

THE FALLON POST



KEEPING YOU POSTED ON LOCAL NEWS

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Oasis Church Starts Renovations on Old Bowling Alley, Welcomes Teens for Weekly Lunch

By Christy Lattin

Oasis Community Church is breathing new life into Fallon’s old bowling alley, launching a \$2 million renovation to transform the old building into a teen center, 600-seat auditorium, and community meeting space.

Even as construction begins, the church isn’t waiting for the project’s completion to start connecting with local youth. For the past several weeks, Oasis volunteers have been serving a free Thursday barbecue lunch to Churchill County High School students—right across the street from campus.

What started with about 20 teens has quickly grown. At their most recent lunch, the church served 86 students.

“The goal is just getting to know them,” said Lead Pastor Caleb Szymanski. “A lot of the kids already eat lunch there, so we want to get to know them and for them to know us.”

Each Thursday, volunteers fire up the grill in the bowling alley’s parking lot, handing out burgers and hot dogs to hungry teens. The smell of barbecue drifts across Taylor Street, drawing small crowds and plenty of laughter as students gather around.

Szymanski said he hopes the lunches continue through the colder months. The



Artistic rendering of the Youth Center at Oasis Community Church by Steve Makris of SVM Architecture. Photo courtesy Oasis Community Church.

church already has a youth center located about 150 yards behind the bowling alley, but getting students to walk that extra distance has proven challenging. “It’s just far enough that they don’t make the trip,” he said.

Oasis purchased the former bowling alley this summer, envisioning it as a multi-use space that will serve both the church and the community. The building was in rough condition when they acquired it.

“It was very dilapidated,” Szymanski said. “There were several water leaks, and every major system—electrical, plumbing, HVAC—needs to be replaced.”

Church members have taken on much of the demolition work themselves. Their goal is to strip the building down to the frame by the end of the year. So far, they’ve already filled 16 forty-yard dumpsters with debris.

This month, church leaders will begin the planning and permitting process and expect to have completed architectural drawings within four to six months. Once finished, the new facility will feature an auditorium capable of seating up to 600 people, new Teen Center, and meeting rooms available for community use.

[Oasis Church continued on page 2]

TCID Board Sets Final Water Order Date and Wraps Up Irrigation Season

By Rachel Dahl

The Truckee-Carson Irrigation District Board of Directors met last week to prepare for the end of the irrigation season, approving a final water order date, setting a canal shutdown schedule, and adopting a series of policy and infrastructure updates ahead of winter maintenance work.

The board set Friday, November 7, as the last day to place water orders, with deliveries expected to wrap up by November 15 or earlier, depending on demand. Water Master Kelly Herwick said most users are finishing up for the year, including wildlife and wetlands accounts, and that final water deliveries will determine the exact timing of the season’s end.

“This keeps us on our usual schedule,” Herwick noted, adding that the closure will allow time to prepare the system for winter work.

Directors also approved plans for a temporary shutdown of the Truckee Canal beginning Sunday, November 23, to perform cleanup and install new automation equipment at the Fernley Check. The outage is expected to last 10 to 14 days.

Heavy rains earlier this year caused silt buildup in Willow Tunnel 3 and below Gilpin, requiring debris removal before work can begin. The board approved a proposal from FCA for installation and training,

with costs not to exceed \$11,850, within the existing budget.

Manager Ben Shawcroft explained that the new system will first measure stage elevation, with detailed flow calibration to follow next irrigation season. “We’ll use our own boat and equipment to gather data and fine-tune the readings over time,” he said.

Representatives from the Bureau of Reclamation said federal funding is in place through October 17, even as the agency continues navigating uncertainty around government shutdowns. Work continues on finalizing repayment schedules for the Truckee Canal reconstruction project, as well as review of a credit storage request and a pending flood-related reimbursement request at the regional level.

The board also approved an engagement letter with HintonBurdick CPA Advisors for the district’s annual audit, expected to cost between \$25,000 and \$35,000, within the approved budget.

A update to TCID’s policy manual was unanimously adopted, streamlining the district’s organizational chart and meeting procedures. The new document formalizes a clear reporting structure from Board of Directors to the General Manager to division managers, and replaces Robert’s Rules of Order with simplified parliamentary procedures to reflect the district’s more conversational meeting style.



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FROM THE PUBLISHER

Captain’s Log

I Finished My First Hat

By Rachel Dahl

A long time ago, in April of 2019 when I first started the paper, I met Eve who introduced me to angora bunnies and spinning their fur into yarn. She makes and sells these lovely hats and sweaters and socks and gloves. She is the one who plopped an angora bunny in my lap at the Soroptimists Home and Garden show while she sat and yakked and spun fiber into yarn.

At that time bunnies seemed like something I would do when I got old and retired. Alas, thanks to social media, my viewing habits soon turned to angora bunnies. Of course, that gateway led to my first bunny, which led to my next four, which led to making a batch of my own and learning all about grooming and plucking and carding and spinning.

My friends and book club mates have teased me for years about when they’re getting their beanie, good naturedly thinking it will be a cold day in hell before I ever find the time to sit and knit.

However, against all odds and the office pool, we have a hat. Knitted by me out of yarn spun by me out of bunny fiber grown by me and the fancy angora rabbits. It is soft and so warm and hypoallergenic and wicks – as I’m told.

So, as I get busy making book club beanies, we’ll still be right here...

...Keeping you Posted.

— *Rach*

[Oasis Church continued from page 1]

In keeping with Oasis Church’s longstanding practice, the new space will be available free of charge to community groups whose missions align with the church’s values. Over the years, the church has hosted everything from weddings and funerals to the annual CAPS yard sale. Szymanski said the expanded auditorium will also help fill a local need for medium-sized event spaces.

The project also helps solve another problem for the growing congregation: parking. Oasis services have drawn larger crowds in recent years, often forcing worshippers to park along the street. With the bowling alley purchase, the church gained an additional 130 parking spaces.

Szymanski said his ideal timeline would see the renovation finished by Easter 2027, but he admits that summer 2028 is a more realistic target. His long-term vision includes possibly expanding the church’s outreach to include a day care or even a school in the future.

To help fund the project, Oasis Community Church will launch a fundraising drive on Oct. 19 with a special goal: raising \$150,000 in a single Sunday service. Donations can also be made online at oasiscoma.org/giving by designating contributions to the “Teen Center” fund.

“We’re going to give the community back something better than what we’re taking away,” Szymanski said.

Date Night with Mike & Amber

A review of performances at Barkeley Theater

By Amber Hardin

With walls eclectically adorned with a menagerie of unique artistry, the Oats Park Art Center provides an enlightening place for book and poetry readings, community classes, and Friday night gatherings. This is reason enough for patronizing its halls, but another glistening gem within that deserves community attendance is the warmly inviting Barkley Theater, where live performances ignite the stage with music, culture, and entertainment adventures many would be surprised to find in our small “Desert Oasis” of Northern Nevada.

Mike and I attended the last two music performances that graced the Barkley Theater stage, and we love date night at the Arts Center. There, you can have a drink, meet with friends, get exposed to unique art, and enjoy a live show right in the comfort of our sage-y, cottonwood-lined town. No beating traffic, no snooty bartender (in fact, if you haven't met Austin tending bar there, you haven’t lived!), and no more hour drive from the house to have a special night out...just locals attending and supporting a remarkable Fallon landmark and getting a quality experience while they're at it.

The first show we attended was a Country Western band, Tris Munsick & the Innocents. For Country Western music lovers, this show was a must-see, particularly for small-town hearts who love the energy brought on by small-town musicians. Don't let the rural Wyoming roots fool you, though; in the pro music sphere, Tris Musick & the Innocents have played with the likes of Lyle Lovett, Cody Johnson, and Big & Rich, as well as opened for the National Finals Rodeo Opening Ceremonies in Las Vegas.

Tris Munsick was born into authentic cowboy culture. He and his band bring that authenticity through genuine songwriting, storytelling, and the unmistakable country twang that coaxes you into the wide-open spaces and lifestyles of the American West. In-between rustic, homespun songs, Tris regaled the theater onlookers with tales about cowboy life, growing up in a musical family, and the challenges he happily embraces by balancing being a family man, cowboy, and traveling musician.

The second show we had the pleasure of attending was a real treat for me, because while I love almost all live music, (as does Mike) there is a visible passion in the faces of people who play string instruments that seems special to me...and this show absolutely brought that feeling home.

Lucia Micarelli is a violinist, Juilliard and Manhattan School of Music-trained, who began her career in the Trans-Siberian Orchestra. She has toured globally with stars many are familiar with, like Josh Groban and Barbara Streisand. She also performed musically and acted in the HBO special Treme.

Lucia played an impressive variation of styles, from Appalachian-inspired pieces to Renaissance-era compositions. Her skill on the violin is technically dazzling (Mike called it “stunning” in fact), but she also stirred the audience with her emotionally grounded vocals. She wowed us, seamlessly transitioning between the impassioned wielding of her violin and the soulful expression of her voice.

With a dear friend on bass and her husband on cello, both with impressive resumes and skills of their own, Lucia’s trio enlivened the stage with harmonious energy, drops of humor that warmed the crowd with laughter, and in between sets, communicated heartfelt messages of the importance of music and family. Lucia shared vulnerable stories that revealed a deeply emotional investment in music and how it connects human experience. Her manner was absolutely enchanting.

We’ve never left a show at the Barkley theater feeling anything but happy about the way our time was spent. While there are bound to be music types that aren’t for us, we will always enjoy supporting traveling artists and musicians, and our local Art Center! If you've not tried a show at the Barkley Theater yet, I highly recommend it.

Mike and I will be doing more “Date Night” reviews of the shows that take place there (and maybe some other surprise date night reviews, let us know if you have suggestions!) The next show is on November 22nd for the singer-songwriter Gaby Moreno, who will bring an “eclectic mix of soul, blues, folk, and Latin influences.” We hope to see you at the Oats Park Art Center for future shows.

FEATURES

Berney Nominated for Hospital Trustee of the Year Award

Staff Report

After more than two decades of steadfast service to Banner Churchill Community Hospital, long-time advisory board member Mike Berney is being recognized for his leadership and dedication to improving healthcare in Churchill County. Berney has been nominated for the Nevada Hospital Association’s Trustee of the Year Award, a distinction that honors individuals who demonstrate exceptional vision, commitment, and impact within their communities.

Berney, who first joined the hospital’s advisory board more than 20 years ago and served as chair from 2000 to 2015, has been described by colleagues as the cornerstone of the board’s progress. His leadership helped guide the hospital through periods of growth, modernization, and community expansion.

Perhaps his most significant contribution came through his leadership in establishing Churchill County’s second ambulance station, a project that many once feared would never happen. The new west-side station on the Reno Highway went into service last fall and has already led to improvements in emergency response times.

“Through Mike’s dedication and support, our ability to provide emergency medical services has substantially increased, impacting thousands of lives every year,” said BCCH Ambulance Chief Steve Towne. “His leadership has allowed us to reduce response times significantly, provide better



Mike Berney. Photo courtesy BCCH.

training for our team, and ultimately deliver a higher level of care.”

Churchill County covers more than 5,000 square miles, an area roughly the size of Connecticut, served by just one hospital-based ambulance team. As the community grew and 911 calls increased, especially on the west side of Fallon, it became clear that a second station was needed. Yet the project faced repeated setbacks, including difficulties securing land and limited funding.

Berney drew on his extensive community connections, helped locate a suitable property, coordinated renovations, and kept the project alive through years of delays. Thanks to his efforts, the new ambulance station became a reality.

Since its opening, the results have been remarkable: a 46 percent reduction in response times for calls in the west-side coverage area and a 15 percent decrease in countywide response times over-all, despite a 16 percent increase in total call volume. The facility also includes a dedicated training space that hosts near-daily education sessions for emergency medical staff from across the state.

Berney’s leadership extends far beyond this single accomplishment. Nine years ago, he helped establish the Churchill Community Hospital Foundation, which raises funds for hospital needs and community healthcare projects. His guidance helped the foundation fund the purchase of a new ambulance and other critical medical equipment.

He also supports the hospital’s auxiliary, a volunteer organization that operates the Stuf N’ Such Thrift Store and the hospital gift shop. Volunteers often call Berney their “go-to

guy” when maintenance issues arise, responding quickly, dealing with contractors, and ensuring the facilities are safe and functional.

“Mike is always just a phone call or text away, even when he’s traveling with his family,” said BCCH CEO Rob Carnahan, who nominated Berney for the statewide award. “He models the kind of hands-on commitment that keeps our hospital moving forward.”

Beyond his hospital work, Berney has devoted his life to serving the Fallon community in countless ways. He has served as president of the Fallon Board of Realtors and the local softball league, as a member of the Lions Club, the Churchill County Museum board, the Board of Equalization, and the county’s Debt Management Committee. He’s also served on the Western Nevada College Foundation board, coached the Churchill County High School girls basketball team for 15 years, and is active with the Fallon Theatre and the United Methodist Church.

A retired real estate broker and former owner of Berney Realty, Berney remains a familiar and respected figure in Fallon, and he and his wife Michele continue to volunteer locally.

“Mike embodies the spirit of public trust,” Carnahan said. “He doesn’t seek attention—he just quietly works to make things better for everyone. The second ambulance station, the foundation, the auxiliary—all of these successes are tied to his vision and determination.”

If selected as the Nevada Hospital Association’s Trustee of the Year, Berney’s recognition would honor not only his decades of leadership at Banner Churchill Community Hospital, but also his broader commitment to the health and vitality of Churchill County.

CC Communications History

— Part II —

By Nancy Chapman

This article continues an earlier feature on CC Communications, one of Fallon’s longest-running business operations.

On Aug. 5, 1889, Churchill County Commissioners instructed the treasurer to pay \$975 to Western Union Telegraph to purchase the wires from Virginia City to a point 25 miles east of Stillwater. That investment created Churchill County Telegraph, a county-owned communications company that remains the only one of its kind in the United States.

During the ensuing decades, this small-town community-owned telecommunications company expanded rapidly. In 1979, Churchill County Telephone and Telegraph (CCT&T) began removing open wire lines between Tedford Lane and Briggs Lane. The project continued until 1985, replacing pole-mounted wire with a faster digital microwave system between Fallon and Fernley. The last open wire in Fallon, near Grimes Point, came down in July 2007.

By 1980, subscribers had grown about nine percent, reaching nearly 5,900. In 1983, CCT&T converted from an analog to a digital computer-controlled switching system, introducing custom calling features and ending the need for local operators.

In 1984, the company opened the Telemart store at 879 S. Maine Street to sell and service telephones. Local payphone rates were set at 25 cents per call. Three years later, as Williams Avenue and Reno Highway were widened from Allen Road to the new intersection at Bottom, Casey and Coleman roads, the company laid additional cable to prepare for growth.

CCT&T was awarded a Rural Service Area (RSA) license on Dec. 8, 1988, to build and operate a cellular network serving Churchill, Pershing and Humboldt counties. The license was awarded by lottery during a national telephone conference attended by then General Manager Ted Hunnewell.

On Aug. 18, 1989, the last two-party telephone service was eliminated, completing the transition to single-line service. That year also marked the company’s 100th anniversary, with 8,575 lines in use. CCT&T installed its first solar-powered payphone at Sand Mountain.

Cellular service reached local residents in 1990, when Assistant Manager Kenneth Coverston made the first call from the firehouse training room to Hunnewell. CCT&T soon entered the “information superhighway,” offering dial-up internet service to the community.

When Banner Churchill Community Hospital was built in 1995, CCT&T installed thousands of feet of Category 5 communication wire and copper cabling, creating a modern communications hub. Hunnewell retired in 1998 after 22 years as general manager — the company’s longest-serving leader — and was succeeded by Assistant Manager Donald Mello.

In 2000, the company officially became CC Communications,



The Commercial Department featured in the phone Directory from 1998-1999. Front row, from left, are Michael Weishaupt, Anita Velez, Dale White, Susan Grace, and Juli Swanberg. Middle row from left, are Ginny Peterson, Simone Driskill, Sally Wildhaber, Robbie Lind, and Edith Pennington. Back row, from left are Shari Nicholson, Maryanne Gardner, Nancy Trease, Peggy Watson, Mary Matheson, and Dee Fisher. Photo courtesy CC Communications.

reflecting its expanded services in landline, long distance, cellular, television, and internet. Mello retired after 38 years with the company, and Robert Adams became general manager. Around that time, the last coin-operated telephones were removed from Fallon businesses, including the final payphone at Middlegate.

By 2002, CC Communications was emerging as a broadband leader. Partnering with state and regional agencies, it helped install fiber optics from the Fallon central office to Carson City and Reno, completing a key section of Nevada’s fiber loop. The project ran parallel with the widening of U.S. 50A (Reno Highway) to Lyon County, with CC Communications warehousing all materials for the 19 1/2-mile installation.

As a county-owned utility, CC Communications operates independently of taxpayer funding. By law, no county tax dollars can support the company, and no money may flow from the county to CC Communications. Instead, all operating costs — including staffing and benefits — are funded entirely by revenue from services. The company contributes back to Churchill County through payments in lieu of taxes and an annual profit transfer. They have also supported many community events through the years, including being the title sponsor of the Fallon Cantaloupe Festival the past few years. Employees participate in the Nevada Public Employee Retirement System, and the general manager reports directly to the Board of County Commissioners.

From its first telegraph wire to today’s fiber lines, CC Communications has stayed rooted where it began — right here in Churchill County, owned by the people it serves and still keeping Fallon connected after 135 years.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Movies & More

October continues with wonderful community entertainment at the Fallon Theatre, where our stage is home to fantastic local talent and unforgettable shared experiences that bring Fallon together. This weekend, we’re thrilled and honored to host the talented performers of Performing Arts of Churchill County (PACC)!

There will be no movie showings this Friday or Saturday, October 17 and 18, as PACC presents Schoolhouse Rock Live! Jr. on our historic vaudeville stage. This energetic, family-friendly musical brings the beloved educational songs of Schoolhouse Rock to life with fun choreography, colorful costumes, and plenty of hometown talent. Tickets are just \$10 and available now on PACC’s website. PACC is a local nonprofit dedicated to growing the performing arts in Fallon and Churchill County, offering opportunities for all ages to participate in acting, singing, music, and dance. We’re proud to support their mission and encourage everyone to come out and cheer on these amazing young performers!

Looking ahead to Oct. 24 and 25, spooky season fun returns to the Fallon Theatre! At 6 p.m., join us for Casper (1995), the heartwarming and mischievous tale of a friendly ghost who befriends a young girl after moving into a haunted mansion. Rated PG, it runs 1 hour and 40 minutes. Then at 7 p.m., get ready for Hocus Pocus (1993), the fan-favorite Halloween classic where three resurrected witches wreak hilarious havoc on modern-day Salem. Rated PG, it runs 1 hour and 36 minutes.

On Halloween night, Friday, Oct. 31, downtown Fallon transforms into a hub of spooky fun with the annual Maine Street Spooktacular from 4-6 p.m. During this safe, family-friendly event, Maine Street will close to traffic so kids and families can enjoy trick-or-treating at local businesses and community booths. With costumes, activities, and decorations filling the street, it’s one of Fallon’s favorite fall traditions! And speaking of decorations, they have a brand-new addition this year that’s sure to catch your eye... let’s just say something huge and pumpkin-shaped will be making an appearance downtown, so don’t miss the photo op! The organizing team is still welcoming sponsors and donations to help keep this community celebration thriving for years to come.

Then at 7 p.m., interested Transylvanians can cap off the night inside the Fallon Theatre with the interactive cult classic The Rocky Horror Picture Show! Admission is \$10, and props are welcome to join in on the fun (just nothing wet or messy inside the theatre, please). Grab your friends, get ready to do the Time Warp, and close out Halloween with a wild and unforgettable evening of music, laughter, and audience participation.

Looking ahead to November, live entertainment continues to shine. On Friday, Nov. 14 at 7 p.m., Nashville comedian Lee Hardin returns to Fallon with his clever, clean stand-up. Tickets are \$20, and last year’s show sold out fast, so don’t wait to grab yours.

As always, movie screenings at the Fallon Theatre are free to attend, and our concession stand is stocked with popcorn, candy, and great snacks. Want to rent the theatre for your own gathering or put a special message on our marquee? Give us a call at 775-423-6210 or email us at thefallontheatre@gmail.com.

Nevada Press Association Elects New Board Officers for 2025-2027 Term
Dahl named Second Vice President

Staff Report

The Nevada Press Association held its Annual Membership Meeting and elected new officers and directors for the 2025–2027 term. The organization’s leadership team will guide efforts to support Nevada’s news media, uphold press freedom, and provide training and resources to member publications.

Rachel Dahl, founder and publisher of *The Fallon Post*, has been elected as Second Vice President of the Nevada Press Association. This appointment recognizes her contributions to community journalism and places her in a key leadership position within the state’s premier press organization.

As Second Vice President, Dahl will work alongside the executive team to strengthen the Association’s mission and support member publications across Nevada. Her role comes during a transformative period for the organization, as the NPA implements new governance structures and expands its advocacy efforts.

- THE COMPLETE ROSTER OF ELECTED OFFICERS INCLUDES:**
- President: Bob Conrad, *This Is Reno*
 - First Vice President: Adam Trumble, Eagle Valley Publishing
 - Second Vice President: Rachel Dahl, *The Fallon Post*
 - Treasurer: Scott Sibley, *Nevada Legal News*
 - Immediate Past President: Anastasia Hendrix, *Las Vegas Review-Journal*

Three directors were also elected: Peggy Santoro (*Reno Gazette-Journal*), Hali Bernstein Saylor (*The Nevada Independent*), and Dana Gentry (*Nevada Current*). Dave Mondt of the *Las Vegas Sun* continues serving with one year remaining on his term.

Members approved a bylaws amendment extending officer terms from one year to two years. This change aligns board leadership terms with Nevada’s biennial legislative session cycle, allowing officers like Dahl more time to prepare for and participate in legislative advocacy efforts. The extended terms are expected to strengthen the Association’s policy work and provide leadership continuity during critical legislative periods.

NPA Executive Director Brian Allfrey said the new leadership team “reflects the strength and diversity of Nevada’s press” and will help navigate the changing media landscape while advocating for press freedoms at the legislature.

The Association plans to focus on enhanced training opportunities, improved awards program visibility, and exploration of future convention venues in Southern Nevada during the upcoming term.

Fallon Students Named to University of Maryland Dean’s List

Aaron Mix and Mason Wright of Fallon were both named to the Dean’s List for the summer 2025 term at the University of Maryland Global Campus. More than 11,500 students were named to the Dean’s List for the term.

To be eligible for the honor, a student must complete at least six credits during the term, earned a grade point average of at least 3.5 for the term, and maintained a cumulative GPA of 3.5 at UMGC.

University of Maryland Global Campus was founded more than 75 years ago specifically to serve the higher education needs of working adults and military servicemembers. Today, UMGC is the largest provider of postsecondary education in Maryland and continues its global tradition with online and hybrid courses, more than 175 classroom and service locations worldwide, and more than 135 degrees and certificates backed by the reputation of a state university and the University System of Maryland.

PETS OF THE WEEK

Meet Sadie



Sweet Sadie is a gentle soul with a shy streak, but once she warms up, her friendly personality shines. She gets along well with other dogs and tends to be submissive, though she’d do best in a home without cats. Sadie is still perfecting her house training but is eager to please and making progress. She walks nicely on a leash—though she may pull a bit when excitement takes over—and she absolutely loves water and car rides.

If you think Sadie might be the friend you’ve been looking for, stop by the shelter to meet her or give us a call for more information.

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

Creamsicle & Creampuff



These two adorable 4-month-old orange brothers are ready to find their forever family! Creamsicle and Creampuff are everything you could want in kittens—loving, sweet, and full of playful energy. They adore snuggling for cuddles, rubbing against your legs, and purring the moment you give them attention. Whether chasing toys or curling up together for a catnap, these affectionate little charmers will melt your heart and bring endless joy to your home.

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

OBITUARIES



CHERYL LYNNE APPERSON-HILL
August 7, 1959 - October 2, 2025

Born on August 7, 1959, in Reno, Nevada, Cheryl was the beloved daughter of Laura Jean Bliss and Joe Edward Ambler. She graduated from Churchill County High School in 1977 and later went on to earn an Associate of General Studies degree from Western Nevada Community College.

Cheryl’s greatest joy in life was her family. She was a devoted mother, daughter, sister, and aunt whose warmth and love touched everyone around her. Whether she was casting a line at one of her favorite fishing spots or simply enjoying time with those she loved, Cheryl’s spirit radiated joy, kindness, and positivity. To know her was to feel seen, supported, and loved. She was a true light in the lives of many.

She is survived by her son, Joseph Hill; her mother, Laura Jean Ambler; and her brothers, Allen Ambler and Keith Ambler. She was preceded in death by her father, Joe Edward Ambler, and her husband, David William Hill.

In accordance with Cheryl’s wishes, no formal services are planned at this time.

Food Bank Needs
Fallon Volunteers

The Food Bank of Northern Nevada needs volunteers in Fallon to help with multiple distribution programs:

- Mobile Harvest – distribution is the second Tuesday; volunteers will report at noon for a 12:30-1:45 p.m. distribution.
- Produce on Wheels – distribution is the second Thursday from 9-10 a.m. (Distribution day and time may change in future.)
- Senior Box/SNWP – distribution is the fourth Thursday from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Volunteer opportunities are also available at the warehouse off USA Parkway, including sorting and packing food donations, assembling boxes, and packing produce. The Food Bank also needs clerical help with data entry, special projects and other administrative tasks.

The Food Bank welcomes individual and group volunteers. Bring your team, club or organization together for a hands-on way to give back. Group volunteering builds teamwork, strengthens connections, and makes a lasting impact in our community.

For more information, contact Volunteer Coordinator Vickie Jarman at 775-785-1431, or vjarman@fbnn.org. To sign up online please visit www.fbnn.org/get-involved/volunteer/.

WATER LEVELS

Measurements Taken October 13, 2025, at 4:30 p.m.

Lahontan Reservoir	64,600 af
Carson River Below Lahontan	307 cfs
Truckee Canal at Wadsworth	262 cfs
Truckee Canal at Hazen	216 cfs
Carson River at Ft. Churchill	46 cfs

October 13, 2024	October 13, 2023	October 13, 2022
133,888 acre feet	216,934 acre feet	12,224 acre feet

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

Fallon Cares Community

WINTER COAT DRIVE

Please help families in need by donating clean new or used winter coats that are bagged and in good condition.

ANY SIZE COATS NEEDED, ESPECIALLY FOR CHILDREN SIZES 5 TO 18.

Drop-Off Locations

- Century 21
- WaFd Bank
- Working Class Tattoo

Coats will be distributed

NOVEMBER 1 from 10am–2pm

750 West Richards Street for anyone in need.

MEETINGS

October 20–24, 2025

Churchill County School District 4th Wednesday of the Month at 5:30 p.m. CCSD Admin Bldg. 690 S. Maine St. Next meetings: Oct. 22, Nov. 12, Dec. 10	TCID Next Meetings: Nov. 4 at 9 a.m. 2666 Harrigan Road <u>County Meetings</u> 155 N. Taylor St. Commission Chambers
Fallon City Council 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the Month at 9 a.m. City Hall, 55 W. Williams Ave. Next meetings: Oct. 21, Nov. 4	County Commission Meets 1st Thursday and 3rd Wednesday of the Month Next meeting: Nov. 10 at 8:15 p.m.
Convention and Tourism Authority Meeting City Hall, 55 W. Williams Ave. Next meeting Oct. 21 at 3 p.m.	Library Board, Oct 23, at 3 p.m. Insurance Advisory Committee, Oct. 21 at 1 p.m.

SENIOR CENTER MENU

WILLIAM N. PENNINGTON LIFE CENTER 952 S. MAINE STREET, FALLON, NV | 775-423-7096

Lunch Served Monday - Friday 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. | Lunch is \$6 for those under 60 and a suggested donation of \$3 for those 60 and older.

Monday, Oct. 20 Swedish Meatballs WW Egg Noodles Cali Veg Blend Tropical Fruit WW Roll	Tuesday, Oct. 21 Chicken Noodle Soup French Bread Pizza Colorful Salad Yogurt Pop	Wednesday, Oct. 22 Mashed Red Potato Capri Veg Blend Banana WW Roll Pudding	Thursday, Oct. 23 Sweet & Sour Chicken Brown Rice Peas & Carrots FR Chopped Spinach	Friday, Oct. 24 Lemon Pepper Fish French Fries Peas Green Salad 9 Grain Bread Fruit Cocktail
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FALLON DAILY BREAD

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

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

Monday, Oct. 20 Meatloaf Potatoes & Vegetables	Thursday, Oct. 23 Ham & Cheese Scalloped Potatoes Bread & Dessert	Monday, Oct. 27 Baked Potato Bar Bread & Dessert	Thursday, Oct. 30 Taco Bar Dessert	Volunteer groups needed to help serve once per month, 3 p.m. until 6:30 p.m. Call for information.
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COMMUNITY

Oasis Academy Class of 2026 to Celebrate First-Ever Grad Nite

For the first time in school history, Oasis Academy College Prep will host a Grad Nite celebration for its seniors. The Class of 2026 will travel to Disneyland next May to take part in the park’s Safe and Sober Grad Nite—an exclusive overnight event designed especially for graduating high school seniors.

Carrie Sheldon-Davis, parent of senior Zandar Sheldon-Davis, has led the effort to make this milestone event possible. “No matter the size of the class, every senior should be able to experience a Safe and Sober Grad Nite event,” Sheldon-Davis said. “My goal for these seniors was to celebrate this big milestone in the same way as others—in a safe environment surrounded by the kids they’ve known since kindergarten.”

This year’s senior class is the largest in Oasis Academy history, with 46 students set to graduate with their high school diploma and their Associates degree from Western Nevada College. Because of the class size, renting a local venue such as Coconut Bowl—estimated at around \$12,000 for one night—was not a feasible option. Instead, the seniors voted in September to attend Disneyland’s Grad Nite celebration.

Students will leave early in the morning on a bus and arrive at Disneyland around noon, spending the day in the park before the exclusive Grad Nite party begins after hours. The event offers a night filled with thrilling attractions, Disney characters, music, and memories that will last a lifetime.

Seniors have already begun fundraising to make this dream a reality. “No senior will have to pay to attend this trip,” Sheldon-Davis explained. “As long as they participate in meetings and fundraisers, all expenses—including transportation, admission, meals, and shirts—will be covered. Senior year is already expensive, and we don’t want anyone missing out because of financial worries.”

The class’s first fundraiser, a raffle, is already underway. Each student is selling 30 tickets, with winners drawn during the Pink Out and Soak a Senior assembly held Oct. 16. All proceeds are split between the Churchill Community Hospital Foundation and the Grad Nite fund, reflecting the seniors’ desire to give back to the community that has supported them throughout their education.

Community members and local businesses



are invited to help make Oasis Academy’s first-ever Grad Nite 2026 a success. Donations are tax-deductible through Oasis Academy’s 501(c)(3) status. For more information or to contribute, contact Carrie Sheldon-Davis at 775-857-7886.

Parents and Seniors: Nevada Promise Scholarship Deadline Oct. 31

WNC Provides Support to Students Who Apply

Staff Report

Parents and high school seniors — the clock is ticking! The Nevada Promise Scholarship, a tremendous opportunity to make college more affordable, has an important Oct. 31 deadline for applications.



Western Nevada College provides high school seniors with affordable access to higher education through the Nevada Promise Scholarship. The scholarship covers up to three years of tuition and mandatory fees that aren’t met by federal and state funding. Photo courtesy of WNC.

High school seniors graduating in spring 2026 can apply now for this last-dollar scholarship, which helps cover up to three years of tuition and mandatory fees at Western Nevada College. By applying, students can save more than \$3,000 per year on college costs.

Created by the Nevada Legislature in 2017, the Nevada Promise Scholarship is designed to close the financial gap left after federal or state aid, ensuring students can pursue higher education without being burdened by tuition and fees. The scholarship is available to Nevada students regardless of income or GPA.



By applying, students can save more than \$3,000 per year on college costs

“The Nevada Promise Scholarship is truly transformative,” said WNC President Dr. J. Kyle Dalpe. “It provides every high school graduating senior in Nevada the opportunity to continue their education at a community college without the concern of cost. At WNC, we are committed to supporting students and their families throughout the process to help ensure success. Students, be sure to meet the application deadline!”

To remain eligible, WNC representatives will guide students through each step of the process, including:

- Submitting a FAFSA application
- Participating in a training session
- Completing community service hours
- Meeting with a mentor

Eligibility is open to Nevada high school students graduating between Aug. 1 and June 15 who begin classes at WNC in the fall immediately following graduation. Students earning a GED or HSE prior to age 20 may also qualify.

The scholarship does not cover textbooks, lab fees, or housing, but it provides a clear and affordable pathway to higher education for students across the state.

Apply today at wnc.edu/advising/promise or call 775-445-3267 for more information.



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875 W. Williams Ave.
775-423-2411

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Planning Commission Recommends Sand Creek Plan

By Rachel Dahl

The Churchill County Planning Commission on Oct. 8 unanimously recommended approval of a tentative subdivision map for the Sand Creek project north of Birch Lane, reshaping a long-stalled plan into a 180-lot, single-family neighborhood and setting aside an earlier high-density proposal.

The application by Casey Road LLC covers 47.37 acres at 2685 Casey Road (APNs 008-792-95 and 008-792-11) in the R-1 zoning district. County staff said the redesign replaces the previously approved Old Stone Ranch planned unit development (PUD) for the area’s north unit, cutting the contemplated unit count there from nearly 500 to 180—and aligns the lots and street pattern with nearby neighborhoods.

“This was a subdivision that had been brought forward almost 20 years ago,” project representative Steve Moon of Lumos and Associates told commissioners. “We backed it to what it’s zoned for, R-1 lots, single-family residential, extending utilities, roads, everything necessary to have [a] subdivision.”

The tentative map outlines 180 single-family lots—about 3.8 units per acre—to be built in eight phases, with five phases west of Wildcat Parkway (connecting to Birch Lane in Phase 5) and three phases to the east. County water and sewer already serve the corridor, and the county has issued an intent-to-serve letter; the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection has approved the utility plan, Senior Planner Dean Patterson said. A traffic update recommends adding a turn lane on Casey Road at the subdivision entrance with Phase 1, while improvements at Birch Lane and Allen Road would be funded through road fees collected as lots are created over multiple final maps.

Patterson emphasized that a tentative map establishes the overall layout and conditions; detailed design and any minor adjustments come later with final maps, which are not heard by the commission.

A major point of discussion was how to fund long-term maintenance of the subdivision’s expanded public street network. Staff noted several possible mechanisms had been floated during pre-application talks, including a special assessment district (SAD) or private roads maintained by a homeowner’s association. Planning commissioners pressed for clarity, and the developer urged the county to keep the roads public without dangling new financing structures that could scare off buyers.

“We actually have people looking at the property,” Kim McCreary,

who identified himself as an owner representative, said. “They like Fallon, they like the property, they like this plan, but they do not want to maintain the county’s roads. I would just as soon it was clean and the county maintains the roads.”

Patterson acknowledged countywide budget pressures on road upkeep but agreed the exact mechanism has not been decided and would be refined before the Board of County Commissioners takes up the project.

In the end, the commission tailored its recommendation to remove references to a special assessment and to clarify that any financial arrangement would be to facilitate county maintenance of public roads after dedication. Specifically, commissioners amended Condition D to strike “road maintenance” in the first sentence and to delete its final sentence, leaving a general requirement to establish an acceptable financial arrangement for the county’s ongoing road responsibilities.

“We’re applying a little more common sense than engineering,” Moon said of planned off-site fixes such as the Casey Road turn lane, arguing the aim is safe turning movements and a project that “makes sense.”

Moon also said the lower density and standard R-1 zoning address the compatibility concerns that drew heavy neighborhood opposition to the prior PUD. They also flagged a street-width variance that will be needed at final map because of code changes since the project’s older layout; a housekeeping code amendment could also be brought forward.

On a motion by Commissioner Joe Frey, the commission voted unanimously to:

1. Find the criteria met under Churchill County Code 16.04.040(C) and 16.04.050(A) and recommend approval of the Sand Creek Tentative Subdivision Map (PC 25-8) for 180 lots;
2. Amend Condition D to require a financial arrangement for county road maintenance and remove the special-assessment language; and
3. Void the previously approved Old Stone Ranch PUD for the project’s north unit.

The recommendation now goes to the Board of County Commissioners for final action. Subsequent final maps, brought forward in phases must substantially comply with the approved tentative map and satisfy all conditions before approval.

Assemblyman Greg Koenig Announces Reelection Bid for Assembly District 38

By Rachel Dahl

Republican Assemblyman Dr. Gregory Koenig of Fallon announced this week that he will seek reelection to the Nevada Assembly District 38, which covers Churchill, Esmeralda, Mineral, and parts of Lyon and Nye counties.

Koenig, who was first elected in 2022, has represented rural Nevada through the 2023 and 2025 Legislative Sessions and during two special sessions of the Nevada Legislature. A practicing optometrist and former Fallon city councilman, he currently serves as the Deputy Leader for the Assembly Republican Caucus from Northern Nevada.

“It has been an incredible honor to represent the people of Assembly District 38,” Koenig said in his announcement. “Before serving in the Legislature, I spent nearly two decades in local government—an experience that taught me the value of collaboration and community over partisanship. Unfortunately, that spirit of cooperation is often missing in Carson City as national politics increasingly influence state decision-making.”

Koenig said he intends to continue focusing on results over rhetoric. “Governor Lombardo’s first term has helped restore balance in Nevada, but our work isn’t done,” he said. “We need more Republicans elected at every level of government, and that starts with all of us working together and remembering to vote all the way down the ballot in every election.”

During his first term, Koenig served on the Education, Government Affairs, Health and Human Services, and Ways and Means Committees, sponsoring several bipartisan bills aimed at improving public safety, health care, and rural business opportunities.

Among the measures he championed:

- AB 193, requires law enforcement to provide free copies of domestic violence reports to victims upon request.
- AB 326, strengthens oversight of trauma care centers by aligning their designations with the level of care they provide.



Republican Assemblyman Dr. Gregory Koenig of Fallon.

- AB 183, modernizes Nevada’s optometry laws, including telemedicine access and updated licensing standards.
- AB 448, protects providers of vision care by prohibiting unfair trade practices in vision insurance.
- AB 251, supports agriculture through updated food inspection rules and allowing custom processors to handle animals for intrastate and interstate commerce.

Koenig has deep roots in Fallon, where he returned after earning his doctorate from Pacific University College of Optometry. He owns and operates practices in Dayton, Fallon, Fernley, and Yerington, and remains active in community service and church leadership.

Koenig and his wife Terra have been married for 35 years and have three children and nine grandchildren.

For more information about his campaign, visit koenigforassembly.com.

Live Performances!

Authentic Food, Drinks and Treats!

Family Altars Encouraged!

6pm-9pm

Dia De Los Muertos

Saturday, November 1st

OATS PARK
101 W. PARK STREET
FALLON, NV

To reserve altar space or for more information:
(209)933-1393

FREE AT THE CHURCHILL COUNTY MUSEUM
1050 S. MAINE ST. FALLON, NV

2025 FALL LECTURE SERIES

AGRICULTURE

‘ROOTED IN TRADITION, GROWING WITH A PURPOSE’

DE BRAGA RANCH

SATURDAY
SEPTEMBER 27TH,
12 P.M.

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
ERIN E. HESS, M.A.
ARCHAEOLOGIST
INTERIOR REGION 10
CALIFORNIA-GREAT BASIN

“RECLAMATION IN THE ARID WEST:
THE NEWLANDS PROJECT AND THE
TRUCKEE CANAL”

SATURDAY OCTOBER 4TH
12 P.M

STONY BEE’S HONEY

SATURDAY
OCTOBER 11TH,
12 P.M.

4 H YOUTH
FALLON, NV

SATURDAY
OCTOBER 18TH,
12 P.M.

BUSINESS

Fallon Chamber Celebrates Home-Based Entrepreneurs



Sabra Pine of 2 Sisters Dream Bakery was joined by Chamber Ambassadors.



Valerie and Ryan Swirczek of Lightfoot Mobile Notary.



Houston and Audrey Oyler of Oyler Insulation.



Monica Mori of Pumped Up Porches was joined by Chamber Ambassadors.



Kathleen Wellman of Stinky Puppy's Bakery was joined by Chamber Ambassadors.



Heidi and Rob Vanderhoef of Tallow Utopia.

By Christy Lattin, all photos courtesy Fallon Chamber of Commerce

The Fallon Chamber of Commerce celebrated a group of local entrepreneurs on Oct. 11 with a combined ribbon-cutting ceremony recognizing several home-based businesses.

Among those honored were Pumped Up Porches, owned by Monica and Louie Mori, a seasonal porch decorating business that uses locally grown pumpkins, flowers, corn, and straw bales in their festive designs. Their work reflects the charm and harvest spirit of the Fallon area.

Tallow Utopia, owned by Heidi Vanderhoef, crafts high-quality, small-batch skincare and soap products from locally sourced, grass-fed beef tallow. Vanderhoef combines traditional methods with modern care standards to create natural, organic products that promote sustainable living.

Oyler Insulation, operated by Houston and Audrey Oyler, provides residential and commercial insulation services, including blow-in,

batt, and spray foam installation. The company is fully licensed, bonded, and insured, and offers free estimates for customers looking to improve energy efficiency in their homes or businesses.

Also recognized was Lightfoot Mobile Notary, owned by Valerie Swirczek, which provides reliable, on-site notarization for a wide range of documents, including real estate closings, loan documents, wills, affidavits, and powers of attorney.

Bakers also joined in the celebration. 2 Sisters Dream Bakery, owned by Sabra Pine, offers an assortment of homemade cookies, brownies, cinnamon rolls, fudge, and cakes. Rounding out the lineup, Stinky Puppy’s Bakery, owned by Kathleen Wellman, creates homemade dog and cat treats that can be customized to meet pets’ dietary needs.

The Chamber’s event recognized the diverse talents and services offered by local entrepreneurs working from home, each contributing to Fallon’s small-business community.

FALLON ANIMAL WELFARE GROUP

CHILI & CORNBREAD DINNER

Friday, October 17

Doors open 5 p.m. | Dinner starts 6 p.m

SILENT AUCTION

KIDS COSTUME CONTEST WITH PRIZE

PHOTO BOOTH & MORE!

Tickets: Adults \$20 / Kids 12 and under \$10

FOR TICKETS: 775-217-4745

oasis church: 1520 S. Maine Street, Fallon

All proceeds benefit Fallon Animal Welfare Group (FAWG) to aid the community and its cats.

Maine Street

Spooktacular

Friday, October 31

from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.

COURT

Tenth Judicial District Court

Tuesday, October 7 Judge Thomas Stockard Presiding

By Leanna Lehman

Cassandra Gale Davis appeared for arraignment on three charges: (1) Battery by a Probationer, Parolee, or Prisoner in Lawful Custody or Confinement (Deputy Chris Burton), a Category B felony punishable by 1–6 years; (2) Battery by a Probationer, Parolee, or Prisoner in Lawful Custody or Confinement (Deputy Abriel Bross), a Category B felony also punishable by 1–6 years; and (3) Battery Constituting Domestic Violence, a first offense, against her mother, a misdemeanor punishable by up to 364 days in jail. Davis pleaded guilty to all three counts. Judge Stockard ordered a PSI and set sentencing for Dec. 9, 2025. A separate probation review hearing was vacated and reset to that same date.

Timothy J. Fast appeared for arraignment on one count of Offer, Attempt, or Commission of an Unauthorized Act Relating to a Controlled or Counterfeit Substance, Second Offense — a Category B felony punishable by 2–10 years in prison and a fine of up to \$10,000. The offense carries a mandatory prison sentence unless mitigating circumstances exist to warrant probation.

Fast was represented by Alternate Public Defender Wright Noel, who confirmed that a guilty plea memorandum had been filed. Judge Stockard acknowledged a PSI on file from Lyon County dated September 2025, but indicated that a new PSI may be warranted. The court set sentencing for Nov. 4, 2025.

Steven Kord Wolfson pleaded guilty to one count of Possession of a Controlled Substance, High-Level, a Category B felony punishable by 2–15 years in prison.

Churchill County Public Defender Jacob Sommer (CCPD) confirmed Wolfson had reviewed and signed a guilty plea memorandum and understood the charges and penalties. Judge Stockard accepted the plea and set sentencing for Nov. 4, 2025.

Daren Jesse Graham appeared for sentencing on the Category C felony of Burglary of a Business, punishable by 1–5 years in prison and a fine up to \$10,000. He was represented by CCPD Jacob Sommer. Judge Stockard expressed concerns over Graham’s prior statements about contacting the district attorney’s office regarding a protective order. He clarified for the record that the protective order in question had expired. Sommer explained that Graham had been genuinely confused, believing a no-contact order remained in effect, and had attempted to comply by contacting law enforcement for a civil standby.

Chief Deputy District Attorney Lane Mills said that another domestic battery case involving the same individual was set for a hearing that afternoon, which may have contributed to the confusion. Stockard discussed the problematic nature of Graham’s ongoing contact with the individual involved, who was identified as his fiancée and also a felon.

Sommer argued that Graham had shown signs of improvement and could benefit from continued employment and accountability. Judge Stockard stated that due to pending developments in the related domestic battery case and questions about restitution and compliance, it would serve justice to delay sentencing. The court set sentencing for Jan. 6, 2026, and stressed that Graham must fully understand and comply with all court orders in the meantime.

Dominic Jesse Hatch appeared for sentencing on charges of Possession of a Controlled Substance for the Purpose of Sale, a Category D felony punishable by 1–4 years in prison, and Illegal Transfer of a Firearm without a Background Check, a gross misdemeanor punishable by up to 364 days in jail. Judge Stockard asked Hatch if he wanted to enter Drug Court. When Hatch said yes, Stockard cautioned him about honesty and accountability within the program, telling him, “Nothing will get you in more trouble in drug court than dishonesty. In fact, if you cheat on a drug test—if I can, I’ll send you to prison. If you come in and tell me honestly that I slipped up, you’re going to get a lot more grace.”

Stockard encouraged Hatch to take full advantage of the diversion opportunity, saying, “You want to get the benefits of diversion,

which are enormous, to have no felony on your record, you’ve got to do the work. There are no shortcuts.”

Stockard suspended proceedings and placed Hatch on probation, ordered him to complete the Western Regional Drug Court, and to comply with all recommendations from his substance abuse evaluation.

Christy Jo Hinch, in custody, appeared for a custodial status hearing. Hinch previously pleaded guilty to the wobbler charge of Attempt to Possess a Controlled Substance, which may be sentenced as either a Category D felony punishable by 1–4 years in prison or a gross misdemeanor, punishable by up to 364 days in jail. Court Services reported Hinch was released in April, returned to custody after a positive alcohol test on May 22, re-released on May 29, and then failed to appear for court on June 24. A \$25,000 warrant was issued, and she was arrested on Sept. 17. The court acknowledged ongoing financial hardship as a barrier to Hinch appearing in court.

Judge Stockard granted Hinch release on her own recognizance (OR) but warned that probation and diversion are privileges requiring full compliance. The judge will determine at sentencing whether to treat the offense as a felony or misdemeanor based on Hinch’s conduct leading up to Dec. 2.

Brian Todd Webb pleaded guilty to Attempt to Commit Possession of a Controlled Substance, a wobbler charge punishable either as a Category E felony by 1–4 years in prison, or as a gross misdemeanor punishable by up to 364 days in jail. Senior Deputy District Attorney (SDDA) Chelsea Sanford said the case stemmed from a broader criminal episode with a vehicle stop and search. Deputy Public Defender (DPD) Hampton Young stated the case involved constructive possession. In this situation, a person does not have physical possession of a controlled substance but is still considered to legally possess it because they knew of its presence and had control over it or the area where it is found. Young said drugs were discovered in his client’s vehicle, but there was no direct link to Webb. Young added that Webb, 49, had lived in Austin, Florida, for years and faced severe financial hardship, selling personal property to travel to court.

Stockard sentenced Webb to 364 days in Churchill County Jail, suspended, and ordered him to obtain a substance abuse evaluation within 30 days and follow all recommendations.

Stephen Gainey pleaded guilty to one count of Attempt to Commit Mail Theft, a wobbler offense punishable either as a Category E felony by 1–4 years in prison and a fine up to \$5,000, or as a gross misdemeanor, punishable by up to 364 days in jail. Under the terms of the plea agreement, Gainey agreed to be sentenced to an E felony. APD Wright Noel stated that a guilty plea memorandum had been filed and signed. Judge Stockard ordered a pre-sentence investigation (PSI) and set sentencing for Dec. 9, 2025.

Vincent Allen Austin appeared for a hearing regarding a technical probation violation. He was represented by CCPD Jacob Sommer. The violation report, filed Oct. 7, 2025, cited alcohol use with a blood alcohol content of 0.22. Deputy District Attorney Priscilla Baker noted the state’s concern and asked that the division file a violation report for any future alcohol use immediately.

CCPD Sommer advised the court that Austin submitted paperwork for a background check as part of his effort to secure employment and expressed his intent to comply with outstanding obligations, including completing a substance abuse evaluation. Austin told the court he had been doing well but admitted he “needed a break,” referring to sobriety.

Judge Stockard temporarily revoked Austin’s probation and ordered him to serve 30 days in custody. He received 15 days of credit for time served and was ordered to serve the remaining 15 days. The court ordered the forfeiture of any good time credit and reinstated Austin on probation under the same conditions following his release. The judge emphasized that any future alcohol-related violations must be brought back before the court.

Soroptimist International of Fallon Presents

13th Annual Quarter Auction

Cauldrons & Cosmos

A Soroptimist Spooktakular!

Saturday, October 18th

Fallon Convention Center

Tickets Available at Dandelion Express, Ambiance Salon, from any Soroptimist Member, or via PayPal at sifallonclub@gmail.com.

5 PM – Silent Auction Bids, Prize Viewing, 50/50 Jack-o-Lantern Jackpot, No Host Bar

6 PM – Dinner and Live Auction Catered by Lazerz Catering!

Individual Tickets – \$60 Includes dinner, ball and paddle

Table of 8 – \$500 Includes dinner, wine for the table, reserved seating, and advertisement during the program

Extra Paddles available for \$25! Includes “All In”

All proceeds benefit local scholarships and activities.

Costume Contest!

Winner receives ticket for next year!

Follow us online!

www.sifallonclub.com

Facebook: Soroptimist International of Fallon

Instagram: [sifallonclub](https://www.instagram.com/sifallonclub)

MAKE A DIFFERENCE

VOLUNTEER

Build Community. Change Lives.

We Need YOU at our Fallon Distributions!

Mobile Harvest
Second Tuesday, Volunteers report at noon for a 12:30 - 1:45 p.m. distributions.

Produce on Wheels
Second Thursday from 9 - 10 am (Distribution day and time may change in future)

SNWP (Senior Box) Distributions
Fourth Thursday, 11:30 am - 12:30 pm

Please sign up on our website at www.fbnn.org!

Volunteer as a Group!
Bring your team, club, or organization together for a hands-on way to give back. *Group volunteering builds teamwork, strengthens connections, and makes a lasting impact in our community.* Perfect for businesses, schools, and community groups!

Questions? Contact Us:
Vickie Jarman, Volunteer Coordinator ☎ (775) 785-1431 ✉ vjarman@fbnn.org

Volunteer Opportunities

WAREHOUSE SESSIONS
Support the Food Bank by preparing food for distribution.

- Help the Food Bank sort and pack food donations
- Assemble boxes for senior distributions
- Pack Produce
- Open to all volunteers, ages 10+

DISTRIBUTIONS
Help provide nutritious food directly to families and seniors in need.

CLERICAL HELP
Lend a hand behind the scenes with data entry, special projects, and other administrative tasks.

READY TO GET STARTED?
Register Online Today!
Signing up is quick and easy. Create your profile, choose your volunteer opportunities, and start making a difference today!

EDUCATION

Veritas Preparatory School – Classical and Christian A Charming Tradition: Kindergarten Alphabet Tea

By Assistant Headmaster David Ernst, with photos courtesy of Veritas

Last month, Veritas kindergarteners hosted their much-anticipated Alphabet Tea, a delightful celebration marking the completion of their study of all 26 letters. Dressed in their school spirit wear, students welcomed parents and special guests to the chapel-turned-tea-room, decorated with alphabet art and floral centerpieces.

Each child proudly performed songs and recitations that highlighted their alphabetic knowledge. Afterward, guests enjoyed tea, cookies, and treats served by the kindergarteners themselves—with plenty of smiles to go around. “The Alphabet Tea is a sweet way to celebrate a big milestone,” said kindergarten teacher Mrs. Cota. “It’s amazing to see how far the students have come since the start of the year—they’re confident, joyful, and so proud of what they’ve learned.”



Veritas kindergarteners enjoy their Alphabet Tea.

Bighorn Bulletin

By Angela Viera with photos courtesy of Oasis Academy.

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT: ALLURA KNIGHT-ZUMWALT



Allura Knight-Zumwalt.

As she prepares to cross the graduation stage this spring, Oasis Academy senior Allura Knight-Zumwalt reflects fondly on her time at Oasis Academy—a place she now considers home. “I started at Oasis as a freshman in high school,” she shared. “It was a very different environment, but everyone quickly welcomed me and made me feel at home. Now as a senior I feel like Oasis is my home and my peers are my family.” Graduating with both her high school diploma and an Associate of Science degree from Western Nevada College, she is already looking ahead to the next chapter. “My plans after graduation consist of attending the University of Nevada, Reno to complete my Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education,” she said. “I hope to possibly travel abroad for a semester to experience the world as I work towards my degree.” Throughout her years at Oasis, she built memories that will stay with her long after graduation. One of her favorites was a school event that highlighted her fun and creative side. “One of my favorite memories from my time at Oasis has to be when my friends and I dressed up as detectives for murder mystery night. It’s one of my favorites because we were the only ones who dressed up and everyone enjoyed it,” she said. Knight-Zumwalt’s time in the classroom also brought joy and inspiration, particularly in her dual-enrollment courses. “My favorite class was my WNC chemistry class,” she said. “I enjoyed this class a lot as the teachers made it interesting to learn and

I was surrounded by other peers with a passion for science.” Beyond academics, her dedication to service and leadership has been a defining part of her high school experience. She has been a champion for volunteering and serving the community. She is currently president of the Oasis Chapter of National Honor Society. “Even though I didn’t play any sports in high school, I did student council for a year then decided to dedicate my time to giving back to the community,” she explained. “I joined the National Honor Society and have given a large portion of my time to many projects around our community. Including and excluding National Honor Society, I have completed over 300 hours of community service.” She also explored her creative side through writing, co-authoring a novel with a peer, and participating in the “We The People” competition her freshman year, where she had the unique experience of speaking in front of Nevada Supreme Court Justices. She credits much of her success to the support she received along the way. “I would like to thank Vice Principal Andy Lenon for helping me get through tough obstacles, not just with school but with life,” she said. “Mr. Lenon has been immensely important to me and has helped me navigate this hard world—I literally could not have done it without him.” As she prepares to move on, she has heartfelt advice for those still walking the halls of Oasis Academy. “Get involved in school activities—it’s the small things like spirit week and pajama day that you will look back on and remember fondly,” she advised. “You matter. Through the midst of academic rigor, you might get lost and forget how important you are. Remember to take care of yourself and remind yourself that you matter and belong at Oasis! Lastly, be yourself. The world is a beautiful place because you’re in it—don’t be anything you’re not.”

OASIS ACADEMY FIFTH GRADERS EXPLORE EARTH’S ROTATION THROUGH SHADOW SCIENCE

Fifth grade students in Ms. Amber Revels’ class took their learning outdoors as part of a hands-on science project studying the Earth’s rotation. Using the Amplify Science Curriculum, students explored how the movement of the Earth affects the position

and length of their shadows throughout the day. To investigate, students marked their shadows at different times and compared how the direction and size changed as the sun appeared to move across the sky. Through this engaging experiment, they were able to see firsthand how Earth’s rotation causes these changes. “It’s so important that students are able to get outside and get hands-on experience by acting as true scientists,” Revels said. “Students are able to apply the concepts they learned and see how they are relevant in real-life.” Some of the goals for Oasis Academy’s science curriculum are inquiry-based learning, encouraging students to think like scientists by asking questions, collecting data, and drawing conclusions. Projects like this one help foster curiosity and deepen understanding of key scientific concepts. By the end of the lesson, students not only gained a better grasp of Earth’s rotation but also developed valuable observation and critical thinking skills.

OASIS ACADEMY SECOND GRADERS LEARN CHEMISTRY BY MAKING THEIR OWN GLUE

Second-grade students at Oasis Academy got hands-on with science this week as they explored the world of properties and materials. Administration had tasked the students with the job of making glue for the school and they took the challenge seriously. The students started with four common materials, flour, cornstarch, salt, and baking soda. They began by observing the four different dry substances and noting their properties. They then used those observations to help them as they began creating their own recipes for their own glue. The students added water and began mixing to observe how the matter/ingredients changed. The school administration then performed a test, gluing a bean to a piece of paper to see which recipe worked the best. “This lesson emphasized observation skills, teamwork, and curiosity — key elements of hands-on science learning,” teacher Ali Montgomery said. “By the end of the experiment, students proudly made some observations that would help them with their final product. For example, one of these ingredients turned into a solid when mixed with water.”

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EDUCATION

CCSD Cool School News

Compiled by Kaitlin Ritchie with photos courtesy of CCSD.



CCHS October Churchill Champions 2025 Emeric Wallace, Laci Peterson, Carter McBee, Scarlett Richards, Anndalyn Smith, Randen Ferguson. Not pictured Kimberly Terrill.

CCHS
Churchill County High School kicked off its 2025-26 Churchill Champions program last week with a breakfast honoring Emeric Wallace, Laci Peterson, Carter McBee, Scarlett Richards, Anndalyn Smith, Randen Ferguson, and Kimberly Terrill. The program recognizes students who demonstrate positivity, leadership, and effort in and out of the classroom.
“The program is meant to recognize students who are doing exceptional work in and out of the classroom to make CCHS a better place,” coordinator Heather Benjamin said. Teachers and staff nominate students or teams who show kindness, helpfulness, and enthusiasm in unique ways.
“Even after the original designers of the program left CCHS, I felt it was important to keep it going,” Benjamin said. With help from Laurel Topken, Holly McPherson, and Alicia White and her culinary team, Benjamin hosts a monthly breakfast and ceremony to celebrate students who go above and beyond.

CCMS
Students in Robbie Wickware’s classes have been diving into lessons on American history and sports. In seventh-grade U.S. history, students have been learning about the



Students in Kristina McFadden’s class used Graham crackers and frosting to explore how tectonic plate movement shapes Earth’s surface.

early colonies that helped shape the United States. They mapped and compared the different regions of the American colonies, gaining a deeper understanding of how geography and culture influenced the nation’s beginnings. In sixth-, seventh-, and eighth-grade sports history, students explored the origins of football, studying how the sport was created, the evolution of its rules, and how it became the modern game it is today. Then, students put theory into practice with a lesson called “Motions of the Game,” where they learned proper techniques for throwing and catching a football.
NUMA
Students in Kristina McFadden’s class explored how tectonic plate movement shapes Earth’s surface with a hands-on activity using graham crackers and frosting, an experiment that doubled as a tasty treat. During the lesson, students modeled transform, divergent, and convergent boundaries to see how mountains, valleys, and other landforms are created. This activity supports fourth-grade learning target S.4.1.3 (NGSS standard 4-ESS1-1) using evidence from rock formations and Earth’s structure to explain how landscapes change over time. Through this learning activity, students



Emma Knapp’s Physical Education class playing the game Bridge Crossing.

connected scientific concepts to real-world processes in a fun and memorable way. “Science is even sweeter when learning comes to life,” McFadden said.
E.C. BEST
This year, in Emma Knapp’s physical education class, students are focusing on teamwork. One favorite activity is the game “Bridge Crossing,” which students play as “the floor is lava.” Throughout the year, students will participate in a variety of games that emphasize working together, including soccer, floor hockey, basketball, and parachute games. These activities help students build cooperation, communication, and problem-solving skills while having fun and staying active.
LAHONTAN
Last week, students in Jennifer Vasquez’s kindergarten class learned all about pumpkins, including the pumpkin life cycle and the different parts of a pumpkin. Students even got creative as they colored pumpkins, reinforcing their understanding of stems, seeds, pulp, and skin, all while having fun. Through these activities, students connected science concepts to real pumpkins and practiced observation and fine motor skills.

Logos Christian Academy



Logos Jr. Kinder and kindergartners learned about Johnny Appleseed and community helpers. The students were able to experience being a good server and served up homemade applesauce to all Logos classes. Photos courtesy of Logos Christian Academy.



Fallon Cares Community Coat Drive Returns for Third Year

Staff report

The Fallon Cares Community Coat Drive, founded and operated by resident Sarah Lavy, is back in its third year, continuing the mission to keep families in Fallon warm throughout the winter. Each year, the drive provides between 200 and 300 coats, with at least 100 specifically for children. While the primary focus is on coats, the drive also offers warm blankets, hats, scarves, gloves, and other winter clothing to help families get through the cold months.
The coat drive was born from a simple idea. “One day in a local moms group, someone asked if there would be a coat drive this year,” Lavy recalls. “When someone said there wasn’t, I suggested maybe I could start one. And so I did.”
Lavy usually spends about three months organizing the coat drive but was only able to devote two months to preparation due to health issues. As a result, the drive is a little

lower on donations than in past years. Despite these challenges, she feels blessed to serve her community.
“I feel that it is an honor and a blessing to serve,” Lavy said. “This drive is my way of leaving a legacy of love for those who may be less seen or heard in our community. I hope to raise awareness of these needs and connect people who want to help with those who need it most.”
The coat drive holds special meaning for Lavy as she received coats through a coat drive many times as a child. She credits her inspiration and guidance to Lana Scharmann, founder and operator of JustServe, who has served as a mentor. Scharmann’s experience in working with charities helped Lavy navigate the challenges of organizing a community-driven project and ensure its ongoing success.
Community support has been essential to the drive’s success. The LDS Church provides facilities, helps create and distribute flyers,

and brings volunteers – including missionaries and Boy Scouts – to help set up and organize donations. Local businesses have also been vital partners in providing drop-off locations in the community. The Dairy Farmers of America provided the collection barrels, and drop-off locations have included Century 21, the Fallon Chamber of Commerce, WaFd Bank, and this year the Working Class Tattoo. Additionally, Jeff’s Digitex supports the drive by printing flyers and donating a storage shed.
The last day to donate coats is Wednesday, Oct. 30. The Fallon Cares Community Coat Drive event will be held on Saturday, Nov. 1, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the LDS Church, 750 W. Richards Street.
Thanks to the continued generosity of the Fallon community, the Fallon Cares Community Coat Drive remains a dependable resource for families in need, ensuring that everyone can face the winter months warm and cared for.

Greenwave Football

Melendy's Huge Night Overwhelms Vaqueros

By Robert Perea

There was nothing fancy about the way Fallon's Carson Melendy carved up the Fernley defense last Friday night. He didn't dance and didn't dazzle; he simply ran like a man late for something important and unwilling to be stopped.

Melendy ran for 357 yards on 23 carries to lead the Greenwave to a 42-15 win in Fernley last week, giving Fallon the chance to clinch the No. 1 playoff seed with a win at Elko this Friday night and leaving Fernley hoping for a shot at the No. 2 seed.



Carlin Anderson.

But Melendy needed only five of those 23 carries to define his night and decide the outcome of Friday's game. Melendy had touchdown runs of 80, 67, 68 and 22 yards, and another run of 43 yards that set up a touchdown run by Matthew Bird, accounting for 280 of his yards on just five plays. Even so, the Vaqueros were feeling good about themselves after opening the second half with a 10-play, 75-yard drive to cut Fallon's lead to 21-15. That is, until Melendy ripped off his third touchdown of the night, the 68-yarder that put the lead back to 27-15. After that, Fernley managed just one first down on its last four possessions, while Melendy added another touchdown and Fallon's Alijah Juarez punctuated the night with a 15-yard fumble return for a touchdown. "That might honestly be the first time since I've been a head coach that I've had a team that just kind of submitted," Fernley



Greenwave Football 4 Riley McCullar. Photos by John Baker.

coach Anfernee Sloan said. "Like, they were just done when they knew they were out of the race." When he got the ball in open space, Melendy made sure there was no race. On the game's first play from scrimmage from Fallon's 20-yard line, he took a handoff straight up the middle, hesitated slightly to let the hole open up, then burst through and was eight yards ahead of the closest defender when he crossed the goal line 80 yards later. Fernley answered with a 9-play 65-yard drive on its first possession, with 63 of the yards coming on runs by Keeshawn Love, who scored on a 13-yard touchdown. After a penalty against Fallon on the extra point, the Vaqueros went for a two-point conversion and made it to take an 8-7 lead. On the first play of Fallon's second pos-

sion, Melendy took a handoff designed to go to his left, cut back to his right into the middle and again found nothing but an empty field in front of him for a 67-yard touchdown to put Fallon back on top 14-8. The teams traded punts for the next five possessions, but Melendy started Fallon's fifth drive with a 43-yard run to the Fernley 26, and six plays later, Bird ran it in from six yards out to make it 21-8 at the half. But after thinking they were back in the game with their opening drive of the third quarter, everything caved in on the Vaqueros. The win moved Fallon to 6-0 in the Northern 3A and sets up a showdown in Elko, which is 5-1, Friday night. A win gives Fallon the No. 1 playoff seed. An Elko would give the Indians the top seed if they beat Spring Creek next week.



Matthew Bird.



Caleb Edgmon and Ashton McCourtney.

F Town Rivalry Returns

Fallon Bests Fernley in Varsity Volleyball



Trista Menesini.



Fallon and Fernley players turn up the heat at the net.

Story and photos by John Baker

Fernley High School hosted its rivals from Churchill County High School last Friday night, Oct. 10 for some volleyball and football action in addition to establishing supremacy in the 3A Northern League for both sports.

Volleyball started off the night with the freshman teams taking the court. Churchill came out strong and won in straight sets, 25-12 and 26-21. JV was up next and the Greenwave won the first set 25-16. The Fernley Vaqueros fought back and took the second set 25-23. The final set was hard-fought and in the end, Churchill took the set 15-13 as well as the match. The varsity team took to the court for the final match of the night. Fernley came out

strong and easily took the first set 25-15. Churchill came back and won the second set 25-18. The third set went back and forth until the Vaqueros came out on top 27-25. Churchill wasn't done yet and took the fourth set 25-18 and forced the deciding fifth set. Neither side was letting down and at one point, the score was tied 11-all. In the end, the Greenwave won the set 15-11, the match, and control of the 3A League.

Greenwave Seniors Join 10U for Surprise Scrimmage



Greenwave Seniors and 10U players.

Story and photos by Kasey Robb

Seniors from the CCHS varsity football team surprised the FYFL Fallon 10U team with a scrimmage during the youth team’s final practice on Thursday, Oct. 9.

The boys of the 10-and-under football team were informed that they would scrimmage against a team who was “out of their league” but were not given any additional details. Roughly ten minutes into the 10U practice, uniformed players from the CCHS varsity team stepped onto Mike Llamas Memorial Field to a few nervous youth players, but mostly laughter and an excited uproar from the team. The field was alive with cheers and friendly jeers during the short practice game.

When asked how he felt to see the CCHS players take the field, Stetson Starr, No. 40, running back for the 10U team, said he was “nervous and scared. But it was really fun. We got to play varsity and they’re really big. Some of them are going to college.”

Barry Mitchell, No. 10, CCHS varsity tight end, said, “We all played in fifth grade and it was cool to give them something to remember.”

According to Loni Faight, organizer of the event, “The mission was twofold: One, to inspire the younger generation to keep working and keep fighting to achieve their football dreams. Second, for the varsity boys to see how far they’ve come and give a nod to their childhood football days on the same field in the same program.”

“We all did this at one point,” Kacin Rogne, No. 7, CCHS varsity middle linebacker, said. “About six or seven of us all played together in fifth grade. It makes you realize how fast time goes by.”

The Fallon Youth Football League (FYFL) Greenwave Pop Warner

is an athletics program that not only gets young players involved in the sport, but also brings them into a culture of sportsmanship, teamwork, and dedication. Many of the CCHS varsity team were involved in the same program as children. Today that legacy continues with new generations and a supportive community.

Carson Melendy, No. 2, CCHS varsity running back, commented, “It was fun to come back and reminisce. We were playing on the same field when we were ten.”

During a team huddle after the game, Coach TJ Harnar could be heard saying, “You younger boys ... it was huge for them to come down and do this for you. Take what you get out of this. For you older boys ... you’ve played since you were this young. Go fight for something. It means something.”

With the CCHS varsity team currently undefeated and racking up unprecedented numbers this season, the event means something not just for them, but for the entire Greenwave community. Events like this serve to show how values learned in good sportsmanship can bring people together and remind those involved of how far they have come and how much they have grown.

“I just love to see the younger program,” said Matthew Bird, No. 5, CCHS varsity quarterback. “How developed they are and I can’t wait to see them when they finally reach high school and how good they’re going to be.”

After the scrimmage, both teams posed for photos, and the CCHS players signed jerseys for the 10U team in an energetic and uplifting scene that received an emotional response from parents and spectators.

“There was just so much love, excitement, and joy on the field,” said Becky Rossback, 10U mom.

“I was very scared, but excited to play with them and play football,” said Denton Faight, No. 11, FYFL 10U quarterback. “They’re really good and I want to be like them someday.”



Fallon Rodeo Team.

Fallon Rodeo Team Shines in Battle Mountain

By Ainsley Macpherson

The Fallon Rodeo Team turned in strong performances over the weekend at the Battle Mountain rodeo, bringing home multiple titles across both junior high and high school divisions.

Stella Lee, a seventh grader, captured the Junior High All-Around Cowgirl title, while Ainsley Macpherson, eighth grade, rode to victory as the Barrel Racing Champion. Wyatt Greenwood, also in seventh grade, earned top honors in the Junior High Team Roping Average, and Stix Lee, ninth grade, claimed the High School Team Roping win.

The Fallon Rodeo Team competes in 14 rodeos across Nevada each season and regularly qualifies several members for the National Finals. Fans can follow their season highlights and recap videos on Instagram at @fallon_rodeo_team.

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C O L U M N S

Postcards:
Ranching in the Soda Lake District, Part II

By Michon Mackedon

The Kelly Engle family ranched in the Soda Lake District between 1920 and 1926. Engle’s story features many of the elements that run through most of the tales told by Churchill County settlers in the 1920s: bad wells, outdoor plumbing, crops that failed, houses that were cold in the winter and hot in the summer, cars that wouldn’t start, drought. His story also recalls the joys that could be found in rural life: strong family bonds forged by isolation and love, country parties and dances, neighborly acts of kindness, a (sometimes frustrating) sense of connection to a land that could hold back its bounty or overwhelm with its beauty and blessings, and the discovery of innovative ways to find entertainment despite the odds.

Engle: “We answered an advertisement in the San Francisco Examiner for a three-tube battery operated Crosley Radio, with a disc speaker and earphones. I think it cost only \$8 or \$10 but it was a honey. In our isolated location, 11 miles from town, there were no power lines or other disturbing factors to create static interference. On an evening, we could bring in Clearwater, Florida and other distant stations. In the daytime, we had to use the earphones. On Saturday afternoons, during football season, I would tune in the action. Borchert (Engles’ ranching partner) and I would have to start the milking before the games were over. Ruth (Kelly’s wife) would take over the earphones and from time to time scribble notes of its progress and send them out to the milking shed by Tiny (Kelly and Ruth’s daughter) who felt very important to be acting as messenger. She would make a bee line across the corral, kicking in the ribs of any cow lying in her path, until it struggled to its feet and got out of her way.

“The Fourth of July, probably 1923 or 1924, was a memorable one, made so by two guests, Dutch Masters and Si Krummes, old mates at the University of Nevada. ...This was our first get together since college days, and what a reunion it was! We had no guest accommodations in our small ranch home, so we parked them in sleeping bags out near the haystacks. On the morning of the Fourth, Borchert, in a waggish mood, had donned the

swallow-tailed coat of his old college days dress suit. I had brought out cakes of ice from town, and we whipped up several freezers of homemade ice cream during the day. This was still in the prohibition era, so I had secured from our favorite bootlegger a supply of ‘white mule.’ We had no fireworks but at intervals during the day, we would detonate half sticks of dynamite tied to the branches of sagebrush bushes. Neighbors from miles away reported that it sounded like another war had broken out. ...Ruth baked a large turkey for the occasion.”

Then, as Engle tells it, an agricultural depression developed and the price of hay dropped from \$40 to \$20 per ton. He and Borchert tried going into the dairy business. “Although our revenues increased, they were still not sufficient to meet our fixed charges and loan obligations so we reluctantly realized were licked and would have to dispose of the ranch.... We found a buyer in a Basque gentleman bootlegger...who planned to turn the ranch production over from alfalfa to “Hearts of Gold” cantaloupe, from which he would make a new type of whiskey. He subsequently built a large underground still. But his clients did not take kindly to the taste and flavor of this new type of whiskey” so, according to Engle, he abandoned the ranch and went back to “his former occupation of running illicit liquor in from Canada.”

Engle’s Soda Lake story has a happier ending than many like his. He was offered a job by the Mexican government as office engineer on the Rio Mante Irrigation Project. So, with the promise of a paycheck, Engle situated his wife and young children in a home in Fallon on Russell Street and set out for Mexico. After a year, he returned to Nevada, where he served four years as Deputy State Engineer. Then, the family moved to California, and he continued to work, as he put it, as “a dam engineer.”

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

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

What’s Cooking in Kelli’s Kitchen:
Recipe for Longevity

By Kelli Kelly

Long-time readers of this column are well aware that I am an avid advocate (say that three times fast) for eating beans. I proudly proclaim affinity with the leguminati, a not-so-secret society of devoted beaniacs brought together by a love of all things Rancho Gordo. I am excited to tell you that science supports the regular consumption of beans and peas as a strategy for longevity.

A few weeks ago, at a Rancho Gordo Bean Club town hall, I had the opportunity to meet Dan Buettner, a researcher who studies the world’s longest-living populations and the founder of the “Blue Zones” organization. Blue Zones are geographic regions around the world where the populace live extraordinarily long and healthy lives. Buettner has identified five Blue Zones spanning the globe from Okinawa, Japan, to Loma Linda, California, that share nine commonalities he has dubbed “The Power Nine.”

THE POWER NINE

- **Move Naturally** – People who live in Blue Zones exist in environments that are constantly nudging them to move their bodies without thinking about it. Rather than joining gyms, running marathons, or lifting weights, Blue Zone residents grow gardens, ride bikes, and have limited use of mechanical conveniences in their homes.
- **Purpose** – Buettner says that knowing your reason for being adds up to seven years of life expectancy.
- **Downshift** – While Blue Zone residents experience stress, just like the rest of us, their regular routines include activities that allow them to decompress. These include meditation, reflection, naps, and happy hour!
- **Belonging** – Being in community with others as a regular practice at least four times per month will add between four and fourteen years of life expectancy.
- **Loved Ones First** – Familial connections are also essential to longevity. In the five Blue Zones, people stay near to their loved ones, often housing their aging parents and grandparents nearby or in their own homes. They commit to a life partner and prioritize spending time with their children.
- **Right Tribe** – Members of Blue Zone communities have social circles that promote healthy behaviors.
- **80% Rule** – There is about a 20% gap between not being hungry and feeling full. This gap is the difference between gaining and losing weight. In Blue Zone communities, people regularly stop eating when they are about 80% full.
- **Wine at 5 p.m.** – People in all of the Blue Zones drink alcohol moderately but regularly. The trick is to drink 1 to 2 glasses of wine per day.
- **Plant Slant** – Finally, BEANS make up the cornerstone of Blue Zone centenarian diets. Small portions (3 to 4 ounces) of meat are consumed only about five times a month.

If you are interested in learning more about Blue Zones, I encourage you to check out the award-winning documentary on Netflix, “Live to 100: Secrets of the Blue Zones.” For help incorporating Blue Zone lessons into your regular diet, Dan has published several



Blue Zone cookbooks that equip you with the tools that you need to eat ’til you’re 100!

Here’s a great recipe that is easy, inexpensive, plant-based, and delicious—consider it your first step toward longevity. The Smoothest Hummus You’ve Ever Eaten:

Ingredients

- | | |
|-----------------|------------------------------|
| 1 1/2 cups | Dried chickpeas |
| 1 tsp. | Baking soda |
| 6 1/2 cups | Water |
| 1 cup + 2 tbsp. | Tahini paste |
| 4 tbsp. | Freshly squeezed lemon juice |
| 4 cloves | Garlic, crushed |
| | Salt |
| 6 1/2 tbsp. | Ice-cold water |

DIRECTIONS:

1. The night before, put the chickpeas in a large bowl and cover them with cold water at least twice their volume. Leave to soak overnight.
2. The next day, drain the chickpeas. Place a medium saucepan over high heat and add the drained chickpeas and baking soda. Cook for about 3 minutes, stirring constantly. Add the water and bring to a boil. Cook, skimming off any foam and any skins that float to the surface. The chickpeas will need to cook between 20 and 40 minutes, depending on the type and freshness, sometimes even longer. Once done, they should be very tender, breaking up easily when pressed between your thumb and finger, almost but not quite mushy.
3. Drain the chickpeas. You should have roughly 3 2/3 cups. Place the chickpeas in a food processor and process until you get a stiff paste. Then, with the machine still running, add the tahini paste, lemon juice, garlic, and 1 1/2 teaspoons salt. Finally, slowly drizzle in the iced water and allow it to mix for about 5 minutes, until you get a very smooth and creamy paste.
4. Transfer the hummus to a bowl, cover the surface with plastic wrap, and let it rest for at least 30 minutes. If not using straight-away, refrigerate until needed. Make sure to take it out of the fridge at least 30 minutes before serving.
5. Garnish with a drizzle of olive oil and a sprinkle of smoked paprika. Eat with fresh veggies or pita bread!



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

COLUMNS

Allison’s Book Report: “Happy and You Know It” by Laura Hankin

By Allison Diegel



It’s back to the real world this week. Between hitting our favorite three-day reggae festival and then taking our teens with us to another totally amazing Dirty Heads show in Sparks, we have been up here living it up. I am tired, my body is sore, my wallet is empty and my house is a mess – but my heart is so full! Now its time to settle back into a routine, which includes reading and sharing a new book with all of you!

“Happy and You Know It” by Laura Hankin kicks off with Claire, a former child piano prodigy whose career completely blew up in a headline-making scandal years ago. She’s trying to keep a low profile and pay the bills, which leads her to take a ridiculously niche job: the resident musician for “Little Hands,” an ultra-exclusive playgroup in Manhattan. Think private, expensive, and filled with moms who define “wealthy and influential.”

The playgroup is run by Whitney, who seems like the queen of effortless perfection — beautiful, charming, and radiating calm. But Claire, an outsider looking in, quickly realizes that this serene atmosphere is a total facade. Beneath the surface, the moms are super competitive, deeply anxious, and paranoid, all trying desperately to maintain this flawless image of perfect motherhood.

The biggest source of drama in the group is an anonymous, incredibly popular blog called “The Watcher.” This blog is the collective nightmare of the Little Hands set because it spills all their biggest secrets, their social faux pas, and even their emotional meltdowns. It’s wildly entertaining for everyone else, but for these stressed-out socialites, it’s a constant threat that someone is recording their every failure.

Claire, hired to play music, finds herself becoming the reluctant sleuth. She realizes the blog isn’t just random gossip; it’s a weapon being strategically deployed, and she starts to suspect the author is one of the mothers — maybe even Whitney herself – using it for power and control. As Claire tries to unravel the mystery, she’s forced to confront the public shame and trauma from her own past, realizing the pressure to perform happiness is universal.

The story builds to an awesome climax where Claire uses her amazing musical memory to finally piece together the clues and

expose the blogger’s identity, shattering Whitney’s manipulative control over the group. The book is ultimately a hilarious and insightful takedown of the modern pressure cooker of motherhood and social status, with Claire finding a much more genuine path to happiness outside of the polished world of “Little Hands.”

I hope you enjoy “Happy and You Know It” this week. Don’t forget to pop over to my Instagram @allison.the.reader for more book recommendations and bookish fun.

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.

LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE OF
PERSONAL PROPERTY

Notice is hereby given that Pursuant to NRS Chapter 108.473 TO 108.4783 of the Business and Professions Code, State of Nevada, the undersigned will sell at Public Auction by Competitive Bidding on or after October 18, 2025 at 11 P.M. at Full House Mini-Storage, 640 Cornell Ave., Lovelock NV, the goods, chattels or personal goods and property of the tenants/units listed below.

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Published in
The Fallon Post
October 10, and 17, 2025
Ad #6377

NOTICE OF APPOINTIVE
POSITION VACANCY

The Board of County Commissioners is seeking a public-spirited citizen who is willing to serve as a member on the Churchill County Planning Commission. The Planning Commission is an advisory board to the Board of County Commissioners and will meet twice monthly. This person will serve on a seven (7) member board responsible for decisions with Planning Department matters associated within Churchill County. This member will serve a four year term. Computer knowledge and experience is essential. Familiarity with Churchill County and a broad understanding of Churchill County’s governance, Master Plan, and land use planning policies is preferred. For more details, interested people may talk to the Public Works Director for additional information about the Planning Commission and what the position entails. Interested people may obtain an application at the Human Resources Department, 155 N. Taylor St., Suite 177, Fallon, Nevada 89406. All letters and applications are to be submitted to the above address not later than 3:00 p.m. Wednesday, November 5, 2025.

Pamela D. Moore, Deputy Clerk to the Board

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October 17, 24, and 31, 2025
Ad #6378



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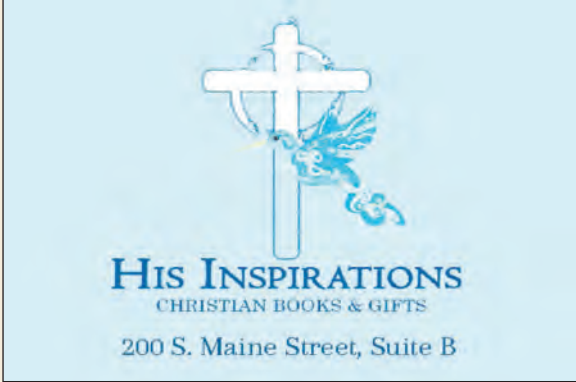


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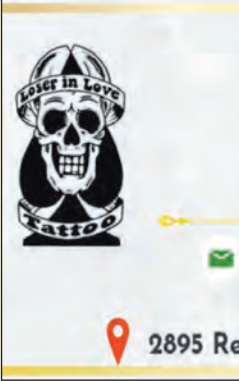
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LEGAL NOTICES

CASE NO.: 25-10DC-0893
Dept. No.: 1

**IN THE TENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA
IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF CHURCHILL**

In the Matter of the Application of STEVEN MICHAEL YOUNG, nee CHACONA, Petitioner,
For Change of Name.

_____ /

NOTICE OF PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that STEVEN MICHAEL YOUNG has on the 19th day of September, 20, filed a Petition addressed to the above-entitled court praying that said court enter its Order changing Petitioner's legal name from STEVEN MICHAEL CHACONA to STEVEN MICHAEL YOUNG . This Petition is not being submitted for a fraudulent purpose.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that any person having objection to the changing of Petitioner's name as aforesaid shall file written objection with the above-entitled court within ten days after date of the last publication of this Notice.
DATED this September 25, 2025

Published in
The Fallon Post
October 3, 10, and 17, 2025
Ad #6374

DATE OF SALE: NOV. 2, 2025
TIME OF SALE: 8:00 AM
LOCATION OF SALE:
3455 C J DR, FALLON, NV 89406

Notice is hereby given that a lien sale will be conducted by the undersigned lienholders pursuant to Nevada Revised Statutes §§ 108.550–108.660. The following described horses, currently in the possession of the lienholders, will be sold at public auction to satisfy unpaid charges for board, feed, and care:
Total amount owed to lien sale holders: \$14,265.00

Horses Subject to Lien:
Breed: Quarter Horse
Sex: Mare
Age: 26
Color/Markings:
Chestnut, 2 hind leg white socks, white star
Breed: Quarter Horse
Sex: Gelding
Age: 7
Color/Markings: Dun, 1 hind leg white sock, white star

Lienholders:
LeAnn Mounce & Lisa Piccolotti
3455 C J Drive, Fallon, NV 89406
Phone: 775-217-3913 / 775-232-0527
Email: leann.mounce@outlook.com / hrseangel@msn.com

For questions regarding livestock sales under lien, you may also contact:
Nevada Department of Agriculture
4780 Idaho Street, Elko, NV 89801
Phone: 775-738-8076

Published in
The Fallon Post
October 17, and 24, 2025
Ad #6375

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY

Notice is hereby given that Pursuant to NRS Chapter 108.473 TO 108.4783 of the Business and Professions Code, State of Nevada, the undersigned will sell at Public Auction by Competitive Bidding on or after October 18, 2025 at 10 P.M. at Cache Mini-Storage, 105 Cache Ln Lovelock NV, the goods, chattels or personal goods and property of the tenants/units listed below.

Units #	
48	Cody James Wilcox
52	Seed Money LLC
57	Moana Shields
82	Oreal Shane
86	Brenda Marshal-Steele
113	Jay Hansen
G-10	Latricia Luna
G-13	Curtis Barlow
J-1	Steve Young
J-2	Global Energy Metals LLC
J-6	Steven Byrne
J-11	Renata Smith

Payment is to be made immediately upon purchase. The sale is subject to cancellation without notice in the event of settlement between owner and the obligated party.
Purchased goods are sold as is, and must be removed within (1) one day of purchase.
Cache Mini-Storage, 205 Cache Ln. Lovelock, NV 89419 775-273-2733

Published in
The Fallon Post
October 10, and 17, 2025
Ad #6376

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that the under- signed are the beneficiaries under a deed upon death executed by Donald & Joyce Wren signed on the 2nd day of April, 2007 and recorded on the 26th day of June, 2007, and that said grantors died on the 17th day of December, 2024 and the 1st day January, 2019, respec- tively and that said grantors had a date of birth of the 26th day of July, 1934 and the 2nd of September, 1940, respectively. A creditor having claim against the grantors or their estate must file a claim with the undersigned, Virginia M. Pritchett, formerly known as Virginia M. Wren at the address given below within 90 days after the first publication of this notice.

Signed: /s/ Virginia M. Pritchett
Formerly known as:
/s/ Virginia M. Wren

Dated this 14th day of October, 2025

Beneficiaries: Virginia M. Pritchett (formerly known as Virginia M. Wren) 2413 Cabrillo Ave. Unit B, Torrance, CA 90501

Scott M. Brown, PO Box 2507 Grass Valley, CA 95945

Erin C. Brumage (formerly known as Erin C. Brown), PO Box 20037, Sun Valley NV 89433

Christopher Wren, 5711 Aspen Falls Circle, Las Vegas NV 89149

Jared Wren (Jerad), 10134 Neville Court, Las Vegas NV 89183

Published in
The Fallon Post
October 17, 24, and 31, 2025
Ad #6380



Gabbs Lateral Naval Air Station Fallon Relocation Project
FERC Docket No. CP25-551-000

Great Basin Gas Transmission Company (“Great Basin”), formerly Paiute Pipeline Company, is a natural gas company primarily engaged in the business of transporting and storing natural gas flowing in interstate commerce. Great Basin owns and operates an interstate pipeline system which extends from a point on the Idaho-Nevada border to the California-Nevada state line, near the north and south ends of Lake Tahoe. In addition, Great Basin operates an LNG peak shaving storage facility near Lovelock, NV.

On September 29, 2025, Great Basin filed an application with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (“FERC”) for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity authorizing Great Basin to install approximately 33 miles of pipeline and abandon approximately 21 miles of the current Gabbs Lateral. The Project will start approximately 26 miles east of Schurz, Nevada, and 20 miles south of the intersection of SR 31/SR 839 and US Highway 50, and will terminate about 3 miles west-northwest of Gabbs, Nevada.

Great Basin is working with government agencies to obtain all necessary permits in a timely manner. Construction of the pipeline facilities is scheduled to begin on or about March 1, 2027, and be completed by November 1, 2027. Construction would commence soon after permits and agency approvals have been granted. The time frame is subject to change depending on the FERC action and other developments.

The facilities will be installed in easements and rights-of-way from public landowners. Great Basin will engage in good faith negotiations necessary for the construction of the new pipeline facilities.

The FERC has a brochure that explains the FERC’s certificate process and addresses the basic concerns of landowners. The brochure, entitled “An Interstate Natural Gas Facility on My Land? What Do I Need to Know?” is available on the FERC’s website at <https://www.ferc.gov/media/25an-interstate-natural-gas-facility-my-landlowpdf-0> .

In addition, the FERC’s Landowner Helpline is available at 1-877-337-2237 or LandownerHelp@ferc.gov to answer any further questions about the procedures associated with the certificate process.

The Gabbs Lateral Naval Air Station Fallon Relocation Project Application is available for review at: (1) the Hawthorne Branch of the Mineral County Library; (2) the Fallon Branch of the Churchill County Library; (3) Great Basin’s Project website - www.GreatBasinGTCProjects.com; or (4) the FERC’s website - www.ferc.gov/ferc-online/elibrary. The FERC docket number assigned to this application is CP25-551-000.

Affected landowners and governmental entities impacted by Great Basin’s certificate application will receive a separate landowner notification package from Great Basin. If you have any questions, contact Great Basin toll-free at 1-877-593-2065 or via email at GreatBasinProjects@swgas.com.

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