distribution through Feeding America-affiliated food bank networks from Nevada farmers and tasks the Governor’s Council for Food Security to formulate a sustainable funding plan for the program. Assembly Bill 251, sponsored by Fallon’s own Greg Koenig, opens the door for mobile meat harvesters and processors to be certified under the Nevada State Meat Inspection Program. Assembly Bill 352 modernizes Cottage & Craft Food programs, increases allowable farm-to-fork events, and creates the Cottage Cosmetics program. Taken together, these changes represent a significant reduction in the barriers to entry for value-added producers in our state.

My weekend was chock-full of fun with a golf tournament to raise money for UNR scholarships and catering dinner for Dave Fenley and the Churchill Arts Council crew before the concert at Oats Park on Saturday. Small group gatherings are my favorite gigs, especially when there is plenty of room in the budget. Whether I am cooking for a client or for friends and family, I start by picking a theme. This weekend, we featured dishes from the Mediterranean. Our menu featured scratch-made hummus (with Rancho Gordo chick-peas), charred eggplant baba ghanoush, tabbouleh salad, jeweled rice, lamb & beef kebabs with tzatziki sauce, and vanilla honey panna cotta with lemon curd and raspberries. Every dish was a banger, but I was particularly fond of what we did with the salad and the dessert. I hope you give these recipes a go for your next gathering!

Tabbouleh Salad with Barley

Ingredients:

- 1 cup

Barley
- 4 bunches

Parsley, cleaned, destemmed and chopped
- 1 bunch

Mint, cleaned, destemmed and chopped
- 1 bunch

Scallions, thin sliced



- 1

English cucumber, seeded and diced
- 1 pkg.

Grape tomatoes, quartered
- 1 red

Onion, diced
- 1/2 cup

Extra virgin olive oil
- 1 ea

Lemon, juice and zest
- 1/2 tsp.

Coriander
- 1/2 tsp.

Cinnamon
- Salt and pepper
- DIRECTIONS:

1. Cook barley according to package directions. Cool.
2. In a medium bowl, whisk together olive oil, lemon juice and zest, coriander, cinnamon, salt and pepper. Add in chopped parsley, mint, scallions, cucumber, red onion, and tomatoes. Add in barley once cool and stir to combine.
3. Taste and adjust seasoning with more lemon juice, salt and pepper.
4. Serve immediately or refrigerate overnight.

Honey Vanilla Panna Cotta with Lemon Curd

Ingredients:

- 1 cup

Barley
- 1 1/2 cups

milk
- 1 tbsp.

gelatin
- 2 1/2 cups

heavy cream
- 1 vanilla

bean, split and scraped
- 2/3 cup

honey
- 1/4 tsp.

salt

DIRECTIONS:

1. Make panna cotta: Pour milk into a small pot. Sprinkle gelatin across the top and let sit for 5 minutes. Heat over medium stirring regularly until the gelatin dissolves – do not let boil. Add the cream, vanilla, honey, and salt. Stir to dissolve the honey. Pour into four containers and refrigerate until set (at least 6 hours).
2. Make the lemon curd: In a small saucepan, whisk together eggs, yolks, sugar, zest, juice, and cream. Put the cubed butter in a medium bowl and place a colander on top.
3. Heat the lemon mix over medium-low stirring constantly with a whisk until the mixture thickens — you will feel it kick when the temperature hits around 165-170 degrees. Pour lemon mixture through the colander over the cubed butter. Stir until the butter is melted and combined. Pour the lemon curd into a small container, put a layer of plastic wrap directly on top and refrigerate until cool and set.
4. Spoon lemon curd over the top of the honey panna cotta, top with fresh berries and enjoy.



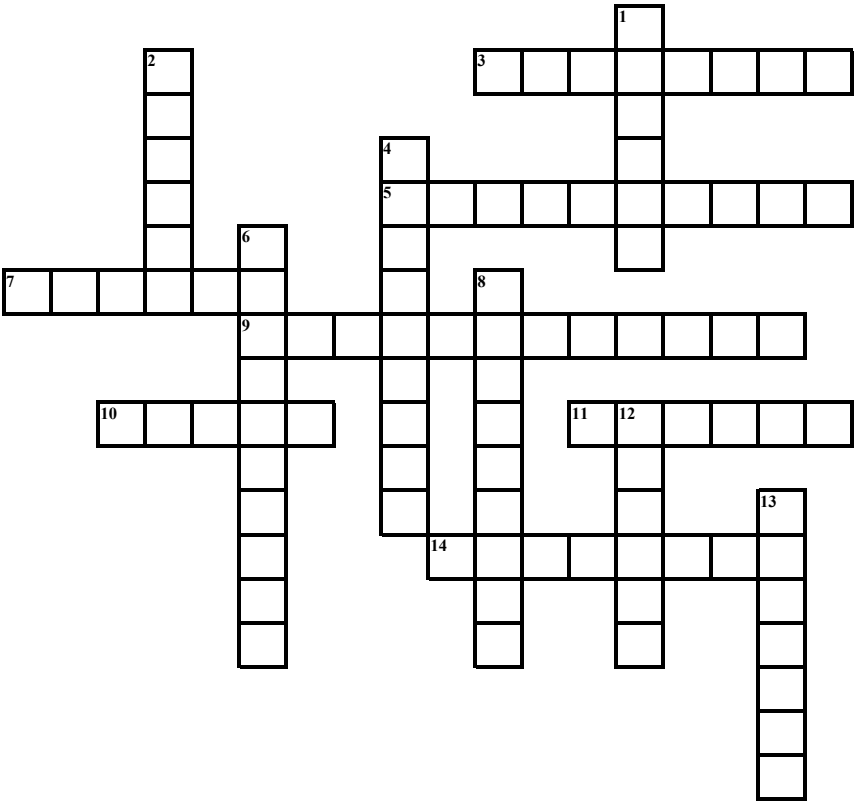
Kelli Kelly, Slinger of Produce.
Slurper of Dumplings.
Person of the Bean.

Crossword

By Peanut

MUSEUMS

of the
world



Across

3.

Hagia Sofia
5.

Palacio de Ballas Artes
7.

Belvedere
9.

The Hermitage
10.

Le Louvre
11.

Prado
14.

Uffizi Gallery

Down

1.

C.C. Museum
2.

Tate Modern
4.

Rijksmuseum
6.

Smithsonian
8.

Yad Vashem
12.

Acropolis Museum
13.

Forbidden City

[Crossword answers found on page 13]

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COLUMNS

Allison’s Book Report

“The God of the Woods” by Liz Moore

By Allison Diegel

We are already deep into summer mode in our house – my teens are staying up late, sleeping in later, splashing in the pool, playing hours of Fortnite, and eating us out of house and home – all while I do a lot of driving them around and some soaking up the sun with a good book in my hand. This week I have a twisty, suspenseful summer thriller/mystery that I know you will love.

Liz Moore’s “The God of the Woods” isn’t just a book you read; it’s one well-crafted, atmospheric mystery that you can sink right into. The story pulls you in immediately, taking us back to August of 1975 at a summer camp tucked away in the Adirondacks. Sounds like a classic summer setup – until right off the bat, a counselor finds an empty bunk. The missing camper is 13-year-old Barbara Van Laar – and she’s not just any camper. She’s the daughter of the family who owns this camp, and they pretty much employ everyone in the surrounding area. The stakes are instantly high, and you feel that tension right away.

Here’s where it gets even more intriguing: this isn’t the first time a Van Laar child has disappeared. Barbara’s older brother vanished 14 years prior, and he was never found. This detail is crucial because it immediately suggests a long-standing, deep-seated mystery within this powerful family. It makes you wonder, “Is this a coincidence, or is there something much darker at play here, a pattern?”



As the desperate search for Barbara begins, Moore masterfully weaves together multiple threads. We’re not just following the investigation; we’re invited into the intricate world of the Van Laar family secrets and how they’ve affected the blue-collar community that relies on them. It’s a really smart way to build out the world and make the characters feel incredibly real and layered. You get a sense of the pressures, the loyalties, and the unspoken understandings that exist within this tight-knit, yet often fractured, environment.

What makes “The God of the Woods” so compelling, even beyond the “what happened?” question, is how it explores themes of inheritance — not just wealth, but the legacy of actions and decisions. It delves into the idea of second chances and how the past, no matter how buried, inevitably resurfaces. This isn’t just a straightforward thriller; it’s a story about human nature, family dynamics, and the hidden currents that run beneath seemingly peaceful surfaces. It’s a truly immersive experience that keeps you guessing while also making you think about the lasting impact of choices.

I hope you enjoy this perfect summertime read this week! Don’t forget to pop over to my Instagram @allison.the.reader for more of my recommendations and musings about all things bookish!

Allison Diegel is the Executive Chaos Coordinator at the Diegel Home for Wayward Girls. She has been reading since before she could talk, and now she likes doing lots of both.

ADOPTION OF
CONSTRUCTION CODES

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the following construction codes are adopted as the law of Churchill County effective July 1, 2025:

A. 2024 International Building Code® (IBC);

B. 2024 International Residential Code® (IRC);

C. 2024 International Fire Code® (IFC);

D. 2024 Uniform Mechanical Code® (IMC);

E. 2024 Uniform Plumbing Code® (IPC);

F. 2024 International Fuel Gas Code® (IFGC);

G. 2024 International Energy Conservation Code® (IECC); and

H. 2023 National Electrical Code® (NEC).

I. 2017 A117.1 Accessible and Useable Buildings and Facilities

J. 2024 Northern Nevada Amendments to the International Codes

A copy of each of the foregoing codes is on file with the Churchill County Building Department for public inspection.

JERA REIDENBACH
BUILDING OFFICIAL

Published in
The Fallon Post
June 20 and 27, 2025
Ad #6327

CITY OF FALLON
NOTICE OF INTENTION
TO ACT ON A RESOLUTION
TO AUGMENT BUDGET

Notice is hereby given that the Honorable City Council of the City of Fallon will hold a public hearing on Friday, June 27, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. in the City Council Chambers, City Hall, 55 West Williams Avenue, Fallon, Nevada to act on a resolution to augment the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 budget of the General Fund in the amount of \$4,044,430 in order to appropriate previously unbudgeted resources.

All interested persons may attend the public hearing and be heard. Prior to the meeting, written comments may be submitted to the City Clerk’s Office, 55 West Williams Avenue, Fallon, Nevada and any comments so submitted will be considered by the City Council.

Date: June 20, 2025

Published in
The Fallon Post
June 20, 2025
Ad #6329



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2025



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<https://pitchhitrun2025.leagueapps.com/events/4639877-elks-lodge-2239>

Last year, winners in each category were invited to advance to the next level of competition at the Oakland Coliseum.

Winners at each level CAN compete in the finals at the 2025 World Series!

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C O L U M N S

Postcards

Beginning of NAS Fallon: Excerpts From the Oral History of Carl Dodge

By Michon Mackedon

Everyone who lives in Fallon — or visits here — knows about the Fallon Naval Air Station (NAS), about seven miles to south and east of the heart of the town. NAS is currently the United States Navy’s premier air-to-air and air-to-ground training facility and the home of Top Gun, made famous by the movie of that same name. Because of the current size and status of NAS, I was intrigued when I read the Churchill County Museum’s oral history of Carl Dodge, a portion of which touches on the beginnings of NAS. Dodge (1915-2006) was a lawyer, rancher and businessman who served as Senator in the Nevada State Legislature, representing Churchill County, between 1958 and 1980. He was also my neighbor, but I’ll leave those memories for another Postcard. His oral history was taken in 1994.

Dodge: “During the short period of time I was practicing law in Fallon after I got out (of Stanford Law School), I had an upstairs office in a building downtown on Maine Street (1942). One day a man came into my office. He was one of the biggest men I had ever seen. He was not particularly fat, but that might have been a nine-foot ceiling, and he was taking most of it. He was a big, broad man ... his name was Bob Schmidt. At that time, we had a Junior Chamber of Commerce organization made up of a bunch of young guys. We had quite a lot of energy, but no money. (laughs) I was the chairman. Somebody referred him to me. Pat McCarran was then the senior US Senator from Nevada, and he had introduced the legislation that created the Civil Aeronautics Authority. He was the author of the bill. This guy was from an office down in Santa Monica. He came in and said he understood I was president of a Junior Chamber; then he said, “Pat McCarran sent me up here to locate a civil aeronautics field.” And he said, “I need to find out whether there are any suitable locations here.” I said, “Well, I can show you a couple.”

So we got in the car and I took him out to where the present city airport is. Then I took him to the present site of the navy base ... it was all federal land. He took care of that part in Washington. And whatever he wanted, we took care of here in Fallon. The plans then were developed for the initial civil aeronautics runway out there. And this was an interesting thing. Plans were received in Fallon by Dodge Construction, Inc., on the second day of July. I was going to get on a train in Hazen to report back to South Bend, Indiana (as an enlistee in the US Navy) on the next day.

This was in 1942. Anyway, Dodge Construction got the contract for that original runway out there, and at a later point in time during the war the Navy took it over. They did some major runway improvements. They had to — that little runway didn’t cut it. Dodge Construction and Silver State Construction — which was A.D. Drumm who had a construction company here — had a joint bid and were awarded the contract for the original 8,000-foot military runway out there. I was gone in the Navy for twenty-three months. The interesting end of that story is that I came on one of the small aircraft carriers as a passenger from Honolulu into Alameda. I had a 30-day leave to come home, and I got off the carrier and I went over to the Alameda Naval Air Station. I knew they were running a little flight back and forth daily for mail and that sort of thing from Alameda into Fallon, so I told them that I wanted to see if I could bum a ride with them to Fallon. About two hours later, they had this plane taking off and so we flew into Fallon, and I landed on a completed airport. I bummed a ride into town and the guy let me off at my mother’s front door. She didn’t even know I was home. I rapped on the front door, and I thought she was going to faint when she saw me. (laughter) That was the beginning of what became the ultimate naval air station. I can tell you this, and I’ve heard it from secretaries of the Navy, from admirals in the Navy, and everybody else — this is going to be the most important training station that the Navy has in this country.”

Please send comments, suggestions, and stories to mackedon@phonewave.net.

Michon Mackedon is a native of Fallon and a retired professor of English and Humanities (WNC). She loves her family, her home, her dog, reading, writing, making good food, and sipping a glass of fine white wine. Beyond that, she refuses to be categorized.a

CROSSWORD ANSWERS

Crossword found on page 12

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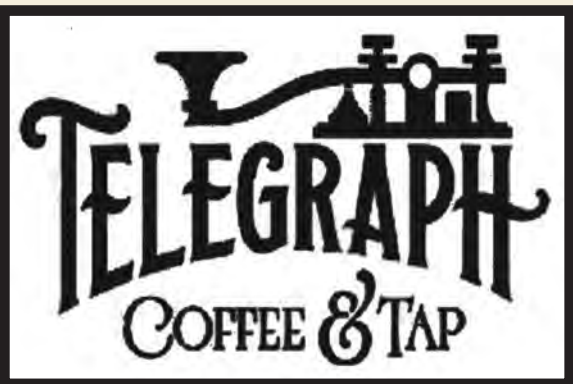
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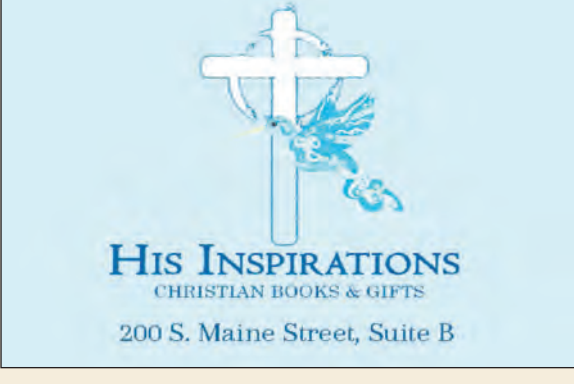
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Thursday, August 14 Kids Night

- 4:00 p.m. Carnival until 10:00 p.m.
- 5:00 p.m. Silver State Livestock Show
- 5:30 p.m. Lions Club BMX Bike Race
Pig Scramble, Mutton Bustin,
Dare to be a Cowboy to follow
- 6:00 p.m. Horseshoe Contest

Friday, August 15

- 8:00 a.m. Silver State Livestock Show
- 4:00 p.m. Fair Opens
- 5:00 p.m. Carnival until 10:00 p.m.
- 6:00 p.m. Frog Jump
- 6:30 p.m. LL Productions Truck & Tractor Pull
- 9:00 p.m. Dancing Under the Stars
- 9:00 p.m. Hispanic Band

Saturday, August 16

- 8:00 a.m. Silver State Livestock Show
- 10:00 a.m. Main Street Fair and Rodeo Parade
- 10:00 a.m. Fair Opens
- 12:00 p.m. Four Star - CCPRA Rodeo
- 12:00 p.m. YHS Basketball Cornhole Tournament
- 1:00 p.m. Carnival until 11:00 p.m.
- 5:00 p.m. Littlest Cowboy / Cowgirl Contest
- 6:00 p.m. Yerington Fire Department Demo Derby
- 9:00 p.m. Dancing Under the Stars
- 9:00 p.m. Hispanic Band

Sunday, August 17

- 9:00 a.m. Livestock Buyer Sign up
- 9:00 a.m. Mud Volleybal
- 10:00 a.m. Fair Opens until 4:00 p.m.
- 10:00 a.m. Motorcross Barrel Racing
- 10:00 a.m. Painting Class
- 10:30 a.m. Silver State Youth Livestock Show
Buyer Lunch
- 11:00 a.m. Carnival until 2:00 p.m.
- 12:00 p.m. Silver State Youth Livestock Show
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