

THE FALLON POST



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Santa Flies Over Local Schools



Story and photo by Sydney Trainor

On December 18, excited chants of “Santa’s coming! Santa’s coming!” echoed throughout schools across Fallon. The anticipation was not just the usual holiday enthusiasm; students had a special reason to cheer. In a heart-warming collaboration, Santa teamed up with the Fallon Naval Air Station (NAS) and the Naval Aviation Warfighting Development Center (NAWDC) to take to the skies. Their mission: to spread Christmas joy by flying over the town’s schools and bringing smiles to children’s faces.

At Veritas Preparatory School, students raced around their playground, waving and calling out greetings to Santa Claus as he passed overhead. Bursting with excitement for Christmas, many children shouted their wishes up to Santa in the helicopter. One student hoped for an Xbox, while another wished for a VR headset. With such popular requests, Santa’s elves were surely busy preparing gifts this season. Everyone hoped the children had been on their best behavior so their wishes would come true.

Santa’s memorable journey began around 11:30 a.m. Flying in the naval helicopter, Santa and his most trusted elf soared over local schools. As the aircraft passed by, students experienced a magical holiday moment thanks to the Navy’s premier tactical aviation training facility.

NAS Fallon Commanding Officer Michael Haymon expressed his gratitude, saying, “NAS Fallon, along with NAWDC, could not be happier to assist in helping conduct this flyover for Santa as a way to express our appreciation for all the town of Fallon does to support the US Navy.” The event served as a joyful celebration of the close bond between the Navy and the Fallon community.

Santa and his elf flying over Veritas Preparatory School.

School District Launches Budget Process Ahead of Next Fiscal Year

By Rachel Dahl

As Churchill County School District moves into the early stages of its annual budget cycle, district leaders are emphasizing structure, transparency, and data-driven decision-making as they prepare for what is expected to be a challenging financial year.

During a recent board meeting, Superintendent Derild Parsons and Comptroller Amanda Hammond presented trustees with an overview of the district’s budget development policies, guiding principles, and statutory timeline. The presentation served as both a refresher for current trustees and a training session ahead of the first meeting of the district’s Budget Advisory Committee, scheduled to begin next week.

At the core of the process is the board’s responsibility to adopt a budget that reflects district priorities while remaining fiscally sound.

District policy requires the general fund to be structurally balanced, meaning recurring revenues must meet or exceed recurring expenditures. In addition, the district must maintain a minimum fund balance of four percent of prior-year expenditures, with contingency reserves between one and three percent.

“The board is responsible for the entire district budget,” Parsons explained, noting that trustees retain the authority to make changes up until the budget is formally submitted to the Nevada Department of Taxation. Any changes must be brought forward through a formal motion, and approved by a majority of the board.

Parsons stressed that budgeting decisions are not made in isolation. According to policy, the district’s strategic plan and individual school performance plans are intended to drive spending decisions. Funding choices, administrators said, must be based on what is best for students rather than the interests or preferences of adult stakeholders.

With a projected budget shortfall on the horizon, administrators told trustees that both new and existing programs will be expected to demonstrate effectiveness through data.

Principals and department heads will soon receive budget worksheets to submit requests, but those requests, along with current programs, must be supported by metrics demonstrating outcomes and cost-effectiveness.

“There are always a lot of good ideas,” Parsons said, “but we need to see what the data shows and whether those ideas actually move the needle for students.”

Equity is also listed as a guiding principle in the district’s budget policy. Administrators said the district aims to allocate resources to ensure all students have access to opportunities, including additional or differentiated support where needed. Long-term planning is another priority, with the district working toward multi-year funding strategies rather than year-to-year fixes.

Transparency and community input are also built into the process. In addition to public board meetings, the Budget Advisory Committee is made up of representatives from required stakeholder groups. It will serve as a sounding board before the budget is finalized. One of the committee’s first agenda items will be

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PERIODICAL
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SEASON'S GREETINGS

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FROM THE PUBLISHER

Captain’s Log

I’ll Take Care of it

By Rachel Dahl

I never wanted to be a strong, independent woman, but sometimes life just rolls over the top of you, and you can wallow and whine, or you can figure out how to make the most of it.

One of my sweet sisters says I was this way at the age of four when she first met me, but if anyone ever calls me that (mostly characters of the other gender), I recoil inside. It’s something so much a part of you, like hair and skin. It’s not really a value that is complimentable, it’s something you got dealt.

This explanation isn’t going very well, but suffice it to say, the words “I’ll take care of it,” when uttered by one of the members of our scrappy little work family, have become my favorite thing to hear. That phrase is music to my ears.

One of the great pleasures in life is a long, slow morning. Another is to have things taken off your plate.

And to be able to trust the one taking that task because you know it’s going to get done and done probably better than you’ve been doing it the past seven years.

These sweet people who have run into the fire with me, who are flying the plane for me – apparently, I’m still out here wing walking but the plane is in good hands – are simply a joy to me and I’m more grateful for them than I could ever express.

So many people believe in what we’re doing and have stepped in to help at every level. From

the OG book club in the beginning, those women and their husbands (and now children) who are still an integral part of our day-to-day, to the newest volunteer who came to us last week. And then there is our staff. Something I never saw coming – the responsibility for people and their time – and how much they assume responsibility for your dream, and in so many ways it becomes theirs too.

This time of year, always gets me in my feels, when I remember what it was like at the end of 2018 when I quit my very comfortable little government job to start this pipe dream on a whim and one person’s belief and encouragement.

If left to my own devices, this never would have worked.

But I have been blessed with good, good people at every turn.

So for everyone one of you, who for the past seven years, who has at some point uttered the words or stepped up to “take care of that,” know that I hold you in the highest esteem, am eternally grateful, and will always be right here...

...Keeping you Posted.

— *Rach*

P.S. Will someone take care of the water all over my keyboard please?

[School District continued from page 1]

determining how best to gather feedback from the broader community.

The district is also moving away from incremental budgeting, a practice that rolls forward prior spending with minimal scrutiny. Instead, officials said they are working toward a more priority-based, rolling zero-based approach, enabled in part by improved financial analysis under Ham’s leadership as the district’s new comptroller.

Policies governing the use of one-time funds, such as grants, were also highlighted. District guidelines state that non-recurring funds should not be used to support ongoing operational costs. While grants can help launch programs or fund capital expenses, Parsons said the district carefully evaluates long-term obligations before accepting grant funding.

“If a grant starts something that we can’t sustain after it ends, that’s a problem,” Parsons said, adding that programs funded through grants are regularly evaluated and discontinued if they are not effective.

The budget timeline presented to trustees reflects both district planning and state-imposed deadlines. Preliminary revenue estimates from the state are expected by mid-February, with a tentative budget due to the Department of Taxation by April 15. A public hearing is required in May, and the final budget must be adopted and submitted by early June. Trustees asked whether the process could eventually begin earlier, but administrators noted that audits and state revenue figures limit how far the timeline can be shifted.

New initiatives will generally be introduced as pilot programs lasting no more than three years. At the conclusion of a pilot, the board will review data to determine whether a program should continue. Existing programs are also subject to ongoing cost-effectiveness evaluations before renewal.

District officials described the process as an effort to balance fiscal responsibility with student needs, ensuring that limited resources are used strategically, while keeping the community informed and involved throughout the budget cycle.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Snyder Wins DAISY Award

By Sydney Trainor

Taylor Snyder has been named Banner Churchill Community Hospital’s latest DAISY Award recipient, an honor recognizing nurses who go above and beyond to provide patients and families with compassion and clinical care. Snyder was nominated by a patient who credited her with providing exceptional care during a hospital stay involving heart problems and extreme pain. In the nomination, the patient described Snyder as attentive, compassionate, and present throughout the night. “She was always right there, anticipating my next need before I even had to ask,” the patient said. “Even though I know she was busy, she never acted rushed. She sat with me, comforted me, and cared for me as if I were her own family.”

The DAISY Award is an international recognition program established by the DAISY Foundation to honor nurses for extraordinary compassion and clinical excellence. According to

the foundation, awards are based on nominations submitted by patients, families, and colleagues who wish to recognize nurses for the difference they make at the bedside.

DAISY Honorees are celebrated by receiving a certificate in a DAISY portfolio, an honoree pin, a congratulations banner to hang in the unit, a copy of their nomination, and a hand-carved “Healer’s Touch Sculpture” from Zimbabwe. The Honoree is also added to the DAISY Foundation website, after which they are eligible for professional development, education, and wellness benefits.

Banner Churchill Community Hospital congratulated Snyder on the honor and thanked her for the compassion and dedication she brings to her work every day. The hospital stated, “Taylor, your dedication to providing compassionate care embodies the very best of nursing and the Banner Health mission. Thank you for making health care easier and life better for those in your care.”



Daisy Award recipient, Taylor Synder. Photo courtesy of Banner Churchill Community Hospital.

Churchill County Museum Memberships

By Sydney Trainor

It is time to renew your museum membership. The Churchill County Museum would like to remind residents that museum memberships now run on a calendar-year basis, from January 1 through December 31. Now is the perfect time to renew your membership or sign up for the first time to ensure you receive a full year of benefits.

According to the Churchill County Museum, those who join now will receive membership benefits for the entire year of 2026. Memberships can be purchased in several convenient ways: in person at the museum, through the museum’s online store, or by printing and mailing a membership form. Completed forms and payments by check or money order can be mailed or delivered to the Churchill County Museum & Archives, 1050 South Maine Street, Fallon, NV 89406.

Museum memberships offer numerous advantages throughout the year. Members receive a complimentary copy of the museum’s annual journal, In Focus, and can stay informed on museum activities with the quarterly MuseNews newsletter. Membership includes a 10% discount on most items in the Museum Store, with an increased 20% discount during November and December as part of the holiday sale. Additionally, members receive special invitations and early announcements for exhibition openings, guest speakers, presentations, performances, and other museum-hosted events.

Purchasing a membership extends benefits beyond the individual and directly supports the community. Membership dollars help preserve Churchill County’s history through educational programs, outreach efforts, and artifact conservation. They also support school-based programming, presentations for local organizations, exhibition renovations, and new construction.

Commissioners Honor Dedicated Employees



Commissioners Eric Blakey, Matt Hyde, and Myles Getto recognize Preston Denny, currently with Public Works, Planning, & Building, for his 25 years of county service.



Commissioners Eric Blakey, Matt Hyde, and Myles Getto recognize Lacie McAfee, currently with the Recorder's Office, for her 20 years of county service.

Staff Report

Churchill County Commissioners celebrate staff during the fourth quarter Employee Service Awards. Eleven employees were recognized, including K9 Penny with the Juvenile Probation Office, for a combined 115 years of service during the Dec. 17, 2025, County Commission meeting. The employees honored for their dedicated service included Jennifer Smith from the Clerk-Treasurer’s Office, Michael Johnson from District Court, Sarah Lee from Public Works, Anthony Martinez from Justice Court, Emily Brown from Juvenile Probation, David Nguyen from the Assessor’s Office, Linda Clark from the District Attorney’s Office, Officer James Wilson from the Sheriff’s Office, Rebecca Turner from the Recorder’s Office, Rachel Adams from the Public Defender’s Office, and K9 Penny. K9 Penny, a trained service dog, received a squeaky toy instead of a lapel pin for her contributions to calming children at Juvenile Probation.

PETS OF THE WEEK

Meet Mushu: Adoptable Border Collie

This handsome gentleman is only 11 months old. Mushu was surrendered because his previous owners moved into an apartment. Mushu loves to play fetch and enjoys activities that keep his mind engaged. According to his former owners, Mushu is good with people of all ages, gets along well with other dogs, and is very curious about cats. He is already house-trained, crate-trained, and leash-trained, making him well-prepared for his new home. Do not overlook a shelter dog. Come and meet Mushu! For more information, call 775-423-2282.



The Sweet Gray Tabby Looking for a Home

Tigger is an adorable gray tabby with beautiful white highlights. Gentle and affectionate, she loves to curl up in your lap, purr, and snuggle close. Tigger’s warmth makes her an ideal companion for anyone hoping to become a happy “purr-parent.” Tigger is available for adoption just in time for Christmas, making now the perfect moment to welcome her into your life. Her siblings have found their forever homes, and Tigger is patiently waiting for her loving family. She’s ready to bring comfort and happiness this holiday season.



Questions? Call 775-217-4745

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

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

OBITUARIES

MICHELLE LAVONNE TERRY TOLLEFSEN DATINO

Michelle LaVonne Terry Tollefsen Datino, affectionately known as “River” by many, departed this world on December 11, 2025. In her final moments, Michelle was surrounded by love and remembrance. She was gently spoken to by her loved ones, who recalled a cherished childhood memory: swinging high on a swing set and seeing Jesus in the sky, who vividly told her to slow down. That moment remained a guiding light throughout her life. As she neared her journey’s end, she was encouraged to soar, to jump, and to trust she would be caught. She did so and was embraced by the Heavenly Father, who had always watched over her and awaited her with infinite, unconditional love.

Michelle was a devoted mother, sister, daughter, and friend. Her life encompassed deep love and profound challenges. She cherished her children, imparting connection, wisdom, and lessons that will endure long after her passing. Her children will uphold her memory, along with the strength shaped by truth, honesty, and resilience.

Michelle’s journey included battles with mental illness and alcoholism, affecting her health, safety, and relationships. While these struggles are part of her story, they do not define her. By sharing this truth, Michelle’s family hopes to encourage others who may be suffering to seek help, understanding that their futures and their families depend on it.

Michelle is survived by her children—Heaven, Seth, and Chance; her father, Michael Terry; her stepmother, Ramona; and her sisters, Tammy and Laura, all of whom will miss her dearly. She was preceded in death by her mother, Debra; her brother, Jr; and her nephew, Dillon. Although she will not witness future milestones such as graduations, weddings, and everyday moments, her presence will remain—carried in memory, in resilience, and in love.

To honor Michelle’s life, a GoFundMe page has been created to raise funds for a memorial bench in her name—a place for rest, reflection, and remembrance. Any remaining donations will go directly to support her youngest son, Chance. A memorial service celebrating Michelle’s life will be held in the spring, with details to be announced as they become available.

To her children: thank you for your honesty, courage, and determination to break cycles of pain. To Michelle: thank you for the life you gave, the lessons you shared, and for illuminating a new path forward. Fly high, Michelle. May you finally rest in peace.



JOHN HOWARD HEITSTUMAN

May 22, 1945 – Nov. 10, 2025



John Howard Heitstuman, 80, of Fallon, Nevada, and a former long-time resident of Rathdrum, Idaho, went home to be with the Lord on Nov. 10, 2025, after a long battle with Lewy Body Dementia. He passed at home in the presence of family.

John was born May 22, 1945, in Klamath Falls, Ore., to Norman Arthur Mackley and Elma Viola (Land) Clark. He was adopted by his stepfather Victor Heitstuman in 1952 and gained two stepbrothers.

John grew up in Rathdrum, Idaho, graduating from Rathdrum High School in 1963, where he was active in sports. He joined the Navy in 1965 and was on active duty until 1971. He served as an electrician’s mate, first aboard the aircraft carrier USS Bonhomme Richard, and then aboard the destroyer USS John Paul Jones, followed by boots-on-the-ground service in Vietnam. He served 20 years as a reservist.

John met Karen Marie Miller of South San Francisco at a dance. They were married on April 28, 1969, in Coeur d’Alene, Idaho, and raised their family in Rathdrum. John helped establish the Quick Response Unit, which was used until Rathdrum acquired its own ambulance, and served as Rathdrum’s mayor from 1992 to 1994. He was also a junior tackle football coach with the Lakeland School District for ten years.

In 2002, John and Karen Heitstuman moved to Nevada and lived in Fallon. They were members of Gospel Light Baptist Church for 21 years and were active in their church.

John is survived by his wife, Karen; his brothers Bert Heitstuman, of Kasilof, Alaska, Norman Heitstuman and his wife Cherry, of Rathdrum, Idaho, and Dennis Luttrell of Eldon, Mo.; his daughters Kelli Tomko of Fallon, Nev., Kate Dobson of Lewisville, Texas, and Karri Raymond and her husband, Doug Raymond, of Fernley, Nev.; Kat, a daughter in the Lord; grandchildren Caleb Tomko, of Fallon, Nev., Bepe Tomko, of Broomfield, Colo., Jared Tomko, of Scottsdale, Ariz., Emma Dobson, of Lewisville, Texas, Hank and Sam Dobson of Harrisburg, S. D., sisters-in-law, Sandy Eberhard and Pamela Miller, of San Mateo, Cali.; and numerous nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents, two step-brothers, and his only sister, Sylvia.

A celebration of life will be held on a date yet to be determined.

MEETINGS

December 29, 2025 – January 2, 2026

Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife

155 N Taylor Street

Next Meeting: Jan. 21 at 7 p.m.

Central NV Health District

155 N Taylor Street

Next meeting: Jan. 15 at 1:30 p.m.

Board of County Commissioners

Meets the first Thursday and third Wednesday of each month

155 N. Taylor St

Next Meeting: Jan. 6 at 8:15 a.m.

Library Board of Trustees

Meets the third Thursday of each month at 3 p.m.

155 N. Taylor Street

Next Meeting: Jan. 22 at 3 p.m.

CC Communications

Meets the first Thursday of each month at 11 a.m.

155 N. Taylor Street

Next Meeting: Jan. 6 at 11 a.m.

Churchill County School Board

690 S. Maine Street

Next Meeting: Jan. 13 at 5:30 p.m.

WATER LEVELS

Measurements Taken Dec. 21, 2025, at 9 a.m.

Lahontan Reservoir	75,170 af
Carson River Below Lahontan	2.26 cfs
Truckee Canal at Wadsworth	269 cfs
Truckee Canal at Hazen	261 cfs
Carson River at Ft. Churchill	180cfs

*No data posted for Dec 2024

Nov. 14, 2024	Nov. 14, 2023	Nov. 14, 2022
117,166 acre feet	208,286 acre feet	22,603 acre feet

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

<div>Monday, Dec. 29</div> <div>Italian Beef Bake</div> <div>Peas & Carrots</div> <div>Spinach Salad</div> <div>Vanilla-Strawberry Yogurt</div>	<div>Tuesday, Dec. 30</div> <div>LS Polish Dog</div> <div>Sauerkraut & Apples</div> <div>Sweet Potato Fries</div> <div>Buttered Brussel</div> <div>Sprouts</div> <div>Applesauce</div>	<div>Wednesday, Dec. 31</div> <div>Minestrone Soup</div> <div>Chicken Salad</div> <div>Sandwich w/ WW Bread</div> <div>Raspberry Jello</div> <div>Carrot & Celery Sticks</div>	<div>Thursday, Jan. 1</div> <div>- Center Closed</div> <div>for New Year's Day -</div>	<div>Friday, Jan. 2</div> <div>Beer Battered Cod</div> <div>French Fries</div> <div>Creamy Cole Slaw</div> <div>Garden Salad</div> <div>Strawberries</div>
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FALLON DAILY BREAD

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

Meals are served Mondays and Thursdays from 5 - 6 p.m.

<div>Monday, Dec. 29</div> <div>Buffet Night</div>	<div>Thursday, Jan. 1</div> <div>Closed for</div> <div>New Year's Day</div>	<div>Monday, Jan. 5</div> <div>Wings</div>	<div>Thursday, Jan. 8</div> <div>BBQ Sandwiches</div> <div>Beans & Cole Slaw</div>	<div>Volunteer groups needed</div> <div>to help serve once per month,</div> <div>3 p.m. until 6:30 p.m.</div> <div>Call for information.</div>
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COMMUNITY

Fallon Lions Deliver Holiday Comfort Through Lily’s Trees



Fallon Lions Club members from left to right: Barbie Hertz, Sparky Guerry, Pattie Keller, Pam Giovanetti. Photo courtesy of the Fallon Lions Club.

By Rachel Dahl

The spirit of service took tangible form on Dec. 16 when members of the Fallon Lions Club delivered 59 hand-made Christmas trees to residents at Homestead Memory Care.

The small trees were created as part of Lily’s Trees, a project rooted in remembrance and purpose. The effort began as a tribute to a Lions family who lost their infant daughter, Lily, at just two months old. In her brief life, 63 days, according to the dedication that accompanies each tree, Lily became a symbol of love, teamwork, and courage.

What started in Southern Nevada as a Lions initiative to bring holiday cheer to hospitalized children has since expanded across the district, with clubs adopting the project and tailoring it to serve their own communities. In Fallon, Lions members chose to extend that comfort to seniors living in memory care, many of whom face the holidays separated from familiar routines and loved ones.

Each tree represents a simple but powerful message: no child should ever be alone, no family should give up hope, and help should never be refused. For residents at Homestead, the trees offered a festive reminder that they are remembered and valued.

Lions Club members gathered to assemble the trees and then personally delivered them, turning a craft project into a moment of connection. “It is truly what being a Lion is all about, giving from the heart,” Barbie Hertz said, reflecting on the effort.

Donations Boost Fallon Theatre as Community Support Shines

Staff Report

The Fallon Theatre received a significant boost this month from two generous donations, underscoring strong local and regional support for the historic downtown venue.

The first contribution came through the Pay It Forward Program at Fallon Ford-Toyota, which donates \$50 for every vehicle sold to a nonprofit chosen by the customer. Through the program, the theatre received \$1,350, representing 27 customers who selected the Fallon Theatre as their charity of choice.

The theatre also received a \$5,000 donation from Western Alliance Bank, a gift that theatre representatives say will have a lasting impact on the facility's maintenance and operations.

Combined, the donations will help support ongoing operations and programming, keeping the theatre accessible for movies, special events, and community gatherings in downtown Fallon. Theatre officials expressed appreciation to both donors and community members whose choices made the contributions possible.



Members of the Fallon Theatre Board with staff from Western Alliance Bank. Photo courtesy of Fallon Theatre.

Allison’s Book Report: “Good Spirits ” By B.K. Borison

By Allison Diegel

Happy Holidays, readers of Fallon! We have made it through Christmas, and we are in what I call “The Un-Week” — the week between Christmas and the New Year, where we have no idea what day it is and time slows down. What a perfect time to cuddle up and squeeze in one last holiday romance novel! This week's pick is something fun and different from the holiday fan favorite, B.K. Borison. Fans of Borison's Lovelight series will recognize the cozy, romantic vibes, but Good Spirits has a paranormal twist that you will not be able to put down!

Good Spirits is a familiar holiday tale that follows Harriet York, a total people-pleaser who owns a charming antiques shop called The Crow’s Nest. Harriet is the kind of person who does everything right but still feels like she is waiting for her “real” life to begin. Her world gets flipped upside down on the first of December when a rugged, mustachioed, and incredibly grumpy Irishman named Nolan Callahan appears in her living room. The catch? Nolan has been dead for a long time – because he is a literal Ghost of Christmas Past.

Nolan is there on an official assignment from the “Department of Hauntings” to help Harriet face her past and “mend her ways.” The problem is, Harriet is not exactly a Scrooge. She is kind and sweet and definitely does not seem like someone who needs a ghostly intervention. As they journey



through her memories together, they both start to realize there has been a massive cosmic mix-up.

As the “haunting” continues, the chemistry becomes undeniable. Nolan is the ultimate “grumpy protector” who has not felt anything in centuries, and Harriet is the first person to truly see him in every sense of the word. They deal with toxic family dynamics, Harriet’s struggle to stand up for herself, and the looming deadline of Christmas Eve — because when the clock strikes midnight, Nolan is supposed to disappear forever.

It is a beautiful, high-stakes story about soulmates, grief, and the idea that it is never too late to start living for yourself. You get all the cozy Christmas vibes, complete with mistletoe, falling snow, and peppermint - mixed with a “he falls first” energy that is absolutely top-tier. It is spicy, it is emotional, and it proves that sometimes the best things in life (and the afterlife) are the ones we never saw coming.

It is time for you to grab a copy of this one last holiday love story and lean in to “The Un-Week”!! No need to know what day it is when you are cuddled up with a great story like this one! Do not forget to pop over to my Instagram @allison.the.reader for more 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.

Shop Hempz Gifts!
See us for your local holiday shopping

Mane Attraction
149 S. Maine Street, Fallon | 775-835-9978

COMMUNITY

Community Dinner Raises Funds for Local Kids

Staff Report

Members of the Nobody Forever Motorcycle Club served free meals during their annual community dinner at VFW Post 10099 on Maine Street last Saturday. The event, which served nearly 300 people, featured raffles and a silent auction to raise funds for 11 families, including 26 children, who went on a Walmart shopping trip on Sunday night. This year, the event successfully raised \$4,000 to help local children this Christmas.



The VFW annual community dinner started early Saturday morning with the turkey roasting. Photo courtesy of Rachel Dahl.

BUSINESS

Great Basin Trading Co. Ribbon Cutting



Staff Report

The Fallon Chamber held a ribbon-cutting for the Great Basin Trading Co. on Saturday at 31 S. Maine Street. Together with Chamber Ambassadors, Battle Born Bread, and Deep Roots Bake Co., with their pop-up shops, and the team at GBTCO. Sadie Venturacci, Cheryl Venturacci, Rachel Dahl, Lori Kaiser, and Shania Brown welcomed visitors to their local bookstore, which features local artists, local authors, the Fallon Media Co. newspapers, *RANGE* magazine, and all the merchandise that accompanies the printed products, including t-shirts and hats. The store has an assortment of western apparel and high-end consignment items. They are open Tuesday–Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and can be reached at 775-423-6377 or via their website at GreatBasinTrading.com.

Cheryl Venturacci cuts the grand opening ribbon at the Great Basin Trading Co. on Saturday, December 20. Photo by Lucy Camahan.

Editorial – Battling the AI Writing Beast

“OMG! Grammarly is using more AI and everything just got more complex. WHYYYYYY?”

If you are not familiar with Grammarly, it used to be a valuable editorial tool. It caught most errors, and when you are editing copious amounts of content, you need a little help. I began using Grammarly’s paid subscription when I shifted into news writing in 2019, which requires a different level of precision than technical or fiction work. It was a lifesaver and well worth the \$88 annual price tag, which has since soared to \$144. I am a better writer for it.

My wonderful, efficient tool has turned toward the tide of the masses and now uses AI not only to identify errors, but to make suggestions well beyond grammatical correctness.

AI writing suggestions are taking over. I cannot even finish a thought in an email or Word document without my sentences being completed, often incorrectly. I spend at least half my time erasing words I clicked too quickly on, only to find them sitting there on the page, saying *conversation* when I meant *convention*. I am sick of Copilot asking to compose my emails – unless of course it can now correctly divine everything I need to write.

Grammarly and tools like it now have built-in, layered-in generative AI. That means they are no longer just flagging grammar and clarity issues, but actively suggesting rewrites, tone changes, and “improvements” that can alter meaning, flatten voice, and even trip plagiarism or AI-detection tools.

Doesn’t this blur the line between editing and authorship? How are developing writers supposed to find their own voice if a machine is constantly suggesting their voice is not right, valid, or meaningful? As a small example, my Word grammar tool flagged at least five items in this very document as errors that categorically are not. How would a young writer know that, when they have been taught to trust the machine over their own learning?

Further, AI writing aids are now incorporating what can only be described as “tone governance.” They have moved from correcting language to subtly influence worldview, sentiment, and framing, particularly around “inclusive,” “positive,” and “softened” phrasing. For journalists, that is a problem. Facts are facts, quotes are historical records, and sadly, life is not always positive, inclusive, or soft. In fact, it rarely is.

We now see AI moralizing language choices instead of checking accuracy.

It smooths conflict where conflict *is* the story and reframes it as something to be “improved.” Tools like this are quietly editing *intent*, assuming there is a correct emotional position for writing.

I worry that over time, this influence could conflict with personal, moral, and religious beliefs. Tools like Grammarly used to be mechanical. They corrected grammar based on rules. What is happening now are suggestions based on what the system believes is better, kinder, safer, or more appropriate.

Over time, that does matter. Not because this instantly changes someone’s beliefs, but because repetition shapes habit. When a system consistently nudges language away from certain expressions, emphases, or moral framings, it slowly teaches users what is “acceptable.” That is influence whether intentional or not. And when that conflicts with personal convictions, isn’t it reasonable to push back?

Doesn’t this kind of AI writing fly in the face of improving writing and grammar? Good writing is learned through mistakes, understanding why something is incorrect, and internalizing structure, rhythm, and clarity. AI “correction” often skips the “why” process. It replaces thinking with substitutions.

When this occurs, the user does not learn the rule; they accept the suggestion, often for expediency. Over time, that weakens judgment. Writing becomes reactive instead of deliberate. A correction tool that rewrites rather than instructs works against literacy, not for it.

Naturally, we can utilize these tools and should – but with care and caution.

When everyone accepts the same suggestions from the same systems, voice collapses. Writing stops sounding like a person and starts sounding like silent agreement. The prose becomes overly polished, emotionally vague, and utterly interchangeable. Anything sharp, idiosyncratic, or morally anchored gets flagged for alteration.

Can you see the danger in managed language? When language is optimized for safety, neutrality, and sameness, it stops being a voice for truth. Rote writing does not move people. It does not persuade. It does not stay. No one remembers stories that were merely “acceptable.” There is no surprise, no emotion, no pauses for the reader to connect to the words. But by God, it was smooth and technically correct.

Signed Leanna Lehman, not anti-tool, but pro author.

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LOCAL GOVERNMENT

County Commission

Compensation Study and FRTC Expansion Advance

By Leanna Lehman

The Churchill County Commission approved a series of staffing, infrastructure, water, and administrative actions during its Dec.17, 2025, meeting, including authorizing expanded recruitment for the District Attorney’s Office and moving forward with a countywide personnel compensation study.

The Bureau of Land Management provided commissioners with updates on several major projects and priorities, including environmental review work tied to the Navy’s Sand Canyon Road realignment, prescribed grazing efforts to reduce cheatgrass fire risk, renewal of vacant and defense-related grazing allotments, and anticipated issuance of a record of decision for the sage-grouse amendment, which affects large areas of Churchill County.

Planning is also underway for spring wild horse and burro census flights, with the Desatoya herd selected for updated data collection. At the same time, progress continues on land exchange agreements under the county’s checkerboard resolution strategy. The bureau also reported ongoing work related to mineral exploration and energy infrastructure, including geotechnical approvals for the Greenlink North transmission line project. For the full BLM update, visit thefallonpost.org.

Commissioners approved a request allowing the District Attorney’s Office to recruit for vacant positions at the District Attorney I, District Attorney II, and Senior Deputy District Attorney levels. County Manager Joe Sanford told commissioners the office is currently short-staffed, noting it lost another attorney last week. The board had previously authorized recruitment at higher seniority levels on a case-by-case basis due to ongoing challenges in filling prosecutor positions.

Commissioners also approved parameters to proceed with a personnel compensation study conducted by Baker Tilly. Consulting Manager Sarah Towne said the study is currently in the market assessment phase, aiming to identify peer jurisdictions that best reflect Churchill County’s labor market.

Towne recommended a mix of counties and cities based on population, services provided, and employee movement patterns. After discussion, commissioners reached consensus to include Carson City, Lyon, Douglas, Storey, Elko, Nye, Pershing, Humboldt, Washoe counties, and the City of Fallon, with Fernley identified as a backup if city data cannot be obtained.

“I often liken the best peer organizations as understanding movement of employees within the market space, who you’re losing talent to and who you’re gaining them from,” Towne said.

Commissioners expressed concern about including Washoe County due to differences in size and cost of living, but Towne said all data will be adjusted for geographic labor cost differences. “We’re adjusting the data by those geographic differences anyway as part of our project,” she said.

The board voted to proceed with the study as discussed.

Commissioners also approved a contract with Loomis & Associates in the amount of \$1,317,180 for engineering services related to the Lone Tree

Road reconstruction project. Public Works Director Randy Hines said the project involves reconstructing approximately 3.1 miles of Lone Tree Road from Highway 95 to Solias Road as part of requirements tied to the 2022 lands bill and the Fallon Range Training Complex expansion.

The project will be federally funded, with reimbursement flowing from the Navy through the Federal Highway Administration and the Nevada Department of Transportation.

Commissioners approved the sale of approximately 20.32 acre feet per annum of underground water rights in Hydrographic Basin 101 to Idaho Asphalt Company Incorporated and Idaho Supply Western Emulsions for \$228,250. Sanford said the company, which plans to construct an asphalt emulsion plant near Bango Road, made extensive efforts to acquire water on the open market before approaching the county.

The usable portion of the water right totals 18.26 acre-feet due to partial curtailment of one right, priced at \$12,500 per acre-foot following an appraisal.

The board also approved a \$27,847 agreement between the Nevada Department of Health and Human Services and Churchill County Social Services to deliver community services through Community Services Block Grant funding. Social Services Director Shannon Ernst said the county is currently receiving funding in short increments due to federal budget issues.

“We were notified yesterday that we would be awarded another two and a half months starting Jan. 1,” Ernst said. The funding supports staff, outreach, and case management.

Commissioners approved the purchase of \$87,414 in security and video equipment for the New Pass House and Day Center, also overseen by Social Services. Ernst said the equipment was purchased directly by the county to secure cost savings, with installation already included in the construction contract. The purchase is funded through the Home Means Nevada initiative grant.

During department updates, commissioners heard reminders that property tax third installments are due Jan. 5, judicial candidate filing runs Jan. 5 through Jan. 16, and more than 1,000 delinquent tax notices are being mailed. Election officials also noted challenges securing alternate locations for early voting when the commission chambers are unavailable.

Commissioners approved an acknowledgment requested by the Naval Facilities Engineering Systems Command Southwest, confirming that Churchill County has no ownership interest in certain parcels affected by the NAS Fallon Range Training Complex expansion. The acknowledgment clears a title issue tied to a lease dating back to 1947 and allows the project to move forward without court action.

Churchill County Sheriff Richard Hickox updated commissioners, stating that the Sheriff’s Office recently attended a Nevada Detention Administrators Working Group meeting that addressed forthcoming federal jail requirements and associated costs. He also reported having budget meetings, working on upcoming grants, and a recent electrical outage. “We had our power out for a couple of days, and so we’re back and working. We have heat.”

The meeting concluded with public comments and holiday well wishes before the commission adjourned.

Library Board of Trustees Meeting

By Sydney Trainor

On Dec. 18, 2025, the Library Board of Trustees held its last meeting of the year. They discussed a trustee training program, finances and grants, holiday closures, and staff reports.

Former State Librarian and Deputy State Librarian Tammy Westergaard provided an overview of the statutorily required trustee training program. She explained the board’s legal responsibilities, including holding library property, evaluating the library director, and maintaining eligibility for state and federal funding. The training comprises eleven online modules covering governance, advocacy, ethics, finance, and policy, with certificates issued upon completion. She recommended completing one module per month and setting aside agenda time to discuss each module. She also suggested providing printed binders for trustees who need them.

Library Director John Hung provided updates in the Library Director’s Report. He noted that technical services librarian interviews were complete, and that they have identified and offered the job to a candidate. He also provided financial updates, including that the library received \$4,457 in 2026 state collection development funding, which was approved for Hoopla. Hoopla provides E-books, audiobooks, movies, and other digital media.

The library also received a grant to fund fourteen new “Staying Sharp” kits for seniors and STEAM-to-go kits for preschoolers. These “Staying Sharp”

kits help strengthen memory and stimulate brain activity through challenges. The STEAM-to-go kits help kids develop fine motor skills.

Hung also mentioned a competitive grant that the library is pursuing. This grant would be used for library revitalization and programming support, including mobile book carts, picture book shelving, mobile whiteboards, art display fixtures, and makerspace items.

The Library Director reported that twenty-nine attendees attended crafting for grown-ups, a record high. For the holiday STEAM event, forty-eight people participated. He noted that the library participated in the city’s tree-lighting event, collaborated with City of Fallon leadership, and launched focus groups to inform programming, training, and outreach.

The Board discussed the Children’s Internet Protection Act (CIPA). John Hung provided an update and noted that their current grant no longer requires CIPA compliance. He emphasized the need for additional research before proceeding with compliance and expressed concern about rushing decisions that could affect censorship. It was also noted that the library already has safety policies in place. No action was taken regarding CIPA.

The board approved closure on Dec. 24, 2025, due to low usage and staff workload. Because Christmas Eve is not recognized as a county holiday, staff will use vacation or floating holiday time. The board also decided to approve the full 2026 calendar at a future meeting. For now, the next meeting will be held on Jan. 22, 2026, at 3 p.m.

Fall Sports Season Draws Praise, Highlights Communication Focus

By Rachel Dahl

Fall athletics across the Churchill County School District delivered standout results this year, with strong performances, state recognition, and a growing emphasis on improving communication with families.

Athletic Director Brian Mello presented the fall sports evaluation to the school board at the December board meeting, outlining both competitive successes and areas targeted for improvement based on post-season surveys.

Among the highlights from the 2025 fall season were 28 student-athletes named to Nevada All-State Academic Teams, two Coach of the Year awards, and multiple top individual honors, including Athlete of the Year for football and Player of the Year for volleyball. Football also produced the state’s Defensive Player of the Year and capped the season with a state championship title.

In total, 22 student-athletes earned first-team

all-league recognition, 14 were named to second team, and another 14 received honorable mention. Seven student-athletes advanced to the state competition in tennis, golf, and cross-country.

Mello also shared early winter sports updates, noting strong participation and momentum. Wrestling currently has 46 athletes, including 12 girls. The girls’ basketball team opened the season 6–0, including three wins against 4A opponents, while the boys’ basketball team started 2–0.

The evaluation survey, which helps guide athletic department improvements, received 63 responses this year, down from approximately 115 last year. Mello explained the lower response rate was largely due to the survey not being distributed to football parents while the season was still ongoing.

Board members focused much of their discussion on communication, which continues to rank as the lowest-scoring area in survey feedback.

Mello said the district plans to standardize communication tools across sports, expanding the use of apps such as Remind or Band to ensure parents and athletes receive timely updates directly from coaches.

Several trustees and parents shared their experiences, noting that while high school athletes are expected to take responsibility, parent-facing apps provide clarity and reduce missed information. Mello agreed and said improving consistency across programs is a priority moving forward.

Board members thanked Mello for bringing student-athletes to the meeting. They praised the overall success of the fall season and encouraged continued progress in communication and year-over-year data tracking.

The presentation concluded with appreciation for coaches, athletes, and families who contributed to one of the district’s most successful fall sports seasons to date.

COURT

Tenth Judicial District Court

The Tenth Judicial District Court convened Tuesday, Dec. 16, in Fallon before Judge Thomas Stockard.

By Teresa Moon

Jessica Greely appeared for sentencing on the Category C Felony of Offer, Attempt, or Commission of an Unauthorized Act Relating to a Controlled or Prohibited Substance, to which she pleaded guilty on Sept. 23.

Deputy District Attorney (DDA) Priscilla Baker began by objecting to a Drug Court option for Greely. “This individual is a drug dealer,” she said. “Although she is a user, she’s a repeated drug dealer.”

Baker reviewed Greely’s criminal history, noting she previously completed the Western Nevada Regional Drug Court program and completed Step Two, a long-term inpatient treatment program, twice, yet continued to use and sell narcotics. In the present case, Baker said a confidential source purchased 7.9 grams, or two balls, of methamphetamine from the defendant at The Depot Casino.

According to Baker, Greely has been given multiple opportunities but continues to sell drugs. “Since being arrested, she has tried to show this court that she is amenable to probation. She's got a job at KFC, and then she's been in treatment,” Baker said.

Baker read from Greely’s statement in her Pre-Sentencing Investigation (PSI) report: “I chose to sell because I was lonely and bored.”

“That says it all,” Baker said. “This is an individual that when she gets lonely and bored will resort to selling narcotics, dangerous narcotics, to our community.” Baker said Greely has done so “over and over and over again without learning the lesson.”

The state asked the court to impose a prison sentence of 18–60 months.

Churchill County Alternate Public Defender (APD) Wright Noel argued, “What I hope stands out to the court today is how much work Ms. Greely has done since she was arrested for this.” He said his client has participated in intensive substance abuse counseling and has voluntarily engaged in drug and alcohol testing through New Frontier.

Noel said Greely has continued making progress in treatment and that the court is aware that “getting off of drugs, and out of that community, ... a lot of times it takes more than one go at it.” He told the court that Greely’s employer reported she not only shows up to work consistently, but also fills in when others do not, and is working toward advancement.

Noel asked for probation, stating, “She's been working really hard. And there is no question that she's made some mistakes here and that she committed crimes, and she’s come to take responsibility for them ... I don't know that there’s a lot more that she could have done between her arrest and today to show the court [that she's serious about making changes].”

Greely addressed the court, saying, “I know I did wrong. My reason is at that at that point in time I was just dumb.” She said she has been doing well in outpatient treatment, wants help, and believes drug counseling is changing her outlook on life.

Judge Stockard granted Greely probation on a suspended 24–60-month sentence. He ordered her to obtain and follow the recommendations of a substance abuse evaluation and imposed a search and seizure condition for contraband.

Michael Timothy, in custody, pleaded guilty under special conditions to two charges, Burglary of a Business, a Category C Felony punishable by 1–5 years in prison and a fine up to \$10,000 and Larceny of Personal Goods or Property of a Value of \$1,200 or More but Less Than \$5,000, a Category D Felony punishable by 1–4 years in prison and a fine up to \$5,000.

Judge Stockard ordered a PSI, set sentencing for Feb. 17, and provisionally placed Timothy in the Western Regional Drug Court Program.

Derek Vradenburg-Wheeler, in custody, pleaded guilty to Battery by a Probationer, Parolee, or Prisoner in Lawful Custody, a Category B Felony punishable by 1–6 years in prison. Judge Stockard ordered a PSI and set sentencing for Feb. 17.

Cecil Mark Riggs, in custody, pleaded guilty under special conditions to Assault with a Deadly Weapon, a Category B Felony punishable by 1–6 years in prison and a fine up to \$5,000.

His attorney, Charles Woodman, told the court that on May 9, 2024, Riggs placed three individuals in reasonable apprehension of harm by waving a knife and threatening them. Woodman said his client has been diagnosed with certain conditions, stopped taking his medication after feeling better, and began having issues. Woodman concluded, “What we hope for, Your Honor, is that as he gets older and hopefully a little wiser, ... that he will force himself to stay on the medications.”

Riggs also admitted to a Non-Technical Sentencing Violation. Judge Stockard set sentencing and disposition for the violation for Feb. 17.

Tiffany Diane Odle, in custody, pleaded guilty to Possession of a Controlled Substance (methamphetamine), a First or Second Offense, a Category E Felony punishable by 1–4 years in prison and a fine up to \$5,000.

DDA Baker told the court that pursuant to the plea agreement, the state did not object to Odle being placed in Drug Court. Odle was arrested on Oct. 14 on three counts for possessing 45.3 grams of methamphetamine, one ounce of Marijuana, and drug paraphernalia.

Churchill County Public Defender (CCPD) Jacob Sommer asked for probation with the condition of Drug Court participation.

Odle told the court she has been accepted into New Frontier Treatment Center, acknowledged she has made mistakes in the past, and said she would like to attend the program.

Judge Stockard granted Odle probation and ordered her to enter and complete Drug Court. He also ordered her to obtain and follow the recommendations of a substance abuse evaluation.

Lawrence Charles, in custody, admitted to a Non-Technical Sentencing Violation for being returned from the DUI Diversion Program without successfully completing it. Charles was arrested in 2023 for Felony DUI, a third or subsequent offense, and was placed in a three-year DUI Diversion Program.

Chief Deputy District Attorney (CDDA) Lane Mills told the court, “Over the course of this defendant's entire life, this is his fifth DUI.” Mills said Charles’ first DUI occurred in 1992, followed by another approximately nine years later, two in 2021, and the most recent in 2022. Mills said the pattern showed “a pattern of, frankly, non-compliance.”

Mills noted, “I don't know what to say about Mr. Charles. He's a veteran. He's well liked in the community. But he has a serious alcohol problem.” He said the defendant’s blood alcohol content was over .3. “That does not come from someone who has been abstinent for this entire



time ... This defendant should go to prison, Your Honor ... This defendant cannot control his drinking and because he cannot control his drinking, that makes him a public safety risk.”

APD Wright Noel said his client completed most of the diversion program and was approximately six months from graduation. Noel said Charles had taken responsibility for his actions and asked the court to impose the minimum sentence.

Charles told the court he has struggled with alcohol for most of his life. He said he worked hard in the program and enjoyed it. “The ugly alcohol thing got on my shoulder, and here I am,” he said. He concluded, “I’m just here to accept my consequences.”


Judge Stockard revoked diversion and sentenced Charles to 22–60 months in prison, with credit for 203 days of time served, and imposed the statutory \$2,000 fine.

Christy Hinch, in custody, appeared for sentencing on the Wobbler charge of Attempt to Possess a Controlled Substance, Low Level.

Senior Deputy District Attorney Chelsea Sanford and Churchill County and APD Wright Noel asked that the wobbler be sentenced as a Gross Misdemeanor and that Hinch be granted probation.

In Nevada, possession of a controlled substance is generally charged as a Category E felony. In limited circumstances, however, the court may discretionarily sentence the felony “wobbler” offense as a gross misdemeanor.

Judge Stockard sentenced the case as a Gross Misdemeanor and granted Hinch probation on a suspended 364-day jail sentence.







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EDUCATION

CCSD Cool School News

Compiled by Kaitlin Ritchie with photos courtesy of CCSD.

CCHS

This Christmas season, CCHS added a festive twist to a beloved holiday tradition with Sean on the Shelf, a lighthearted activity that brought smiles, laughter, and a sense of fun to campus each day. The idea came from CCHS Registrar Maile Munoz, who drew inspiration from CCHS Safe School Professional Sean Lacow. Throughout the season, “Sean” appeared in a new hidden location around campus each morning, sparking friendly competition as students and staff searched to be the first to find him and earn a small prize. While the prizes added excitement, Sean on the Shelf’s true impact was the sense of joy and connection it created. The daily mystery and shared laughter helped fill the halls with holiday spirit and brought the school community together during a busy time of year.

CCMS

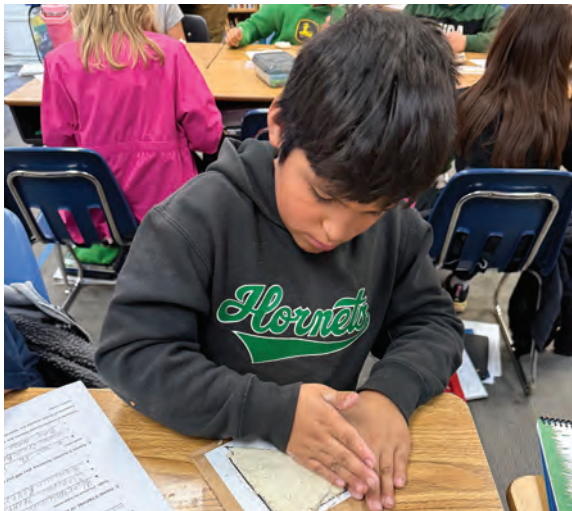
Monica Davis’s advisory students have been putting in extra effort all semester, keeping the Gerka Store and Café running smoothly and frequently giving up their lunches and free time to help. Last week, their dedication was recognized with a special celebration, including a greedy-grabber candy bar exchange and a festive party at the Gerka Café. “It was a sweet way to say thank you for their hard work, teamwork, and commitment to making the school community a better place,” Davis said.



Monica Davis’s advisory students pose with candy bars they got in the greedy-grabber candy bar exchange.

NUMA

Last week in social studies, Shannon Matheson’s students focused on learning about Nevada’s geography through a hands-on project. As part of the unit, students created detailed clay maps of the state, carefully incorporating both human and physical features. Each map also included a title, a compass rose, and a key or legend, helping students organize and present the information clearly. This project reinforced lessons about the state’s landmarks and natural features. By combining creativity with critical thinking, students deepened their understanding of Nevada’s geography and developed map-making skills.



LAHONTAN

Lahontan Elementary School welcomed winter break with a festive Winterfest Family Movie Night. Students and their families enjoyed snacks, raffles, and a holiday movie, while special visits from The Grinch and Elf on the Shelf added extra cheer. It was a fantastic way to celebrate the holiday season with students and their families before a well-deserved Winter Break.

Numa Student Aaron Gonzales works on his clay map of Nevada.



Students in Alyssa Tousignant’s class pictured with their appreciation trees.

E.C. BEST

In November, in the spirit of gratitude, Alyssa Tousignant’s students participated in a heartwarming classroom project focused on kindness and appreciation. Each day, students wrote three to four notes of appreciation for their classmates, recognizing the unique ways their peers contribute to the classroom community. After collecting these thoughtful messages, Tousignant transformed them into appreciation trees, with each line of text representing a statement of kindness from one student to another. The finished trees now serve as a daily reminder for students of how valued and respected they are by their classmates. “This project is a way for students to see the impact of their kindness and to feel the support and appreciation of their peers. They are a beautiful symbol of our classroom community and the care we have for one another,” Tousignant said. These appreciation trees have become a cherished classroom tradition, leaving a lasting impression on Tousignant’s students and their families year after year. Parents often report keeping their child’s tree as a special keepsake and a lasting reminder of the kindness and gratitude cultivated in the classroom.

Christmas Week Logos Christian Academy

By Brenna Goings with photos courtesy of Logos.

We began our week with Las Posadas Navideñas, a cherished Mexican tradition that reenacts Mary and Joseph’s search for lodging in Bethlehem. The students visited each classroom, only to be told there was “No room in the Inn.” They found a place in the chapel where Mrs. Jeana led a heartfelt and emotional service, reflecting on Mary and Joseph’s journey.



Austin Mills and his amazing gingerbread house.



Logos Caroling.

The chapel concluded with a “Happy Birthday, Jesus” party. The whole school gathered to sing “Happy Birthday” to Jesus, and, as with any joyful celebration, each student received a party favor—special thanks to Mrs. Jeana for her leadership and care.

On Wednesday, our school community took to the streets to go caroling through town, spreading love and joy to the neighborhoods of Highland and Homestead. Along the way, students shared delicious homemade cookies as tokens of appreciation for our first responders and medical personnel in our wonderful community. The festivities ended with cookies and hot chocolate,

generously provided by Uplift, which brought warmth and cheer to everyone involved.

Thursday began with the Angel Breakfast, where Mrs. Duarte opened the morning with a beautiful prayer. Mrs. Heath then read “The Christmas Miracle of Jonathan Toomey” to everyone. Many families contributed food and helped serve, making the event a true community effort. After breakfast, several classes enjoyed a creative and fun time building gingerbread houses together.

On behalf of all of us at Logos Christian Academy, we wish you and your loved ones a Merry Christmas and a blessed New Year!

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EDUCATION

Bighorn Bulletin

By Angela Viera, with photos courtesy of Oasis Academy.

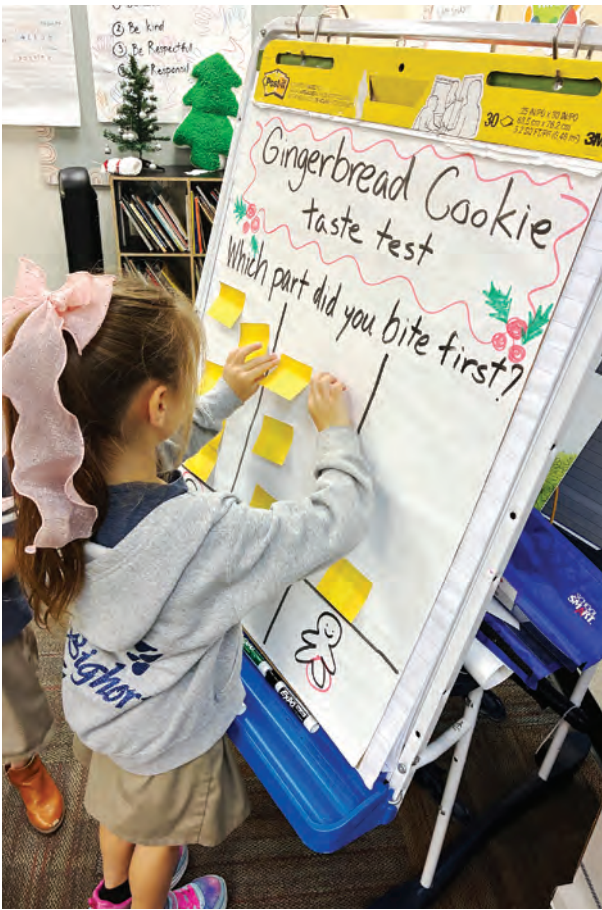
KINDERGARTENERS EXPLORE COMPARING AND CONTRASTING THROUGH GINGERBREAD FUN

Kindergarten students recently put their thinking skills to work as they learned to compare and contrast in a fun and engaging way. Using familiar and beloved gingerbread stories, students examined similarities and differences between various versions of The Gingerbread Man, discussing characters, settings, and how each story unfolded.

After reading and talking about the stories together, students took the lesson a step further by applying their skills to a creative and tasty topic: which part of the gingerbread man they would eat first. Students shared their choice of either the head, arms, or legs for the first bite. They then compared them with their classmates, noting how some preferences were the same while others were different.

This hands-on activity helped students strengthen early literacy and critical thinking skills while encouraging discussion, listening, and respectful sharing of ideas. By connecting academic concepts to stories and real-life choices, kindergarteners showed their understanding of comparing and contrasting in a memorable and enjoyable way.

The gingerbread-themed lesson was a sweet example of how learning can be both educational and fun in the kindergarten classroom.



Kindergartener Amelia Burton taking part in gingerbread man activity.



Oasis Academy Senior, AlexZander Sheldon-Davis.

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT: ALEXZANDAR SHELDON-DAVIS

As he prepares to graduate, Oasis Academy senior AlexZandar Sheldon-Davis reflects on a journey that began all the way back in first grade.

“I have experienced the school grow since I joined all the way back in first grade, when each grade only had one class,” he said.

A favorite memory dates to his elementary school years.

“One of my favorite memories from my time at Oasis Academy was in fourth grade. Because I was advanced in math, I had the opportunity to learn concepts far beyond what is usually taught at that level,” he said.

Sheldon-Davis is grateful for the educators who supported and challenged him along the way.

“I would like to thank Mr. Andy Lenon for being a big supporter of me throughout my entire time at Oasis Academy, and Ms. Holly Neal, my fourth-grade teacher, who showed me my true potential in math,” he said.

His favorite class, however, was Social Studies with Mr. David Springfield.

“Mr. Springfield’s lessons were always interactive and fun,” Sheldon-Davis said.

Outside the classroom, Sheldon-Davis remained deeply involved in both school and community activities. He consistently showed academic excellence, earning placement on the Western Nevada College Dean’s List for multiple semesters and achieving membership in the

National Honor Society. He has volunteered more than 1,000 hours with various organizations throughout high school, and one of his proudest commitments is his ongoing dedication to flag ceremonies and flag retirements in his community.

“I have been on the varsity basketball team all four years, varsity baseball for one year, and I am an Eagle Scout with Boy Scouts of America Troop 1776,” he said.

In addition to earning his high school diploma, Sheldon-Davis will graduate with an Associate of Business degree from Western Nevada College. He is scheduled to enroll at the University of Nevada, Reno, having received admission to Honors College. He plans to earn both his bachelor’s and master’s degrees in accounting, with the goal of working for the FBI as a forensic accountant.

When offering advice to future Oasis Academy students, Sheldon-Davis encouraged them to focus on what truly matters.

“Don’t worry too much about knowing everything; just find what you’re passionate about, because passion is what gets you places, not George Washington’s birthday,” he closed.

GEMINI, INC. IN FALLON DONATES \$5,000 TO SUPPORT OASIS ACADEMY TECHNOLOGY PROGRAMS

Oasis Academy is honored to have received a generous \$5,000 donation from Gemini, Inc. in Fallon, in support of the school’s technology programs. This contribution will help enhance technology education opportunities for students and strengthen classroom resources across the campus.

The donation reflects Gemini’s commitment to investing in local education and supporting students as they develop essential skills for the future. Funds will be used to support technology-based learning, providing students with access to tools and experiences that prepare them for college, careers, and an increasingly digital world.

School leaders expressed sincere gratitude for the continued support of local businesses.

“Gemini’s contribution helps provide continued access to student learning programs, online lessons, digital resources, and online simulation programs that enrich our classroom instruction,” said Dane Nott, K-12 School Leader. “These high-interest tools meet students’ diverse learning needs and support multiple learning modalities, helping them engage more deeply in their education.”

Technology education plays a vital role in today’s classrooms, helping students build critical thinking, problem-solving, and digital literacy skills. Technology is integrated into instruction at all grade levels, ensuring students are prepared to succeed in an ever-evolving workforce.

Oasis Academy extends its appreciation to Gemini in Fallon for their investment in education and for supporting the success of local students. Community partnerships like this highlight the power of local support and their positive impact on schools and students alike.

Veritas Preparatory School: Classical and Christian

Oh, What a Glorious Night

By Gretchen Felte with photos courtesy of Veritas.

At Veritas Preparatory School, students are taught the importance of telling the story of Jesus through both spoken and written words. This article, written by our third and fourth-graders, reflects on a special school event.

Then something exciting happened! An angel came into our classroom and told us to follow her. We ran outside, singing as we went, and followed the angel to see the Messiah. When we found the stable, we found Jesus with eighth graders acting as Mary and Joseph. After we saw Jesus, we went and told everyone we could. All the kids at the school saw the Savior.

This was an important event for us because we learned what it might have been like to be shepherds that night. Just like the shepherds in the Bible, we got to see Jesus and then tell everyone about Him. Because of the shepherds, everyone knew about the Messiah, and we were excited to celebrate Jesus together.

This special event could not have happened without the help of many parents. Thank you to everyone who brought food, animals, helped with costumes, or built the stable. It was a night we will always remember.

“I liked telling everyone as if we really were the shepherds.” — Dixie

“It was fun because we got every class to see Jesus and be happy.” — Emery

“We got to see how the shepherds lived and saw the Messiah!” — Clara

“It was the best event ever!” — Luca, Jon, & Tennyson

“It was great how we celebrated Jesus.” — Athena

“I loved seeing the enthusiasm of the students. From standing guard over imaginary sheep to sharing the message of the Messiah with the other classes, the students truly stayed in character.” — Mrs. Felte, Teacher



Third and fourth-graders joyfully find Joseph and Mary in the stable.

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SPORTS



Greenwave wrestler, Andre Greene, second-place finisher, with a pin. Photos courtesy of John Baker.



Greenwave wrestler, Manuel Barros, third-place finisher.

Fallon Wrestlers Post Strong Showing at Lovelock Invitational

Staff Report

Fallon athletes delivered a solid performance at the Lovelock Invitational, earning multiple podium finishes across varsity, junior varsity, and girls’ divisions.

In varsity competition, Andree Green, Braylon Bird, and Carter Williams each earned second-place finishes, while Manuel Barros placed third. The varsity squad finished third overall.

The junior varsity group led the day for Fallon, capturing first place as a team. Lars Rasmussen and Nathan Anderson each won their weight classes, while Bradey Sydney, Evan Innes, and Rhett Hammond placed second. Jayden Castillo added a third-place finish, and Trace McKnight placed fourth.

Fallon’s female athletes delivered an impressive performance, highlighted by second-place finishes from Tabitha Brockelsby and Tommie Fitzer. Marlie Ricketts and Zoe Rasmussen each placed fourth, helping the girls’ team secure a fifth-place overall finish.

The results reflect a deep lineup for Fallon as wrestlers continue to build momentum heading into the heart of the season.



Greenwave wrestler, Tommie Fitzer, second-place finisher.

Greenwave Wins, Boys’ Varsity Team Remains Unbeaten

Staff Report

The Greenwave High School Boys’ Varsity basketball team continued its impressive start to the season last Saturday, December 20, defeating South Tahoe 87-72 on their home court to extend their unblemished record to 6-0.

Point guard Calin Anderson paced the Greenwave offense, pouring in a game-high 36 points and pulling down seven rebounds in a dominant performance. Teammate Garret Helton also contributed on both ends of the floor, finishing with 11 points and grabbing nine boards to help secure the win.

The Greenwave’s high-energy play and strong teamwork kept the Vikings at bay throughout the contest. Fallon’s relentless defense and fast-paced offense have been keys to their early-season success, and Saturday’s victory showcased both.

With momentum on their side and a perfect record intact, the Greenwave look to carry their winning streak into the next matchup as they continue their pursuit of a standout season.



Lady Greenwave Extends Perfect Streak

Staff Report

The Lady Greenwave Varsity Basketball Team continued its impressive run this season, securing a commanding 60-17 victory over South Tahoe on Saturday, December 20. The win improves the team’s record to a flawless 9-0, further establishing its dominance on the court.

Demonstrating strong teamwork and relentless defense, Lady Greenwave set the pace early and never looked back. The squad’s disciplined play and high-scoring offense proved too much for their opponents to handle throughout all four quarters.

With the season reaching its midpoint, the Lady Greenwave Girls’ Basketball Team shows no signs of slowing down. Fans and coaches alike are excited to see how the undefeated team will continue to perform as they chase a perfect record.



Kaidan Ybarra fist-bumps fellow wrestlers at The Nation Holiday Duals. Photo courtesy of Fallon Outlaw Wrestling.

Ybarra Competes at National Holiday Duals Outlaw Wrestling

Staff Report

Kaidan Ybarra earned praise from coaches and teammates last weekend after stepping onto the mat at one of the nation’s toughest wrestling tournaments, the National Holiday Duals in Virginia Beach, VA. Representing the Outlaws, Ybarra demonstrated determination and resilience in a field that attracts top competitors from across the country.

The Outlaws organization expressed pride in Ybarra’s hard work and grit, noting the significance of competing on such a prominent stage. The National Holiday Duals are known for their high level of competition and serve as a proving ground for young athletes hoping to make their mark in the sport.

C O L U M N S

What’s Cooking in Kelli’s Kitchen

By Kelli Kelly

I am writing this on the longest night of the year, though by the time you read it, it will already have passed. Even then, you could miss it if you were not paying attention — this year especially. It has been warmer than usual, and without the bite of cold, the darkness slips in quietly, almost politely. The day looks ordinary enough. The night just lasts longer than you expect.

Long nights have a way of pushing people toward one another. Historically, communities did not meet the darkest part of winter with solitude or silence; they met it with gatherings, shared meals, and practical togetherness. Festive parties were not indulgent — they were a way to buoy spirits, spread the work, and make sure no one carried the season alone. That instinct still shows up, even when we do not name it. Let us be honest: this instinct looks a lot like potlucks. Everyone brings something, no one carries the whole burden, and the table fills itself.

Family gatherings this time of year often work the same way, even if we do not call them potlucks. One house hosts, but everyone brings a side dish. No single person carries the whole meal. It is a practical arrangement, especially in winter, and it has deep roots. The idea appears in old stories like Stone Soup, where a shared meal becomes possible only because everyone contributes something small. The point is not the recipe. It is the agreement that the table fills itself when people show up together.

Of course, shared meals also come with a bit of discernment. Loving the idea of potlucks does not mean abandoning common sense, especially when food has been sitting out, and everyone’s kitchen works a little differently. I have learned to approach the table thoughtfully — gravitating toward dishes that are cooked through, hold their temperature, and do not require much explanation.

That kind of caution does not detract from the gathering; it is part of what makes it work. With that in mind, here is my short list of potluck dishes I trust — tasty, reliable, and well-suited to a long winter night.

SPICED CANDIED NUTS

This is the dish everyone cannot help but snack on. Set out a bowl, and it will be mysteriously empty within minutes. Warm, lightly sweet, and spiced just enough to keep people reaching back in, candied nuts are perfect for grazing and require no plates, forks, or refrigeration. They are the kind of potluck contribution that disappears before anyone formally announces it is time to eat.

Recipe inspiration:
<https://www.seriousseats.com/french-in-a-flash-quatre-epices-candied-nuts-recipe>

BRUSSELS SPROUT SALAD

This salad earns its place because it does not rely on mayonnaise and actually improves as it sits. Shaved Brussels sprouts hold up beautifully in a vinaigrette, and the mix of dried cranberries and nuts or seeds adds texture without fuss. Unlike more delicate salads, the brassicas soften just enough over time, making this a rare potluck dish that gets better while you are talking.

Recipe inspiration: <https://www.two-peasandtheirpod.com/shaved-brussels-sprouts-salad/>

CORN SPOONBREAD

This might be one of the tastiest and most comforting things ever made. Warm, spoonable, and deeply familiar, corn spoonbread made with creamed corn and Jiffy mix feels like winter distilled into a side dish. It travels well, holds together on a plate, and somehow manages to be both humble and irresistible at the same time.

Recipe inspiration:
<https://food52.com/recipes/86553-jiffy-corn-casse-role-recipe>

STICKY TOFFEE PUDDING

This one can feel like an odd pick — until people taste it. Rich but not heavy, sticky toffee pudding is supremely satisfying in a way that surprises people. Anyone who eats it will first wonder how the flavor came together, and then almost immediately go back for more. It is fork-friendly, holds up well on a buffet table, and feels indulgent without being precious.

Recipe inspiration:
<https://smittenkitchen.com/2014/11/date-cake-with-toffee-sauce/>

DEVILED EGGS

Deviled eggs are a gamble, no question about it. They involve mayo, refrigeration, and a certain amount of trust. But here is the thing: if you bring them, then you know exactly how they were handled. Creamy, tangy, and impossible to ignore, they are still one of the first things to disappear — and sometimes the risk feels worth it.

Tips and variations:
<https://www.seriousseats.com/great-deviled-eggs-variations-and-hacks>

So, bring something warm. Bring something sturdy. Bring something you know you will eat — and plan to eat (mostly) everything else. Be wary of mayonnaise if you must, but do not let that caution get in the way of coming together with your people. The longest night deserves to be acknowledged, even quietly, along with the cold, the dark, and the creatures that move through it. We have always met this part of winter the same way: by sharing what we have, sitting close, and trusting that the light will find its way back soon enough.

Postcards: Virgil Getto, Part 3

By Michon Mackedon

Virgil Getto (1924-2014) had the distinction of serving three times in the Nevada State Assembly (1966-1976; 1978-1980; 1982-1988) and twice in the Nevada State Senate (1980-1982; 1988-1992). After he retired, he participated in the Nevada Legislature Oral History Project, and his recollections were printed in 2008. His Legislative Oral History leaves the reader with the sense that Getto was aggressive in his advocacy for education and local projects; he was instrumental in gaining support for a medical school in Nevada, a prison in Ely, and two new buildings in the Capitol Complex—the Nevada Supreme Court and the Nevada State Library and Archives.

And he was certainly ahead of his time in his support for clean energy. While a Senator, Getto was invited to join a Nevada delegation on a visit to Israel. He returned with a passion for renewables.

Getto: “So when I came back, I was really fired up to achieve that [clean energy]. ... Just think of the sun we have in Nevada.... We’ve got sunlight galore! In Israel, every house has a solar heater on it. Here, it costs 200 to 300 dollars a month to heat your house, and there, you heat it with solar.... We have lots of geothermal.... I sponsored a bill that gives a tax break to companies that put in geothermal.... That helped them get started here at Stillwater....”

He also envisioned a day when the manure from local dairies would become a prized source of fuel. “You have probably twenty big dairies with piles of manure you can’t believe. They don’t even know what to do with it. If they had a huge plant

to take the gas from that manure, they could furnish the energy for the whole town of Fallon and all this area.”

Beyond his views on legislative topics, Getto’s more personal anecdotes ring with humor and authenticity.

When he was asked about his relationship with Assemblyman and Senator Lawrence “Jake” Jacobsen, he related two entertaining stories.

Getto: “He was my good friend and a great fellow legislator. I helped him get elected Speaker. ... He was very conservative, you know, so his first day as Speaker, he told the legislators that they must wear nice clothes. The men were to wear coats and ties, and the ladies would wear nice dresses. The next morning, the women came wearing slacks, all of them. ...He had to back down.... The headline in one of the Reno newspapers read, ‘Stage Set for Women’s Fashion War in the Assembly.’”

Getto and Jake (from Gardnerville) sometimes shared a room in Carson City while the Legislature was in session.

Getto: “But then [one morning] I had to leave before he did, so I got up at 4 o’clock in the morning, and there was a pair of really nice gray pants hanging on the hanger, just exactly like mine. So, I folded up these pants very neatly, put them in my suitcase, and went out very quietly. Well, Jake gets up in the morning. He had a history of traveling very light, a pair of pants, a clean shirt, and a tie for every day, and one nice jacket. So, he only had one pair of pants, and I took them. This was Sunday morning, and Jake was so mad. All the places were closed, and I guess he bribed somebody—

probably one of the bellhops or somebody—to get him a pair of pants.... Then I came home—Pat would always get my clothes ready for Monday morning—so she took these pants out, pressed them, and hung them on a hanger. Monday morning, I put on these pants, and they were six inches too big.... We laughed about that so many times.”

Getto’s Oral History is a road map to politics in the 1970s, 80s, and 90’s, filled with entertaining stories featuring the great characters of Nevada history and politics, from both political parties: Mike O’Callahan, Paul Laxalt, Richard Bryan, Joe Dini, Marvin Sedway, Lawrence Jacobsen, Sue Wagner, and Carl Dodge.

Yet, throughout his legislative tenure, he maintained a sense of wonder, almost disbelief that a “farm boy from Fallon” could become a state leader and even be invited to the Governor’s Ball.

Getto: “I was just a farm boy, so you can picture this. I had never been to Las Vegas in the big casinos and everything. Governor Laxalt had the Governor’s Ball, and it was a big affair there. Here I was in a tuxedo and my wife in a fancy dress, and we came out on the stage. They announced your name and where you were from, and then you walked down the steps and out through all the people. Can you imagine? Here I was just a farm boy! That was something!”

Please send your stories and ideas for stories to mackedon@phonewave.net.

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.

Movies & More

By Kelli Perez

We are grateful for our community, which gathers with generosity and heart throughout the year, especially during the holidays, sharing traditions, laughter, and moments that mean so much. Whether you are celebrating or resting quietly, we wish you peace, kindness, and simple joys this holiday week.

We reopen Saturday, December 27th, with a cozy double feature of classic films—both free to attend. At 6 pm, enjoy Elvis Presley in Follow That Dream (1962), a comedy about a carefree family in a small Florida town, filled with charm, music, and Elvis’s spirit. At 7 pm, settle in for John Wayne’s 3 Godfathers (1948), a western where three outlaws find redemption while protecting a newborn in the desert. It is a nostalgic way to wind down the holiday week with a low-key evening at the movies.

As those films fade to black, we will keep the spirit going into the new year. On Wednesday, December 31st, after the community fireworks, join us at 7:30 pm for a rocking New Year’s Eve with live music from River Rogue, a dynamic cover band blending country, rock, and blues. Admission is

free—the band plays for tips—and it is a joyful way to welcome the year ahead with friends and music.

January and February promise plenty to enjoy at the Fallon Theatre. Our full schedules are out, featuring a great lineup of movies and events, thanks to sponsors such as the Churchill Community Coalition, Tedford Tire, and the Coalition for Senior Citizens. Take a look, save the dates, and keep an eye on your inbox and social media for upcoming events. We are excited to keep the winter months filled with reasons to gather and celebrate together.

Movie lovers, mark your calendars for our senior matinee series: On Friday, January 16th, we screen Space Cowboys, and on Friday, February 20th, catch Spies Like Us. These afternoons offer our senior community a thoughtful way to gather, unwind, and enjoy a movie together.

We are thrilled to welcome The Kindred North to the Fallon Theatre stage on Friday, January 30th at 7 pm for a special evening of live music. Founded in 2025 in Fallon, acoustic duo Raena Blais and McKenzie Warren blend folk, country, and rock into a sound that is fresh and familiar. With heartfelt harmonies and a mix of well-loved songs plus originals, they create a warm, inviting

atmosphere. Admission is \$12—a perfect way to enjoy talented local artists and a cozy night out.

In February, make a night of it at our Galentine’s Show on Friday the 6th and Saturday the 7th at 7 pm! These one-hour performances feature the Domesticated Man Band, bringing fun and laughter for a girls’ night out or anyone wanting to celebrate good times. Admission is free, so come early, settle in with wine, and enjoy the show.

Looking ahead, Fallon Theatre hosts Heritage of the West on Saturday, March 7th, 2026, a free event honoring the songs and stories that built our communities. We invite performers, historians, poets, and storytellers to share heritage music, cowboy poetry, dance, and oral histories that keep our western spirit alive. To participate, email huck_salt@yahoo.com or call 775-423-2055 or 775-217-4142.

We are proud to offer free movie screenings whenever possible, making it easy for everyone to gather and enjoy a night at the theatre. Our concession stand offers all the favorites: popcorn and candy. To rent the theatre or feature a message on the marquee, please click the links, call 775-423-6210, or email thefallontheatre@gmail.com.

LEGAL NOTICES

Case No: 24-10DC-0713
Department No: 1
NSALE
DAWSON LORDAHL WEISENMILLER PLLC
Kendal L. Weisenmiller, Esq.,
Nevada Bar No. 11946
9130 West Post Road, Suite 200
Las Vegas, Nevada 89148
Telephone: (702) 476-6440
Facsimile: (702) 476-6442
kweisenmiller@dlwnevadaw.com
Counsel for Robert McMaster, Administrator

DISTRICT COURT
TENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
CHURCHILL COUNTY, NEVADA

In the Matter of the Estate of
ELAINE M. KORNACKI,
Deceased.

NOTICE OF SALE
[Pursuant to NRS §148.220]

ROBERT McMASTER, Administrator of the Estate of ELAINE M. KORNACKI, will sell at public auction within one year to the highest and best bidder, upon the terms and conditions hereinafter mentioned and subject to confirmation by the above entitled Court, the Estate's interest in and to the following parcel of real property commonly known as 7012 Grassy Knoll Street, Las Vegas, Nevada 89147 (the "Real Property"), more particularly described as follows: Lot Twenty-Five (25) in Block Four (4) of LAUREL PARK HOMES NO. 2, as shown by map thereof on file in Book 21 of Plats, Page 39, in the Office of the County Recorder of Clark County, Nevada and that certain Certificate of Amendment recorded March 18, 1980, as Document No. 1160537 of Official Records. APN: 163-15-811-138. Bids for said property must be in writing and will be received at the law offices of Dawson Lordahl Weisenmiller PLLC, or may be filed with the County Clerk of the above-entitled Court at 73 N. Maine Street, Suite B, Fallon, Nevada 89406, at any time after the first publication of this Notice and before the making of said sale. Said sale will be upon the following terms and conditions: (a) Cash or otherwise as accepted by the Administrator and as approved by Order of the above Court. (b)The Administrator reserves the right to refuse any and all bids for any reason whatsoever.

Dated: December 2, 2025
SUBMITTED BY:
DAWSON LORDAHL
WEISENMILLER PLLC
/s/ Kendal Weisenmiller

Published in
The Fallon Post
Dec. 12, 19, and 26, 2025
Ad #6400

Case No. 25DR16866

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE
STATE OF OREGON
FOR THE COUNTY OF CROOK

SUMMONS
(Domestic Relations Suit)

In the Matter of:
JOSEPH SHERMAN and ADRINA SHERMAN,
Petitioners,
and
JAZMINE JENNIFER SHERMAN
AND
JEREMIAH ANTHONY REYES,
Respondents.

To: JEREMIAH ANTHONY REYES, Respondent

IN THE NAME OF THE STATE OF OREGON, YOU ARE HEREBY REQUIRED to appear within thirty (30) days from the date of the first publication of this summons. In the event of your failure to do so, Petitioner may apply to the court to grant the judgment and relief demanded in the Petition.

NOTICE TO THE RESPONDENT:
READ THESE PAPERS CAREFULLY!

You may be liable for attorney fees in this case if requested in the Petition. A judgment for attorney fees may be entered against you as provided in ORS Chapter 109 should Petitioners in this case prevail. If you do not "appear" in this case, the other side will automatically prevail. To "appear" you must file with the court a legal paper called a "motion" or "answer." The "motion" or "answer" must be received by the court clerk within 30 days along with the required filing fee. The address for the court clerk is: Trial Court Office, 260 NW 2nd St, Suite 300, Prineville, OR 97754. The Clerk's phone number is (541) 447-6541. The "motion" or "answer" must be in proper form and have proof of "service" (mailing or delivery) to Petitioner's attorney, or if Petitioner does not have an attorney, proof of service to the Petitioner. If you have any questions, you should see an attorney immediately. If you need help in finding an attorney, you may call the Oregon State Bar's Lawyer Referral Service at 503-684-3763 or toll-free in Oregon at 800-452-7636.

/s/ Lauren M Kauffman
Lauren Kauffman, OSB #203293
35 SE C Street, Suite D
Madras, OR 97741
541.475.1111
Email: lkauffmanlaw@gmail.com
Attorney for Petitioners

Published in
The Fallon Post
Dec. 12, 18, 25, 2025 and Jan. 8, 2026
Ad #6398

CITY OF FALLON'S NOTICE OF INTENT TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT OR OTHER ARRANGEMENT FOR FIXED-BASE OPERATION SERVICES AT THE FALLON MUNICIPAL AIRPORT

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to Nevada Revised Statute 496.090, that the City of Fallon intends to enter into a contract or other arrangement with FLYINTIZ AVIATION, LLC for the provision of Fixed-Base Operator services at the Fallon Municipal Airport ("airport"), which may include, but not limited to the following:

- Granting the privilege of using or improving the airport or air navigation facility, or any portion or facility thereof, or space therein, for commercial purposes.
- Conferring the privilege of supplying goods, commodities, things, services or facilities at the airport or air navigation facility or other facilities.
- Making available services to be furnished by the City of Fallon or its agents or by other persons at the airport or air navigation facility or other facilities.

NOTICE IF FURTHER GIVEN that a regular meeting of the City Council will be held on January 20, 2026, at 9:00 a.m. in the City Council Chambers, 55 W. Williams Avenue, Fallon, Nevada, at which meeting any interested person may appear.

Published in
The Fallon Post
Dec. 26, 2025 and Jan. 2, 9, and 16, 2026
Ad #6411

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Churchill County Board of Commissioners will hold a public hearing on January 6, 2026, during a meeting commencing at 8:15 AM, to be held in the Commission Chambers, County Administration Building, 155 North Taylor Street, Suite 145, Fallon, Nevada, on the following matter:
Appeal of the Planning Commission's denial of a request for an extension of the Temporary Use Permit (TUP427) that was previously granted to Eric Madrigal on September 11, 2024, related to property located at 8893 Helens Way, Assessor's Parcel Number 006-031-10, whereby the Applicant is requesting an extension for the Temporary Use Permit for another year.

If you cannot attend the meeting, written comments may be submitted to the County Clerk's Office, 155 No. Taylor Street, Suite 110, Fallon, Nevada 89406, or via email to the Deputy Clerks: pam.moore@churchillcountynv.gov and tara.adams@churchillcountynv.gov before 4:00 PM on January 5, 2026.

Dated: December 10, 2025.

PAMELA D. MOORE
DEPUTY CLERK TO THE BOARD

Published in
The Fallon Post
December 26, 2025
Ad #6402

CASE NO.: 25-10DC-1203
Your Name:
KURTIS ANDREW WARD
Address: 1400 Golden Park Way
City, State, Zip: Fallon, NV, 89406
Phone: 541-591-7846
Email: kurtisward99@gmail.com
Self-Represented Petitioner

**DISTRICT COURT
CHURCHILL COUNTY,
NEVADA**
**In the Matter of the Application of:
KURTIS ANDREW WARD
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 applicant's name from:

Kurtis Andrew Ward
(first) (middle) (last)

to (clearly print the name you want to be known by in the future):

Kurtis Ward Hanselman
(first) (middle) (last)

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 (day) 11, December, 2025

Submitted By:
/s/ KURTIS ANDREW WARD
/s/ KURTIS ANDREW WARD

Published in
The Fallon Post
December 26, 2025
Ad #6410

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a public hearing will be held in the Churchill County Administrative Complex, 155 North Taylor Street, County Commission Chambers, Fallon, Nevada on Tuesday, January 6, 2026, beginning at 8:15 AM on the following:

A Zone Change Application (ZC25-3) filed by The Emborsky Family LLC, Trinity Series, concerning property located near Trinity Junction, Assessor's Parcel Number 005-091-13, consisting of 640 acres in the RR-20 zoning district, whereby the Applicant proposes to change the zoning to I-3 Heavy Industrial.

If you cannot attend the Board of County Commission meeting, written comments may be submitted to the Clerk/Treasurer's Office, 155 N Taylor Street, Suite 110, Fallon, NV 89406, or via email to: pam.moore@churchill-countynv.gov and tara.adams@churchillcountynv.gov before 4:00 PM January 5, 2026. A copy of the Application is on file and available for public inspection at the Churchill County Public Works, Planning & Zoning Department. A scanned copy of the Application will also be published with the Agenda Packet by December 30, 2025 at the following: https://www.churchillcountynv.gov/1081/Agendas-Minutes.

PAMELA D. MOORE
DEPUTY CLERK TO THE BOARD

Published in
The Fallon Post
December 26, 2025
Ad #6403



Send us your sports stories and photos.

admin@thefallonpost.org

LEGAL NOTICES

CASE NO. 25-10DC-1161
Dept. No. 1
Neidert Law Offices
P.O. Box 1022
Virginia City, NV 89440
775-301-8200
Attorney for Estate

The undersigned does hereby affirm that the within document does not contain the Social Security number of any person

DISTRICT COURT
TENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
CHURCHILL COUNTY, NEVADA

In the Matter of the Estate of
RICHARD J. MORETTO,
Deceased.

NOTICE OF FILING PETITION

GINA MORETTO, having filed with the clerk of this court their Petition for Probate of Estate, Issuance of Letters Testamentary and for Administration upon the estate of RICHARD J. MORETTO, the hearing of the same having been fixed by said court for Tuesday, the 30th day of December, 2025, at 9:00 o'clock a.m. of said day, or as soon thereafter as counsel may be heard, at the courtroom, 73 North Maine Street, within Fallon, Churchill County, Nevada, and all persons interested in the said estate are notified then and there to appear and show cause, if any they have, why the said petition should not be granted.
DATED: This 4th day of December, 2025.

Published in
The Fallon Post
Dec. 19, 26, 2025 and Jan. 2, 2026
Ad #6408

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a public hearing will be held in the Churchill County Administrative Complex, 155 North Taylor Street, County Commission Chambers, Fallon, Nevada on Tuesday, January 6, 2026, beginning at 8:15 AM on the following:

A Zone Change Application, ZC25-4, filed by SE US Development, LLC, for Forty Mile Desert LLC. The properties are located off Interstate 80, Assessor's Parcel Numbers 004-391-14, 004-391-15, 004-391-17, 004-391-19, 004-391-20, 004-391-24, and 004-391-34, in the RR-20 zoning district. The applicant proposes to change the zoning to I-3 Heavy Industrial for a future solar project.

If you cannot attend the Board of County Commission meeting, written comments may be submitted to the Clerk/Treasurer's Office, 155 N Taylor Street, Suite 110, Fallon, NV 89406, or via email to: pam.moore@churchill-countynv.gov and tara.adams@churchillcountynv.gov before 4:00 PM January 5, 2026. A copy of the Application is on file and available for public inspection at the Churchill County Public Works, Planning & Zoning Department. A scanned copy of the Application will also be published with the Agenda Packet by December 30, 2025 at the following: <https://www.churchillcountynv.gov/1081/Agendas-Minutes>.

PAMELA D. MOORE
DEPUTY CLERK TO THE BOARD

Published in
The Fallon Post
December 26, 2025
Ad #6404

NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that the Churchill County Board of Equalization will meet during the month of February 2026. The meetings will be held in the Churchill County Commission Chambers, Churchill County Administration Complex, 155 N. Taylor Street, Suite 145, Fallon, Nevada.

Persons wishing to appear and be heard at these meetings for the purpose of seeking adjustments on assessed valuation must obtain a Petition for such with the Churchill County Assessor at the Churchill County Administration Complex, 155 N. Taylor Street, Suite 200, Fallon, Nevada and return the petition to the County Assessor on or before 5 p.m. on January 15, 2026. The County Board of Equalization shall conclude business on or before February 28, 2026.

Published in
The Fallon Post
Dec. 26, 2025, Jan. 2, and 9, 2026
Ad #6397

IMPORTANT TAX NOTICE

The Third (3rd) Installment of the 2025-2026 FISCAL YEAR taxes will be due and payable on or before January 5, 2026. If not paid on or before January 15, 2026, delinquent charges will be applied in accordance with NRS 361.483. Failure to receive a tax bill does not excuse the taxpayer from the timely payment of taxes in accordance with NRS 361.480. If you have recently refinanced, purchased, paid off your mortgage, moved, or not yet received your property tax bill, please contact the Clerk/Treasurer's office or visit our website at: www.churchill-countynv.gov for current tax information and/or online payment options.

Linda Rothery
Churchill County Clerk/Treasurer
775-423-6028
Office / Mailing Address:
155 N. Taylor St., Suite 110
Fallon, NV 89406

Published in
The Fallon Post
December 26, 2025
Ad #6413

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR COMPREHENSIVE COMMUNITY HEALTH NEEDS ASSESSMENT

The Central Nevada Health District (CNHD) is soliciting proposals from qualified contractors to design, conduct, and deliver a comprehensive Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) for its service area, in compliance with the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) Standards and Measures (Version 1.5 and subsequent guidance).

The CHNA will serve as the foundation for CNHD's Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP), policy development, and strategic resource allocation. It will be developed using a collaborative and participatory approach, consistent with PHAB Standard 1.1, and will address the full CNHD jurisdiction.


The Scope of Work includes:

1. Phase 1: Project Planning & Partnership Engagement.
2. Phase 2: Data Collection & Analysis.
3. Phase 3: Collaborative Assessment Development.
4. Phase 4: Public Review & Feedback.
5. Phase 5: Final Report & Dissemination.

The Request for Proposals are due by 5:00 PM on January 12, 2026 to the Central Nevada Health District, Shannon Ernst, Interim Administrator, shannon.ernst@churchillcountynv.gov and to Shasta Garrison, Grant and Fiscal Specialist, shasta.garrison@centralnevadahd.org. Late submissions will not be accepted. For further details, please visit the following link for the full RFP: <https://www.churchillcountynv.gov/bids.aspx>.

Pamela Moore,
Deputy Clerk to the Board
Churchill County, Nevada

Published in
The Fallon Post
Dec. 19, 26, 2025 and Jan. 2, 2026
Ad #6401



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