

THE FALLON POST



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County Clarifies Ward 1 Ballot Issue; City Council to Review Next Steps June 18

By Leanna Lehman

Churchill County has clarified the ballot error affecting the Fallon City Council Ward 1 race, identifying a precinct assignment issue that prevented 881 eligible voters from receiving the contest and setting in motion a legal process that could result in a new election.

As reported by The Fallon Post on June 9, election officials identified an issue affecting the Ward 1 contest and initially stated that 881 ballots had been issued without the city council race.

In her initial explanation of the issue, Churchill County Clerk-Treasurer Linda Rothery said the problem stemmed from a mapping issue involving precinct and ward boundary files used in the election software.

“Our software was correct, but it didn’t push into the voter registration side,” Rothery said. “The process was done correctly. It just didn’t finish the process.”

Rothery also said election staff discovered the issue June 8 and immediately began working with the Nevada Secretary of State’s Office, Fallon city legal counsel, and the Churchill County District Attorney’s Office to determine the appropriate remedy.

In an updated statement issued June 12, county officials clarified that the issue involves voter assignments rather than ballots themselves.

According to the county, 881 voters were listed in



Churchill County officials scanning primary election ballots on June 3. Image courtesy of Churchill County, via YouTube.

Precinct 2 when they should have been assigned to Precinct 1, which corresponds to Fallon City Council Ward 1. Because those voters were assigned to the wrong precinct, they were not given the opportunity to vote in the Ward 1 city council contest.

The Ward 1 race was the only contested Fallon City Council election on the June 9 primary ballot. Candidates Daniel Doty, Lori Norcutt, and Ryan Swirczek are seeking the seat. Under Nevada election law, a candidate must receive more than 50% of the vote to win outright; otherwise, the top two candidates advance to the general election. Ward 3 Council Member Paul Harmon was unopposed and was not affected by the issue.

The county stated it has now determined the appropriate legal process and has been working with the City of Fallon and the District Attorney’s Office.

[Ballot Issue continued on page 2]

Sheriff Candidate Filing Opens June 15-July 24 Following Hickox’s Death

By Leanna Lehman

A special candidate filing period for Churchill County sheriff will open June 15 and run through July 24, giving interested candidates an opportunity to seek election to the office in November.

The filing period was created following the death of Sheriff Richard Hickox on April 11. Hickox had already filed for re-election before his passing, and the regular candidate filing period had closed, requiring a separate process under Nevada law.

On April 17, the Churchill County Commission appointed Undersheriff Lee Orozco to fill the vacancy and serve the remainder of Hickox’s current term, which expires in January 2027.

Orozco’s appointment ensured continuity within the Sheriff’s Office while voters await the opportunity to elect a sheriff during the November general election.

Chief Deputy District Attorney Lane Mills explained that because the primary election filing period had already passed, Nevada law provides for a separate candidate filing period to allow individuals to seek election to the office.

“There is a provision for a candidacy filing period,” Mills told commissioners. “Because we’re already past the time for a primary, that period will run later on ... there’ll be an opportunity for people to file to get onto the general election.”

Nevada Revised Statutes call for a new filing period during which any interested candidate may file to run.

The special filing period opens Monday, June 15, and closes July 24. Candidates who file during that period will appear on the November ballot, where voters will choose who will serve the next term as Churchill County sheriff beginning in January 2027.

Candidates will file online through the Nevada Secretary of State’s website.

The filing website is open for candidates to enter their “draft” information now; however, they cannot officially file until the filing period begins Monday, June 15, 2026.

Additional information regarding candidate filing requirements is available through the Churchill County Clerk-Treasurer’s Office. A link to the Sheriff Candidate Filing Packet is posted to the elections page on the Churchill County website to assist candidates with the process.

Water Delivery Debate at TCID Over Measurement and Water Rights

By Rachel Dahl

Questions about where irrigation water should be measured and delivered continued to surface at recent Truckee-Carson Irrigation District (TCID) meetings, culminating in a detailed presentation from Federal Watermaster Dave Wathen on how water rights are administered under the Alpine Decree.

The discussion stems from concerns raised by Fallon-area farmer Norm Frey, who has repeatedly questioned whether water users in the Newlands Project are receiving the full amount of water associated with their rights when losses occur between district delivery points and the farm.

At the June 2 TCID board meeting, Wathen explained that under the Alpine Decree, the federal court decree governing the Carson River system, water rights are tied to the land and historically have been viewed as being delivered to the property receiving the water.

“We’ve always said it’s the property lines,” Wathen said during the presentation while discussing how delivery has traditionally been evaluated.

The issue is particularly important in the Newlands Project, where water is often conveyed through a combination of district-owned canals and laterals, as well as privately maintained ditches before reaching fields.

Frey argued that some irrigators have gradually lost part of their usable water supply because measurements are taken before water travels through long stretches of ditch.

“We do not get our 2.99 delivered to the land,” Frey told the board.

Wathen acknowledged the complexity of the issue, noting that water losses can vary significantly depending on ditch conditions and whether facilities are publicly or privately maintained. In cases where water travels through private ditches, he said it becomes difficult to determine

[TCID continued on page 8]



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Can be placed online, and by mail at 169 E. Center Street, or by phone: 775-423-4545. Single copies may be purchased for \$2 at local merchants listed on page 16.

FROM THE PUBLISHER

Captain's Log: Somewhere Near Wendover

A Note from the Deckhands

As this edition goes to press, the Captain is somewhere near Wendover, crossing from Nevada into Utah and making steady progress toward Rapid City, South Dakota, on a drive that would make most reasonable people reconsider their life choices.

The mission began this morning with a stop in Winnemucca to offload cargo before continuing east with hopes of reaching Rawlins, Wyoming, by nightfall. If all goes well, Day 2 will begin in Rawlins, Wyoming, with the final push toward Rapid City.

Before departure, the staff gathered to send her on her way. While everyone offered encouragement, one employee in particular — a South Dakota native — insisted on providing detailed instructions for the trip from Rawlins to Gillette, Wyoming.

The directions were not offered casually.

Anyone who has made that drive knows exactly why.

There is something about that stretch of Wyoming that has humbled travelers for generations. Heading east, you are tired, road-weary, and close enough to the Black Hills to start thinking you've already arrived. Heading west, you are exhausted from the adventures of the Black Hills and not nearly as sharp as you were a few days earlier. Either way, the route has a long history of causing confusion, second-guessing, and spirited discussions between traveling companions.

[Ballot Issue continued from page 1]

On June 11, Rothery submitted an affidavit to the City of Fallon pursuant to Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) 293C.710. The matter is scheduled to go before the Fallon City Council during its June 18 meeting.

"We understand the seriousness of this issue and its impact on candidates, voters, and public confidence in the election process," Rothery said. "We are committed to transparency, accuracy, and keeping candidates and voters informed."

The City of Fallon also released a statement on June 12, stating that it is working closely with election officials from the Nevada Secretary of State's Office and Churchill County to address the election issue affecting the Ward 1 City Council race. The city maintains that while it has no direct role in the administration of the election process, it will "ensure transparency and the appropriate remedies are taken so that every eligible voter of Ward 1 is able to have their voice heard through the election process."

WHAT THIS MEANS

The issue appears to be limited to the Fallon City Council Ward 1 race and does not affect county, school board, state, federal, or other city contests.

The error does not involve vote counting, voting machines, or tabulation of ballots. Instead, it involves voter assignment records that determine which races appear on a voter's ballot.

In simple terms, eligible Ward 1 voters were assigned to the wrong precinct and therefore received ballots that did not contain the Ward 1 contest.

The county's updated explanation is important because it clarifies the root cause of the issue. The original public information focused on ballots that did not contain the race. The revised explanation identifies the underlying problem as a precinct assignment error that prevented affected voters from receiving the correct ballot style.

WHAT THIS MEANS FOR CANDIDATES

For Doty, Norcutt, and Swirczek, the outcome of

The South Dakota native understands this.

Those directions were delivered with the seriousness usually reserved for weather warnings, emergency procedures, and family recipes.

The trip is more than a road adventure. The Captain is headed to Rapid City to attend the annual R-CALF USA convention in her role as publisher of RANGE magazine, one of the newest additions to the growing family of publications under her stewardship.

The convention will bring together ranchers, livestock producers, industry leaders, and policy experts from across the country for discussions on agriculture, land stewardship, livestock markets, and issues affecting rural America.

It is a fitting destination for a publisher whose newspapers and magazines have long focused on the people, industries, and communities that make the rural West unique.

Between now and then, however, there are still several hundred miles of highway, one overnight stop in Rawlins, Wyoming, and a carefully preserved set of directions from Rawlins to Gillette, Wyoming, that generations of travelers would have appreciated having in their glove compartments.

Safe travels, Captain. We'll keep the presses warm.

And to our readers, we'll be right here, keeping you posted...

the Ward 1 race may not yet be final.

Because 881 voters who should have received the Ward 1 contest were unable to vote in that race, the city must now determine whether a new election will be required under Nevada law.

The issue is particularly significant because the Ward 1 race was the only contested City Council election on the ballot.

WHAT THIS MEANS FOR VOTERS

For the 881 affected voters, the issue means they did not receive the opportunity to vote in a race for which they were eligible.

For other voters, the issue does not affect votes cast in other races and does not impact the overall administration of the primary election outside of the Ward 1 contest.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

Nevada law provides a specific process for addressing this type of election error.

Under NRS 293C.710, election officials must submit an affidavit documenting the issue to the city. Once the affidavit is received, a candidate in the affected race may request relief. The statute states that upon such a request, the governing body of the city shall order a new election in the affected precinct or district.

The Fallon City Council is scheduled to review the affidavit during its June 18 meeting.

WILL THERE BE A NEW ELECTION?

Possibly.

The county's original June 10 statement indicated a special election would likely be required. The June 12 update identifies the statutory process now being followed and confirms that the required affidavit has been submitted to the city.

Additional details about how a new election would be conducted, who would be eligible to vote, and the timing of any election may become clearer following the City Council's discussion June 18.

The Fallon Post will continue to follow the issue and provide updates as additional information becomes available.

PETS OF THE WEEK

Have You Seen Runt

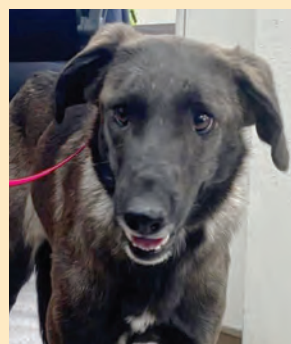
At about 1 year old, Runt may seem cautious around new people at first.

Runt gets along well with other dogs and has been around children. She would do best with an active family that can keep up with her energy level and provide plenty of exercise.

Cats remain a mystery.

Chickens, however, are not recommended. Runt views them less as roommates and more as menu items, so a chicken-free home is required.

If you're looking for a playful, affectionate companion with a big personality, Runt may be your perfect match. Those interested in meeting Runt or learning more about adoption opportunities are encouraged to contact the shelter.



Meet Nash

Nash is a handsome 11-month-old orange and white tabby. This sweet boy loves to chat with his people, soak up attention, and be wherever you are.

Nash shares a special bond with his brother, Stash, and the two are looking for a forever home together. They have been through life's adventures side by side and would love to continue their journey as a pair.

Nash is neutered, vaccinated, and microchipped. All Nash and Stash need now is a family to call their own.



Questions? Call 775-217-4745

Fallon Animal Welfare Group is a 501(c)(3) charity supporting the welfare of cats in Churchill County, Nevada.

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

FEATURES

Juneteenth: The Long Road From Freedom to Recognition

By Lori Kaiser

More than two years after President Abraham Lincoln declared enslaved people free, thousands of Black Texans were still waiting to hear the news.

On June 19, 1865, Union soldiers arrived in Galveston, Texas, and announced that enslaved people were free. The moment gave rise to the holiday now known as Juneteenth, one of the most significant dates in American history and a reminder that freedom was not experienced equally or immediately across the nation.

Juneteenth takes its name from a combination of “June” and “nineteenth,” the date Union Maj. Gen. Gordon Granger issued General Order No. 3 in Galveston. The order informed Texans that “all slaves are free,” formally enforcing the Emancipation Proclamation in the state.

Although Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation on Jan. 1, 1863, the order applied only to Confederate-held territories and depended on Union military enforcement to become effective. Because of its distance from major battlefields and the limited presence of Union troops, Texas became a refuge for slaveholders during the Civil War. As a result, slavery continued largely uninterrupted there even after the proclamation. By the end of the war, Texas still held one of the largest populations of enslaved people in the Confederacy.

The delay between the Emancipation Proclamation and Juneteenth is central to the holiday’s meaning. Enslaved Texans waited more than two and a half years after the proclamation before learning they were legally free. Historians note that emancipation was not a single event, but a process that unfolded differently from place to place, often depending on the arrival of federal troops and the willingness of local authorities to comply.

Enslaved Texans waited more than two and a half years after the proclamation before learning they were legally free.

The years that followed were difficult. Although freedom had been declared, formerly enslaved people faced enormous obstacles during Reconstruction, including violence, discrimination, economic hardship, and efforts to limit newly gained rights. Even so, Black Texans began organizing annual Juneteenth celebrations as early as 1866, preserving the memory of emancipation for future generations.

[Juneteenth continued on page 5]

How the Kito and Ito Families Helped Preserve Fallon’s Hearts of Gold

By Lori Kaiser

When Churchill County celebrates the Hearts of Gold cantaloupe each summer, the spotlight usually falls on the melon.

But one of the most important chapters in the story belongs to two immigrant families whose contributions helped preserve the crop through some of its most difficult years.

Juichi Kito and Kensuke Ito arrived in Fallon in 1920 after California laws restricted land ownership by Japanese immigrants and forced many farming families to seek opportunities elsewhere. Looking for an opportunity, the two families purchased an 80-acre ranch south of Fallon and began building a new life in the Lahontan Valley.

Two years later, the families planted Hearts of Gold cantaloupes. The timing proved fortunate. Demand for the sweet melon was growing rapidly, and Fallon’s combination of sandy soil, irrigation water, hot days, and cool nights produced exceptional fruit. The Kito-Ito Ranch soon became part of a booming local industry that helped make Churchill County known far beyond Nevada.

By the mid-1920s, Japanese farming families were raising approximately 100 acres of Hearts of Gold cantaloupes in the Fallon area. The melons were shipped across the country, reaching markets as far away as South Carolina. Local historians credit the Kito and Ito families as major contributors to the crop’s popularity and success.

While they were not the first farmers to grow Hearts of Gold in Churchill County, historical records indicate that they became among the crop’s strongest advocates.

The success did not come easily.

The families faced discrimination from the moment they arrived in Fallon. Their purchase of farmland sparked controversy at a time when anti-Japanese sentiment was growing throughout the West. Yet they remained, working the land and raising their families while building one of the valley’s best-known agricultural operations.

As the cantaloupe industry expanded during the 1920s, the Kito-Ito Ranch became known for more than melons. The families raised vegetables, livestock, poultry, and dairy products while continuing to make Hearts of Gold their primary cash crop.

By the late 1930s, drought, economic hardship, and competition from newer melon varieties devastated the Hearts of Gold market. Many growers abandoned cantaloupes and shifted to alfalfa production. What had once been one of Churchill County’s signature crops nearly disappeared.

The Kito and Ito families did not walk away.

Photographs preserved by the Churchill County Museum show workers tending cantaloupe fields at the Kito-Ito Ranch in 1941, years after the industry’s collapse had begun. While production declined, the families continued growing the melons that had become one of the valley’s signature crops.

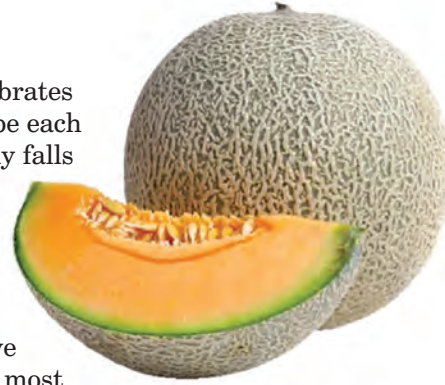
The ranch also became home to a remarkable family story. Between them, the two families raised 14 children in a three-bedroom farmhouse on St. Clair Road. Education was emphasized, and every child graduated from high school. Many later pursued higher education and professional careers.

The old ranch house still stands today, a reminder of the families whose work helped shape Churchill County agriculture.

More than a century after the Kito and Ito families arrived in Fallon, the Hearts of Gold cantaloupe remains a symbol of the community. The melon’s story often begins with seeds brought from Michigan and the farmers who first planted them in Nevada.

But its continued place in Churchill County history owes much to families who believed in the crop and continued cultivating it through difficult years.

In many ways, the story of the Hearts of Gold is also the story of the Kito and Ito families — pioneers whose roots in Churchill County ran as deep as the fields they cultivated.



HEARTS OF GOLD: A TIMELINE

1890s

Plant breeder Roland Morrill develops the Hearts of Gold cantaloupe in Benton Harbor, Michigan, by crossing the Osage and Netted Gem varieties.

1911

Fallon farmer O.J. Vannoy introduces Hearts of Gold cantaloupes to the Lahontan Valley, where the climate and soil prove ideal for growing the melon.

1920

Japanese immigrants Juichi Kito and Kensuke Ito arrive in Fallon and purchase farmland south of town.

1922

The Kito and Ito families begin growing Hearts of Gold cantaloupes.

1925

Japanese farming families cultivate approximately 100 acres of Hearts of Gold cantaloupes in the Fallon area. The melons are shipped to markets across the United States.

1920s-1930s

Hearts of Gold becomes one of Churchill County’s signature crops. Local histories report the cantaloupes were served at the White House during this period.

1930s

The Great Depression, drought, and changing agricultural markets cause a sharp decline in cantaloupe production throughout the Lahontan Valley.

1941

Photographs document continued cantaloupe production at the Kito-Ito Ranch, years after many growers had abandoned the crop.

1940s-1970s

The Hearts of Gold survives through the efforts of local farming families who continue preserving the variety despite declining commercial production.

1985

The first Fallon Cantaloupe Festival is held, celebrating the region’s agricultural heritage.

Today

The Hearts of Gold remains one of Churchill County’s most recognized agricultural products and the centerpiece of the annual Fallon Cantaloupe Festival.

Orozco Announces Campaign for Churchill County Sheriff

Staff Report

Churchill County Sheriff Lee Orozco announced Monday, June 15, that he will seek election to continue serving as the county’s top law enforcement officer.

Orozco was appointed sheriff by the Churchill County Commission on April 17 following the death of Sheriff Richard Hickox. He is now among the candidates expected to seek the office during the special filing period, which opened June 15 and runs through July 24.

A 30-year veteran of the Churchill County Sheriff’s Office, Orozco has served in a variety of assignments, including detention, patrol, narcotics investigations, criminal investigations, supervision, and executive leadership.

“I know this agency, I know this county, and I know the responsibility that comes with this office,” Orozco said. “The Sheriff’s Office is not just one division or one assignment. It is patrol, detention, investigations, civil responsibilities, emergency response, budgets, training, personnel, jail operations, and public accountability. The people of Churchill County deserve a Sheriff who understands the whole agency and is prepared to lead it.”

In announcing his campaign, Orozco identified public safety, employee recruitment and retention, and preparing the Sheriff’s Office for future challenges as key priorities.

“Public safety is the foundation of everything we do,” Orozco said. “Families, businesses, schools, farmers, ranchers, and every resident of Churchill County depend on a Sheriff’s Office that is ready, capable, and accountable.”

Orozco also pointed to staffing challenges facing rural law enforcement agencies and said retaining experienced employees will remain a focus.

“Our deputies, detention staff, and support personnel are the backbone of this office,” Orozco said. “We have to recruit good people, train them well, hold them accountable, and give them a reason to build a career here.”

He said the office must continue improving areas such as 911 services,



Judge Thomas Stockard swears in Lee Orozco as the new Churchill County sheriff on April 17 following the death of former Sheriff Richard Hickox. Photo courtesy of Churchill County.

jail operations, training, technology, and long-term planning while balancing the traditions of rural law enforcement with increasingly complex demands, including mental health issues, jail medical responsibilities, and public records requirements.

“We can respect the traditions of this office and still make it stronger,” Orozco said. “My goal is practical progress that makes the Sheriff’s Office more prepared, more professional, and better able to serve the public.”

Orozco said he plans to meet with voters throughout the campaign and discuss his vision for the future of the Sheriff’s Office.

“I am proud to serve this community,” Orozco said. “I am proud of the men and women of the Churchill County Sheriff’s Office. And I am asking the voters to allow me to continue leading this office with steady judgment, respect for our people, and a commitment to public safety first.”

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Churchill Animal Protection Society Launches ‘\$40 for 40’ Campaign



By Amber Hardin

The Churchill Animal Protection Society is celebrating 40 years of serving homeless animals in Churchill County with a fundraising campaign to support the shelter’s daily operations and future rescue efforts.

The organization’s “\$40 for 40” campaign encourages community members to donate \$40 in honor of the shelter’s 40 years of service. Donations will help provide food, medical care, shelter supplies, enrichment items, and daily care for dogs and cats awaiting adoption.

“Every \$40 donation honors four decades of local rescue work and helps keep the doors open for the next animal who needs a safe place to land,” the organization announced on its fundraising page.

Founded in 1986, CAPS was established by a group of local residents who recognized the need for a safe haven for homeless animals in Churchill County.

With support from community volunteers, local businesses, and personnel from Naval Air Station Fallon, the organization developed into a no-kill shelter dedicated to rescuing, rehabilitating, and rehoming abandoned and surrendered pets.

Today, CAPS continues its mission to care for homeless animals, promote responsible pet ownership, and help families keep their pets whenever possible.

The shelter says it has remained committed to its no-kill philosophy throughout its 40-year history and relies heavily on community support to continue its work.

Donations to the “\$40 for 40” campaign can be made through capsnevada.org or the organization’s Facebook page. For more information, contact CAPS at 775-423-7500 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday through Sunday.

Additional information about CAPS and its programs is available through the organization’s website and social media pages.

Battle of the Badges Blood Drive Set for July 21-22



Former Sheriff Richard Hickox is shown in a promotional image for the annual Battle of the Badges blood drive, which honors his memory and encourages community members to donate blood in support of local first responders and lifesaving medical care. Photo courtesy of the Churchill County Sheriff’s Department.

Staff Report

The Fallon Police Department and Churchill County Sheriff’s Office will once again face off in the annual Battle of the Badges blood drive July 21-22, challenging the community to donate blood in support of local first responders and lifesaving medical care.

The friendly competition encourages residents to donate blood on behalf of either agency, with the organization receiving the most donor support earning bragging rights in the annual event.

Hosted by The Ladies Behind the Badge in partnership with Vitalant, the blood drive honors the memory of Sheriff Richard Hickox and carries the theme, “Do it for The Dash.”

Donations will be accepted from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on July 21 and 22 at the Fallon Convention Center, 100 Campus Way.

According to event organizers, the Battle of the Badges blood drive has become a community tradition that helps maintain local and regional blood supplies while raising awareness of the ongoing need for blood donations.

All donors will receive a Battle of the Badges T-shirt while supplies last. Participants also may be eligible for additional donor incentives offered through Vitalant.

Appointments may be scheduled by scanning the event QR code or by calling Vitalant at 775-329-6451. Walk-ins will also be accepted.

Organizers encourage community members to participate and support either the Fallon Police Department or the Churchill County Sheriff’s Office while helping save lives through blood donation.

MEETINGS

June 25 – July 8, 2026

Board of County Commissioners

Meets the first Thursday and third Wednesday of each month
155 N. Taylor Street
Next Meeting: July 2 at 8:15 a.m.

Churchill County School Board

690 S. Maine St.
Next Meeting:
July 21 at 5:30 p.m.

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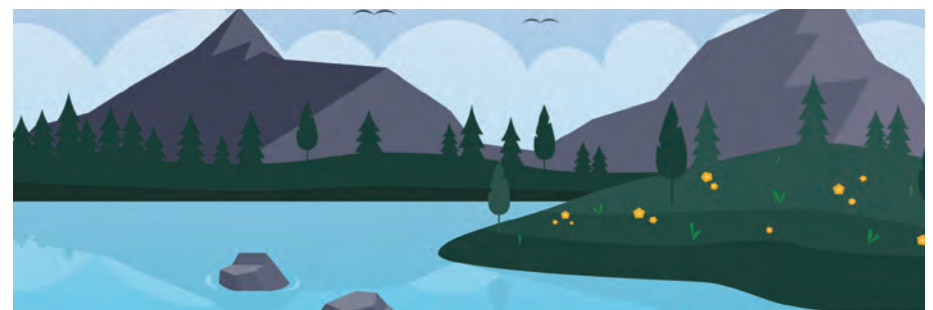
Meets the first Thursday of each month at 11 a.m.
155 N. Taylor Street
Next Meeting: July 2 at 11 a.m.

Central NV Health District

155 N. Taylor Street
Next Meeting:
July 8 at 3:30 p.m.

Library Board of Trustees

Meets the third Thursday of each month at 3 p.m.
155 N. Taylor Street
Next Meeting:
June 25 at 3 p.m.



WATER LEVELS

Measurements Taken June 12 at 10 a.m.

Lahontan Reservoir	218,400 af
Carson River Below Lahontan	658 cfs
Truckee Canal at Wadsworth	163 cfs
Truckee Canal at Hazen	105 cfs
Carson River at Ft. Churchill	139 cfs

June 12, 2024	June 12, 2023	June 12, 2022
302,020 acre feet	227,072 acre feet	152,706 acre feet

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

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 22

Beef Stew
Buttermilk Biscuit
Mixed Green Salad
w/Garbanzo Beans
Diced Pears

Tuesday, June 23

Chicken Enchilada
Spanish Rice
Refried Beans
Mixed Green Salad
Fruit Ambrosia

Wednesday, June 24

Meatloaf
Garlic Mashers
Spinach
WW Bread
Chantilly Fruit Cup

Thursday, June 25

Black Bean Soup
Chicken Salad Sandwich
Cucumbers w/ Sour Cream
Tropical Fruit Cup

Friday, June 26

Cajun Baked Fish
Red Beans & Rice
Capri Veg Blend
WW Roll
Apple Crisp

FALLON DAILY BREAD

WOLF CENTER | 457 ESMERALDA AVE., FALLON NV | 775-423-4714

Meals are served Mondays and Thursdays from 5 - 6 p.m. All meals are subject to change. All are welcome.

Monday, June 22

Chili Chicken Casserole
Salad & Dessert

Thursday, June 25

Clam Chowder
Salad & Dessert

Monday, June 29

Buffet Night

Thursday, July 2

Rotary Night

Volunteer groups needed to help serve once per month, 3 p.m. until 6:30 p.m. Call for information.

OBITUARIES



RICHARD W. STARK

Richard W. Stark (Dick) was born Jan. 13, 1939, in Longford, Kansas. Dick served in the U.S. Navy and retired after 20 years. He worked at NAS Fallon for several contractors, including Lockheed, General Dynamics, McDonnell Douglas, and Sikorsky, until he retired in 2005.

Dick was previously married to Mary Catherine Glynn from 1959 to 1970 and had three children: daughter Terri Stark Wayman (Gary) and sons Rodney Wayne Stark (Lynne) and Russell Warren Stark. Dick was a proud grandfather of seven and great-grandfather of 12. Dick was preceded in death by his parents, Charles Guy and Josephine Claire, and great-grandson Rhett Stark.

He married Maria S. Stark, and they enjoyed 51 wonderful years together. Dick was very active in several Masonic organizations, including Churchill Lodge No. 26, Scottish Rite Valley of Reno, Nevada Grand York Rite Bodies, Fallon York Rite Bodies, Myrtle Chapter No. 12, Order of the Eastern Star, Grottoes USA, and White Shrine of Jerusalem.

There will be a memorial service to honor Dick on Friday, June 19, 2026, at 10 a.m. at the Smith Family Funeral Home, 505 Rio Vista Dr., Fallon, with refreshments and fellowship following at the Fallon Fraternal Hall and Community Center, 39 S. Maine St.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to Shriners Hospitals for Children or your favorite charity.

Before The Beatles took Denmark by storm, there was ...

THE SINGING MORMONS

Concert | Saturday, July 11 | 7-9 p.m.



Over 60 years ago, a group of young American missionaries became one of Denmark's biggest musical sensations, with their records selling alongside The Beatles in stores across the country. Now, a documentary film crew is finally bringing their remarkable story to life. Join us for a free concert event featuring both the original and new generation of The Singing Mormons as they prepare to return to Denmark this summer for filming. The evening will include music, stories, and special guest performances by the American Footworks Dancers of Rexburg, Idaho, and a live bluegrass band.

One of the featured stories highlights local resident, farmer, musician, and longtime teacher Roger Sorensen. Who would have guessed?

Sponsored by Help Them See Foundation.
Donations will be accepted. Come join the fun!



HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM, OFF SHECKLER ROAD

[Juneteenth continued from page 3]



Opal Lee.

While Juneteenth had long been celebrated within Black communities, broader national recognition accelerated during the 21st century.

More than 150 years after the events in Galveston, one Texas woman helped bring that history to the entire nation.

Opal Lee, a retired teacher and community activist from Fort Worth, spent decades promoting Juneteenth and educating Americans about its significance. Known today as the "Grandmother of Juneteenth," Lee launched a national campaign to make June 19 a federal holiday.

In 2016, at age 89, Lee began a symbolic walk toward Washington, D.C. She walked in 2.5-mile increments to represent the two and a half years that passed before enslaved Texans learned they were free. Her efforts eventually included a petition signed by more than 1.5 million supporters urging Congress to recognize the holiday.

Lee's persistence paid off on June 17, 2021, when President Joe Biden signed the Juneteenth National Independence Day Act, making Juneteenth the first new federal holiday established since Martin Luther King Jr. Day in 1983. Lee stood beside Biden during the signing ceremony.

Today, Juneteenth is observed across the country with parades, community festivals, educational programs, historical reenactments, concerts, family reunions, prayer services, public readings of General Order No. 3, and celebrations of African American culture and history. Many communities also host voter-registration drives, scholarship programs, and civic events focused on education and public service.

In Nevada and across the nation, Juneteenth celebrations now include community gatherings, educational programs, cultural events, and opportunities to reflect on the nation's ongoing pursuit of equality.

For many Americans, Juneteenth is both a celebration and a history lesson. It commemorates the day freedom finally reached Texas, honors those who endured slavery, and recognizes the generations who worked to ensure that their story would not be forgotten.



FALLON COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Fallon Community Calendar
Movie Day
Coalition for Senior Citizens
The Fallon Theatre
Every third Friday at 1 p.m.

Summer Art With Mrs. Sorenson
Oats Park Art School
Oats Park Art Center
June 19, ages 6-8 from 9 to 10 a.m.,
ages 9-12 from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m.



Greenwave Youth Baseball Camp
Greenwave Dugout Club
Contact greenwavedugoutclub@gmail.com
to register.
June 19-20 from 8 a.m. to noon

Kids Crafts: "Digging into the Past"
Bea's Days of Summer
Churchill County Museum
June 20

Fallon Cake Picnic & Free Concert
America 250
Oats Park
June 20 at 4:30 p.m.,
concert at 7:30 p.m.

Bingo Night
Fallon Animal Welfare Group
Pennington Center
June 26 at 6 p.m.

**12th Annual De Golyer
Bucking Horse & Bull Bash**
dgbullbash@gmail.com
Rafter 3C Arena
June 26 through 28

**Annual Meeting
and Ice Cream Social**
Churchill County Museum
1050 S. Maine St.
June 27 from 1 to 3 p.m.

Black Light Paint n Sip
Fallon Elks Lodge
93 W. Center St.
June 27 from 6 to 8:30 p.m.

Boots & Britches Play Day
Boots n' Britches Horse Club
Rafter 3C Event Complex
June 30 from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Party in the Park
America 250 Jubilee
Oats Park
July 4 from noon to 9 p.m.

The Singing Mormons Concert
American Footworks
High School Auditorium off Sheckler Rd.
July 11 from 7 to 9 p.m.

This Community Calendar is sponsored by Fallon Media Co. - An Oasis in the Rural Nevada News Desert. If you would like to sponsor the Community Calendar, please contact The Fallon Post at 775-423-4545.

COMMUNITY

Amateur Radio Operators Invite Community to Field Day Event at Lahontan

By Amber Hardin

Churchill County residents will have an opportunity to learn about amateur radio and emergency communications during this year's Amateur Radio Relay League Field Day event beginning at 11 a.m. Saturday, June 27, at the Day Use Area near the dam on the Churchill County side of Lake Lahontan.

Hosted by local amateur radio operators, the event will feature several operating radio stations and demonstrations designed to introduce the public to amateur, or ham, radio. Visitors, including children, will have the opportunity to get on the air and make radio contacts under the supervision of licensed operators.

Field Day is an annual nationwide event organized by the Amateur Radio Relay League (ARRL), the national association for amateur radio. Each June, thousands of amateur radio

operators across North America set up temporary stations in parks, fields, and other public locations to demonstrate the capabilities of amateur radio, particularly during emergencies and disasters when traditional communication systems may be unavailable.

Locally, members of the Churchill County Amateur Radio Emergency Service (CCARES) will operate continuously for 24 hours without commercial power, relying instead on batteries, solar power, and other portable equipment. During the exercise, participants will make radio contacts around the country while testing equipment and emergency communication procedures.

According to organizers, amateur radio plays an important role in emergency preparedness and is recognized by federal emergency management agencies as part of the nation's emergency communications network. CCARES provides communication support for Churchill County, the

City of Fallon, Naval Air Station Fallon, the Truckee-Carson Irrigation District, and organizations, including the Red Cross.

In addition to radio demonstrations, free hamburgers and hot dogs will be served beginning at 5 p.m. Organizers said signs will be posted from the U.S. Highway 50 turnoff to help direct visitors to the site.

Those interested in becoming licensed amateur radio operators are encouraged to attend the event to learn more about the process. Amateur radio operators are licensed by the Federal Communications Commission and must pass an examination before operating. Local license testing is offered on the second Saturday of each month through Amateur Radio of Churchill County, which also hosts weekly radio gatherings and monthly meetings.

For more information, visit the Amateur Radio of Churchill County Facebook page.

Pony Express Re-Ride to Pass Through Churchill County

Staff Report

The Pony Express will ride again this month, bringing a piece of living history through Churchill County as part of the 2026 National Pony Express Re-Ride.

The annual relay began Monday, June 15, in St. Joseph, Missouri, and will continue west around the clock until the final rider reaches Old Sacramento, California, on Thursday, June 25. Along the way, riders will follow the original Pony Express route across eight states, carrying a traditional mochila filled with commemorative letters.

This year's ride carries added meaning as the country prepares to celebrate America 250, the nation's semiquincentennial. The National Pony Express Association is using the ride to honor both the short-lived but legendary mail service and the larger American story of endurance, communication, and connection across long distances.

The Nevada portion of the ride is scheduled to begin Monday, June 22, when the relay crosses from Utah into Nevada. Riders are expected to reach Cold Springs at 7 p.m. Tuesday, June 23, and Middlegate at 9 p.m. before continuing west toward Sand Springs, near Sand Mountain, around midnight. The schedule is approximate, and the rider can run ahead of or behind posted times depending on weather, terrain, horses, and relay conditions.

The re-ride recreates the historic mail route used by Pony Express riders



Pony Express rider participates in a previous National Pony Express Re-Ride. Photo courtesy of Kathy Mills.

in 1860 and 1861, when young riders on horseback carried mail between Missouri and California before the completion of the transcontinental telegraph. Though the original Pony Express lasted only about 18 months, it became one of the most enduring symbols of the American West.

Riders participating in the modern re-ride wear period-style clothing and exchange the mochila from horse to horse along the trail. The mochila, a leather cover placed over the saddle, holds the mail and is passed from rider to rider throughout the journey.

Local residents will have a chance to celebrate the ride and America 250 on Saturday, June 20, at Oats Park in Fallon. The Pony Express Re-Ride Celebration will run from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. and will include family activities, a photo booth, stick pony relay races, 1800s-era games, gold panning, a "get deputized" activity, and food trucks.

The Fallon Cake Picnic will begin at 5 p.m., with residents encouraged to bring lawn chairs and enjoy cake with the community. A free concert featuring Micky and the Motorcars is scheduled for 7:30 p.m.

The National Pony Express Association encourages spectators to follow the ride live through its real-time GPS tracking map and to watch for mochila exchanges along the trail. Organizers remind the public that posted times are estimates, but the tradition remains the same: horse, rider, mochila, and the long road west.

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AUGUST 13-16, 2026
LYON COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS
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For more information contact Lisa Tibbals 775-221-4087 or Donna McDonald 775-309-3720

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BUSINESS

Father's Day, Fallon Style

Staff Report

Father's Day weekend gives Fallon families an opportunity to enjoy some of the community's favorite destinations while supporting local businesses along the way.

For many Fallon residents, the day begins with a cup of coffee before heading out to fish, play golf, go boating, or explore the wide-open spaces that surround the community.

Cabin Coffee, Rush Coffee (formerly Telegraph Coffee & Tap), and Espresso de Cafe. They provide convenient gathering places for families starting their Father's Day celebrations before heading out to enjoy the area's recreational opportunities.

One of the area's most recognizable destinations is Grimes Point Archaeological Area, where visitors can view ancient petroglyphs and explore one of Northern Nevada's most significant cultural sites.

carvings created thousands of years ago while taking in expansive desert views.

For dads who enjoy fishing, boating, and camping, Lahontan State Recreation Area remains a popular destination. The reservoir draws families throughout the summer for fishing, water sports, swimming, and weekend camping trips.

Golf is another popular Father's Day activity. The Fallon Golf Course provides a local option for golfers looking to spend a few hours on the links before gathering with family later in the day.

Several Fallon restaurants are also open on Father's Day. The Grid remains a popular spot for burgers and sports, while Pizza Barn, Bayou Bites, Krab Kingz, and other locally owned restaurants provide dining options throughout the day.

Retail businesses also benefit from Father's Day shopping. For dads who enjoy western living, tools, ranch supplies, or outdoor gear, local businesses such as Big R, Louie's ACE Home Center, and Boot Barn offer opportunities to browse for gifts and supplies.

Whether the day includes a morning on the golf course, an afternoon at Lahontan Reservoir, a visit to Grimes Point, or dinner with family, Father's Day highlights the role local businesses, recreation destinations, and retailers play in bringing residents and visitors together throughout the year.

Whether launching a boat, casting a line from shore, or relaxing along the water's edge, visitors can enjoy one of Churchill County's most popular outdoor recreation areas.

FATHER'S DAY, Fallon Style. SUPPORT LOCAL. CELEBRATE DAD. LOCAL BUSINESSES. LOCAL JOBS. A STRONGER FALLON. COFFEE SHOPS, LOCAL DINING, SHOP LOCAL, MORE WAYS TO CELEBRATE. THANK YOU, DADS! WE APPRECIATE ALL YOU DO.

C.A.R.T. CHURCHILL AREA REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION. LOCAL RIDES AVAILABLE MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY FROM 7:00AM-5:00PM. RENO AND CARSON RIDES AVAILABLE TUESDAY AND THURSDAY. WN PENNINGTON LIFE CENTER. CONTACT THE WILLIAM N PENNINGTON LIFE CENTER TO SCHEDULE AND INQUIRE OF FEE SCHEDULE.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

CNHD Approves \$51,302 Burning Man Fee, Ratifies \$535,134 Grant

By Sydney Trainor

The Central Nevada Health District Board approved a \$51,302 fee for Burning Man's 2026 mass gathering permit during its June 10 meeting, applying the district's new fee schedule as it continues assuming responsibilities previously handled by the state.

Burning Man had requested to maintain the previous \$2,000 fee structure, but the board approved the permit under CNHD's new fee schedule. Agency Relations Manager Ben Challinor noted that Burning Man had previously been informed that no additional application requirements would be needed. CNHD Board Chair Ken Tedford acknowledged that the district is still working through challenges associated with taking over responsibilities from the state. The board approved the permit with conditions and a fee of \$51,302.

The board also unanimously ratified a \$535,134 grant agreement supporting reproductive health services in Churchill, Eureka, Mineral, and Pershing counties. CNHD Administrator Shannon Ernst said services have already begun, allowing the district to seek reimbursement for work already completed.

Board members approved an agreement with the Nevada Department of Agriculture to provide temporary environmental health oversight while CNHD works to fill its vacant Environmental Health Manager position. The agreement authorizes up to \$1,700 per week for temporary support.

The board also ratified an interlocal agreement with the Nevada Department of Agriculture to provide additional environmental health inspectors during Burning Man 2026, with costs not to exceed \$11,000.

Additionally, the board approved an extension of the Juvenile Detention Medical Oversight Agreement with Churchill County Juvenile Detention and Dr. Tedd McDonald through June 30.

Ernst also presented a nonmonetary memorandum of understanding with the Division of Public and Behavioral Health's (DPBH) 318 Program. The agreement provides access to the federal 340B program, allowing CNHD to obtain medications and vaccines at reduced cost. The agreement was ratified unanimously.

The board also ratified a letter of support for the University of Nevada, Reno's Rural Health Transformation Program WRAPP initiative, which focuses on strengthening rural health care systems through workforce development incentives.

Board members approved a strategic brief for a redesigned CNHD website intended to improve navigation, accessibility, and information for rural communities.

The board also approved the reclassification of Olivia Diaz from Environmental Health Specialist I to Environmental Health Specialist II after she earned her Registered Environmental Health Inspector certification on April 21. The promotion includes a pay increase retroactive to that date.

Churchill County Assistant County Manager, Joe Sanford, presented results of Churchill County's compensation study. The board approved new salary tables that include a 2% cost-of-living adjustment and 3% annual merit increases, effective July 6.

Grants and Fiscal Specialist Shasta Garrison reported approximately \$1.2 million in revenue and about \$1.5 million in expenditures through the fiscal year to date. Fiscal year 2026 financial reports were approved unanimously.

Epidemiology Program Manager Victoria Sepcic reported that the 2025-26 respiratory virus season ended in May, with influenza, respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) and COVID-19 activity declining to expected seasonal levels. No measles cases were identified within the district, and communicable disease activity remained relatively low.

During the District Health Officer's report, Dr. Tedd McDonald reviewed county vaccination report cards, highlighting Eureka County's 100% kindergarten vaccination rate and noting the data helps identify communities that may be more vulnerable to outbreaks of vaccine-preventable diseases.

Administrator Ernst reported that CNHD was unsuccessful in securing funding through three Rural Health Transformation Fund applications, though all proposals received positive feedback. One application will be resubmitted later this month, while the remaining two are planned for submission in early 2027. She also announced that a new Public Health Preparedness Planner will begin work June 22.

In other business, the board approved CNHD's 2026-27 Nevada Public Agency Insurance Pool renewal proposal, maintaining existing coverage while reducing annual costs by 4.51% to \$16,815.31. The board also approved the final fiscal year 2027 budget and accepted the resignation of Dr. James Zuberness, authorizing Ernst to solicit applications for a new physician board member.

The next board meeting will be held at 485 W. B St. in Fallon.

Planning Commission Approves Geothermal Exploration and Other Projects

By Sydney Trainor

The Churchill County Planning Commission approved several business and land-use permits during its June 10 meeting, including geothermal exploration drilling, a commercial relocation for a growing local contractor, and a home-based daycare permit.

During public comments, Bruce Cunningham spoke about ongoing dust, traffic, and road-use concerns near Bench Road.

"The traffic on that road has gotten to be more than just residential traffic," Cunningham said. "Those people come roaring up and down the road. They don't care. It's not their property."

The commission reviewed a special use permit for the Desert Properties R.U.S. multi-tenant business complex. Several permit conditions, including septic, water, fencing, and landscaping requirements, remain incomplete. While commissioners acknowledged progress on the septic and water system issues, they expressed frustration that little progress had been made on landscaping and emphasized that existing tenants are affected when permit conditions remain unresolved.

The commission approved a six-month extension and directed that if all permit conditions are not completed within six months, revocation proceedings will automatically begin.

Commissioners also approved a special use permit allowing Tiny Tots Learning, LLC, to establish a home-based daycare on Zephyr Lane. Staff recommended limiting the daycare to 10 children unless additional parking improvements are completed. After reviewing parking, occupancy, and safety requirements, the commission unanimously approved the permit.

The commission approved a special use permit for Dead Eye Dirtworks, LLC, to operate a construction contractor and property services business at 150 Classic Way. Owner Clayton Bryant explained that the business is relocating from a home-based operation to a commercial site where equipment and vehicles can be stored more appropriately.

Commissioners said the relocation reflects the type of business growth the county hopes to encourage, and approved the permit unanimously.

Commissioners also approved a special use permit for Raser Power Systems, LLC, to conduct geothermal exploration drilling and well pad construction for the Desert Queen Geothermal Exploration Project. Project representatives said the work is intended to determine whether sufficient geothermal resources exist to support future development.

A special use permit for Jordan Huffman to operate a home-based automotive window-tinting business on Bench Road was discussed. Huffman explained that customers would schedule appointments, drop off their vehicles, and return later to pick them up after the work was completed. Cunningham again expressed concerns about traffic and dust along the area's dirt roads. The commission ultimately approved the permit.

Thomas Hodgson requested renewal of a temporary use permit allowing him to live in an RV while rebuilding a residence destroyed by fire. Hodgson said health and financial challenges delayed progress and requested conversion to a medical hardship permit.

Staff explained that the property does not qualify for a medical hardship permit because the residence itself is uninhabitable. The commission approved a six-month extension to allow additional progress and planning.

The commission also considered an application to divide a 221.21-acre parcel on Cadet Road into four parcels of approximately 40.01, 46.15, 72.12, and 64.57 acres. Commissioners recommended approval to the Board of County Commissioners.

Commissioners also recommended approval of a request to divide a 16.23-acre parcel on McLean Road into two 5-acre parcels and one 6.23-acre parcel.

Staff also reviewed five parcel maps implementing a previously approved cluster development on Lima Lane. The project would create 15 residential lots while preserving the remaining agricultural land through a conservation easement. The commission recommended approval to the Board of County Commissioners.

The commission approved a request from Sharon Pierce to reduce the rear setback requirement for an accessory dwelling unit from 20 feet to 12 feet. The structure was legally built in 2011 but should have been classified as an accessory dwelling unit under county regulations at the time. The applicants purchased the property in December 2025 and are working to correct the issue.

The commission also agreed to hold a joint workshop with the Board of County Commissioners on July 28 at 6:30 p.m. to discuss future code and planning topics.

[TCID continued from page 1]

how much loss should be attributed to the delivery system and how much responsibility rests with the landowner to maintain the ditch.

The debate followed concerns raised during the May board meeting and was addressed during a broader presentation on the Alpine Decree, which governs water rights on the Carson River above Lahontan Reservoir.

Wathen explained that the decree established irrigation duties ranging from 4.5 to 9 acre-feet per acre upstream of Lahontan Reservoir depending on land classification, while lands within the Newlands Project operate under a 2.99 acre-foot consumptive use standard.

The decree also divides the Carson River into a series of independently regulated segments. When river flows become insufficient to satisfy all water rights, the Federal Watermaster administers deliveries according to priority dates within each segment.

Wathen emphasized that the decree is designed to maximize beneficial use of water while recognizing historical practices such as rotations, return flows, and reuse of water throughout the river system.

Former TCID President Ernie Schank told the board that attempts were made years ago to impose stricter federal-style measurement requirements on upper Carson River users. He said many irrigators opposed the idea because they feared increased litigation and disputes over measurements and diversions.

"We were just going to make the pockets of the lawyers rich," Schank said, recalling concerns that stricter regulation would lead to continual lawsuits.

The conversation returned to the issue later in the meeting when board members discussed whether TCID should adopt a policy defining where deliveries are measured. Board members ultimately chose not to take action, with General Manager Ben Shawcroft recommending the issue remain under discussion rather than becoming a formal policy matter at this time.

Director Davy Stix argued that removing terms such as "headgate" and "takeout" from the discussion simplifies the issue.

"We should be able to deliver to somebody's property line," Stix said. "What happens after that, it's on their dime."

No action was taken regarding water measurement policies. Board members agreed to leave the matter under discussion rather than pursue a formal policy change, while questions remain about where deliveries should be measured within the Newlands Project and how those practices align with the historical administration of water rights under the Alpine Decree.



Fernley 4th of July 2026
Theme: Celebrating the birth of Liberty
Join us for a day filled with fun activities.






Breakfast, Masonic Lodge 7 am to 10 am
Parade 10 am, Main Street
Flag raising 1 pm, Out of Town park

DJ EYE QUE
AND White
Water



Per Title 20
No glass bottles and No
dogs allowed during special
events

Fernley 4th of July is accepting applications for vendors, parade entries, and dry camping spots
www.fernley-4th-of-july.com
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COURT

Tenth Judicial District Court

The Tenth Judicial District Court convened Tuesday, June 9, with Judge Thomas Stockard presiding.

Kelvin Kee Yesslith appeared for sentencing on Possession of a Controlled Substance (methamphetamine), a First or Second Offense, to which he pleaded guilty on April 7.

Churchill County Public Defender Jacob Sommer said that, with the exception of a misdemeanor conviction in 2020, Yesslith had not sustained a conviction since 2016. Sommer said his client has been respectful and diligent, has worked well with counsel, is employed, and would like to continue providing for his family. The defense asked for probation.

Yesslith told Judge Stockard, "I made a mistake, you know, I was helping some people and I took some stuff from them to get rid of it."

Judge Stockard granted him probation on a suspended 12–38-month prison sentence. As a condition of probation, he was ordered to obtain a substance abuse evaluation and follow all recommendations. Stockard told Yesslith, "My advice to you is continue to help people out, but not with contraband."

Lance Kenneth Spencer appeared for sentencing on the Category C Felony of Burglary of a Business, to which he pleaded guilty on April 7.

Senior Public Defender Jeffrey Weed told the court there has been a significant change in Spencer since he first appeared in court. Weed said Spencer has graduated from high school, obtained employment, and is pursuing counseling. He noted that Spencer admitted responsibility for the offense, explaining that while intoxicated, he broke a window and entered the Green Cross Pharmacy in an attempt to steal money.

The defense asked that Spencer be allowed to participate in the Western Nevada Regional Drug Court Program. Weed said the defendant is 18 and that the goal is to set him up for success.

Spencer told the court, "This isn't who I want to be. I want to do and to be better." He said he hopes to become a welder.

Proceedings were suspended, and Spencer was placed on probation with the condition that he enter and successfully complete the Western Nevada Regional Drug Court Program. Additional conditions prohibit him from entering Green Cross Pharmacy, require him to develop a plan for further education, and share it with his probation officer.

Brayden Walker Castillo, in custody, pleaded guilty to Battery on an Officer, Provider of Health Care, School Employee, Taxicab Driver, Transit Operator, or Sports Official, a Gross Misdemeanor punishable by up to 364 days in jail and a fine of up to \$2,000.

Senior Deputy District Attorney Chelsea Sanford said law enforcement officers responded to a battery call and found Castillo hiding in the



bushes. After discovering he had an outstanding traffic violation and attempting to arrest him, Castillo hooked an officer's leg, took him to the ground, kicked at officers, and spat on another officer.

"This conduct is inexcusable," Sanford told the court. "These are individuals who are just trying to do their jobs." Sanford noted that one of the officers submitted a victim impact statement and asked the court to sentence Castillo appropriately.

Castillo was represented by Churchill County Alternate Public Defender Wright Noel, who argued that his client's conduct was tied to alcohol abuse rather than a disregard for law enforcement. Noel said Castillo has completed New Frontier's program, is employed, and asked that he be allowed to participate in the Western Nevada Regional Drug Court Program.

Castillo told Judge Stockard, "I've been seeing you since I was a little guy. Most of it's all been related to substance; alcohol, alcohol, alcohol. Always alcohol."

He said he is 24 years old, is working with a counselor, and realizes he is "basically fighting for my life at this point." Castillo said that instead of trying to forget his mistakes, he is trying to learn from them and hopes to someday have a good job and a family.

Judge Stockard sentenced Castillo to 60 days in jail.

Chad Austin Jenkins, in custody, pleaded guilty in two separate cases.

In the first case, Jenkins pleaded guilty to a gross misdemeanor charge of Manufacture, Importation, Possession, or Use of a Dangerous Weapon or Silencer, or Carrying a Concealed Weapon Without a Permit; and misdemeanor Resisting, Delaying, or Obstructing a Public Officer.

The factual basis stated that Jenkins was carrying a concealed carbon dioxide-powered

pellet gun, which was legal for him to possess but illegal to carry concealed. When contacted by law enforcement, he fled from officers.

In the second case, Jenkins pleaded guilty to Burglary of a Motor Vehicle, a Category E Felony, and Obtaining or Possessing a Credit Card, Debit Card, or Identifying Information Without Consent, a Category D Felony.

A Pre-Sentencing Investigation was ordered in the felony case, with sentencing set for Aug. 11. Jenkins was provisionally placed in Western Nevada Regional Drug Court, which will determine if he is to be released from custody.

On the misdemeanor charges, defense attorney Charles Woodman told the court, "My client's problem, as is the case with so many people sitting here, is that he is a drug addict." Woodman explained that Jenkins was under the influence, carrying the airsoft gun, and fled when police arrived, arguing that rehabilitation was Jenkins' greatest need.

Woodman noted that Jenkins had been accepted by New Frontier and said long-term recovery would be critical if he hoped to break his cycle of criminal behavior. Quoting a friend who has been sober for 30 years, Woodman said, "Whether it's alcohol or drugs, they're incredibly patient. They will wait as long as they need to for you."

Jenkins told Judge Stockard, "I'm not trying to give you a sob story, but I have been addicted to hard drugs since I was fifteen ... I just want a chance to go be with my family, and just chill. I don't want to get in no more trouble."

Judge Stockard granted Jenkins probation on suspended consecutive jail sentences of 364 days for the concealed carry charge and 180 days for resisting arrest. He also ordered Jenkins to successfully complete Drug Court.

Crystal Angela Strosnider was not present for her scheduled arraignment. Her case was continued to June 16.

Fallon Woman Charged with 29 Counts of Distributing CSAM is Back in Custody

By Leanna Lehman

Tracy Elizabeth Hansen, 37, was arrested on March 26 in Fallon by Homeland Security on allegations of distributing child sexual abuse material (CSAM) online, with bail set at \$580,000. She was arraigned in New River Township Justice Court the following day and released on her own recognizance (OR). However, following her recent arrest in Storey County, Hansen was returned to custody in Fallon for violating the terms of her release.

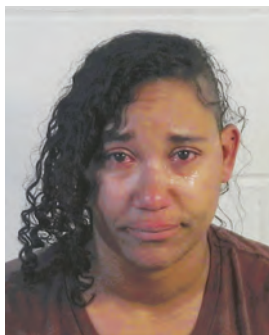
The Churchill County charges against Hansen are among the most serious offenses in Nevada law. Hansen is facing 29 separate counts of distributing CSAM. In this case, investigators cited dozens of videos depicting the sexual abuse of children, some as young as newborns. Each count is a Category A Felony punishable by life in prison with the possibility of parole after 10 years and up to \$100,000 in fines. Upon conviction, each count requires 25 years of sex offender registration.

The Promotion of Sexual Performance of a Minor is a child pornography offense, or as it is more commonly referred to today, child exploitation. Under Nevada law, it is a felony to knowingly create, promote, or share material depicting a minor engaged in or simulating sexual acts, or displaying private body parts.

During Hansen's arraignment on March 27, the court conducted a screening to determine whether she qualified for representation by the public defender. Hansen reported that she is an accountant with Robert Half International, a large accounting staffing firm. She said she had been placed at Cal Nevada Precision Blasting and takes home approximately \$4,000 per month.

Hansen also told the court she owns a home on one acre. Based on her income alone, Judge Benjamin Trotter determined she did not technically meet the standard \$32,000 income threshold for indigent defense. When asked about the possibility of obtaining a second mortgage to retain private counsel, Hansen replied, "I don't think I would be able to, no." Hansen also told the court that an attorney she contacted quoted a fee of \$500,000, with \$50,000 required up front. Judge Trotter ultimately appointed the Churchill County Office of Public Defender to represent her.

Public Defender Jacob Sommer requested Hansen's release, after which Trotter conducted a Valdez-Jimenez hearing. The court reviewed several factors, in-



Tracy Hansen.
Photo courtesy of Churchill County Sheriff's Office.

cluding Hansen's zero score on a Court Services-administered risk assessment, her lack of criminal history, home ownership, and whether she posed a flight risk or danger to the community. The judge determined Hansen was eligible for OR release.

The terms of Hansen's pretrial release included weekly contact with counsel, no new criminal violations, and no new employment without approval of the court, the defense, and the state. She was also prohibited from going to places where children gather, having children at her residence, or visiting pornographic or fetish websites. Judge Trotter informed Hansen that any violation of those conditions would result in her immediate return to jail.

Around the same time as Hansen's arrest in Fallon, the Storey County District Attorney's Office alleges she was involved in other criminal activity, although neither jurisdiction was aware of the other investigation at the time.

The Storey County District Attorney's Office filed a criminal complaint against Hansen in Virginia Township Justice Court on June 1, charging her with two counts of Theft of \$100,000 or More, Category B Felonies, punishable by 1–20 years in prison and fines up to \$15,000.

Count I alleges that between March 19 and March 20, 2026, Hansen, individually or in concert with Chao Fang and/or other unknown persons, willfully and without lawful authority converted or made an unauthorized funds transfer. Specifically, the complaint alleges she "changed the recipient and diverted an electronic payment of \$100,000 from Cal Nevada Precision Blasting to a Bank of America account belonging to Chao Fang, which was not the original, legitimate account of ENAEX explosive company, the vendor who was supposed to receive the money."

Count II alleges a similar scheme between March 26 and March 27, 2026, again identifying Fang as the recipient of another \$100,000 transfer from Cal Nevada Precision Blasting.

Hansen posted bail on June 5 after it was set at \$80,000 bondable. She is now in custody at the Churchill County Detention Center, as the two new criminal charges constitute a violation of the terms of her OR release.

Hansen is expected to reappear in Justice Court in the coming weeks.

All defendants are presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty in a court of law. Criminal charges are allegations, and defendants are entitled to due process and a fair trial under the law.

EDUCATION

CCSD Cool School News

Staff Report

CHURCHILLCSD SUMMER MEAL PROGRAM RETURNS WITH NEW PICKUP REQUIREMENTS

Families planning to participate in ChurchillCSD's free summer meal program will need to follow new pickup requirements this year, including providing proof of eligibility when children are not present.

ChurchillCSD is participating in the Summer Food Service Program, which offers free meals to all children ages 2 to 18 at locations throughout Churchill County. Under updated program guidelines, children must either be present when meals are picked up or a parent or guardian must provide a birth certificate or school ID for each child receiving meals.

According to ChurchillCSD, the change marks a departure from previous years, when children did not need to be present during meal pickup.

Meals will be available at several

ChurchillCSD-operated sites Monday through Thursday from June 8 through June 25. Numa Elementary School, Churchill County Middle School, and Churchill County High School will serve breakfast from 7:30 to 8 a.m. and lunch from 11 a.m. to noon. Meals at those locations must be consumed on site.

Beginning July 9, families may also pick up meal kit food boxes each Thursday through Aug. 6 at Numa Elementary School from 11 a.m. to noon. The meal kits include food items and recipe cards for meals that can be assembled at home. Children must be present at pickup, or a parent or guardian must provide a birth certificate or school ID.

Additional community meal sites will operate throughout the summer. Oats Park will serve lunch from noon to 1 p.m. Monday through Thursday from June 8 through Aug. 6, and is open to all children ages 2 to 18. Children must be present, or a parent or guardian must provide

a birth certificate or school ID.

The Fallon Paiute-Shoshone Tribe will provide lunch and a snack from noon to 12:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday from June 8 through Aug. 6. Meals at the tribal site must be consumed on site.

The Fallon Youth Club will offer breakfast and dinner for club members from June 22 through Aug. 14, except June 19 and July 3, while SUM-FUN/Cottage School C.A.R.E. will provide lunch and a snack for program participants from June 8 through Aug. 20.

No meals will be served on June 19 or from June 29 through July 3.

The Summer Food Service Program is designed to help ensure children continue to have access to nutritious meals when school is not in session.

For more information about meal locations and eligibility requirements, contact ChurchillCSD Food Services.

Veritas Preparatory School – Classical and Christian

By David Ernst

SECOND GRADE CELEBRATES “LITTLE HOUSE IN THE BIG WOODS” WITH BIG WOODS BREAKFAST

At Veritas Preparatory School, reading is considered one of the most important foundations for lifelong learning and academic success. Developing strong readers is a central part of the school's mission, and students are regularly introduced to timeless works of literature that have inspired generations of readers.

Classes often hold special celebrations to commemorate the completion of class books. One recent example was Mrs. Buller's second-grade class' "Big Woods Breakfast," celebrating the completion of "Little House in the Big Woods." The event brought the beloved story to life through food, music, dance, and historical dress.

Written by Laura Ingalls Wilder, "Little House in the Big Woods" is an autobiographical novel that chronicles the experiences of young Laura and her family as they live in a log cabin on the Wisconsin frontier during the 1870s. Through vivid descriptions of pioneer life, the book introduces students to a world very different from their own while highlighting themes of family, hard work, gratitude, and perseverance.

To commemorate the completion of the novel, students arrived dressed in period-inspired clothing reminiscent of the frontier era. Bonnets,

suspenders, aprons, and simple dresses transformed the classroom into a scene that could have been taken directly from the pages of the book.

The highlight of the celebration was the "Big Woods Breakfast" itself. Students enjoyed foods inspired by those described in the story, providing a hands-on connection to the daily lives of the Ingalls family. The meal gave students an opportunity to experience a small taste of pioneer life while reflecting on the chapters they had spent weeks reading and discussing.

The celebration also featured music and dance. Students prepared and performed a traditional folk dance set to a lively fiddle tune, showcasing both their enthusiasm and their growing appreciation for historical traditions. Adding to the authenticity of the event, parent volunteer John Bice provided live music for the occasion. Mr. Bice performed several traditional melodies on his "fiddle" (which was actually a viola). His music helped transport students back in time and gave them a deeper appreciation for the role music played in family and community life on the frontier.

The event exemplified the Veritas approach to education, combining strong academics with meaningful experiences that deepen understanding and foster a love of learning. By connecting literature, history, music, and community, the "Big Woods Breakfast" transformed a favorite classroom novel into a memorable educational experience.

Bighorn Bulletin

By Angela Viera

WE THE PEOPLE STUDENTS SHOWCASE CONSTITUTIONAL KNOWLEDGE BEFORE LOCAL ATTORNEYS

Students in Oasis Academy's We the People classes recently demonstrated their knowledge of the United States Constitution by presenting constitutional arguments before a panel of local legal professionals. Students in grades 5, 7, and 8 participated in the event, which challenged them to analyze constitutional issues and defend their positions using evidence, historical examples, and constitutional principles.

Serving as judges for the presentations were local attorneys Joseph Sanford, Jeffrey Weed, and Kenny Tedford Jr. The attorneys listened to student testimony, asked follow-up questions, and evaluated the students' understanding of the Constitution and the principles of American government.

Throughout the semester, students worked collaboratively in teams to research constitutional topics, construct well-supported arguments, and prepare responses using the nationally recognized We the People format. The program emphasizes critical thinking, civic knowledge, public speaking, and teamwork while encouraging students to explore the rights and responsibilities of citizenship.

During the simulated congressional hearings held at the Churchill County Commission Chambers, students confidently presented their prepared statements and responded to challenging questions from the attorney panel.

For fifth grade, some of the topics included conflicts between individual rights and the common good, the benefits of freedom of expression and religion in the First Amendment and the responsibilities that accompany those freedoms, and the responsibilities of citizens today, including voting rights and responsibilities, how to be a good citizen, and whether citizens have responsibilities to other countries.

The event provided students with a valuable opportunity to engage with members of the local

legal community while applying what they learned in the classroom. By presenting before practicing attorneys in a formal setting, students gained real-world experience in defending ideas, supporting claims with evidence, and participating in civil discourse.

Students also learned how to encourage more young people to vote, including through programs such as We the People that teach the importance of participating in government.

The program thanks Kelly Nott, Tamara McNeill, and Amber Revels for their dedication and leadership in guiding this valuable elective and coordinating the final event.

OASIS ACADEMY FFA LAUNCHES QUILT RAFFLE TO SUPPORT NATIONAL CONVENTION TRIP

The Oasis Academy FFA chapter is inviting the community to support its journey to the National FFA Convention this fall through a special raffle featuring a handcrafted Americana-style quilt.

The quilt, created by teacher Jenna Whitaker, showcases patriotic colors and a timeless Americana design, making it a fitting addition to America 250 celebrations. Raffle tickets are available for \$5 each or five tickets for \$20.

Proceeds from the raffle will directly benefit the Oasis Academy FFA program as students prepare to attend the National FFA Convention in Indianapolis, Indiana, this October. The convention brings together thousands of FFA members from across the country for leadership development, career exploration, educational workshops, and competitive events.

The winning ticket will be drawn during the Flyin' Tiz Aviation "4th of July Celebration." The event begins at 6 p.m. at the Fallon Municipal Airport.

Hot dog meals will be available for purchase from the FFA for \$10 each or four for \$35.

Community members interested in purchasing raffle tickets may do so online at bit.ly/4xjSgwu or by contacting Angela Viera at 775-666-0912.

"Oasis Academy FFA is incredibly grateful to Jenna Whitaker for donating her time and talent to create this beautiful quilt, and to Flyin' Tiz Aviation for providing us with the opportunity to participate in their Fourth of July celebration," said Jackie Bogdanowicz, Oasis Academy FFA adviser. "The support of our community partners makes experiences like the National FFA Convention possible for our students. Their generosity helps our members grow as leaders and represent Oasis Academy and Nevada on a national stage."

UNIFORM STORE SUMMER HOURS

Families preparing for the upcoming 2026-27 school year will have several opportunities to visit the Oasis Academy Uniform Store this summer.

The Uniform Store will be open from 4 to 6 p.m. on July 20 and July 27. Morning hours from 9 to 11 a.m. will be offered on July 21 and July 28.

Additional summer shopping dates from 9 to 11 a.m. include Aug. 3, Aug. 4, Aug. 8, Aug. 10, Aug. 11, and Aug. 15.

Students and families are encouraged to visit during these scheduled hours to purchase required school uniforms and ensure they are ready for the first day of school on Aug. 19.

Oasis Academy reminds families that the school's uniform policy is an important part of maintaining a positive learning environment and promoting school pride. Only approved uniform clothing may be worn to school.

Families are encouraged to review the uniform guidelines found in the Parent/Student Handbook on the school website at oanv.org and make any necessary purchases before the start of the school year to help students begin the year prepared and in compliance with the dress code.

Families may receive a 10% discount on new uniform purchases by donating gently used uniforms. Donations may be dropped off at the Uniform Store.

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SPORTS

Boots N' Britches Play Days Open Summer Season



Colt, Augustus, Andy, and Morgan Daniels attend the Boots N' Britches Play Days season opener June 9. Andy and Augustus ride Sugar.

Story and photo by Nancy Chapman

Riders of all ages kicked off the 2026 Boots N' Britches Play Days season June 9 at the 3C Event Complex, continuing a longtime Fallon tradition that introduces youth and families to rodeo competition in a low-pressure environment.

Boots N' Britches is the oldest riding organization in Fallon and is sponsored by Churchill County Parks and Recreation. The program is overseen by Community Activities Director Beth Webb and features six events throughout the summer.

The organization was created to encourage youth participation in horse-related activities and to provide affordable opportunities for families to compete together. Season registration costs \$25 per person or \$60 per family. Individual classes range from \$2 to \$4.

Participants earn points throughout the series, which includes two events each month from June through Aug. 19. Riders must attend at least three events to qualify for season-ending awards.

Events featured during the series include breakaway roping, barrel racing, pole bending, figure-eight racing, goat tying, lead-line competition, and goat undecorating for peewee riders younger than 7.

Attire requirements include cowboy boots, while the use of riding helmets is left to parents' discretion.

The Play Days series welcomes competitors from peewee through senior divisions and provides an opportunity to practice rodeo skills in a family-friendly setting without the pressure of larger rodeo competition.

Sign-ups begin at 5:30 p.m. at the main arena before each event. The next Play Days competition is scheduled for June 30.

Season registration costs \$25 per person or \$60 per family. Individual classes range from \$2 to \$4.

Rotary Golf Tournament Raises \$8,000 for Community Programs



Four golfers pose for a photo during the Rotary Club's Annual Golf Tournament on May 30 at the Fallon Golf Course. Photo courtesy of the Fallon Rotary Club.

Submitted by the Fallon Rotary Club

On behalf of the Rotary Club, thank you everyone for their generous support of our Annual Rotary Golf Tournament held on May 30, 2026. This community's support played an important role in making this event a success, and Rotary is truly grateful for your commitment to our community service organization and the Fallon community. Rotary hopes to have your continued support for next year's golf tournament on June 5, 2027.

This year Rotary's event sponsors were the City of Fallon, Stockman's Casino, Mackedon, deBraga & Rowe Law, Depot Casino, Synectic Solutions, and Tedford Tire. The 18-hole sponsors were Financial Horizons, Huck Salt, A&K Earth Movers, Banner Health, Lixo Photo, Lane Mills, Joe and Chelsea Sanford, Charlie and Carol Arciniega, City Council person Karla Kent, CC Communications, Dr. Stu Richardson, Hampton Young, Tim Mayo, Berney Realty LTD, Darrell Hook, Steve and Dana Endacott, John Hill, and Ted Williams. Rotary also received raffle items from Courtyard Cafe, Dandelion Express, Ambiance Salon, Kent's Supply Center, Drs. Robertson and Koenig, Fallon Paiute Shoshone Tribe, Tedford Tire, Frey Ranch, and many more community supporters.

The winning golf team this year was from Tedford Tire with golfers Sharp, Henke, Fillmore, and Gelineau. The second-place team was from Churchill Sheriff's Office with golfers Sheriff Orozco, Sweeney, Kufalk, and Pasqual. The Women's closest to the pin was Jamie Davis and Men's closest to the pin was Eli Jones. The Men's longest drive was Eddie Gelineau and the Women's longest drive was Dawn Clark.

This year's golf tournament raised approximately \$8,000.00. Proceeds from the tournament directly support many of Rotary's signature community service projects and educational initiatives. Through the generosity of community supporter, Rotary was able to provide four \$1,500 merit-based higher education scholarships each year, distribute free dictionaries to every third-grade student in Churchill County, serve as the charter organization for Cub Scout Pack 38 and Boy Scout Troop 1776, and award two scholarships annually for local high school students to attend the Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) leadership camp.

The generosity of community supporters also helps fund student competitions in music and public speaking, our Senior Christmas Drive that provides thousands of essential items to homebound seniors, Rotary's annual Rotarians at Work Day dedicated to improving local public spaces, and special community projects such as installing a shade structure at the Cottage School and providing new soccer goals for local AYSO fields.

The success of these programs depends on the partnership and generosity of community-minded supporters. The golfers and sponsors who participated in the golf tournament fundraiser helps Rotary continue its mission of service above self and enables us to make a meaningful difference in the lives of our neighbors.

Thank you again for helping Rotary strengthen our community. Rotary sincerely appreciates your support and looks forward to partnering with you again in the future.

With gratitude,
The Rotary Club

Queen of Hearts Barrel Race Kicks Off PRCA Week in Fallon

Story and photo by Nancy Chapman

The Queen of Hearts Barrel Race kicked off Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association week in Fallon with three days of competition June 12-14 at the Rafter 3C Event Complex.

The event was co-sanctioned by the Women's Professional Rodeo Association, Outlaw Barrel Racing, Better Barrel Races, the North State Barrel Racing Association, Triple 7, and the Southern Idaho Barrel Racing Association.

Competitors raced for a share of more than \$30,000 in added money and \$10,000 in awards. Competition ranged from warm-up races to open and high-stakes events, with futurity and derby races, as well as senior and youth side pots.

Nevada's Richest Women's Breakaway, a roping competition featuring \$2,500 in added money, was scheduled as part of the event week.

Retail vendors from Fallon and surrounding communities participated throughout the event week. Organizers said the western showcase provided businesses an opportunity to display their products while serving visitors attending one of Northern Nevada's premier western events.



A competitor rounds a barrel during the Queen of Hearts Barrel Race at the Rafter 3C Event Complex.

Send us Your Birth Announcements

If you would like the birth of your child or grandchild announced in *The Fallon Post*, please: Ask the hospital for the form, email the details to: admin@thefallonpost.org, or email the details and a photo to admin@thefallonpost.org. The cost is \$49.



COLUMNS

What's Cooking in Kelli's Kitchen
Cold Peanut Ginger Noodles

By Kelli Kelly

About six weeks ago, I received a text message from my friend Naomi.

"Is this still you?"
Technically, she was asking whether she still had the right phone number. But after spending an evening together for the first time in nearly twenty-five years, I've found myself thinking about that question a little differently.

Naomi and I first met as teenagers and later became roommates at Chapman University. Along with our friends Mindy, Christie, and Kathryn, we shared a chaotic apartment we affectionately called the Nest of Estrogen. It was my first experience with found family. It was a place full of laughter, visitors, questionable decorating choices, and the kind of friendships that help shape who you become.

Over the years, life carried all of us in different directions. Naomi settled in Indianapolis. I settled in Fallon. We never completely lost touch. During COVID, Neil and I even bought a typewriter, and Naomi and I exchanged a few typed letters like old-fashioned pen pals. But we hadn't seen each other in person in nearly twenty-five years.

Then Naomi reached out. She was driving from Indianapolis to Big Sur for an annual camping trip and wondered if she could stop in Fallon along the way. The answer was an immediate yes.

After eight hours on the road, she arrived ready for a quiet evening. I gave her the Fallon tour: the historic downtown, the fairgrounds, NAS Fallon, Lattin Farms, and a few of the places that have become part of my daily life. Somewhere along the route, I realized I was doing what many of us do when visitors arrive: introducing someone we care about to a place we love.

Back at home, I made dinner. Naomi helped settle an internal debate about how to cook the shrimp by assigning numbers to the options and making me choose one. The smoker won.

Thankfully, so did the shrimp.

The meal was a cold noodle salad with smoked shrimp, fresh herbs, vegetables, and a ginger-



Kelly Marshall for The New York Times. Food Stylist: Roscoe Betsill. Prop Stylist: Paige Hicks.

peanut dressing. Wrigley Roo immediately decided Naomi was one of her favorite humans and spent most of the evening glued to her side while we talked.

And talked.
We caught up on twenty-five years of life. Naomi told me about her transition from nearly two decades at Trader Joe's to becoming an elementary school counselor. We talked about old friends, old stories, and the surprising paths our lives have taken. One of my favorite discoveries was learning that I had apparently been the first person any of my roommates knew who went on a date with someone I met on the internet. At the time, they were convinced I was headed toward certain disaster and developed an elaborate safety plan. Today, that story feels almost quaint. What struck me most about the visit wasn't

how much had changed. It was how much remained recognizable. The conversation came easily. The laughter came easily. It felt less like reconnecting and more like picking up a conversation that had simply been paused.

When Naomi texted, "Is this still you?" she was asking about a phone number. But after an evening spent sharing stories, introducing her to Fallon, and remembering the people we used to be, I found myself considering a different answer.

Twenty-five years is long enough to build an entirely different life.

It's also long enough to discover that some friendships endure anyway.

Ingredients:

Adapted from Melissa Clark

- 16 oz. Chinese egg noodles, spaghetti, or linguini
- 1 cup Crunchy peanut butter
- 3 tbsp. Soy sauce
- 2 tbsp. Chile crisp
- 2 tsp. Sesame oil
- 2 tsp. Grated ginger
- 1 can Coconut milk, shaken well
- 1 1/2 cup Thinly sliced cucumbers
- 1 bunch Green onions, thinly sliced
- 1 tbsp. Lime juice
- 1 bunch Basil, chopped
- 1 bunch Cilantro, chopped
- 1/2 bunch Mint, chopped

DIRECTIONS:

Bring a large pot of salted water to a boil. Add the noodles and cook according to the package directions. Drain and rinse with cool water.

In a large bowl, combine peanut butter, soy sauce, chile crisp, sesame oil, ginger, and enough coconut milk to make a loose smooth dressing.

Add the cucumber slices to the bowl on top of the dressing, but don't mix in. Drizzle cucumber lightly with a little more soy sauce.

Add the pasta, scallions, most of the chopped herbs, and lime juice to the bowl and toss well. Taste and add more chile crisp, soy sauce, or lime juice as needed. Top with the rest of the herbs and enjoy!

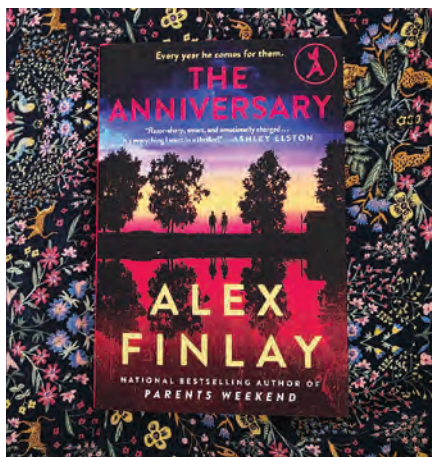
Allison's Book Report: "The Anniversary" by Alex Finlay

By Allison Diegel

It has been a minute since I featured a thriller here in The Book Report. Don't get me wrong, I love a good thriller – but sometimes, after you've read a lot of them, they all run together and feel a little too familiar. This week's pick changes all of that. If you're ready to find yourself completely submerged in a story that refuses to let you go, it's time to dive into Alex Finlay's "The Anniversary."

Finlay has already established himself as a master of the fast-paced mystery, but this particular novel feels like a masterclass in tension and human nature. From the very first page, he drops you into a complex web of secrets that slowly unravels in the most satisfying way possible, making it nearly impossible to find a good stopping point for the night.

The story kicks off on a fateful night—May 1, 1992—in a small Midwestern town, where the lives of two seventeen-year-olds from completely different worlds are permanently altered. Jules Delaney, the popular high school queen bee, miraculously survives a brutal attack by the elusive May Day Killer, a terrifying serial predator who strikes once a year on that exact date. Meanwhile, Quinn Riley, a quiet kid from the wrong side of the tracks, tries to break up a concert brawl but ends up in juvenile detention after nearly killing someone. When Quinn is released a year later, he returns home to the devastating, unsolved murder of his mother.



What makes the book so compelling is its brilliant chronological hook. Instead of a traditional timeline, Finlay revisits Jules and Quinn exclusively on May 1, year after year, tracking the echoes of that initial night across a full decade. As the years pass, Jules struggles with survivor's guilt, Quinn searches for his mother's killer, and their parallel paths inevitably collide.

Finlay's writing style is incredibly accessible and engaging, moving forward with a sleek, cinematic energy. By skipping the filler and focusing only on these annual check-ins, he creates a lean, fast narrative where secrets surface and lies unravel right on schedule. Just when you think you have the connection figured out, he gently tilts the frame and reveals a completely different angle. Ultimately, "The Anniversary" is a poignant, gripping exploration of grief, accountability, and fate. If you are

looking for a book that combines deep character studies with a breathless, decade-spanning whodunit, you absolutely need to add this one to your reading list.

I hope you enjoy the ride that "The Anniversary" is about to take you on. Don't forget to check out my Instagram @allison.the.reader for more book recommendations and book talk.

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.

Crossword

By Peanut

S U M M E R

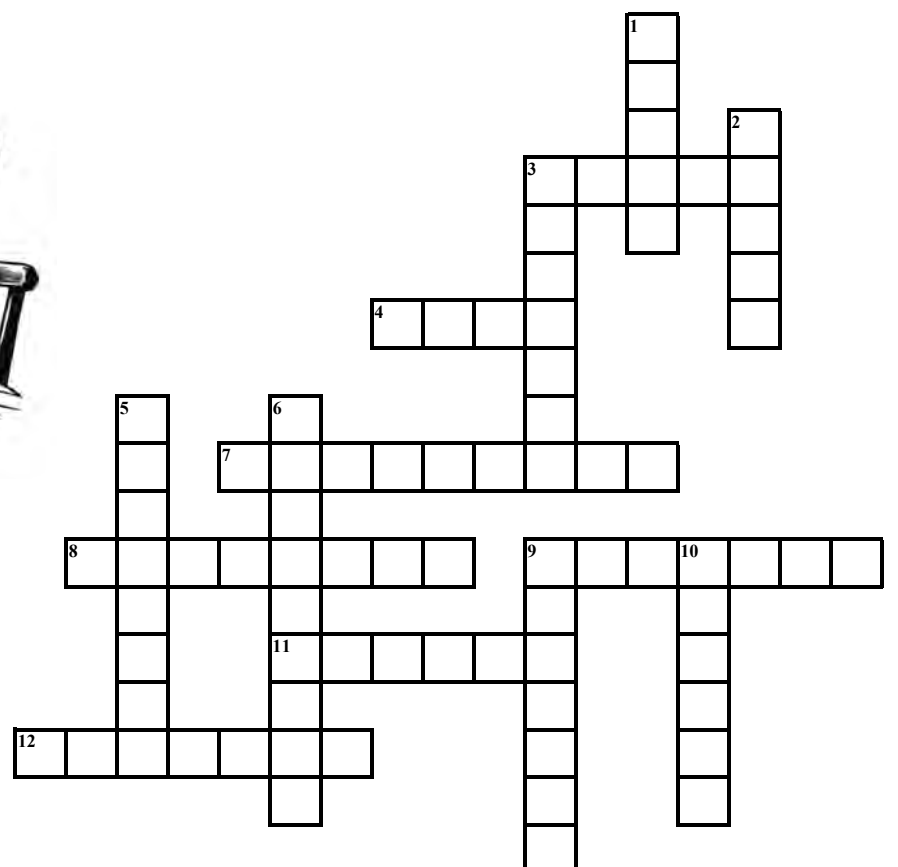


Across

- 3. Under an umbrella
- 4. Diving board locale
- 7. Sparklers, firecrackers
- 8. Grilled meal
- 9. Tents, sleeping bags
- 11. Al fresco meal
- 12. Shoes

Down

- 1. Paddled vessel
- 2. Castle building location
- 3. HOT
- 5. Sightseeing trip
- 6. Half a pina colada
- 9. Half a pina colada
- 10. Allergy villain



[Crossword answers found on page 14]

COLUMNS

Postcards: A Fallon Doctor, a Boxing Promoter, and the New York Knicks

By Michon Mackedon

You have probably heard the phrase “six degrees of separation.” It is the idea that all people are six or fewer social connections away from each other. As a result, a chain of friend-to-friend can be made to connect any two people in a maximum of six steps. The concept was originally set out in a 1929 short story by Frigyes Karinthy, in which a group of people play a game of trying to connect any person in the world to themselves by a chain of five others. It was popularized in John Guare’s 1990 play, “Six Degrees of Separation.”

Let’s play the six degrees game on a historical board. How is Fallon, circa 1906, related to Madison Square Garden, 2026, where, just this week, in NBA finals matches, the New York Knicks met the San Antonio Spurs?

The six steps include Dr. George Gardner, Fallon, Rawhide, Tex Rickard, Madison Square Garden 3, and Madison Square Garden 4.

I’ll start with Gardner. Dr. George M. Gardner was born in 1875 in Carson City, Nevada. He went to Stanford University in 1895, where he was a member of the first graduating class. He then attended Cooper Medical College in San Francisco and began practicing medicine in Elko. In 1904, he was hired as a Newlands Project physician and practiced medicine in Fallon until 1917. Gardner died in San Francisco in 1970.

While here, the “Doc” traveled throughout the area with his medical satchel in hand. He became the doctor at the Indian School in Stillwater. He traveled to the mining camps that sprang up around the periphery of Fallon. In one of those camps, Rawhide, Tex Rickard enters the story:

Gardner (from an Oral History given to Margaret “Peggy” Wheat in 1958): “When there was a mining boom you could sell drugs, so I wrote to

Kirk Gary Company in Sacramento and said, ‘Send me \$6,000.00 worth of drugs.’ The firm wired back and said, ‘That is a lot of drugs. What are you going to do?’ ‘I’m starting a drug store in Rawhide,’ I wired back. The drugs came by train to the nearest depot and then were freighted by team over to Rawhide, to the new drugstore which was a tent with shelves in it. I built that store right over the tent, and, when it was finished, I took down the tent. The miners used to come in and read all of the labels and then pick out what they wanted and bring it up and pay for it. My store was right next to Tex Rickard’s Great Northern Saloon. Wherever he went, Alaska, Goldfield, or Rawhide, he built a saloon called the Great Northern.”

Rickard, born in 1870, was already a western legend when he opened the saloon in Rawhide: cowboy, friend of Wyatt Earp, Texas Marshal, boxing promoter.

Gardner: “One day Tex came into my store and said he had an awful pain on his right side. I told him to go into the back and lie down on a box and I would examine him. ‘Does it hurt here?’ I asked. He jumped and yelled. ‘You have appendicitis and you better get it out before it kills you. You come down to Fallon and I will take it out for you.’ ‘You doctors are all alike... always wanting to cut on somebody. Just give me some medicine and I’ll get well.’

I gave him some, and he went home. Next morning he was back and said he felt fine. ‘That place on your side is still sore when you touch it, isn’t it?’ I thought so. Well, that is because it broke and it won’t bother you for a while but, mark my word, someday it will kill you. And when you get sick, when you are dying, I want you to do one thing for me, just remember me. Now don’t you forget. When you are dying, remember me.’ I pointed my finger at him and he said, ‘All right, Doc, I promise.

I won’t forget.’ He laughed and went on out. After that he [Rickard] went to South America and then came back to promote fights at the Garden.

By Garden, the Doc meant Madison Square Garden. The first MSG was built in 1879 at the corner of Madison and 26th Street in New York City and hosted concerts, dog shows, boxing and P.T. Barnum’s famous circus. It was torn down and replaced a year later because of structural issues. The third incarnation was built in 1925 at a different site, Eighth Avenue and 50th Street, financed and operated by...Tex Rickard. It was known as “The House That Tex Built.”

Gardner: “Well, one day, I picked up a paper and there I saw Tex Rickard had died while being operated on for appendicitis [Rickard died of a gangrenous appendix in Miami, Florida, in 1928.] You know, I often wonder if he thought of me. Someday I’ll ask him.”

To complete the story, the fourth and current Madison Square Garden was built over the railway platforms of Penn Station in 1968 and became home to the New York Knickerbockers, who, as you know, can still hold their own.

Please send your stories and ideas for 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.

DISTRICT COURT
CHURCHILL COUNTY, NEVADA
CASE NO: 26-10DC-0663
DEPT: 1

**In the Matter of Application of:
SAPHIRE SABRINA-ROSE RITZ
For Change of Name.**

**NOTICE OF PETITION FOR
CHANGE OF NAME**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a petition was filed in the above-entitled Court requesting that the Court legally change applicants name from SAPHIRE SABRINA-ROSE RITZ to SAPHIRE SABRINA-ROSE RASMUSSEN.

The applicant submitted a statement signed under penalty of perjury that the applicant is not changing his or her name for a fraudulent purpose.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that any person objecting to the changing of applicant’s name shall file written objection with the above-entitled Court within 10 days after the publication of this Notice.

DATED this 2 day of June, 2026.

Submitted By: /s/
SAPHIRE SABRINA-ROSE RITZ

Published in
The Fallon Post
June 19, 2026
Ad #7532

Fallon Theatre Movies & More

By Kelli Perez

With school officially out for the summer and the sun cranking up the heat outside, our historic auditorium is cooled down and ready to offer the ultimate neighborhood escape for families and movie lovers alike. Whether you are looking for a fun way to make memories now that the school year has wrapped up or you just want to beat the evening glare, our upcoming schedule is designed to keep the community spirit going.

But first, mark your calendars for a perfect afternoon escape this Friday as we team up with The Coalition for Senior Citizens for our Third Friday Matinee on June 19 at 1 p.m. We’re inviting the entire community to get swept away by the brilliant wit and romance of “Pride & Prejudice” (2005) on the big screen. While film lovers of all ages are welcome, we are rolling out the red carpet for our seasoned moviegoers. Anyone who is 60 or wiser gets a small popcorn and a small drink completely on the house. Let us treat you to your favorite snacks for an unforgettable neighborhood matinee event.

Then, at 6 p.m. on both Friday and Saturday, we are hitting the track with the high-octane Disney/Pixar animated favorite “Cars 3” (2017). Blindsided by a new generation of blazing-fast racers, the legendary Lightning McQueen suddenly finds himself pushed out of the sport he loves. To get back into the game, he will need the help of an eager young race technician and inspiration from the late Fabulous Hudson Hornet to prove that No. 95 isn’t through yet. Rated G, it runs 1 hour and 42 minutes.

Or, at 7 p.m. both nights, the romance and wit take center stage with the gorgeous adaptation of Jane Austen’s masterpiece, “Pride & Prejudice” (2005), proudly sponsored by The Churchill Arts Council. Keira Knightley stars as the vibrant and independent

Elizabeth Bennet, who faces the romantic entanglements and social pressures of 19th-century England alongside the wealthy but fiercely proud Mr. Darcy. Featuring breathtaking cinematography, it remains a brilliant exploration of misunderstandings and first impressions. Rated PG, it runs 2 hours and 9 minutes.

Coming up next week on Thursday, June 25, at 6 p.m., we are thrilled to help kick off a fantastic local tradition as the De Golyer Bucking Horse and Bull Bash hitches up at the Fallon Theatre for a special free screening of the hilarious comedy classic “City Slickers” (1991), the story of three city friends facing their own wild western adventure. While the movie is free, any remaining rodeo tickets will be available for purchase in the lobby, cash only, while supplies last.

And with summer on the horizon, we’re gearing up to celebrate in style with “Ventura Highway - The Music of America” taking to our stage on Saturday, July 18 at 8 p.m. for what promises to be a spectacular evening. This concert experience brings together the rich harmonies and beloved classics of the legendary band America, delivering a timeless sound that audiences love. It’s the perfect way to indulge in the sunny season, and with tickets at just \$10, we can’t wait to share these golden memories with all of you.

As always, we are incredibly proud to serve as your community hub for film and live performances. Be sure to visit our concession stand for fresh popcorn and your favorite treats to complete your free movie-going experience. If you are interested in renting the theater for a private event or seeing your name in lights on our marquee, please don’t hesitate to reach out.

You can call us at 775-423-6210 or email thefallontheatre@gmail.com for more details. We can’t wait to see you this weekend!



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Pershing County is seeking a hardworking enthusiastic attorney to serve as the Deputy District Attorney. This position is under the general supervision and at the pleasure of the District Attorney, this is an unclassified position which assists the District Attorney in fulfilling the duties and responsibilities of his or her office. The primary assignment of the Deputy District Attorney shall be the criminal prosecution and child support functions in the office. However, this position may require the person to prepare and try criminal and civil cases, furnish legal advice to the County departments, agencies, boards, and commissioners, and perform other duties as assigned. Starting salary is \$143,000 with PERS retirement benefits, medical, dental and vision insurance.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Must have a Juris Doctorate received from an American Bar Association-accredited law school.
1. Must have membership in good standing with the Nevada State Bar or eligibility for a limited practice certification.
 2. Ability to pass a background investigation.
 3. Must possess a valid State of Nevada Driver's License.
 4. Ability to work discreetly and confidentially with issues concerning personal information.
 5. Ability to maintain composure under difficult circumstances.
 6. Must possess and/or develop a positive working relationship with other County offices, employees, and the public.

Applications and a complete job description are available at the Pershing County District Attorney's Office, Pershing County Courthouse, 400 Main St., NV, between 8 a.m. - 5 p.m., Monday through Thursday, or by calling 775-273-2613 for more information. Applications are also available on the County's website pershingcountynv.gov and click on the Employment Opportunities link. Position open until filled. Pershing County is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Pershing County is a Drug and Alcohol-Free Workplace.

Published in
The Fallon Post
June 12, 19, 26, and July 3, 2026
Ad #7498

**NOTICE OF OPEN
APPOINTEE POSITION**

The Board of County Commissioners is seeking a public-spirited citizen who is willing to serve as a member on the Library Board of Trustees. The Library Board is a governing board that meets once a month. This person will serve on a five (5) member board and act as Library Trustee for the public library. This person will serve an unexpired term through October 31, 2026. For more details, interested persons may talk to the Library Director for additional information about the Library Board and what the position entails.

Interested persons may obtain an application at the Churchill County Human Resources Department, 155 N. Taylor St., Suite 155, Fallon, Nevada 89406, or by downloading at: <https://www.churchillcountynv.gov/DocumentCenter/View/3083/Churchill-County-Board-Application?bidId=>. All letters and applications are to be submitted to the above address no later than 3:00 PM on June 17, 2026.

Linda Rothery,
Clerk/Treasurer

Prepared by:
Tara Adams
Deputy Clerk to the Board

Published in
The Fallon Post
June 5, 12 and 19, 2026
Ad #7481

**NOTICE OF OPEN
APPOINTEE POSITION**

The Board of County Commissioners is seeking one public-spirited citizen of Churchill County who is willing to serve as a member on the Churchill County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife, for a term that expires July 31, 2029. This committee serves as an advisory board to the Board of County Commissioners and Nevada Wildlife Commission for the management of wildlife. Preference will be given for a person who has a commitment to community service to represent the general public and/or a person who represents the agricultural industry or hunters or trappers in Churchill County. This is a five member committee, with terms that are three years.

Applications may be obtained at the Churchill County Human Resources Department, 155 N. Taylor St., Suite 155, Fallon, Nevada 89406 or by downloading at: www.churchillcountynv.gov/DocumentCenter/View/3083/Churchill-County-Board-Application?bidId=. Applications are to be submitted to the Churchill County Human Resources at 155 N. Taylor Street, Suite #155 no later than 3:00 PM on July 8, 2026.

Linda Rothery,
Clerk/Treasurer

Prepared by:
Tara Adams
Deputy Clerk to the Board

Published in
The Fallon Post
June 19, 26 and July 3, 2026
Ad #7483

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Churchill County Board of Commissioners will hold a public hearing on July 2, 2026 at 8:15 AM during a regular meeting, to be held in the Commission Chambers, County Administration Building, 155 North Taylor Street, Suite 145, Fallon, Nevada, on the following matters:

Appeal of the Planning Commission's denial of a request for an Appeal filed by George Pomeroy - GP Global, LLC, of the Planning Commission's denial of a request for a variance from the per-parcel sign area limitation to allow five signs along the railroad right-of-way, establishing a consistent and intention sign pattern along the corridor and aligning with the intent of CCC 16.16.020.6(B)2(g)4(A)c.

Appeal of the Planning Commission's denial of a request for an Appeal filed by George Pomeroy - GP Global, LLC, of the Planning Commission's denial of a request for a variance from the per-parcel sign area limitation to allow two additional signs along the railroad right-of-way, enabling the continuation of a consistent and intention sign pattern along the corridor and better aligning with the intent of CCC 16.16.020.6(B)2(g)4(A)c.

If you cannot attend the meeting, written comments may be submitted to the County Clerk/Treasurer's Office, 155 No. Taylor Street, Suite 110, Fallon, Nevada 89406, or via email to commissioners@churchillcountynv.gov before 4:00 PM on July 1, 2026.

Dated: June 8, 2026
Linda Rothery,
Clerk/Treasurer Prepared by:
Tara Adams,
Deputy Clerk to the Board

Published in
The Fallon Post
June 19, 2026
Ad #7507

NOTICE OF APPOINTEE POSITION VACANCY

The Board of County Commissioners is seeking a public-spirited citizen who is willing to serve as a member on the Churchill County Planning Commission. The Planning Commission is an advisory board to the Board of County Commissioners and will meet twice monthly. This person will be on a seven (7) member board responsible for decisions concerning Planning Department matters associated within Churchill County. This member will serve a vacant term that expires May 31, 2027. Computer knowledge and experience is essential. Familiarity with Churchill County and a broad understanding of Churchill County's governance, Master Plan, and land use planning policies is preferred. For more details, interested persons may speak to the Public Works Director for additional information about the Planning Commission, and what the position entails. Interested persons may obtain an application online at: <https://www.churchillcountynv.gov/DocumentCenter/View/3083/Churchill-County-Board-Application?bidId=> or at the Churchill County Human Resources Department, 155 N. Taylor St., Suite 156, Fallon, Nevada 89406. All letters and applications are to be submitted to the above address **no later than 3:00 p.m. Wednesday, July 8, 2026.**

Linda Rothery,
Clerk/Treasurer

Notice prepared by:
Tara Adams,
Deputy Clerk to the Board

Published in
The Fallon Post
June 12, 19, 26, 2026
Ad #7506

CROSSWORD ANSWERS

Crossword found on page 12

- | | |
|-----------|-----------|
| BARBECUE | PINEAPPLE |
| BEACH | POLLEN |
| CAMPING | POOL |
| COCONUT | SANDALS |
| FIREWORKS | SHADE |
| KAYAK | SWELTER |
| PICNIC | VACATION |

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