

THE FALLON POST



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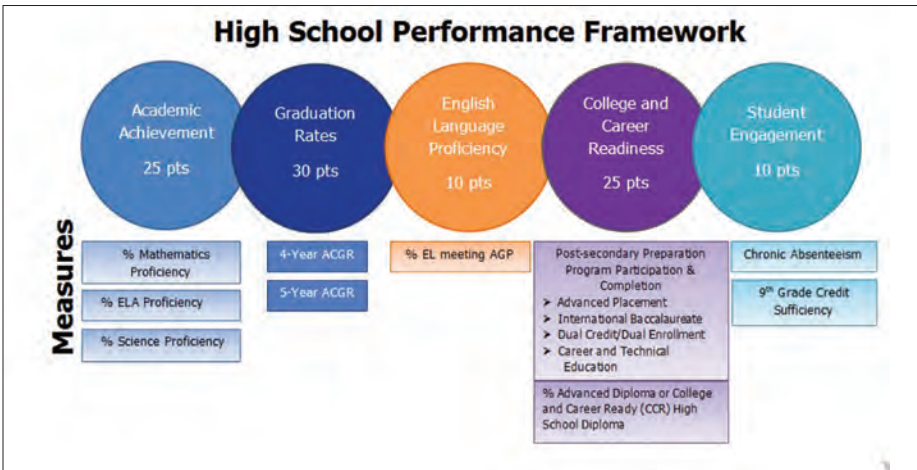
Churchill County Schools Show Growth in State Star Ratings

By Rachel Dahl

Churchill County schools posted gains in Nevada’s latest performance ratings, with district campuses improving and Oasis Academy holding strong in the Nevada School Performance Framework (NSPF).

The Nevada Department of Education on Monday released star ratings for the 2024-25 school year, part of an accountability system that measures schools on academic achievement, growth, and other factors such as absenteeism and graduation rates. Statewide, the share of top-rated schools climbed significantly. This year, 17 percent of schools earned a five-star rating, compared with 11.2 percent last year. Four-star schools rose to 13.5 percent, up from 10.7 percent, while one-star schools dropped to 16.3 percent from more than a quarter of campuses. “It’s encouraging news that more of our state’s public schools are earning higher star ratings,” said Interim State Superintendent Steve Canavero. “This reflects the hard work and dedication of our educators, administrators, staff, students, and families. We always have more work to do, but the widespread gains in achievement seen this year are rare and a clear indicator of progress.” Locally, results were mixed but trending upward. Churchill County High School improved from two to three stars; Numa Elementary climbed from one to two; and Churchill County Middle School remained at one, though its overall performance score improved.

Although E.C. Best Elementary and Lahontan Elementary were not included in this year’s NSPF due to data thresholds, district leaders noted their foundational role in student learning. Northside Early Learning Center, while not covered by NSPF, holds a five-star rating under Nevada’s Silver Stars Quality Rating and Improvement System, the highest rating available for preschool programs. “These results highlight the hard work of our students, teachers, staff, and families,” Superintendent Derild Parsons said in a district statement. “We are seeing progress, and we remain committed to building on this momentum to ensure success for every student in Churchill County.” Parsons also pointed to the district’s early grades, where



[Churchill County Schools continued on page 2]

Fallon PRCA Rodeo Raises Over \$50,000

By Rachel Dahl

The dust has barely settled at the 3C Event Complex, but Fallon’s inaugural PRCA Rodeo is already making history—in the arena and in the way the community rallied together. In its first year, the Fallon PRCA Rodeo welcomed 424 PRCA contestants and nearly 6,000 visitors from across the region. The event quickly proved it could stand shoulder-to-shoulder with Northern Nevada’s top rodeos. Behind the bucking chutes and fast times, though, the heart of the weekend was the more than \$50,000 raised to support two of Fallon’s youth, Nick Delgado and LeAnne Wallace, as they face their fights with cancer. “This rodeo was a dream, but seeing over \$50,000 raised for Nick and LeAnne in our first year was beyond what we imagined,” said Jesse Segura, operations deputy at the Rafter 3C. “The action was incredible, but the true victory was the impact we made for two people who mean so much to our community.” Fundraising efforts throughout the weekend brought in \$50,438, every penny donated

directly to Delgado and Wallace. From contestants tossing cash into buckets to raffle tickets and special events like the Queen of Hearts Barrel Race and Nevada’s Richest Breakaway Roping, generosity was at the forefront. Sponsors made the difference. Local businesses like Peek Brothers Construction, A&K Earthmovers, Fallon Ford, and Hoof Beats Gates & Corrals joined dozens of others to back the event. The list of contributors read like a roll call of Fallon’s business community—from Savage and Son to Pizza Barn, from Walker Lake Disposal to Fallon Glass & Signs. That support stretched beyond businesses. Community groups including CCJLS, the Greenwave Takedown Club, and the Fallon Churchill Fire Department added donations that helped push the total past \$50,000. Individuals such as Brett Workman, Melessa Walraven, Micheal Sehorn, Jason Etheridge, and Colten Fritzlen also stepped up to contribute personally. More than 75 volunteers rolled up their sleeves to make the rodeo possible, handling

everything from behind-the-scenes logistics to keeping fans entertained and safe. “It takes a small army to pull something like this together,” event organizer Hunter Giovanetti said, noting that the volunteers’ energy gave the rodeo its welcoming, family-friendly feel. While contestants and fans enjoyed the high-level competition, from barrel racing to team roping, what set Fallon’s rodeo apart was the cause it championed. “This wasn’t just about broncs and bulls,” Segura said. “It was about taking care of our own.” That care was visible in every corner of the grounds with raffle tickets purchased, hats passed for donations, and even the smallest kids dropping coins into jars for Nick and LeAnne. The Fallon PRCA Rodeo is already preparing for its return in 2026, with organizers aiming to grow the event and continue giving back to the community. For now, the 2025 debut will be remembered not only for its size and success, but for showing once again that Fallon stands together when it matters most.



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FROM THE PUBLISHER

Captain’s Log

A Turning Point

By Rachel Dahl

I can’t quit crying.

Every time I think of a man being shot for having the courage to stand for his beliefs, to speak publicly, engage people in discourse about the fundamental ideas that truly matter in a society, my heart twists in my chest, a lump sticks in my throat, and my eyes drip this awful liquid all over my keyboard.

The only other time I remember feeling this was September 11, 2001. The world changed that day, somehow, for me, and it changed again last week. I feel physically different.

But some things do not and should not change.

I don’t think I should have to say “you may not agree with Charlie Kirk, but he should have the right to speak freely and safely, in public, about his ideas.” I feel sick at the notion we should ever offer a caveat—”I don’t agree with everything he says....” Who cares. Who cares if you agree with Charlie Kirk, or me, or anyone else. Your disagreement does not entitle you to violent acts.

We cannot allow ourselves to think it’s ok to kill each other. That someone “deserved” to die because of what he thought or said. Or what we thought he thought.

This week has been a trip back to the theorists for me – back to visits with Milton, Locke, and John Stuart Mill for a great deal of thought and pondering, searching through old textbooks, digging through articles and papers on free speech and tolerance and foundational principles. The cracks of my days have been filled with a deep review of my education and my fundamental beliefs.

As a journalist, a recorder of local news, a keeper of the history of our community, speech, and the ability to gather ideas, cannot be more important to what we do. When voices are silenced out of fear, our job is made incredibly difficult.

We run into that all the time – people fear repercussions from their boss most often, but also friends and the community in general. But still, we don’t fear death in speaking. In a very real and general sense, we have had the luxury in this country that we don’t think that way.

Until last week.

I’m reminded in my reading that this idea we have of “free speech” is not absolute. When it comes to speech and tolerance, we have collectively held a basic agreement,

[Churchill County Schools continued from page 1]

instructional practices are setting the stage for growth at the middle and high school levels.

Oasis Academy, Churchill County’s K-12 public charter school, posted some of the strongest local results. The elementary campus earned a four-star rating, while both the middle and high school programs received five stars. The Oasis middle school is ranked fifth in the state, according to U.S. News & World Report.

“Our recent school performance results reflect the hard work and dedication of our students whose perseverance and effort have been instrumental in achieving these exemplary outcomes,” said Oasis K-12 School Leader Dane Nott. “Behind these successes is a strong foundation of community support, from parents to local organizations, putting kids first and working together to create a positive environment for growth. These results are not just numbers, they represent the collective effort of a school community that believes in every student’s potential.”

we are under a loose social contract, that limits what we can and should say. We don’t yell “fire” in a crowded theater. There are also limits to the sanctions for stupid, dangerous, or harmful discourse, or discourse with which we don’t agree. The ultimate limitation in our country, before last Wednesday, was the agreement we have with each other, that you don’t get killed for things you say. Or print.

And this is why I’m shaken.

You can say some pretty stupid things in this country and get away with it. You may get fired, people may quit buying from your business, your friends might divorce you, but you don’t get killed for it. We cannot let that happen. We cannot allow ourselves or our friends to think or say that’s ok.

We have learned in this newspaper business that you can write a story about something that happened, tell the facts straight out, leave out all your opinions, and people will still get mad. They will decide not to buy advertising and prevent all their departments from advertising, and that will shock you, and you will think deeply about the First Amendment. But they don’t kill you for having written it.

We actually have been threatened physically over stories we’ve written, verbally accosted, and challenged. We’ve made police reports and followed law enforcement suggestions for our safety. But, until last week, we took for granted what most of our country takes for granted – that we are protected and off-limits. There has been just enough idealistic belief in this country in our fundamental structures that we all have felt it wouldn’t happen to us.

What a luxury. How heartbreaking that naivety is now gone.

So with the scales removed from our eyes and a deeper respect for the responsibilities of what we’re doing, we’ll all still be right here...

...Keeping you Posted.

— *Rach*

Words are not violence, ideas don’t kill, disagreement is not genocide. You may not claim to fight hatred or fascism or bigotry, nor may you claim to support democracy, when you simultaneously advocate your political adversaries be silenced or worse.

Nott said Oasis plans to expand differentiated instruction and personalized learning, deepen family and community partnerships, and broaden project-based learning opportunities in STEM, arts, and real-world problem solving.

NSPF assigns schools one to five stars based on proficiency in English, math, and science; year-to-year growth; chronic absenteeism; graduation rates; and other measures. Scores are totaled on a 100-point index and converted to star ratings.

This year’s release included only star ratings, with full data reports delayed by a statewide network security incident that disrupted state agency websites. Officials said the Nevada Report Card portal will be restored in the coming weeks with detailed results.

In the meantime, local leaders framed the star ratings as both recognition and a reminder of work still to do. “We remain focused on fostering a lifelong love of learning through continuous improvement and a shared responsibility to improve our students’ lives through educational access and support,” Nott said.

FEATURES

‘Never Forget’ in the “Oasis of Tranquility”

By Rachel Dahl

The courtyard behind City Hall was described by Mayor Ken Tedford as an “Oasis of Tranquility” during the 9/11 ceremony last week as he spoke to a crowd of nearly 400 community members. Students from Oasis Academy and CCHS filled the risers, first responders stood in pressed uniforms, and neighbors sat under the shade trees on the beautiful lawn. Twenty-four years after September 11, 2001, Fallon kept its promise: we remember.

Tedford began, as he often does, speaking plainly from the heart. He noted the violence in our country the day before and asked the crowd to meet the moment with civility. “It doesn’t matter what party we’re in, or where we come from—we’re all Americans,” he said. “Violence should never be a factor in how we discuss our differences. It has to start in our hometowns.”

Before the formal program, the mayor shared the story of the memorial behind him, the one that anchors the courtyard with weight and purpose. In the months after the attacks, Fallon raised money on the corner of Maine and Williams Streets with a fire-fighter’s boot, students wrote letters, and Fallon’s beloved former newspaper editor and publisher, Anne Pershing, organized an American flag mural be painted at that intersection. The city reached out to New York with an offer of whatever help we could give.

In reply, New Yorkers sent a steel beam from the Twin Towers. Public Works Director Jerry Mayfield brought it home, Architect Frank Woodliff III designed the memorial, and on Sept. 11, 2002, the community dedicated it “to never forget and always remain vigilant.” Anger, the mayor said, is human. “We just can’t have hatred—hatred takes over your heart.”

Pastor Ron Armenta offered the invocation, praying Psalm 46, “God is our refuge and strength” and naming the people who make our community run: ranchers and farmers, builders and nurses, teachers, retail workers, business owners, the folks who serve behind desks and on flight lines at Naval Air Station Fallon. He asked that our remembrance “call us not only to look back, but to live forward with faith, courage, and compassion.”

The Mason Valley Fire Protection District bagpipers played while Churchill County High School’s ROTC presented the colors. The high school choir led the national anthem. District Attorney Art Malory led the Pledge of Allegiance. In the hush that followed, you could hear the soft clink of flag hardware in the breeze.

U.S. Navy Capt. Andrew “Grand” Mariner returned to the podium this year as the keynote speaker. Fallon, he said, has become home across seven of the last ten years, a place sailors arrive “kicking and screaming” and leave the same way because they don’t want to go. He reminded the crowd that many who wear the uniform today



Mayor Tedford during his 9/11 speech. Photo by Dave Matzen.

weren’t yet born in 2001. That makes ritual and memory matter more, not less. “Never forget,” he said, “means remembering local names on the memorial wall, remembering first responders who run toward danger, and remembering 2,977 lives cut short.” He closed with a story of one victim—Brian David Sweeney, a former Naval aviator and Topgun instructor—whose photo still hangs at NAS Fallon.

The mayor walked through the day’s terrible timeline as he does every year, the planes, the towers, the Pentagon, Shanksville, and then paused for a national moment of silence. Chief AWSC (SEL) Benjamin Lazarus led the “Old Glory” flag tribute, a reminder that the flag has watched over our finest hours and bound our wounds in the worst.

The American Legion’s three-volley salute cracked the morning, followed by the long, lonely notes of “Taps.” Chaplain Reiner Harper of NAS Fallon gave the benediction, asking strength for families who still grieve, wisdom for leaders, and unity for our city and base community. “Keep our nation free,” he prayed, “and keep us bound together by love toward you and toward each other.”

As Summer Stanton sang “Amazing Grace” and notes rose over the courtyard, first responders stepped forward to place flowers at the monument. One by one, students and townspeople followed. This small act of remembrance, the quiet parade we take to our local 9/11 monument each year to place these red and white roses in remembrance, has become a community tradition that with respect we perform every year.



Young Navy soldiers during the opening prayer. Photo by Dave Matzen.

After the Twin Towers 9/11 Reflections from a Navy Fire Chief

By Stuart Cook

After the Twin Towers were attacked, a friend called me to tell me to turn on my TV. I was the Deputy Fire Chief for Navy and Marine Corps military bases at Okinawa and mainland Japan. Okinawa is 13 hours ahead of New York City, and I had been sleeping. Looking at the TV, I wasn’t sure at first what I was seeing. There was fire, smoke, and papers raining down on the streets below. My first words were, “We are going to lose firefighters,” but I had no idea it would be 343.

I reported for duty at the headquarters fire station in the morning. The Marines had sandbags and a .50-caliber machine gun at the main door of headquarters, which was located on an Okinawan street and not on a military base.

The highly stressed commanding general held a department head meeting about individuals calling 911 operators to report anything suspicious. People really took “suspicious” to heart.

The first call was a report of powder coming from a package at the post office at a time when anthrax was on most minds. It turned out to be bath salt.

A legal officer ordered a book on al-Qaeda. When he opened the package, dust fell out of the book. After a call to the U.S., I learned the powder prevented pages from sticking together.

A Marine opened his mail at 2 a.m. from his parents and reported that his package

had been tampered with. There was an Arabic coin inside, which turned out to be a Latin inscribed commemorative coin from the state of New York.

An Okinawan woman drove to the main gate, and while they checked the undercarriage, they located a bag with a white substance in the wheel well. It was salt. In Japan, salt is considered sacred and is used to remove spiritual problems.

A Marine gunnery sergeant received a package from Georgia from someone in Korea whom he did not know. Explosive Ordnance x-rayed it and saw what looked like a spring. We used a robot to place it in a field. When we fired a shotgun round at it, coupons flew all over. I flashed back to the papers I saw raining down from the Twin Towers. Out-of-date coupons can be used overseas on military bases for an additional year. The package had come from a church—no springs.

A family reported that they had opened their mail on the fifth floor of a high-rise. Their noses and lips were burning. We evacuated the entire building and brought the family down an exterior stairway to our decontamination station. They were stripped down, decontaminated, and sent to the hospital. Hazmat investigated the apartment, and on the kitchen table were jalapeño poppers from a fast-food restaurant.

These were only a few of the calls we responded to.

What I found interesting was when I phoned fire chief friends back in the States; they had responded to a few hazmat calls, if any.

In the following days, I kept checking to see if I knew any of the victims. Being from New Jersey, I had many friends who worked in New York, and some of whom were firefighters. Day after day, no one I knew

was on the growing list. Then, I saw Captain Brian Hickey of the elite FDNY Rescue 4. I can’t put into words how I felt—sick to my stomach. Brian led six other men into the North Tower and was believed to be on the 73rd floor when the tower collapsed.

The following year, I attended a Fire Chiefs Convention in New Orleans. After a class, I went to the empty hotel bar. A fellow walked in and asked if he could join me. His name was Stu Estabo, an assistant fire chief working at the U.S. Coast Guard Station on Governors Island at the foot of Manhattan, who saw the Twin Towers go down.

He asked me if I knew any of the firefighters. I said, “One—Captain Brian Hickey.” He turned white and said he was Brian’s best man. He told me they never found Brian’s body, only his helmet. He wasn’t even supposed to work that awful day, but made a shift trade to help out another captain.

Brian was a firefighter’s firefighter. He was also a volunteer firefighter in Bethpage, Long Island, where he lived, and was assigned to Ladder 3.

Every year, I have attended the City of Fallon 9/11 ceremony at City Hall with the American Legion ceremonial firing squad. Three volleys of gunfire and taps always bring back memories of Vietnam and 9/11. I wore my fire chief’s uniform this year and stood with my brothers and sisters of the fire service.

After you read this article, please say a prayer for Brian, his family, the other 342 FDNY firefighters, and all who died at the Twin Towers, the Pentagon, and on American Airlines Flight 11.

Stuart Cook is a career Navy fireman and chief. He served as the civilian federal Fire Chief at NAS Fallon for five years before retirement.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



August Births

at Banner Hospital

Fear Harlem Harvey, born August 6 to Brittany Henefeld and Joshua Harvey weighing 7 lbs., 14 oz.

Alyse Francesca Davis, born August 8 to Billy and Leah Davis weighing 8 lbs., 12 oz., measuring 21 inches.

Birdie Joy Finch, born August 12 to Adia and Ammon Finch weighing 7 lbs., 11 oz., measuring 19 3/4 inches.

Alaric Rex Hoffman, born August 15 to Monique and Joshua Hoffman Jr. weighing 7 lbs., 13 oz., measuring 21 1/4 inches.


Twins born August 17 to Charde Leeromero and Christopher Lindemenn. **Westin Michael Lindemenn**, weighing 4 lbs., 15 oz., measuring 18 inches, and **Meadow Marie Lindemenn**, weighing 5 lbs., 15 oz., measuring 16 inches.

Thomas Daniel Northrop, born August 19 to Kaylani and Brody Northrop weighing 8 lbs., 3 oz., measuring 20 1/2 inches.

KennethRay Clyde McClelland, born August 24 to Kyle and Joy McClelland weighing 8 lbs., 10 oz, measuring 19 inches.

Let us add your newborn to our birth announcements, no matter where they were born, or contact us for a special birth announcement with a photo. We would love to share the great news!

Movies and More



By Kelli Perez

September fun continues at the Fallon Theatre with another weekend of movies and live entertainment for the whole community.

This Friday and Saturday at 6 p.m., don’t miss “The Little Rascals” (1994). Join Spanky, Alfalfa, Darla, Buckwheat, and the whole gang in this heartwarming comedy that brings the beloved characters from the 1930s shorts to life. Packed with mischief, friendship, and plenty of laughs, it’s a family favorite that never goes out of style. Rated PG, it runs 1 hour and 22 minutes.

On Friday at 7 p.m., settle in for “The Alamo” (1960). This grand historical epic, directed by and starring John Wayne, dramatizes the legendary 1836 battle for Texas independence. With unforgettable performances, stirring action, and themes of courage and sacrifice, it’s a powerful piece of American film history. The film has no rating and runs 2 hours and 42 minutes.

On Saturday at 7 p.m., the spotlight turns to the stage for David Hayes - Master Showman. This high-energy variety act combines music, comedy, and plenty of surprises, all performed by one incredibly talented entertainer. It’s a show that audiences of all ages will love. Tickets are just \$15 at the door.

Looking ahead, there’s plenty more to enjoy at the Fallon Theatre: On Friday, Sept. 26 at 7 p.m., get ready to rock with Absolom live on stage. This Reno-based hard rock band is quickly rising in the local music scene, and they’re bringing their electrifying sound to Fallon for one night only. Admission is free, so come support live music and experience their powerful performance.

Our annual fundraising Show ‘N’ Shine cruises into downtown on Saturday, Sept. 27 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. This free, family-friendly event features classic cars, live music, delicious food, and fun for all ages. Vehicle registration is now open at fallontheatre.com.

That evening at 7 p.m., come back for a unique concert experience with the Toiyabe Chamber Music Society. Their “Not-So-Lonely Illustrated Concert Series” features the Toiyabe Trio: Dustin Budish on viola, Aaron Hill on oboe, and Emily Barnes on harp. Performed alongside projected images, the program blends music and visuals for a moving multi-sensory performance. Suggested donation is \$5.

On Saturday, Oct. 11 at 7 p.m., we’re excited to welcome Luke and Kaylee back to our stage. This Nashville-based country duo is known for their rich harmonies, heartfelt lyrics, and lively performances. With a blend of intimacy and energy, they deliver a show you won’t want to miss. Tickets are \$20.


As always, movies at the Fallon Theatre are free to attend, and our concession stand is stocked with popcorn, candy, and \$5 soda floats in root beer or Pepsi flavors. 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.

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SATURDAY
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12 P.M.



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12 P.M.

Be a Volunteer



Did you know the City of Fallon Animal Shelter has a volunteer program? You can walk dogs, socialize cats, and even help with grooming—giving love to the animals while lowering your own stress. Volunteers make a big difference in the lives of shelter pets. Visit the shelter’s Facebook page for details or stop by during business hours to pick up a volunteer packet.

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

PETS OF THE WEEK

Candy’s Kittens



We are hiring—see postings at Indeed.com. CAPS is also always seeking volunteers for dog walking and cat socialization. We have various kittens and cats that will be looking for their forever home very soon! This week’s spotlight is on Candy Kindle and her four kittens, along with their adopted littermate Juju, a singleton found and saved by a passerby. If you are interested in adopting one of these lovely kittens, they will be available within the next 2-3 weeks.

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

Dark Tabby Tiger



Meet the Dark Tabby Tiger Cat! This curious, affectionate fellow will happily follow you from room to room, sharing his gentle meows and keeping you company. Full of personality, he’s searching for a loving home where he can be your loyal shadow and everyday storyteller. If you’re ready for a warmhearted companion, this handsome tabby could be the perfect match.

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

TRENT EDWARD KROLL
March 14, 1945 - September 6, 2025



Trent Edward Kroll, 80, longtime resident of Fallon, passed away September 6 with family by his side after a lengthy battle with cancer. He was known all around town as “The Candyman.” He owned the vending company, T. K. Vending, for over 50 years, serving Fallon, Fernley, and Hawthorne. Always on call, his customer service was second to none, rushing out to fix out-of-order machines and doing everything he could to make his customers happy. He was famous for his generosity to one and all. If you were lucky enough to pass by while he was filling one of his machines, you were guaranteed to be offered a free snack. During his recent local hospital stays, hospital staff commented about how he fed them often before he retired three years ago. His passion was muscle cars. From the moment he was able to drive, he always had beautiful cars, even collecting pieces and parts for building a ‘23 T-bucket from the ground up with a friend in high school. He enlisted the unpaid help of his younger brother and sister to sand the aluminum firewall every day after school which they did happily since they adored their big brother! His car collection grew over the years and if the weather was good, he could often be seen driving one car after another throughout the town. He loved showing off his cars and talking about them with anyone who would

listen, including the ambulance drivers that brought him home for the very last time. Trent was born in Tonopah, Nevada, where he lived until the age of nine. His family then moved to Fallon where they lived in the Harmon District. He attended the Harmon School as a child, except for that entire year he managed to ditch before his antics were discovered. At the ripe old age of 17, he was allowed to drive a local school bus, bringing Harmon District kids to school in town. He graduated from Churchill County High School in 1964 where he played football, and was a member of the 1963 state championship team that was inducted into the CCHS Hall of Fame in 2023. High school was where he met the love of his life, Judy Kaiser. The high school sweethearts married on August 31,1966 and they were lucky enough to share 59 wonderful years and two daughters. Later in life, he loved providing daycare and spoiling his two grandsons as they grew up. Trent had a big heart, always trying to help others, and words cannot express what his loss will mean to his family. It will forever leave a void in their lives. He was predeceased by parents, Robert and Wanda (Hill) Kroll and his sister, Karen (Kroll) Bane. He is survived by his wife Judy, brother Frank (Mary) Kroll, sister Kate Kroll, his daughters Sherry (Mike) Munoz and Alana (Bryan) Hughes, and grandsons Brent and Brody Hughes. A memorial service will be held at the Epworth Methodist Church on Saturday, Sept. 27 at 11:00 a.m. followed by a potluck reception. A private interment will be conducted at an earlier date.

FLORENCIO (FLOI) ANAYA
October 25, 1971 – August 30, 2025



With deep sorrow, we announce the passing of our brother, Florencio (Floi) Anaya, on Aug. 30, 2025. He was born in Las Cruces, Mexico, on Oct. 25, 1971. Floi was a vehicle inventory manager who brought laughter and support into the lives of those around him. He loved his family and had a passion for fishing. His memory will forever be a guiding light for his family and friends, who will miss his infectious smile and unwavering support. Floi is survived by his father, Fidel Anaya; mother, Elvira Ortega; sons, Bradley Anaya (Richard Orr), Brandon Anaya (Raeanne Webb) and Jason Anaya; sister, Elvia Morrison (Charlie Guzman); brother, David Anaya; nephews, Michael Morrison (Jessica Miley), Jessup Morrison, Mason Morrison (Brooke Morrison) and Ayden Anaya; niece, Isabel Anaya; great-nephew, Jackson Morrison; and great-niece, Maeve Morrison. Services were held Thursday, Sept. 11, at 7 p.m. at Smith Family Funeral Home.

Maine Street SPOOKTACULAR

Participation Form

We are delighted that you'll be joining us at this year's Spooktacular on Friday, October 31st , 2025 from 4pm – 6pm. Please provide us with information on your Spooktacular "station" so that we may better support you.

Form Deadline: October 17, 2025 Set-up time: 10/31/25 1:30 – 3:30pm

- Name of Business:
- Please pick one: Trunk or Treat Table Activity
- Do you currently have a storefront on Maine Street? YES / NO
 - If you do, will you be setting up in front of your business?
 - What is your business address?
 - If you will not be setting up in front of you storefront, are you willing to share your storefront with another business/organization that is participating?
 - What will be the hours of operations for your business on 10/31/25?
- If you do not have a storefront on Maine Street, will you need a designated area to set-up? YES / NO
- Contact name, number and email for responsible individual during event on 10/31/25.
 - Name:
 - Number:
 - Email:
- Will you be handing out candy and/or other fun items? YES / NO

Spooktacular will be providing space in the middle of the street for those which would like to provide activity for families to enjoy. You will be provided the space, and you will be responsible to supply the person and the activity.

- Would you like space in the middle of the street for an activity?
- Size (square footage) of space you'll need?
- Please list the activity:
- If Trunk or Treat please list the quantity of car spots you will need:

Spooktacular will provide some candy, the amount depends on fundraising and the amount of participation.

Drop off forms to CEDA office or contact Jessica Huckaby. P: 775-217-4142 E: huck_sally@yahoo.com

SMALL BUSINESS EXPO

WEDNESDAY
15
OCTOBER

Would you like to be a sponsor for this unique business event?

Great advertising opportunity

For only \$250.00

FREE booth space for current chamber businesses.

Call the Chamber to be added to growing list of sponsors.

775-423-2544

WEDNESDAY

100 CAMPUS WAY
FALLON, NEVADA

8:00 AM

the CHAMBER

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, Sept. 22 Sloppy Joes WW Bun Baked Beans Baby Carrots Diced Peaches	Tuesday, Sept. 23 Roasted Chicken Nacho Casserole Refried Beans Spanish Rice Mixed Green Salad Cinnamon Dusted Churros	Wednesday, Sept. 24 Hot Open Face Roasted Beef Sandwich Red Potato Mashers Three Bean Salad Roasted Vegetable Oatmeal Cookie	Thursday, Sept. 25 Meatloaf Baked Potato Corn & Black Bean Hash WW Roll Jello & Cream	Friday, Sept. 26 Teriyaki Chicken Fried Rice w/ Edamame Layered Salad Fresh Orange
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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, Sept. 22 Pork Loin Potatoes & Green Beans	Thursday, Sept. 25 Vegetable Noodle Soup Bread & Dessert	Monday, Sept. 29 CCHS Student Prepared Meal	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

Motorcycle Tour Group Taking a Break



RawHyde Motorcycle Tour Group leaving Oats Park after a break from the road. Photo by Nancy Chapman.

By Nancy Chapman

Eleven riders paused for lunch at Oats Park, stretching their legs and filling their bellies before continuing to their next stop. J.J. Puglisi, Senior Riding Coach at RawHyde Adventure Motorcycle Training, led members returning from training in Colorado to their facility in Castaic, Calif. RawHyde organizes biannual six-day rides between California and Colorado, avoiding summer heat and winter cold.

Jim Hyde, founder RawHyde Adventures, has trained thousands of riders and conducted tours all over the world since 2013. During the journeys between the facilities, the coaches map out different terrain to travel on for the riders. For example, riders have ridden on asphalt for three days but will be transitioning to dirt roads soon. RawHyde Adventures has four facilities in California and Colorado. They are the only company in North America sponsored and sanctioned by BMW as an official training center. Safe travels and thank you for visiting Fallon.

Churchill County Museum Announces Fall Lecture Series

Staff Report

The Churchill County Museum will host its Fall Lecture Series beginning Saturday, Sept. 27. This year’s theme, “Agriculture: Rooted in Tradition, Growing With a Purpose,” highlights the community’s deep connection to farming and ranching.

The lectures will be held on Saturdays at noon, a new time organizers hope will make the series more accessible to residents. Speakers and topics include the history of the deBraga Ranch in Stillwater, a Bureau of Reclamation archaeologist discussing the Newlands Project, a local beekeeper from Stony Bee’s Honey, and members of Fallon’s 4-H clubs. Museum officials said the series is designed to explore both the historic roots of agriculture in Churchill County and the innovations shaping its future. The public is invited to attend. The programs are free, and museum staff said they encourage participation from community members of all ages, whether they are long-time farmers, students, or simply interested in learning more about agriculture’s role in the county.

- Sept. 27 – deBraga Ranch
- Oct. 4 – The Newlands Project
- Oct. 11 – Stony Bee’s Honey
- Oct. 18 – 4-H Youth

Lectures will be held at noon at the Churchill County Museum, 1050 S. Maine Street, Fallon.

Bird Dog Club Debuts New Grounds with Fall Championship



Lahontan Valley Bird Dog Club pens. Photo by Christy Lattin.

By Christy Lattin

The Lahontan Valley Bird Dog Club will debut its new Stillwater grounds this weekend when it hosts the Fall Chukar Championship, Sept. 20 to 21. The event is expected to draw more than 100 competitors from Utah, Idaho, California, and across Nevada. The club, now in its 18th year, secured 200 acres in Stillwater last year from the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service after losing its long-term lease for land south of the Navy base. Club secretary Chip Bunker said they eyed the Stillwater property once but the price tag was too steep. After a generous sponsor stepped up, the club made an offer which the USFWS accepted. Because the USFWS stripped the water rights from the Stillwater property, the club transferred its small county water allotment to support habitat restoration. Volunteers have cleared and reseeded about 60 acres with native plants and grasses, built a bird pen, improved irrigation, and hauled gravel from a nearby BLM gravel pit for roads and parking. The club received a special use permit from the county planning department, and a hunting preserve permit from the Nevada Department of Wildlife. President Walt Goodman and Bunker have spent countless hours clearing brush, spreading seed, and managing irrigation schedules. Bunker said roughly 80 percent of this weekend’s competitors will come from out of town. Many will spend three to four days in town, staying at hotels, dining in restaurants, and fueling up their vehicles. Springer Spaniel events draw an even higher share of visitors—nearly all from out of town. In April, the club received a \$2,500 grant from the Fallon Convention and Tourism Authority (FCTA). In its application, the group noted it is being considered to host the Western National Bird Dog Challenge event, and they have historically leased their grounds to other bird dog clubs from California who have been forced off their training grounds. For more information, visit the Lahontan Valley Bird Dog Club – LVBDC Facebook page.

Stillwater Refuge Opens New Headquarters Oct. 4

Staff Report

Residents are invited for the grand opening of the new Stillwater National Wildlife Refuge headquarters on Saturday, Oct. 4, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at 3175 Freeman Lane. The Chamber of Commerce will hold a ribbon-cutting ceremony at 11:30 a.m., and events include live music, a fine art exhibition, and crafts for children. Food and drinks will be available. The new headquarters are located at 3175 Freeman Lane, a former residence off Stillwater Road. Refuge Manager Carl Lunderstadt said they were leasing office space in Reno and Fallon for several years. Using the water rights acquisition program, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service was able to purchase the former ranch because it came with eight acres of water rights, and is located within the boundaries of the refuge. The refuge, which totals a little more than 80,000 acres, was established in 1948 as the Stillwater Wildlife Management Area. It was formally designated as a national refuge in 1990, the same year the Truckee-Carson-Pyramid Lake Water Rights Settlement Act was passed. Part of that act authorized the USFWS to purchase water rights from sellers in the Carson Division of the Newlands Project. The goal is to acquire water rights for wetlands for the refuge, Carson Lake and Pasture, and wetlands on the Fallon Paiute-Shoshone Tribe reservation. Historically, the USFWS has obtained those water rights by purchasing farmland, removing the water rights, and reselling the property.



The Stillwater National Wildlife Refuge will hold a grand opening for its new headquarters Oct. 4. Photo by Christy Lattin

COMMUNITY

Suicide Prevention Month: Hope Lives Here

Local Agencies Create Suicide Prevention Plan, Strategize Solutions



Several local organizations came together Saturday evening to dye the Maine Street fountain turquoise in honor of September as Suicide Prevention Month.

Story and photo by Christy Lattin

Fallon’s leaders gathered at the Maine Street fountain Saturday to proclaim September as Suicide Prevention Month and held a candlelight vigil for those lost to suicide. Tammi Shemenski, executive director of the Churchill Community Coalition, said the “Hope Lives Here” event was held to bring awareness to suicide and mental health, and to reduce the stigma of asking for help.

“I want to tell people to hold on just one more hour, hold on for just one more day,” Shemenski said. Mayor Ken Tedford said the issue is close to his heart – city administration has been touched by suicide three times in his tenure, and once at his business. He urged those present to try and understand what neighbors are going through and help them as best they can.

In a 2023 CDC report, suicide was the second leading cause of death for ages 10-34, with twice as many suicides (49,316) in the U.S. as homicides (22,830).

Locally, the 2024 Behavioral Health & Suicide Prevention Plan for Churchill County states it “faces a significant mental health crisis, with significant suicide risk and a lack of adequate resources to address the needs of the community.” Community stakeholders estimate 80-90% of cases in the justice system stem from mental health or substance abuse issues.

The September 2022 suicide of a high school staff member shocked the community but catalyzed the creation of a task force to examine local mental health resources. Members came from the public defender’s office, police department, school district, social services, hospital and tribal health center.

The Suicide Prevention Plan shows several strengths including strong community partnerships, resources like the anonymous reporting system SafeVoice and the Hope Squad in the school district, and the New Frontier and Tribal Behavioral Health centers.

However, critical gaps were revealed. Crisis response is limited without a formal mobile crisis team, and there’s a severe shortage of mental health professionals across Nevada. The task force also found poor communications between agencies, fragmented services, and heavy demand in the justice system. There’s also a lack of post-crisis resources, like trauma intervention programs or suicide support groups.

The task force identified three priorities: collaboration among agencies, open communication, and a fully resourced system. For agency collaboration, the group envisioned a resource list available for all partners. The second priority includes helping people speak openly about their mental health issues through educational programs and informal community talks. The last priority is building a “fully resourced system” with trained professionals, qualified specialists, and proper facilities.

The Behavioral Health Task Force is headed by Gabby Stone, a licensed social worker at Churchill County Social Services. Separate workgroups comprised of community organizations were formed to tackle each priority, meeting monthly in 2025 with detailed goals and timelines.

Churchill County administration has shown commitment by continuing a contract with Emma White, a youth suicide prevention specialist, after the state cut funding. The county has also steered funds to the school district this year to help increase counseling services and to the Churchill Community Coalition for its programs.

“I want people to feel comfortable saying ‘suicide,’ we need to remove that stigma,” Shemenski said at the Hope Lives Here event. “Being able to say it out loud, to someone else, is the first step in getting help.”

Current local mental health resources include the non-crisis NAMI Warm Line at 775-241-4212, the Churchill Community Coalition, various support groups, youth groups and church communities. Crisis intervention resources include the 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline, New Frontier Behavioral Health Center, and law enforcement.

Pastor Dawn Blundell from Epworth United Methodist Church capped the Hope Lives Here event with an encouraging message: “You are loved and you are worthy.”

Warning Signs of Suicide Get Help Now

These behaviors may be some of the signs that someone is thinking about suicide. If you or someone you know shows new or increasing signs below, seek help immediately:

- Talking about wanting to die, feeling like a burden, or expressing great guilt or shame
- Feeling empty, hopeless, trapped, unbearably sad, anxious, agitated or in constant pain
- Changing behavior: making a plan or researching ways to die; withdrawing, saying goodbye, giving away items; taking dangerous risks
- Major mood swings, big changes in eating or sleep, increased drug or alcohol use

988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline
call or text 988
or chat at 988lifeline.org.

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COMMUNITY

Doctor Shortage Threatens Rural Nevada’s Health Care System

By Christy Lattin

Rural counties in Nevada face some of the steepest challenges in the state’s worsening doctor shortage, according to a new report from the University of Nevada, Reno School of Medicine. The Health Workforce in Nevada – 2025 study warns that Nevada would need more than 2,300 additional physicians to reach the national per-capita average. The shortage is felt most acutely outside of Reno and Las Vegas, where long travel times and scarce medical resources already burden residents.

Dr. John Packham with the University of Nevada, Reno School of Medicine presented the “Health Workforce in Nevada – 2025” report to the Central Nevada Health District at its August meeting. He summarized the overall picture, saying “It’s not a good story in the rurals,” noting the shortage of primary care doctors, dentists, and mental health workers.

The 73-page report is filled with tables, graphs and maps, and details the number of health professionals available in four distinct regions: Carson City, Clark County, Washoe County, and “Rural & Frontier” which includes 14 of Nevada’s 17 counties. It uses the term Health Professional Shortage Area, or HPSA to describe the lack of qualified doctors in a geographic region.

A summary analysis of the report reveals the following:

- HEALTH PROFESSIONAL SHORTAGE:**
- **Primary Care** - As a whole, 65% of Nevadans live in a primary care HPSA. In the rural counties, 89% of residents lack access to a primary care doctor.
 - **Dental Care** - 58% of Nevadans live in a dental HPSA, with 82.5% of rural residents lacking access to dental professionals.
 - **Mental Health** - 91% of Nevadans live in a mental health HPSA, with 100% of rural residents facing a shortage of mental health professionals.

- CURRENT AND PROJECTED EMPLOYMENT:**
- Employment in the health care sector expected to increase by 25,248 jobs, or 15% in the next 10 years.
 - Nevada needs an additional 10,992 jobs in ambulatory care, 10,660 jobs in hospitals, and 8,273 jobs in nursing and residential care to meet the national average.

- Similarly, Nevada would need an additional 4,865 registered nurses, 2,303 physicians, and 906 pharmacists to meet the national average.
 - Health workforce shortages are not limited to occupations requiring advanced education and training. Nevada would need an additional 23,327 home health and personal care aides, an additional 5,092 nursing assistants, and an additional 1,157 medical secretaries and administrative assistants to meet the national average.
- LICENSURE TRENDS:**
- Over the past decade, several health care occupations have seen substantial growth in both the number of licensees, and the rate of licensees per 100,000 population. Noteworthy examples include advanced practitioners of nursing, licensed clinical social workers, and physician assistants.
 - Conversely, over the past decade, several health care occupations had modest growth in the number of licensees and relatively flat growth in the rate of licensees per 100,000 population. Examples include clinical psychologists, dental hygienists, and respiratory therapists.
 - In general, the population per licensed health care worker is considerably higher in rural counties versus urban areas of the state. For example, there are 24,301 residents per 1 clinical psychologist in rural counties as compared to 2,990 residents per 1 clinical psychologist in Washoe County.

In a speech to Churchill County Republicans in 2023, Governor Joe Lombardo said qualified professionals like doctors and nurses cannot come to Nevada without wading through a year or more of red tape, education, or certifications before beginning work in their field. “It’s no secret,” said Lombardo, “we have a workforce issue in Nevada, and we are one of the worst-rated states for doing business and with occupational licensing.”

The report concludes by stating the workforce trends of health care workers presented will require state and local leaders to pursue policy measure to increase the supply of health professionals, improve the diversity of the state’s health workforce, and address the geographic maldistribution of health workers in Nevada.

The report can be found on the UNR School of Medicine’s Office of Statewide Initiatives website at <https://med.unr.edu/statewide/programs/nevada-health-workforce-research-center>.

The Food Bank of Northern Nevada Wants You to Imagine Ending Hunger

September is named Hunger Action Month to raise awareness about food insecurity and to help neighbors get the food they need.

By Christy Lattin

The Food Bank of Northern Nevada sits perched on a hill in the industrial park east of Sparks. Just beyond the tastefully decorated lobby, the warehouse hums with motion. A bright mural overlooks the production line, where volunteers pack boxes of food and send them rolling down a conveyor. Forklift operators weave through the bustle, part of a carefully choreographed effort that keeps the Food Bank running and keeps food flowing to families across northern Nevada and the eastern Sierra in California.

As part of Hunger Action Month, the Food Bank of Northern Nevada, or FBNN, recently held a tour of its facilities for volunteers, media, and neighboring businesses.

“It’s important for people to see what we do,” said Jocelyn Lantrip, Director of Marketing.

The FBNN was established in 1983 as a small local food bank in the Reno area. The organization grew substantially following a grant of \$8.2 million in 2008 from the Donald W. Reynolds Foundation. The numbers tell the story: the FBNN now serves 160,000 Nevadans monthly, through 155 agency partners, covers over 90,000 square miles and spans 23 counties in two states.

Connor Bush, Strategic Gifts Advisor, said the number of people served today is 76% higher than what they saw during the pandemic. While the spike in 2020 was due to people being unable to work, the need remains high because the cost of living continues to rise steeply, pushing family budgets to their limits.

The Feeding America organization estimates that one in seven Nevadans, and one in five children in the state face hunger. A state report from 2023 predicted almost 100,000 older Nevadans will face food insecurity in 2025. That’s why the FBNN has built a strong network of partners to help distribute food across the state.

“We’re basically a logistics company,” said Chris Gleim, Director of Operations, artfully dodging a forklift headed to the truck bay with a pallet of food. The warehouse implements an inventory strategy to prevent food



Food Bank of Northern Nevada employees gather in the warehouse following a recent tour. Pictured above, from left to right, are Connor Bush, Strategic Gifts Advisor; Zanyda Braxton, Food Drives & Special Events Coordinator; Brandon Morales, Donor Services & Insights Manager; Aramelle Wheeler, Marketing & Communications Manager; Jocelyn Lantrip, Director of Marketing; Token Barnthouse, Special Projects & Assistant to the CEO; Karen Senger, Chief Philanthropy Officer; Brian Edwards, Chief Financial Officer; and Nicole Lamboley, President and Chief Executive Officer. Photo by Christy Lattin.

waste or spoilage, and they operate 39 vehicles.

Matt Cooper, Director of Food Sourcing, said Feeding America helped in creating a sourcing plan. The FBNN also has some latitude in who they can buy from because they are considered a wholesaler. For example, the warehouse just received an order of onions direct from the grower in Yerington. Incoming food is sorted and shelved on one side of the warehouse, while the other side holds wrapped pallets with fulfilled orders.

“We don’t have a food shortage, we have a food access issue,” said Chief Executive Officer Nicole Lamboley. The FBNN also focuses on advocacy and helps steer its neighbors to programs that will address their food insecurity.

Lamboley served on the FBNN’s board of directors before taking the leadership role just six months prior to the pandemic in 2020. Her team is crafting an updated strategic plan focused on the next 10 years; the last plan didn’t factor in the Covid-19 pandemic, but still the FBNN served 128,000 people in April 2020, a record high, thanks to the team’s commitment.

Two new projects are helping the FBNN expand its reach. They include The Oddie

Project in Sparks, and a warehouse hub in Elko. The Oddie Project is a partnership between FBNN and The Children’s Cabinet to create a community center offering child-care, a food bank, a market, and workforce development opportunities. The new Elko distribution hub is in partnership with the Nevada Department of Agriculture and will help the FBNN better reach communities in rural northeastern Nevada.

More than half the FBNN funding comes from individual donors, while a large portion comes from grants. While federal funding has dropped this year, their partnership with Feeding America helps them connect with national donors and corporate foundations.

Last year, 4,000 volunteers provided 22,000 hours of service at the FBNN, all done in two-hour shifts. Residents who wish to help are encouraged to volunteer at their local distribution sites. The FBNN website has a Food Finder page with an interactive map showing the partners and programs available in each community at fbnn.org/gethelp/foodfinder.

Every volunteer hour, every donated dollar, and every partnership adds up to a stronger safety net for northern Nevada.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Library Director to Start Next Month Pending Commission Approval

By Christy Lattin



John Hong, new director of Churchill County Library. Photo courtesy Dallas Baptist University.

John Hong accepted the position of director of the Churchill County Library and is set to start on Oct. 20. He was one of two people interviewed for the position on Aug. 28. The library board convened in a special meeting on Sept. 10 to appoint Hong and finalize his employment package. Human Resources Manager Kim Brontsema negotiated with Hong to start at Grade 72, Sept. 7. According to the county’s FY25-26 Pay Scale, his salary starts at \$106,829, and he will receive county-paid benefits for health care and participation in PERS retirement. The board approved the package unanimously. Churchill County Code states initial appointments will start at Step 1 “except as otherwise noted,” and the Board of County Commissioners may approve an advanced step to meet a difficult recruiting problem or for a person who holds superior qualifications. Because the library board agreed to start Hong at Step 7, his selection and pay grade must be approved by the Board of County Commissioners. Myles Getto, chair of the county commissioners, attended the meeting in his official capacity and indicated support from the commission. The commission will consider the employment package, plus a \$2,000 moving allowance, at their Sept. 17 meeting. Hong currently works at Dallas Baptist University’s Vance Memorial Library and has experience working at three community libraries in Texas. Hong earned his bachelor’s degree in English from the State University of New York and his Master of Library Science degree from Queens College of the City University of New York. He is currently pursuing a doctoral degree in leadership studies from Dallas Baptist University.

Hendrix Sues Churchill County Over Hiring Process

By Leanna Lehman

Fallon resident and Nevada attorney, R. Clay Hendrix, former Churchill County School Board member, has filed a federal lawsuit against Churchill County alleging the county’s recent process to hire a new county manager was unfairly handled and violated state and federal law.

Represented by the firm of Johnson & Gubler, P.C.R. of Las Vegas, Hendrix filed the complaint for declaratory relief and damages in U.S. District Court for the District of Nevada in Reno. He is seeking a jury trial, monetary damages, attorney’s fees, and a declaration that the county’s hiring process was improper. The lawsuit stems from Churchill County’s recruitment earlier this year to replace former County Manager Jim Barbee. Hendrix, who applied for the position, claims he was denied a fair opportunity because the process was designed to benefit then Assistant County Manager Chris Spross, who was later selected as county manager. According to commission agenda documents, there were 31 applications received for the County Manager position. Thirteen of those met the minimum qualifications and were transmitted to the review panel. The review panel was to submit up to five candidates to the board for final interviews and selection at the June Commission meeting. Ultimately, four of those candidates accepted and went before the commissioners in a public meeting for the interview process. The review panel was made up of Barbee, former commissioner Pete Olsen, and Mayor Ken Tedford. The complaint names multiple defendants in both their individual and official capacities, including Commissioners Myles Getto, Matt Hyde, and Eric Blakey; Barbee, who previously served as county manager; Spross; Deputy District Attorney Joseph Sanford; District Attorney Art Mallory; and the Churchill County District Attorney’s Office. Also named is Mayor Ken Tedford, along with ten defendants that Hendrix believes may be involved or liable but are not yet named. Hendrix alleges violations of due process, equal protection, and state hiring standards. Churchill County has not yet filed a response to the lawsuit. Officials named in the complaint, including commissioners and attorneys, have also not publicly commented. The lawsuit is now pending before the federal court in Reno. No hearing date has yet been set.

Planning Commission Reviews Permits, Grants Parcel Split

By Christy Lattin

The Churchill County Planning Commission approved several special use permits (SUPs) and a parcel map during its Sept. 10 meeting, with five of seven commissioners present.

Taggart Garland of Stampede Roll Off Rentals received approval to relocate his business to 7300 Reno Highway, on property owned by Outwest Buildings. Garland’s earlier request to operate from his home was denied in July due to insufficient votes. The new permit requires gated access to the highway through the property. Commissioners also approved a SUP for Jim Menesini Petroleum to install a second

aboveground 30,000-gallon liquid propane tank at 7945 Reno Highway. Neighboring business, Dicaperl, expressed safety concerns, but Menesini assured the tank would include modern safety controls. Fernley Business Park LLC received approval to extend Track C by 600 feet at its Hazen rail site to increase transloading capacity. Churchill Vineyards LLC passed its three-year review for its distillery expansion, with all conditions met. Joe Frey recused himself from the vote. Sierra Nevada Gates and Panels, at 8920 Ara Lane, cleared its annual review. Owner Antonio Mora said all conditions were met, except for paving an access apron. Randy Hines, director of Churchill County Public Works, Planning and Building Department,

explained the county road department plans to repave Ara Lane soon, so paving the apron now would be premature. The commission approved the SUP with an annual review until the apron is completed. A parcel map submitted by Vickie Detomasi was approved to split her 50-acre property at 2376 Roberson Lane into one 20-acre and one 30-acre parcel. The approval is contingent on bringing her portion of Indigo Drive up to county gravel-road standards. Finally, a kennel permit for Brandon Brimm at 14066 Carson Highway came up for its first annual review. Brimm said he will let the permit expire, citing uncertainty about the effects of the neighboring battery storage facility. He may reconsider the business in the future.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Adversarial, But Not Acrimonious
A Hope for a Less Conflicted Future

Working as a lawyer, you quickly become accustomed to conflict. In everything that you do, there is someone on the other side being paid to stop you from doing what your client wants. It’s difficult to keep emotions out of the job, and I think if lawyers were honest, all of us have let our emotions get the better of us at one time or another. I know I have. In my work here as a public defender in Churchill County I’m constantly going against the Churchill County District Attorney’s Office. It’s my job. And it’s their job to be against me. I’m confident that there are times when they think I am a slimy defense attorney who is trying to keep a guilty person out of jail. And there are times where I feel that their office is using big government power to unfairly prosecute a Churchill County citizen.

But, at the end of the day, both they, and I, are people with jobs to do. And while we have been adversarial, we don’t have to be acrimonious. When I step back from the conflict, I see an office full of honest lawyers who work hard to make this county a better place. Even if I disagree with their methods sometimes, I can’t find fault in their morality or integrity. I hope they can say the same about me. The reason I’m writing this now is because our political discourse no longer leaves room for adversarial, but civil, interactions. Political ideology now almost requires a hatred for “the other side,” whichever side that may be. I had hoped that following the 2024 election cycle, the temperature in these conversations would come down. But, it has not. It has escalated. To violence even. I don’t know that I have a solution. But,

as a lawyer, I know that it is possible to take an adversarial position to someone without being acrimonious toward them. It’s my hope that we can use that example in our political dialogue to promote enthusiastic, but civil, political rhetoric. It is my hope that we remember that no matter what “side” we find ourselves on, we remember that on the other “side” there are good people with families and jobs who are just trying to make this country a better place, even if we disagree with how they are trying to do that. It is my hope that we remember that before all, we are Americans. We are lucky to live in the greatest country in the world. Let us not let political disagreements divide ourselves so much that we jeopardize that. God bless America. —Wright Noel

COURT

Tenth Judicial District Court

Tuesday, September 9, Judge Thomas Stockard Presiding

By Teresa Moon

Keenyun Nazir Williams pleaded guilty to two counts of the Wobbler charge Attempt to Commit Possession of a Controlled Substance, which can be sentenced as either a Category E Felony or as a Gross Misdemeanor. If sentenced as a felony, each charge carries a potential penalty of 1–4 years in prison and a fine up to \$5,000, or as a Gross Misdemeanor, up to 364 days in jail and a fine up to \$2,000.

On Count I, Williams was said to be in possession of two 10 mg oxycodone pills, a Schedule II controlled substance, when he only had a prescription for 5 mg pills. On Count II, he had thirteen 1 mg pills of alprazolam, for which he had an expired prescription, which has now been renewed.

Deputy District Attorney (DDA) Priscilla Baker stated that pursuant to plea negotiations, the state asked for each count to be treated as Gross Misdemeanors. Baker said Williams was traveling from Las Vegas to California when a road rage incident occurred. As the car he was in passed another vehicle, Williams put his head outside the passenger side door and brandished a firearm. Baker noted some witnesses reported shots fired into the air. The occupants in the other vehicle phoned 911. The driver of the vehicle Williams was in was pulled over and officers found pills and marijuana.

“I understand that there may have been prescriptions, but they were for less value and less

content,” Baker said, noting that Williams was sentenced in Justice Court on the brandishing charge. She asked for a \$1,000 fine on each count, stating, “This is just not acceptable behavior in our community or in any community.”

Churchill County Alternate Public Defender (APD) Wright Noel said his client is adamant that no firearm was brandished, nor fired. Further, Williams submitted to a gunshot residue test, which came back negative.

Williams told the court, “During this incident there was a road rage accident. I should have handled myself better.”

Judge Stockard sentenced both counts as Gross Misdemeanors and fined Williams \$1,000 on each count.

Joshua Douglas Elderton appeared for sentencing on the Category B Felony of Failure to Stop on the Signal of a Peace Officer, to which he pled guilty on June 17.

Churchill County Public Defender Jacob Sommer told the court, “Josh, since the outset of this case, has worked very hard to ensure that he is remaining in compliance with all of the obligations that he has.” Sommer said his client has a “somewhat substantial” criminal history, and his “behavior over the years has been troubling in a lot of ways.” He pointed out Elderton’s last felony was in 2014 and all charges until this offense have been misdemeanors.

According to Sommer, Elderton has quit drinking alcohol, has worked as a welder and mechanic, and is working on getting his driver’s license. While Elderton did not immediately

pull over, he didn’t go far. “Eventually Josh came to his senses, and said that he was going to be cooperative.” Over the last 83 days, the defendant has had 17 random drug tests and 16 random alcohol tests; all negative. Sommer said Elderton has been a pleasure to work with, always contacts his office, and has made sure to fulfill his obligations. “Moving forward, Your Honor, I think this shows very well that Mr. Elderton can and should be granted probation.”

Elderton told Judge Stockard, “I’d just like to apologize to the court for my actions ... It was a dumb thing to do. There’s no excuse for it.” Elderton asked the court for mercy, to give him probation.

Judge Stockard noted Elderton is able-bodied, hasn’t worked in over 12 months, has 29 misdemeanor convictions, four felony convictions, and was convicted in Justice Court on the same offense a year ago. “At some point this just gets really old,” he said. “It’s time for you to stop telling me what you’re going to do and start doing it. ... I know why you evade, it’s because you shouldn’t be driving.”

Judge Stockard granted Elderton probation on a 28–72 month suspended prison sentence and ordered him to obtain full-time employment and either his birth certificate or a valid license. He is not to drive without a valid license.

Stockard cautioned Elderton, “If you come back before me, I’ll be open-minded; but with this type of history, it’s time to change.”

— Part II —

Court Hears Details in Daniels Child Abduction Case

By Teresa Moon

The Tenth Judicial District Court heard extensive testimony on August 27 during the sentencing hearing for Chelsea Lynn Daniels, who pleaded guilty to the Category D Felony of Detention, Concealment, or Removal of a Child from a Person Having Lawful Custody.

The case, which triggered an Amber Alert and multi-agency response on March 31, involved Daniels unlawfully taking her infant son from his court-ordered placement. During the hearing, Deputy District Attorney Priscilla Baker presented evidence, including dash cam footage of a dangerous, high-speed chase and text messages suggesting Daniels planned to defy child protective orders. The prosecution asked for the maximum term of 19–48 months in prison.

The court also heard statements regarding a violation of a protection order involving Daniels’s estranged husband, who was arrested last week for a related offense. Part I can be read in the Sept. 12 edition and online at thefallonpost.org.

Defense arguments and Judge Stockard’s Ruling

Daniels appeared with her attorney, Churchill County Alternate Public Defender Wright Noel. “Your Honor, when the State of Nevada decided to remove the child from Ms. Daniels’s custody, they cited essentially two reasons,” said Noel. Methamphetamine or substance abuse, and associated health issues. He explained that DDA Priscilla Baker emphasized how bad those mental health and substance abuse issues were, noting, “The removal at that time was one hundred percent appropriate.”

Noel read from April 2025 article entitled “Separation and Psychosocial Challenges of Parents with Children in Foster Care” published in the Children and Youth Services Review, to help explain what happens to a parent when a child is removed. “While many parents with children in foster care have faced various traumatic experiences in their lives, child removal stands out as one of the

most emotionally distressing events they encounter. The involuntary separation from their children has been compared to the profound grief of losing a child,” said Noel.

“So, we have someone who is suffering from ... issues, using substances that alter her ability to act rationally,” said Noel, “[Her] child is removed from her ... she acts irrationally. And one hundred percent inappropriately.”

Noel stated that Daniels has taken responsibility for her actions that day and asked the court to “focus not only on what happened that day, but should also focus on what has happened since then.” He said Daniels has had no positive drug tests while on Court Services supervision, which began in April. He addressed the state’s doubt that Daniels claimed she hasn’t used methamphetamine since February of 2025, stating, “I believe in that text message she was referring to alcohol use. But I understand the state’s concern, regardless she’s been testing since as early as April 2.”

Noel also said that his client has implemented serious changes in her life, including efforts to get her children returned to her. He referred to Daniels’s Department of Child and Family Services (DCFS) report, which states, “Since the last court hearing held on May 2, 2025, Ms. Daniels has had active, open, engaged conversations with the Division. She has made herself available and has asked for assistance when needed.” The report went on to say Daniels has provided DCFS with her substance abuse evaluations, treatment plans, relapse prevention plan, domestic violence prevention plan, co-parenting plan, budgeting, and her weekly schedule. Noel said the recommendation from DCFS is that her children be returned to her.

“What she needs is continuing treatment; and that’s what we’re asking for today,” said Noel. “Your Honor, I think it’s important the state has highlighted today that not only do we need to protect children from parents who are abusive and neglectful... our state also has a duty to help parents who have their children removed from them.”

Noel pointed out that Daniels’s children

are in foster care right now. However, as of that morning, the state became aware that DCFS recommended the children be returned to her. “So, by asking Ms. Daniels to go to prison, the state is asking those children to remain in foster care for an extended period of time. I don’t think that is cohesive with the goal of the DCFS, and I don’t think it’s the best outcome in this case.”

Noel asked for Diversion, stating that Daniels has shown the court that she is capable of substantial change in her life. “To send her to prison right now, I think, would interrupt that change in an unhealthy way. This court is aware that there are some people who need prison to effectuate change. Ms. Daniels has shown the court that she is capable of effectuating that change out of custody,” said Noel.

“I want to apologize to the community, and everyone involved that day; my family, and DCFS, for causing everyone worry and concern,” Daniels told the court. “I was one hundred percent in the wrong.” She apologized for her text messages, saying it was “pretty embarrassing to read how I was talking about DCFS.” She admitted she felt pretty angry and hurt in the beginning. “My children were gone. ...” Daniels told Judge Stockard she needs more help. “I want the privilege to be able to continue testing for everybody,” and show the changes she could make.

Judge Stockard told Daniels, “I find that you are eligible for diversion ... I’m not going to grant you the privilege of diversion though.” He placed Daniels on probation on a suspended sentence of 19–48 months in prison, ordered her to follow the recommendations of her evaluations, and to comply with and not violate any existing restraining order.

“Ms. Daniels, I think that you need to understand this was a very, very close call for you going to prison,” said Judge Stockard, who also sentenced Daniels to 30 days in jail to begin that day. “You’re going to follow whatever the recommendations are in that evaluation. And we’ll just see where these cases go.”

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BUSINESS

Lahontan Valley Veterinary Clinic Celebrates 45 Years

By Christy Lattin

When Dr. Calvin Moffitt opened a small animal practice out of his Fallon home in 1980, he couldn’t have known the little garage-turned-clinic on Schurz Highway would grow into one of the region’s most trusted veterinary hospitals. Forty-five years later, the Lahontan Valley Veterinary Clinic (LVVC) is still thriving and serving generations of families, ranchers, and their animals.

The clinic’s roots run deep in Churchill County. Moffitt’s early years were spent working out of modest facilities, first his converted garage, then a remodeled pole barn outfitted with corrals and stocks for livestock. In 1984, Fallon native Dr. Craig Schank joined the practice, returning home after working two years in northern California. Just a year later, Schank and Moffitt became partners, officially establishing LVVC.

For Schank, the career path was personal. Raised on a Fallon dairy farm, he grew up watching veterinarians care for his family’s herd. One local vet in particular, Dr. G.T. Woodward, made a lasting impression. “He was so kind,” Schank recalled. “He drove an old Chevy without a back seat so he could transport calves. I got to watch and help him. That inspired me.”

Over the decades, the clinic has expanded both its staff and its footprint. A major remodel in 2000 tripled its size to 7,000 square feet, allowing LVVC to keep pace with a growing client base. Along the way, new veterinarians joined the team: Dr. David Faught in 1992, Dr. Raymond Cooper in 1999, Dr. Pamela Ferguson in 2011, Dr. Jeff Oyler in 2014, Dr. Lyle Whitaker in 2015, and Dr. Abby Bake in 2023.

Faught completed his clinical externship (a short-term, hands-on training for veterinary students), at a horse racetrack and was heavily recruited to work in the Los Angeles area. However, he was married with one child at the time. “I wanted to raise my family in Fallon,” said Faught.



The veterinarians of Lahontan Valley Veterinary Clinic. From left, Craig Schank DVM, Jeffrey Oyler DVM, Abigail Bake DVM, Raymond Cooper DVM, Leighton Beyer DVM, David Faught DVM, Pamela Ferguson DVM, and Lyle Whitaker DVM. Photo compilation by Ron Snooks/LVVC.

With a background in rodeo and a lifelong love of horses, Faught developed a specialty in equine care. Over the years, he’s also been the clinic’s lead veterinarian at the Bureau of Land Management’s Stillwater holding pens, tending to wild mustangs gathered from Nevada rangelands.

While LVVC’s services once leaned heavily toward large animals, the practice has shifted with the times. Today, small animal medicine makes up most appointments. Even so, LVVC continues to provide herd health care for several large dairies in Fallon and Yerington.

Through it all, the veterinarians have built strong ties with the community. Schank, who still works part-time and operates a walk-in vet clinic in Hawthorne, served nine years on the Nevada Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners and now represents veterinarians on the Nevada Board of Agriculture. He says what matters most, though, are the personal connections.

“I would hope that in the thousands of interactions I’ve had over the years, people would think of me as kind, honest, and that I did my best,” he said, his voice catching with emotion while reflecting on the legacy of

care he and his colleagues have built. Ownership of LVVC has shifted as the years passed. In 2009, Dr. Moffitt’s share was sold, and by 2018, the practice was in the hands of principals Faught, Cooper, Oyler, and Whitaker. Ferguson and Bake round out the stable of seven veterinarians at the practice, with Schank working limited hours and fewer responsibilities. For the veterinarians of LVVC, the work is more than medicine. It’s about community, tradition, and a shared devotion to animals both large and small. Faught, now more than 30 years into his career, summed it up simply: “I’ll never really retire, but maybe I’ll go part-time in a few years.” Both Schank and Faught have young family members attending veterinary school. While they would love to see the next generation join LVVC, they are content knowing the clinic’s commitment to service and maintaining personal connections will live on. From a converted garage to a full-service hospital, LVVC’s story mirrors Fallon’s own growth. As the clinic celebrates 45 years, its veterinarians remain guided by the same principles that began in that small garage: compassion, service, and a love of animals.

EDUCATION

Veritas Preparatory School – Classical and Christian Veritas Hosts Indian Taco Night Fundraiser

By Assistant Headmaster David Ernst

On Sept. 6, the Veritas Preparatory School community gathered for the second Indian Taco Night fundraiser. Families, friends, and supporters were welcomed by the aroma of frybread and seasoned meat as they arrived. The menu featured hearty Indian tacos—fresh frybread topped with beans, seasoned beef, lettuce, cheese, and salsa—alongside dessert frybread and drinks. Parents, students, and volunteers worked together in the kitchen and serving line, ensuring plates were full and guests felt welcome. Proceeds from the evening support Veritas’ academic and extracurricular programs, helping provide classroom resources, student activities, and keeping tuition affordable. “Events like this allow our community to come together and strengthen our mission,”

said Assistant Headmaster David Ernst. “It’s not just about raising funds—it’s about building fellowship and modeling service for our students.” The evening also brought lively conversation, with students bussing tables, greeting guests, and helping with cleanup. Parents enjoyed connecting with one another while younger children played nearby, giving the night the feel of a family gathering. Fundraisers such as Indian Taco Night reflect the heart of Veritas’ classical Christian mission—cultivating character, building community, and sharing the love of Christ through service. Guests left grateful for the meal, the fellowship, and the opportunity to support Veritas students.



Veritas students put their culinary skills to work for Indian Taco Night.

Logos Students Honor 9/11



Staff Report

Fifth through eighth grade Logos students attended the City of Fallon’s September 11 Remembrance Ceremony, while kindergarten through second grade created and displayed patriotic artwork on campus to help us all remember and honor the events of September 11.

Pictured from left, Kinslyn Jimenez, Jake Kaster, Miach Sydney, Katy Ethridge, Eliana Christian, Riata Ethridge, and Ellie Casey. Photos courtesy of LCA.

EDUCATION

Bighorn Bulletin

By Angela Viera with photos courtesy of Oasis Academy.

DUNGEONS & DRAGONS CLUB RETURNS TO OASIS ACADEMY

Adventurers are ready for their next quest as the Dungeons & Dragons (D&D) Club is back at Oasis Academy. The club is open to students in grades 5-12 and meets Tuesdays after school, giving students the chance to dive into imaginative worlds, create characters, and go on epic quests alongside their peers.

More than just a game, Dungeons & Dragons encourages teamwork, creativity, and problem-solving. Students learn how to collaborate with others, think critically in challenging situations, and use storytelling to build confidence and communication skills.

“D&D is such a great way for students to express themselves and build friendships,” Adam Revels said. “It combines fun with valuable skills they can carry into the classroom and beyond.”

The Oasis D&D Club is made possible thanks to teachers and staff who volunteer their time to run campaigns and guide students through their adventures. Their efforts help create a safe, welcoming environment where students can explore their imagination while developing leadership, collaboration, and writing skills.

Whether students are seasoned dungeon crawlers or brand-new to the game, all are welcome to join the weekly sessions. With dice rolling, worlds to discover, and countless stories to tell, the Oasis Academy D&D Club is sure to make this school year a legendary one. To learn more about D&D contact Tami McNeill at tmcneill@oanv.org.

OASIS ACADEMY BIOLOGY STUDENTS PUT HANDWASHING TO THE TEST

Ninth-grade biology students are putting science into action by testing which soaps and cleaning products are most effective at removing bacteria.

The experiment began with each student

swabbing their hands without washing at all, giving them a baseline look at the germs that naturally collect throughout the day. They then washed their hands with just water and swabbed again. Finally, they used one of several products—Softsoap, Purell, Germ X, Amazon Basics, Dove, or CVS brand soap—before taking a final swab to compare results. The students then waited two days for results to grow. The petri dishes clearly revealed which products removed the most bacteria by how much bacteria or mold they grew. The most effective cleaning agent was Purell.

The experiment not only teaches scientific method and data analysis but also reinforces the importance of proper hand hygiene. By the end of the project, students learned that washing your hands or using hand sanitizer really does work.

“This project gives students a hands-on way to connect classroom science with real-world health practices,” Jackie Bogdanowicz said. “They get to see for themselves that not all cleaning products work the same way.”

OASIS ACADEMY FOURTH GRADERS POWER UP WITH AMPLIFY SCIENCE

Fourth grade students recently dove into the world of electrical systems through the Amplify Science curriculum. Their lessons sparked both curiosity and creativity as they learned how energy flows and how different components work together to create a functioning circuit.

As part of their hands-on experiment, students were given a bag filled with various parts—wires, clips, solar panels, motors, and small devices like a fan or whistle. The challenge was to figure out how to connect the pieces correctly to build an electrical system powered by solar energy.

The activity encouraged problem-solving, collaboration, and critical thinking. Students



Jesselle Bayoneta and Ezra Acomb.

had to test their designs, troubleshoot when circuits didn’t work, and celebrate when solar power brought their projects to life. Teachers noted that the lesson connected scientific concepts with real-world applications, showing how renewable energy like solar power can be harnessed to run everyday systems.

“The fourth graders put on their scientific investigator hats and explored how electrical systems work this week,” said Michael Horn, fourth grade teacher. “It is exciting as a teacher to facilitate learning tasks where the students get to explore and solve problems for themselves.”

CCSD Cool School News

Compiled by Kaitlin Ritchie with photos courtesy of CCSD



Students take part in Campus Pride Fridays by picking up trash and helping keep their school grounds clean.



Librarian Jennifer Sanches poses with a Chromebook and the beloved ECB Library Llamas.



Lisa Solinski's class proudly display their unique puzzle pieces, celebrating individuality.

CCHS

Churchill County High School’s Hope Squad students shared their training, protocols, and vision for the future with Superintendent Derild Parsons, Assistant Superintendent Mike Walker, Director of Student Services Kathryn Bervin-Mueller, Principal Tim Spencer, and District Public Information Officer Kaitlin Ritchie on Sept. 10.

These students, recognized by their peers as caring and trustworthy, are trained to identify warning signs, support classmates in need, and connect them with trusted adults. Hope Squad is an evidence-based, peer-to-peer suicide prevention program that spreads hope, reduces risk, and fosters a culture of connection and care within the school. With strong leadership, these Hope Squad members are ready to make a lasting impact on their school and community.

CCMS

Churchill County Middle School students have started Campus Pride Fridays, an ongoing effort in which advisory groups take part in beautifying the campus and showing their Greenwave pride. Each week, students bring creativity and energy to brighten their school and strengthen community.

Earlier in the week, Michele Tapia’s sixth grade social studies students visited the library, exploring the new space, meeting librarian Deborah Fiedler, and checking out books for the first time this year. From taking pride in their school grounds to diving into new middle school experiences, CCMS students are off to a strong start this fall.

NUMA

Students in Lisa Solinski’s class began the year by focusing on teamwork and getting to know each other. Together with Victoria Purrell’s students, they designed puzzle pieces to show they are unique yet all fit together.

Last week, Solinski’s class received the Golden Book Award for

outstanding behavior in the library and the Golden Clock Award for excellent attendance. From team-building to recognition, Numa students are already Soaring with Pride and Paddling with Purpose.

E.C. BEST

The E.C. Best “Library Llamas” welcomed students back for a busy start to the school year. During the first week, every class visited the library to learn about and receive the Chromebooks they will use in class. The following week, students jumped into library time, enjoying stories and checking out books.

“Our Bulldogs are reading two to four books each week, and some even return for more in between visits,” librarian Jennifer Sanches said. “Be sure to ask students which book is their favorite, and remember to return any books that come home, even if they are damaged, because I can often fix them.”

Families should also mark their calendars for the Fall Book Fair, set for Sept. 29–Oct. 2. The fair coincides with the Churchill Chili Cook-off Family Night on Sept. 30 from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Families can enjoy free chili, cornbread, and milk along with educational stations featuring the Nevada Farm Bureau, Fort Churchill, UNR Ag Ed, and the Churchill County Museum.

LAHONTAN

This month, students at Lahontan Elementary School are exploring emotions with Zones of Regulation. School counselor Baylee Barton has been visiting classrooms, using clips from the movie “Inside Out” to help students recognize and label their feelings.

They learn to sort emotions into four zones: blue (sad, tired), green (calm, happy), yellow (excited, scared, frustrated), and red (mad). Students are also practicing coping skills to calm themselves when experiencing big feelings, giving them tools to manage emotions and build awareness.

SPORTS

Les Schwab–Fallon Post Car Show

Raises \$1,100 for Fallon Cares



Bob Frederick's 1964 VW Bug, Host's Choice winner.



Jeff Macedo with his 1948 Ford Coupe.

This year's annual Les Schwab–Fallon Post Car Show, held Sept. 14 at the Les Schwab Tire Center, raised more than \$1,100 for Fallon Cares, a community initiative that helps residents in need with food, hygiene, and other essentials. This year's proceeds will go toward providing food for local families.

Organizers thanked the many volunteers, the Fallon Chamber of Commerce, emcee and DJ Davy Munoz, and event sponsors: Frey Ranch, Wild West Burgers, Fallon Speedway, Ott's Farm Equipment, NAPA Auto Parts, United Refrigeration, Toni Barbetti, The Cave, Tallow Utopia, O'Reilly Auto Parts, and Fallon Auto Mall. Special thanks also went to photographers Eva and Mitzie, and to the participants who made the day of cars, music, and prizes a success.



Adam Gregory with Host's Choice Winner Bob Fredrick 1964.



People's Choice winner Rich Lozano with Adam Gregory.

- CATEGORY WINNERS**
- Kids' Choice — Richard Lozano
 - Best Ranch Rig — Jillisa Openshaw
 - Best Off Road — Richard Lozano
 - Best Interior — Jeff Macedo
 - Best Truck — William Tacket
 - Best Motorcycle — Trevor Openshaw
 - Best Custom — Jeff Macedo
 - Rat Rod — Richard Lozano
 - Best in Ag — Colt Crystal
 - Best Engine — Galen Reese
 - Best Paint — Jeff Macedo
 - 1930s — Galen Reese
 - 1940s — Steve Miller
 - 1950s — Christopher Fadis
 - 1960s — Steve Cathey
 - 1970s — Tom Massengale
 - Oldest in Show — Galen Reese
 - Modern Muscle — Bernadette Miles
 - Best Foreign — Donna Austin
 - Best Bug — Bob Fredrick
 - Best Backseat — Julie Tacket
 - Work in Progress — Christopher Fadis
 - Best American — Jeff Macedo
 - Best Muscle — Bernadette Miles
 - Best Stock — Mark Stathes



Adam Gregory with Jeff Macedo, Best in Show winner.

- BEST BEARD CONTEST**
Sponsored and judged by Heidi Vanderhoef of Tallow Utopia
- Don't Hate Me Because I Am Beardiful — Adam Gregory
 - Follically Superior — Ronnie Seagraves

- BUCKLE WINNERS**
- Best in Show — Jeff Macedo with a 1948 Ford Coupe
 - People's Choice — Richard Lozano with a 1946 Ford Truck
 - Host's Choice — Bob Fredrick with his 1964 VW Bug

- RAFFLE WINNERS**
- Les Schwab Custom Cornhole Boards — Jeff Macedo
 - 50/50 Raffle — Steve Miller



Kelly Ugalde. Photo by John Baker.

Greenwave Girls Soccer

Last Thursday, Sept. 11, the CCHS Lady Wave Soccer Team took on the Mavericks of Debbie Smith CTE Academy at home and dominated with a final score of 8-0.



Kortnie Simper. Photo by John Baker.

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COLUMNS

What’s Cooking in Kelli’s Kitchen:
Birthday Beef Stroganoff

By Kelli Kelly



The Hubby – Neil Kelly.

This week’s column is brought to you by love, loyalty, and beef stroganoff. Neil turns 53 this week, and while he doesn’t usually love being the center of attention, I think we can all agree that he deserves a moment in the spotlight—just this once.

Neil was born on Chicago’s South Side in 1972. Despite being on the other side of town, he developed an enduring love for the Cubs (which just tells you how much patience the man has). As a kid, he spent hours constructing elaborate military scenarios with his GI Joes—complete with long mission planning. Those early signs of strategy and leadership grew into a 22-year Navy career, where he mastered the art of putting people first, cutting through nonsense, and prioritizing efficiency without sacrificing empathy.

He’s been my husband for nearly 18 years and my best person since 2004. We’ve built a life that includes strong coffee, shared glances, matching tattoos, and frequent debates about whether Neil really needs another golf club. (He doesn’t. He thinks he does.)

Speaking of golf, Neil has long been a familiar face at the course—running charity tournaments for local nonprofits and reminding everyone that the best part of the game is the company. And if you’ve ever taken your kid—or your dog—to get a picture with Santa Claus at a fundraiser or dropped off a toy for Toys for Tots at Walmart, there’s a good chance you’ve met Neil in full beard and boots.

Neil even agreed to spend his birthday weekend at the Nevada Press Association reception at The Fallon Post, proving once again that he’s a supportive spouse. (There will be drinks. He’ll be fine.)

I’m heading off to visit my dad over the weekend, so our grand celebration will wait until I return. Neil won’t ask for a party or a fuss—that’s not his way. But if you see him around town, tell him happy birthday and maybe ask how many golf clubs one man really

needs. (His answer is always “just one more.”) And when I get back from Washington, Neil is getting a big bowl of beef stroganoff.

Here’s to Neil, humor, heart, and a well-earned bowl of stroganoff.

Kelli’s Beef Stroganoff Ingredients

- 1 lb. Beef tenderloin (filet mignon), cut into large cubes
- 2 tbsp. Vegetable oil
- 6 tbsp. (3/4 stick) butter
- 1/4 cup Finely chopped shallots
- 8 oz. Small button mushrooms, quartered
- 8 oz. Sliced shiitake or other assorted mushrooms
- 2 cups Low-sodium beef broth
- 2 packets Gelatin
- 3/4 cup Sour cream
- 2 tbsp. Dijon mustard
- 2 tbsp. Chopped fresh dill
- 12 oz. Wide egg noodles
- 1 tbsp. Smoked paprika

DIRECTIONS:

- Sprinkle gelatin over beef broth and set aside. Pat meat dry with paper towels. Season well with salt and pepper. Heat oil in a heavy skillet over high heat until very hot. Working in batches, add meat in a single layer and sear until caramelized, about 1 minute per side. Remove and set aside.
- Melt 2 tablespoons butter in the same skillet over medium-high heat. Add shallots and sauté until tender, scraping up browned bits, about 2 minutes. Add quartered mushrooms. Season with salt and pepper and cook until they release liquid and begin to brown. Add shiitake and cook until dry. Add beef broth mixture. Simmer until thickened and just coating mushrooms, about 15 minutes. Stir in sour cream and Dijon mustard. Return meat and juices to pan. Simmer over medium-low heat until meat is heated through but still medium-rare, about 2 minutes. Stir in dill. Season to taste with salt and pepper.
- Meanwhile, cook noodles in a large pot of boiling salted water until



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

tender, 7–8 minutes. Drain. Toss with remaining 4 tablespoons butter, season, and divide among plates. Top with beef and sauce. Sprinkle generously with paprika.

Allison’s Book Report:
“Same Time Next Summer”

by Annabel Monaghan

By Allison Diegel

I live in a house full of romance-loving teenage girls, and if you have any of those in your own life (or are a romance lover yourself) you probably know all about a series of books-turned-uber-popular-TV-series called “The Summer I Turned Pretty.” It has been an obsession of my youngest daughter’s for a long time now, and we are always looking for other books that have that first love/messy teen drama/summer vacation vibe. There are a bunch of them out there, and I think this week’s pick fits firmly into that category.

“Same Time Next Summer” by Annabel Monaghan is a charming and heartfelt story about a second chance at love and the power of memory. The book follows Sam, a woman living a seemingly perfect life in New York with her seemingly perfect doctor fiancé, Jack. However, her carefully constructed world begins to unravel when she returns to her family’s beach house on Long Island for the summer.

This isn’t just any beach house; it’s the place where Sam spent every summer of her youth and, more importantly, where she first fell in love with Wyatt, her high school sweetheart. Wyatt and Sam were inseparable, sharing a deep and magical connection. Their relationship, however, ended abruptly and without a proper goodbye years ago, leaving a void that Sam has never truly filled.

Upon her arrival, Sam is shocked to discover that Wyatt is back in town and working on her family’s property. The accidental reunion is awkward at first, but old feelings and forgotten memories quickly resurface. As they spend more time together, Sam is forced to confront the what-ifs and regrets of her past. She begins to question whether the life she’s built with Jack is what she truly wants or if she’s been running from the unfinished business of her first love.

The novel beautifully weaves together the past and present, showing us flashbacks of Sam and Wyatt’s idyllic teenage summers. These nostalgic glimpses highlight the profound connection they shared, making their current predicament all the more poignant. Monaghan’s writing is light and easy, capturing the warm, hazy feeling of a summer romance. The story is a delightful blend of humor, romance, and emotional depth, perfect for a lazy day at the beach.

Ultimately, “Same Time Next Summer” is a story about listening to your heart, even when it’s telling you something inconvenient. It’s a reminder that sometimes the love we leave behind is the one that was meant to be all along.

If you are like us and you liked “The Summer I Turned Pretty” but can’t get enough, make sure you grab this week’s book – and don’t forget to follow me over on Instagram @allison.the.reader for more book recommendations and book related 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.

Crossword

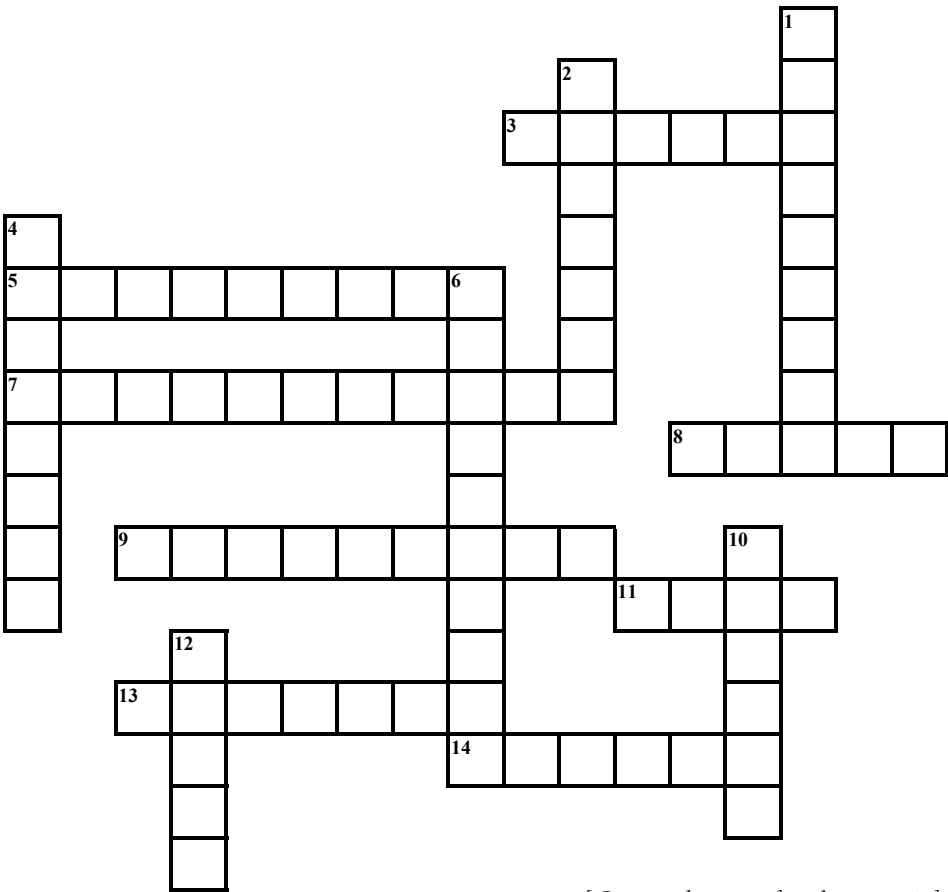
By Peanut

Across

- 3. Mary O’Hara
- 5. Larry McMurtry
- 7. Anna Sewell
- 8. George Orwell
- 9. Miguel de Cervantes
- 11. Norman Krasna
- 13. Nicholas Evans
- 14. George R. R. Martin

Down

- 1. J. R. R. Tolkien
- 2. Stephen King
- 4. Walter Farley
- 6. Jonathan Swift
- 10. Leo Tolstoy
- 12. Marguerite Henry



[Crossword answers found on page 15]

ORDER TO ALLOW SERVICE BY PUBLICATION AND TO ALLOW NOTICE OF HEARING BY PUBLICATION

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

JEFFREY L. CHRISTIANSEN and JILL L. CHRISTIANSEN, individuals, Plaintiffs, vs. Title Service and Escrow Company, a dissolved Nevada Corporation, or any person or entity claiming a right thereunder; Anna Macari, a resident of Colorado, now believed to be a deceased person; and also all other persons or entities unknown claiming any right, title, state, lien or interest in the real property described in the Complaint adverse to plaintiffs' ownership, or any cloud upon plaintiffs' title thereto, Defendants.

ORDER TO ALLOW SERVICE BY PUBLICATION AND TO ALLOW NOTICE OF HEARING BY PUBLICATION

Pending before this Court is a Motion by Plaintiffs JEFFREY L. CHRISTIANSEN and JILL L. CHRISTIANSEN, individuals, by and through their counsel of record, R. Scott Jamieson, requesting that the Court enter an Order allowing Service by Publication against Defendants Title Service and Escrow Company, a dissolved Nevada Corporation, or any person or entity claiming a right thereunder; Anna Macari, a resident of Colorado, now believed to be a deceased person, specifically, and also all other persons unknown claiming any right, title, estate, lien or interest in the real property described in the complaint adverse to plaintiffs' ownership, or any cloud upon plaintiffs' title thereto, and to allow Notice of Hearing by Publication to the above-named persons and entities have an opportunity to timely file an appropriate written Answer or other appropriate written response to the Court with respect to the above-referenced Summons and and Complaint, and to appear at a hearing wherein any interested person may appear to contest Plaintiffs' Complaint to Quiet Title, both directly and through their claim of adverse possession. This Motion is made and based upon NRS 40.090, NRS 40.100, NRS 40.110, NRCP Rule 4(d) (3), and upon 10 JDCR Rule 4.4 and any other applicable Nevada Law. Based on the evidence and information provided to the Court incident to the above-referenced Motion, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED as follows: Plaintiffs shall serve the Summons and the Verified Complaint in this case by means of publication, said publication to be made in a newspaper of general circulation, in the County of Churchill, State of Nevada, for a period of 4 weeks, and at least once a week during said time, effectuating service upon both all of the abovenamed specific persons and entities and also upon all other persons or entities unknown claiming any right, title estate, lien or interest in the real property described in the Complaint adverse to plaintiffs' ownership, or any cloud upon plaintiffs' title thereto. IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the hearing date in the above referenced matter wherein the Court will be able to consider the Verified Complaint, is set for October 7 at 9:00 a.m., 2025, such hearing to occur after the date for filing Answers or other appropriate responsive pleadings to the required publishing, posting and recording as required under the applicable Nevada Rules and Statutes. This document does not contain the social security number of any person.

DATED this 5th day of August 2025.
Tom Stockard
District Judge

Published in
The Fallon Post
September 5, 12, 19, and 26, 2025
Ad #6366

**SUMMONS
CASE NO. 24-10DC-1125
DEPT. NO. 1**

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

JEFFREY L. CHRISTIANSEN and JILL L. CHRISTIANSEN, individuals, Plaintiffs, vs. Title Service and Escrow Company, a dissolved Nevada Corporation, or any person or entity claiming a right thereunder; Anna Macari, a former resident of Colorado, now believed to be a deceased person; and also all other persons or entities unknown claiming any right, title, estate, lien or interest in the real property described in the Complaint adverse to plaintiffs' ownership, or any cloud upon plaintiffs' title thereto,

Defendants.

SUMMONS

TO DEFENDANT TITLE SERVICE AND ESCROW COMPANY, A DISSOLVED NEVADA CORPORATION, OR ANY PERSON OR ENTITY CLAIMING A RIGHT THEREUNDER; ANNA MACARI, A FORMER RESIDENT OF COLORADO, NOW BELIEVED TO BE A DECEASED PERSON; AND ALSO ALL OTHER PERSONS OR ENTITIES UNKNOWN CLAIMING ANY RIGHT, TITLE, ESTATE, LIEN OR INTEREST IN THE REAL PROPERTY DESCRIBED IN THE COMPLAINT ADVERSE TO PLAINTIFFS' OWNERSHIP, OR ANY CLOUD UPON PLAINTIFFS' TITLE THERETO.

YOU HAVE BEEN SUED. THE COURT MAY DECIDE AGAINST YOU WITHOUT YOU BEING HEARD UNLESS YOU RESPOND IN WRITING WITHIN 20 DAYS. READ THE INFORMATION BELOW VERY CAREFULLY.

You are summoned and required to serve upon Plaintiffs' attorney, whose name and address is noted below, a formal written Answer to the Complaint which is served upon you, within 20 days after service of this Summons, exclusive of the day of service, and to file such Answer with the clerk of the court located at 73 N. Maine Street, Ste. 8, Fallon, NV 89406. If you fail to do so, judgment by default will be taken against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint. This action is brought to obtain Quiet Title to real property located at 245 S. Taylor Street, Fallon, Nevada, Churchill County, APN No. 001-521-01.

Dated this 17th day of October, 2024.
Tiffany Josephs, Clerk of the Court.
Plaintiffs' Attorney:
R. Scott Jamieson
Law Office of R. Scott Jamieson
548 W. Plumb Lane, Ste. B
Reno, NV 89509

Published in
The Fallon Post
September 5, 12, 19, and 26, 2025
Ad #6365



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**NOTICE OF PETITION FOR
CHANGE OF NAME**

Audrey Michele Wade
575 Nadine Drive
Fallon, Nevada 89406
Self-Represented Petition

DISTRICT COURT, CHURCHILL COUNTY, NEVADA

In the Matter of the Application of:
Audrey Michele Wade
CASE NO.: 02-10DC-0840 DEPT: 1
For Change of Name.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a petition was filed in the above-entitled Courtrequesting that the Court legally change applicant's name from:
Audrey Wade
To
Audrei Michele Wade

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

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

DATED:
this 3 day of September 2025

SUBMITTED BY:
/s/ Audrey Michelle Wade

Published in
The Fallon Post
Sept. 12, 19, 26, and Oct. 3, 2025
Ad #6367

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**AUCTION ENDING
Thursday, October 2, 2025 at 9 a.m.**

H & L Storage
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Unit #B28
Melanie Leon-Guerrero
Contents: Misc. Household.

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Unit #149
Craig Collins
Contents: Washer / Dryner, Ski's, Household.

Published in
The Fallon Post
September 19 and 26, 2025
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CROSSWORD ANSWERS

Crossword found on page 14

BLACKBEAUTY	SHADOWFAX
BOXER	SMILER
FLICKA	THEBLACK
FRUFRU	
FURY	
GLUEBOY	
HELLBITCH	
HOUYHNHNMS	
MISTY	
PILGRIM	
ROCINANTE	



**MEETINGS
September 22–26, 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

Fallon City Council
1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the Month
at 9 a.m.
City Hall, 55 W. Williams Ave.
Next meeting: Oct. 7

TCID
Next Meetings:
Oct. 7, Nov. 4 at 9 a.m.
2666 Harrigan Road

County Meetings
155 N. Taylor St.
Commission Chambers

County Commission
meets 1st Thursday
and 3rd Wednesday of the Month
Next meeting:
SOct. 2 at 8:15 a.m.

Central NV Health Dist.,
Sept. 25 at 1:30 p.m.
Library Board, Sept. 25 at 3 p.m.
CC Communications,
Oct. 2 at 11 a.m.
Planning Commission,
Oct. 8 at 6 p.m.





**WATER LEVELS
Measurements Taken September 16, 2025, at 9:30 a.m.**

Lahontan Reservoir	78,220 af
Carson River Below Lahontan	549 cfs
Truckee Canal at Wadsworth	187 cfs
Truckee Canal at Hazen	169.0 cfs
Carson River at Ft. Churchill	2.21 cfs

September 16, 2024
157,743 acre feet

September 16, 2023
239,021 acre feet

September 16, 2022
27,697 acre feet

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

COLUMNS

Postcards: The Ito and Kito Families, Part 1

By Michon Mackedon

I just received a welcome Postcard from Masa Kito Jujitani, who was raised in Fallon. I have subtitled this column “Part 1” of the Ito and Kito Families story because Masa has so much to tell.

She began her correspondence with me by describing when and why her family—the Kitos, and her family’s close friends, the Itos—settled in the Lahontan Valley.

“Juichi and Su Kito (my parents), and Kensuke and Shiki Ito were farming in the California Delta near Stockton but could never buy property due to the California exclusion act. The two couples came to Fallon (1920) and bought 60 acres on the corner of Allen and St. Clair roads and began the Ito/Kito farm complete with dairy cows, chickens and pigs. They grew alfalfa and grain in addition to the variety of vegetables, honey dew, watermelon, casabas and famous Hearts of Gold cantaloupes. The house where Masa was raised still stands on the John Gomes property (955 St. Clair Road).

Masa remembers: “It was hard to believe the house size (that still stands) that four adults and a total of 14 children – 9 Kito: May, Mary, Jun, Haru, Emi, Masa(1) who passed away at age 2, Aya, Nobie, and me-second Masa, and five Ito: Yoshiko, Tomomi, Shizu, Takako, Tomio) – called home, but we weren’t all there at the same time. Most of the girls, my sisters May, Mary, and Haru were ‘school girls’ and lived and helped as ‘mother’s helper’ and

such at the Dick Bass Ranch. Takako and Tomio Ito ‘school girlred’ with Percy Bailey, who owned the Morris and Loring Drug Store in town. It was a benefit for my parents and sisters because they learned about American customs, foods, as well as speaking and writing in English. My parents generally spoke and communicated in Japanese. We chuckled when my siblings and I talked about the customer who complained about the size of corn she bought from us and my mom and Mrs. Ito would say, ‘thank you very much’ after every complaint until the customer stopped in frustration!

“As the ninth child, I grew up with Emi, Aya, and Nobie—all the other children were grown and gone. Thus, we were the workforce left to milk the cows, feed pigs and chickens, gather eggs, and pick and bunch truck farm vegetables and melons. Our vegetables and melons were sold to I.H. Kent, Kolhoss and Safeway stores as well as to local residents who came to shop in our underground cellar. I’m sorry we didn’t take a photo of Senator Pat McCarran, our famous Nevada Senator, when he stopped by and was served a half of Hearts of Gold cantaloupe in our back yard. At his request, my dad and other Hearts of Gold melon growers shipped melons via railway express to D.C. so he could tell fellow senators that Nevada offered more than legalized gambling. Senator McCarran sponsored the McCarran/Walters Act (1952) which finally allowed Japanese to become citizens.”

I will deliver more of Masa’s memories next week, but I first want to describe a noble and memorable community act regarding the Ito and Kito families. After the bombing of Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, national and local anti-Japanese sentiments ran very high. There was a general climate of suspicion, at times soaring to hysteria. As one example, vigilante groups were formed in Reno to turn back any Japanese seeking to cross the border from California to Nevada. In February 1942, President Roosevelt signed Order 9066, authorizing the internment of Japanese Americans, after which 10 internment camps were established, most of them in the interior West. Over 120,000 Japanese Americans were incarcerated. In Fallon, what followed President Roosevelt’s order is nothing short of remarkable. Andre Russell has described the local events in an article entitled “Japanese in Churchill County” (“In Focus” Volume 7, 1993-94).

“Sometime in the spring of 1942, community business and civic leaders in Churchill County met together and agreed to try to keep the Ito and Kito families in the area and out of the camps. Led by business leader Ira Kent, and including Sheriff Ralph Vannoy, the Bass, Gomes and Miller families and local educator, Hattie Brown, plus many others, the locals united in assuring the FBI and other federal offices that the two families — their farm products and their labor — were essential to the American war effort. Their arguments were persuasive enough to convince federal authorities to allow the two Japanese families to remain in the valley and work their farms. Author Russell wrote in “In Focus” that “most of the neighbors responded (to the general concerns about Japanese residents) with respect and kindness.”


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.


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Date	Time	Location
10/02/2025	3pm - 6pm	Pershing County Community Center 820 6th St, Lovelock, NV 89419
10/09/2025	4pm - 8pm	Mineral County Fire Department 418 Mineral Rd, Hawthorne, NV 89415
10/14/2025	10am - 2pm	Crescent Valley Clinic 5061 Tenabo Ave, Crescent Valley, NV 89821
10/15/2025	10am - 2pm	Eureka Opera House 31 S Main St, Eureka, NV 89316
10/20/2025	5pm - 7pm	Mount Grant General Hospital 200 A St, Hawthorne, NV 89415
10/22/2025	4pm - 8pm	Banner Churchill Community Hospital 801 E Williams Ave, Fallon, NV 89406




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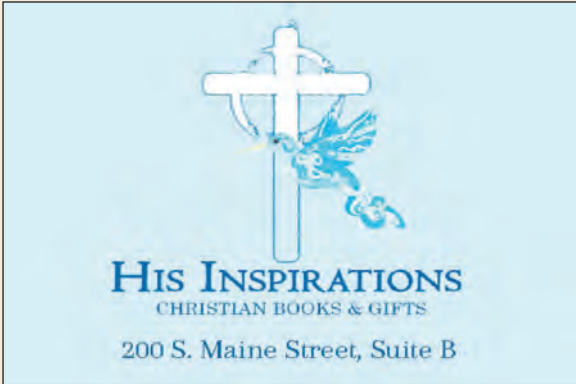
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