

# THE FALLON POST



TheFallonPost.org | Vol. 7 No. 5 \$2.00 | The Week of December 5, 2025

## The Tradition Continues – Our Favorite Community Event

By Riffin Stonebarger

The City of Fallon is opening the holiday season this Friday with a full lineup of community events, beginning with the annual Christmas Open House and Tree Lighting Ceremony on Friday, Dec. 5.

This year’s celebration carries extra meaning as the city honors America250, the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. The open house will begin at 4:30 p.m. at the Fallon City Hall and the Douglass House. Families can enjoy refreshments, cookie decorating, caroling, and the first visit from Santa Claus. City staff, department heads, and elected officials will also be on hand to welcome residents.

Mayor Ken Tedford said the milestone adds a special touch to a much-loved community tradition.

“Few things capture the magic of the holidays like gathering with our community to light Fallon’s iconic Christmas tree,” Tedford said. “This year, we’re especially excited to feature a gold, illuminated ‘250’ as the tree topper, as well as red, white, and blue fireworks, honoring America250. We invite everyone to join us for a night of joy, festive local traditions, and a celebration of Fallon’s history, community, and holiday spirit.”

The downtown Maine Street Christmas Tree Lighting will take place at 6:30 p.m., followed by red, white, and blue fireworks honoring America’s history and unity.

Just down the street, the Fallon Theatre will extend the celebration into the evening. Classic Christmas cartoons will play upstairs after the tree lighting, followed by a short performance by the Lahontan Valley Concert Choir. The theatre

will then show “Jingle All the Way” (1996) at 7 p.m. on both Friday and Saturday. The film is rated PG and runs 1 hour and 29 minutes.

Throughout December, the theatre is also accepting donated ornaments to decorate its 2-foot lobby Christmas tree.

Adding to the excitement, Premier Pawn is sponsoring a free raffle during Friday and Saturday’s movie showings. One attendee will win a never-opened Turbo Man action figure, just like the toy featured in the film. The drawing will be held on Facebook Live on Friday, Dec. 6, around 7:15 p.m. Guests can also take their raffle ticket to Andy’s Arcade for \$1 of play time.

More Christmas fun returns on Sunday, Dec. 7, as Victory Church hosts a community night at the Fallon Theatre. Festivities begin at 5 p.m. with carols in the lower theatre and free hot cocoa and cookies. At 6 p.m., the theatre will show “The Best Christmas Pageant Ever” (2024), rated PG, and “The King of Kings” (2025), also rated PG. Concessions will be open for both screenings.

Fallon on Ice will also join in the fun on Dec. 5 with Onesie Night at the rink, located at 10 S. Carson St. Admission is free for children four and under. Prices range from \$12–\$15 for kids, adults, seniors, and military, with a \$3 discount for bringing your own skates.

Holiday performances continue Thursday, Dec. 11, when the Fallon Theatre hosts a Christmas Variety Show from 6:30–8:30 p.m. Admission is \$5 and includes complimentary cocoa and cider.

The theatre will also screen two holiday classics, including “Home Alone” (1990) at 6 p.m. and “A Christmas Story” (1983) at 7 p.m. on Dec. 12–13. The Churchill Community Coalition



Tree lighting at 6:30 p.m., Friday. Join the whole community at 4:30 p.m. for the best small-town tradition anywhere. Photo By Sadie Venturacci.

sponsors both films, and they are free to the public.

One of Fallon’s favorite traditions, “The Polar Express,” returns on Dec. 19–20 with free showings at 6 p.m. and 7 p.m., along with a complimentary hot cocoa bar.

There is no shortage of fun events as Fallon rings in the holiday season.

## Small Business Saturday Event Continues to Grow

By Jim Fleming

Fallon’s “Shop Small” event on Saturday, November 29, showcased more local businesses than ever before, according to Lucy Carnahan, Executive Director of the Fallon Chamber of Commerce. The event, known for its inviting and easily walkable layout, was coordinated by both the Chamber and the Churchill Entrepreneur Development Association (CEDA).

Participants were encouraged to begin their shopping experience at the Old Post Office, where they could visit the first group of approximately twelve out of a total of forty-seven participating vendors. Upon arrival, shoppers received a complimentary gift canvas tote bag and a bingo card, which they filled out by visiting merchants along their route. These bingo cards were then entered into a prize drawing held later that afternoon at the Oats Park Art Center during a reception for the Honeycomb Project, currently exhibited in the Art Center’s gallery.

Fallon’s annual event is part of the national Shop Small initiative,



Chamber Team at Welcome Center. Photos courtesy of Fallon Chamber of Commerce.

sponsored by American Express and launched 16 years ago. The Fallon Chamber began participating in 2015, making this the event’s tenth year in the community. According to Carnahan, the 200 gift totes available on a first-come, first-served basis are usually claimed before lunchtime. She estimated that approximately 350 shoppers visited the official list of merchants on Saturday morning, with store owners noting higher-than-usual customer traffic for a brisk November morning.

Observations along Maine Street, supported by information from the county assessor’s website, indicate that downtown Fallon is experiencing significant growth. There are more active developments, more successful businesses, and fewer vacant properties than at any point in the past three decades.

Looking ahead, next year’s gift bags will feature a special golden ticket redeemable for a \$250 Visa gift card sponsored by CEDA, as announced by CEDA Director Sara Beebe-Wolken. Carnahan also encourages local entrepreneurs interested in participating to contact the Chamber early to ensure their businesses, operating hours, and special offers are included in the official event listing.

[ Shop Small Business photos continued on page 7 ]



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## FROM THE PUBLISHER

# Captain’s Log

## We’re Shop Keepers Now

By Rachel Dahl

Open a store, they said – it’ll be fun, they said. So, we did, and it’s a blast. But oh, goodness. A few weeks ago we got the chance to rent a spot back on Maine Street and since we’ve always wanted to be on Maine Street and last summer gave up our spot, we jumped at the chance to be back there among the darling little shops and the hustle and bustle and who are we kidding – a front-row seat to the annual tree lighting, Fallon’s best night of the whole year.

It’s worth the price of admission, or rent, just to be down there for that event alone, but honestly, having a “front porch” to our media empire (I’m totally joking, we aren’t an empire just yet) is absolutely awesome. We definitely noticed a difference in our local foot traffic as soon as the store opened up.

We call it “Great Basin Trading Co.”, and the idea is to have a local bookstore featuring local authors and artists, along with a newsstand for all our papers, the magazine, and all the merch that comes with *RANGE* magazine. We’re building a website so our customers across the country can shop online, but we hope all our local customers will come downtown to enjoy shopping at 31 S. Maine Street.

In addition to the store, or better yet, for it... We’ve published two books for local authors, my dad, Joe Dahl, and our dear friend, Larry Neel.

We spent the summer learning how to be book publishers, and our imprint is officially Oasis Books.

Dad’s book is called “Horse Stories” and is a collection of short stories about the horses he’s had over the years, from growing up on a ranch in Elko County to learning to jump horses to ending

up at the polo field training polo horses. It’s a fun collection of stories that makes you wish you were sitting around a campfire, with weeks to listen to a natural storyteller.

Larry’s book is a coffee-table collection of his beautiful photographs of creatures from the Great Basin, titled “Shadows in the Sagebrush.” Each accompanied by his pithy style of writing, what I call “vignettes,” telling the story of how he captured the image and the relationship he formed with each subject while setting up the shot. It’s a treat for your eyes and your love of story.

They’ll both be in the store on Saturday, Dec. 6, to sign books, so come down and get some Christmas shopping out of the way.

We also have originals and prints of the very talented Nettie Rickerson’s art, Larry’s photographs, notecards by Marie Nygren, Dale Erquiaga’s books, Michon Mackedon’s books, books by Molly Dahl, silver by Marissa Julian, all the *RANGE* magazine books that CJ Hadley has published over the years, some rare Lee Pitts books, and Cheryl is doing a lovely corner of high-end consignment.

We’ve got a list of local authors and artists we’re reaching out to and hope to add, but if you are one and haven’t heard from us yet, we would love to have your work in the store. Please stop by and see us.

So while we broaden our horizons and learn some new skills, we’ll still be right here...

...Keeping you Posted.

—*Rach*

# Northern Nevada Faces Shortage of Foster Families

By Jim Fleming

Northern Nevada’s foster care system is currently under significant strain. According to the Nevada Division of Child and Family Services (DCFS), approximately 400 children in rural counties—excluding Clark and Washoe—are in foster care, with new cases entering the system daily. This influx has pushed the demand for foster families to a critical level, creating an urgent need for more homes.

The Brookings Institution defines “out-of-home placement” as the removal of children from their biological families and placement in alternative care settings. These may include foster homes, kinship care, or residential facilities, typically due to circumstances such as abuse or neglect. Ideally, children are placed with foster families who have undergone specialized training and licensing, giving them a supportive environment. Often, one family may serve as a resource for a child through multiple stages—from emergency shelter to foster care and, if reunification with biological parents is not possible, ultimately to adoption.

DCFS statistics reveal that rural Nevada consistently lacks sufficient foster family placements. From 2022 through 2025, there has been a shortfall of at least 10% in available foster home beds compared to the number of children needing placement. This shortage means that the 400 children in rural Nevada foster care face additional hurdles. The shortage of foster families creates challenges in securing out-of-home placements that prioritize family settings.

Geography further complicates placement. In rural areas, moving a child to the “next town over” can mean an hour’s drive from their biological family, increasing emotional and logistical barriers. Such moves can intensify the trauma

children have already experienced while in care.

Given the ongoing shortage, dozens of rural foster children are placed in group homes or institutions, such as rehabilitation facilities, rather than with foster families. This arrangement is less ideal, as it does not provide the familial support and stability that foster homes offer.

To address the gap, DCFS is actively seeking new foster families in rural Northern Nevada. The process of becoming a foster parent is more accessible than many might think. Applicants must be at least 21 years old, complete background checks and health screenings, finish pre-service training, and demonstrate financial stability. These requirements are designed to ensure that children are placed in safe, nurturing environments where their needs are met.

**If you are interested in becoming a foster parent, here are the steps to start:**

- Contact DCFS Foster Care Recruiter for Rural Nevada, Perla Landa-Munoz, at 775-684-1950 or via email at plandamunoz@dcfs.nv.gov.
- Visit dcfs.nv.gov for detailed, step-by-step guidance on the application process.
- Attend regular information sessions hosted by DCFS across Northern Nevada to learn more about requirements, available training, and support for foster families.

Volunteering with Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) is another way to support foster children. CASA chapters exist in most Nevada counties, offering opportunities to become advocates for children in legal matters. Responsibilities include managing court records confidentially, attending court appearances, and supporting children who are disproportionately involved in the justice system due to their experiences in foster care.



FEATURES

# Nevada’s “Silver Belle” Takes Center Stage at U.S. Capitol Christmas Tree Lighting

By Rachel Dahl

For the first time in the 55-year history of the U.S. Capitol Christmas Tree program, a Nevada tree will take the national spotlight, and that moment arrived on Tuesday night, Dec. 2.

“Silver Belle,” a 53-foot red fir harvested in the Carson Ranger District of the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest, will be lit during a ceremony at the U.S. Capitol on Tuesday, December 2, at 5 p.m. ET. The event will feature remarks from Speaker Mike Johnson, the Nevada Congressional Delegation, and Rep. Mark Amodei, who helped bring the project full circle for the Silver State.

It’s a proud moment for the largest national forest in the lower 48, and a milestone for Nevada communities from Fallon to Jarbidge who followed Silver Belle’s 3,700-mile journey with the kind of attention usually reserved for state champions or wandering celebrity burros.

Silver Belle was harvested near Mount Rose and prepared for travel using an old-school trick: toilet bowl wax. The wax sealed the trunk to a water bladder that kept the tree hydrated with as much as 30 gallons a day on the road, a clever solution fit for a forest crew with more miles than sleep.

This year’s theme, “Starry Skies to Neon Lights: Spirit of the Silver State,” captures Nevada’s familiar contrast between quiet desert nights and the bright cities that draw the world’s attention.

Along the tour route, thousands turned out at whistle stops across nine states. Nevada schools, tribes, and organizations contributed a record 22,730 handmade ornaments and 50 tree skirts, with Southwest Airlines donating the flights to carry them east.

The tree also made a memorable stop in Lovelock, where residents turned out to sign banners, take photos, and send Silver Belle off with that trademark Nevada hospitality: a mix of civic pride, small-town warmth, and plenty of hoodies in November wind.

During tonight’s ceremony, Grady Armstrong, a fourth-grade student from Virginia City, will read his award-winning essay about Nevada’s public lands before joining Speaker Johnson to throw the switch. Members of Nevada FFA leadership will also attend, including President



Photo courtesy of the U.S. Forest Service-Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest.

Max Bushey and Vice President Liam Few from Fallon, another nod to the state’s youth who helped shape this year’s celebration.

The tree will remain lit every night at sundown through January 1, offering Capitol visitors a little Nevada glow through the holiday season.

**HOW TO WATCH FROM FALLON**

The ceremony will be livestreamed at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uvkKB0QZfS4> (Tuesday, Dec. 2 — 5:00 p.m. ET / 2:00 p.m. Nevada time).

For families following Silver Belle’s story, the U.S. Forest Service and the Agents of Discovery team have created an interactive mission within the app where kids — or adults, no judgment here — can explore the tree’s journey and learn about Nevada’s public lands from home.

Nevada’s whole congressional delegation will

participate tonight, including Senator Catherine Cortez Masto, Senator Jacky Rosen, Rep. Dina Titus, Rep. Steven Horsford, Rep. Susie Lee, and Rep. Mark Amodei, who will deliver remarks. Mr. Thomas Austin, Architect of the Capitol, and Chief Tom Schultz of the U.S. Forest Service will also take part.

Press setup, for anyone chasing the story from D.C., opened at noon with a 2 p.m. equipment lock-in.

Former Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest Public Affairs Officer Karen Garaventa Baggett said the selection carries deep meaning for those who have worked on and advocated for Nevada’s public lands for decades. “This one feels personal,” she said, a sentiment echoed across communities that saw Silver Belle not just as a tree, but as a symbol of Nevada finally taking its place on a national holiday stage.

## Fallon Volunteers and Food Banks Dig Deep for Thanksgiving

Story and photo by Jim Fleming

*Last week, dozens of volunteers from across Fallon gathered at their preferred pantries and community centers to serve and distribute hundreds of Thanksgiving meals.*

Meeting the ongoing food needs of low-income residents in Churchill County requires charities to prepare and fundraise year-round. However, the most intense period of work typically occurs during the holiday season, with efforts peaking on Monday, November 24th. On that day, a shipment of regional groceries and commodities arrived at New Frontier from the Food Bank of Northern Nevada, setting off a flurry of volunteer activity.

Volunteers spent several hours loading cars with fresh vegetables and canned goods, providing enough food for more than 400 people, according to New Frontier staff. As part of the distribution process, trucks delivered food from New Frontier to two other local pantries—Out of Egypt and the Wolf Center—for their weekly food distributions.

While people lined up for groceries that Monday morning at the Wolf Center’s warehouse, volunteers in the industrial kitchen next door were busy preparing Thanksgiving dinner. Among them were Doug and Britnee Prideaux, who worked together to debone chicken breasts and separate leg joints, enabling them to cook 20 turkeys efficiently on sheet pans. All the while, they played Christmas music recorded before their time, including “Last Christmas” by Wham!, a song older than the couple themselves. The turkeys were generously donated by New Millennium.



Britnee and Doug Prideaux pause during a big week of holiday giving and turkey prep.

Unbeknownst to Doug and Britnee, their efforts contributed to the largest free community dinner in over a decade, according to Co-Director of Fallon Daily Bread and Board Chairman of Churchill Coalitio, Steve Russell. Typically, the Wolf Center serves turkey, mashed potatoes, and green bean casserole to about 200 people on the Monday before Thanksgiving. However, this year, volunteers, including members of Boy Scout Troop 1776, served 235 people, setting a new record.

Doug and Britnee Prideaux’s commitment to helping others extended beyond the community dinner. In addition to Doug’s responsibilities as Outreach Coordinator for the Churchill Coalition, the couple organized a fundraiser, purchased groceries, and assembled Thanksgiving food boxes for 30 families. The boxes, distributed the day before Thanksgiving (November 23) at Wal-Mart, were made possible through a GoFundMe campaign that Britnee launched during the government shutdown—a time when many government workers and SNAP beneficiaries faced financial uncertainty. The couple, parents to a two-year-old, supplemented donations with their own funds, promoted the effort on social media, and responded to private requests from families in need. Each box included basic staples, meal starters, and hot chocolate. “We were in a position to help... donations came in at such a perfect time,” Doug reflected. “Huge thank you to anyone who donated to the GoFundMe!”

On Thanksgiving Day, volunteers continued their efforts by serving more than a hundred hot meals at the Wolf Center, during the regular Fallon Daily Bread Thursday dinner at Fallon’s American Legion Post 16, and by delivering meals to seniors with help from volunteers at the Pennington Life Center.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Churchill County Sheriff’s Office Welcomes K9 Jiggs



K9 Jiggs with her handler Kyndra Leary. Photo courtesy of the Churchill County Sheriff’s Office.

By Sydney Trainor

The Churchill County Sheriff’s Office is welcoming the newest member of its K9 Unit, K9 Jiggs, a 1 1/2-year-old Belgian Malinois/Shepherd mix who was recently brought to the department from the Czech Republic.

The addition of K9 Jiggs was made possible through a generous community donor, who was given the honor of choosing the dog’s name. Because of their personal ties to Jiggs, Nevada, the donor selected the name to reflect that meaningful connection. The Sheriff’s Office expressed deep gratitude not only to the donor but also to the Churchill County community for its ongoing support and contributions to the K9 program.

K9 Jiggs will soon begin training with her handler as the pair prepares to serve and protect residents across the county. The Sheriff’s Office encourages the public to join them in welcoming Jiggs as she embarks on her new role in the community.

“Cataloging the Ethereal” Exhibition Brings Nevada Artists Together at Fallon’s Oats Park Art Center

By Sydney Trainor

The Churchill Arts Council is showcasing the work of Nevada artists Megan Berner and Rossitza Todorova in a new exhibition, “Cataloging the Ethereal”, which is now on display at the E.L. Wiegand Gallery inside the Oats Park Art Center. The exhibition runs from Nov. 22, 2025, through Jan. 5, 2026.

The gallery reception and artist panel are scheduled for Saturday, Dec. 6, from 4:30 to 6 pm, with the panel beginning at 5 pm. Visitors can also take part in a hands-on workshop led by Todorova from 10 am to noon, where she will offer insight into her creative process and artistic techniques.

Organizers say the exhibition pairs two distinct artistic perspectives that explore fleeting moments, shifting light, and the desert landscape’s influence on perception. Rossitza Todorova describes the desert as a place of “both clarity and illusion,” noting that her work strives to reflect its “temporality and mystery.”

Megan Berner, a Reno-based visual artist, draws inspiration from the high desert in work that spans digital and experimental media, including instant film, cyanotypes, video, and sound installations. Todorova, a professor of art at Truckee Meadows Community College, works across painting, drawing, printmaking, video, and installation, exploring themes of time, memory, and transformation.

The Dec. 6 festivities will also include the Holiday Art Bar and A Classic Churchill Christmas concert featuring performances by local vocalists and instrumentalists.

All events will take place at the Oats Park Art Center, 151 East Park Street in Fallon. For more information, visit churchillarts.org or call 775-423-1440.



Megan Berner/Rossitza Todorova, “Parallel Views” (2025), Acrylic paint on linen, digital photographic transfer on cotton muslin, vellum, and cotton thread, 50” x 50”. Photo courtesy of the Churchill County Arts Council.

WNC Fallon Campus Invites Community to Student Art Show on Dec. 11

By Sydney Trainor

Western Nevada College’s Fallon Campus will open its doors to the community on Thursday, Dec. 11, for a Student Art Show highlighting the creative work of its emerging artists. This event will run from 4:30 to 6 pm at 160 Campus Way in Fallon and is free and open to the public. Organizers encourage the community to support local students, celebrate their artistic growth, and engage with the campus community. Attendees will be able to view a variety of student pieces, meet the artists, and help encourage the next generation of creators through their participation.


EST. 2025

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Larry Neel  
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Sunday, Dec. 7 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

At the Fallon Walmart

174,634 pounds of food collected since 2016

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PETS OF THE WEEK

Indica: Loving Dog Available for Adoption

Meet Indica (D-5738), a delightful dog currently available for adoption, who was recently surrendered when her previous owner left for college, is hoping to find a new family to call her own. Indica is approximately 1.5 years old and weighs about 54 lbs. Known for her gentle nature and affectionate personality, she quickly wins over everyone she meets. While she does not get along with cats, Indica is loving and playful with people and thrives on companionship. If you are interested in giving Indica a forever home or would like more information, please contact 775-423-2282.

Charming Cat Theo Seeks Loving Home

Meet Theo — a big, fluffy boy with a beautiful mix of colors and an even more beautiful personality! This one-year-old sweetheart is quickly winning hearts at the local shelter, thanks to his affectionate nature and gentle charm. Shelter staff describe him as a loving companion who adores attention and gives it right back. For those considering adoption, Theo would prefer a home without dogs, where he can truly relax and shine. He is ready for his “furrever” home and available to adopt right now. If you are searching for a devoted feline friend, Theo is your guy!

Questions? Call 775-217-4745

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

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



OBITUARIES

DIANE S. TAVARES  
June 5, 1947 – November 18, 2025

It is with deep sorrow that we announce the peaceful passing of Diane S. Tavares, age 78, of Fallon, Nevada, who passed away on Tuesday, November 18, 2025, at 10:15 p.m. She spent her last days surrounded by her sons, close family, and loved ones.

Diane was born on June 5, 1947, in Cortez, Colorado, to James Lynn Slade and Mary Alice Slade. She was one of three children and valued family above all else. Diane was a devoted daughter, sister, wife, mother, sister-in-law, aunt, grandmother, and great-grandmother. She graduated from BYU Hawaii. Diane taught in Maui before moving to Las Vegas, Nevada, and changing careers to social services for the state of Nevada,



where she dedicated her career to helping others.  
Diane married Gary Tavares in 1973 in Honolulu, Hawaii; together they have three sons, 10 grandkids, one great-grandchild, and another on the way. She will be remembered for her loving nature, her love of antique collectibles, her sense of humor, her travels, and her enjoyment of time with her grandchildren.  
Diane is survived by her three sons and two daughters-in-law, Harrison Tavares, Jared Tavares (Tyler), and Jonathan Tavares (Erin); grandchildren, Taylor Tavares, Alexis Crabb, Hannah Tavares, Donovan Tavares, Shaelyn Tavares, Allison Tavares, Jayden Tavares, Cassandra Tavares, Kennedy Tavares, and Trenton Tavares;

great-grandchild, Damon Crabb. Siblings: Jim Slade (Karen), and Dean Slade (Susan). Diane is preceded in death by her parents and her spouse, Gary Spouse.  
A memorial service will be held Saturday, January 17th, 2026, at 1:00 p.m., at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 750 W Richards Street, Fallon, Nevada. Family and friends are invited to attend and celebrate Diane’s life. A reception will be held immediately after the service in the church's reception hall.  
In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Circle of Life Hospice.  
The family wishes to extend heartfelt thanks to the hospitals and staff, hospice caregivers, and all who supported her on this journey.  
Diane will be dearly missed and forever remembered.

CECELIA “SALLIE” (GREEN) CUMBOW  
July 25, 1936 – November 26, 2025

On November 26, 2025, Cecelia “Sallie” (Green) Cumbow, 89, passed away peacefully in Fallon, Nevada, with her devoted husband of 63 years, John M. Cumbow, by her side.

Sallie was born on July 25, 1936, in San Pedro, California, to Keith Alton and Cecelia Francis (Carlson) Green.

Sallie’s father, Keith, was a career Navy man, so the family moved and lived in many places across the United States following his assignments. At a young age, she married Frank and started her family with two sons, Doug and Bob. Later, she married John, who was also a career Navy man, and their place of residence continued to change, and their family grew with the addition of two more sons and a daughter, Mike, Steven, and Cece. About 57 years ago, the family settled in Fallon, Nevada, her husband’s last assigned duty station. They chose to stay in Fallon, though her children moved away, and have lived there ever since.



Sallie loved to go fishing and rock hounding. Camping became a regular family activity, and she took great pleasure in these outdoor activities. Despite the loss of her right arm in a car accident at age 22, she became an excellent knitter and cook. Sallie loved to bowl and taught Fallon youth, as well as her own children, for many years as a Young American Bowling Association instructor and coach.  
Sallie is survived by her husband, John M. Cumbow; son, Douglas “Doug” Carl Potter; son, Michael John Cumbow; daughter, Cecelia “Cece” (Cumbow) Ashliman; four grandchildren; numerous great and great-great-grandchildren; Merit (Doug) Potter; and Corey (Cece) Ashliman. She is preceded in death by her parents, former husband Frank Potter, sons Robert (Bob) Keith Potter and Steven James Cumbow, and Rhonda (Bob) Miller.

A graveside service will be held at the Fernley Veterans Cemetery on December 10, 2025, at 11:00 AM.



# In Remembrance

For obituaries please call 775-426-4545  
or email: [admin@thefallonpost.org](mailto:admin@thefallonpost.org)

## MEETINGS

### Dec. 12 – 18, 2025

**Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife**  
155 N Taylor Street  
Next Meeting: Jan. 21 at 7 p.m.

**Central NV Health District**  
155 N Taylor Street  
Next meeting: Dec. 11 at 1:30 p.m.


**Board of County Commissioners**  
155 N. Taylor St  
Next Meeting: Dec. 17 at 1:15 p.m.

**Library Board of Trustees**  
Meets the third Thursday of each month at 3 p.m.  
155 N. Taylor Street  
Next Meeting: Dec. 18 at 3 p.m.

**CC Communications**  
Meets the first Thursday of each month at 11 a.m.  
155 N. Taylor Street  
Next Meeting: Jan. 1 at 11 a.m.

**Churchill County School Board**  
690 S. Maine Street  
Next Meeting: Dec. 10 at 5:30 p.m.






## WATER LEVELS

### Measurements Taken Dec. 1, 2025, at 1:15 p.m.

Lahontan Reservoir	67,040 af
Carson River Below Lahontan	2.47 cfs
Truckee Canal at Wadsworth	7.85 cfs
Truckee Canal at Hazen	0.03 cfs
Carson River at Ft. Churchill	193 cfs

Dec. 1, 2024	Dec. 1, 2023	Dec. 1, 2022
117,166 acre feet	205,761 acre feet	21,691 acre feet

Cfs - Cubic Feet per Second | Af - Acre Feet | [TCID.org](https://www.tcid.org) & [Water Data.USGS.gov](https://water.usgs.gov)



## SENIOR CENTER MENU

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

<b>Monday, Dec. 8</b> Chicken Noodle Soup Egg Salad Sandwich Cucumber & Tomato Salad Pears	<b>Tuesday, Dec. 9</b> Chili Cheese Omelet Roasted Potatoes Fresh Fruit Lime Jello	<b>Wednesday, Dec. 10</b> Swiss Steak Mashed Potatoes Green Beans Garbanzo Bean Salad WW Roll Cookie	<b>Thursday, Dec. 11</b> Herbed Pork Roast Tater Tots Mushroom Gravy Buttered Peas Applesauce	<b>Friday, Dec. 12</b> Lemon Baked Fish Brown Rice Buttered Peas Green Salad Seasonal Fruit WW Bread
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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.

<b>Monday, Dec. 8</b> Swiss Steak Vegetables & Bread	<b>Thursday, Dec. 11</b> Spaghetti Salad & Bread	<b>Monday, Dec. 15</b> Chili & Corn Bread Salad & Dessert	<b>Thursday, Dec. 18</b> Hot Dogs Fries & Sweets
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Volunteer groups needed to help serve once per month, 3 p.m. until 6:30 p.m. Call for information.



COMMUNITY

# Fallon’s First Responders Food Drive Returns December 7

## Sixteenth Annual Event Challenges Agencies to Top Last Year’s Record

By Nancy Chapman

Fallon’s First Responders are gearing up for their sixteenth annual food drive, set to take place on Sunday, December 7, 2025, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. right in front of Walmart. Locals are invited to donate any food items of their choice and cheer on their favorite agency in a friendly charity competition. The agency that collects the most food by weight will claim victory, earning both bragging rights and the satisfaction of helping those in need until the following year rolls around.

Last year, the Churchill County Sheriff’s Office took home the coveted bragging rights, hauling in the most donations for 2024, according to Corporal M. Hardin, this year’s event coordinator from the Sheriff’s Office. All participating agencies collected a whopping 176,000 pounds of food in 2024. This year, the goal is even bigger: organizers are aiming to collect 200,000 pounds of non-perishable food to benefit Out of Egypt, just as they did last year.

Corporal Hardin emphasized that while the competition focuses on canned or packaged goods, the agencies will gladly accept frozen turkeys, hams, fresh produce, meat, or baked goods purchased at Walmart. However, these items are less preferred since the agencies aren’t set up to store them; canned and packaged foods are best for donation.

Agencies competing for this year’s title include the Churchill County Sheriff’s Office (defending their win), Fallon Police Department, Fallon Churchill Fire Department, Churchill County Search and Rescue, Banner



CCSO 2024 First Responder Food Drive winners. File Photo.

Hospital, and N.A.S. Fallon Federal Fire Department. Each group is eager to make a difference and rally community support.

This Sunday, as you shop at the Fallon Walmart, consider picking up a few extra items to donate. Please drop them off with your favorite First Responder group and help them help our neighbors in need. Who will take home the bragging rights for 2025? That’s up to you and the generosity of our community.

# Churchill County Library’s December Happenings

## Bring in Your Holiday Season at the Library!

Enjoy some of your holiday time at the Churchill County Library! Swing by and say hello to John Hong, the new li be closed December 24, 25, and January 1 to observe the Christmas and New Year’s holidays.

- Lunchtime Book Club: December 5, 12:15 pm — Discuss “Carnegie’s Maid” by Marie Benedict.
- Holiday STEAM: December 5, 1:30 pm — Build graham cracker houses before the downtown tree lighting.
- Gift Wrapping: December 6, all day — Wrap presents and mingle with neighbors.
- Author Talk: December 9, 6 pm — Local author J.A. Forde shares travel romance stories.
- Ornament Crafting: December 20, 2 pm. Make personalized holiday ornaments.



- Printing and photocopying are available for a small fee.
- Free meeting rooms—reserve at [churchillcountylibrary.org](http://churchillcountylibrary.org).
- Online learning services are accessible via computer, app, or TV.
- All services are available with a free library card (Nevada ID/Fallon address or military ID).
- No overdue fines.

HOURS OF OPERATION

- Open Mon–Fri: 9 am–6 pm; Sat: 9 am–5 pm.
- Closed Sundays & major holidays.
- Call 775-423-7581 for details.
- Location: 553 South Maine St., Fallon.
- Check [www.churchillcountylibrary.org](http://www.churchillcountylibrary.org) for updates

FOR CHILDREN

- “1,000 Books Before Kindergarten”: Earn recognition for every 100 books read; sign up anytime at [bit.ly/CCL1000BBK](http://bit.ly/CCL1000BBK).
- Drone racing: Mondays at 3 pm.
- 3D Printing sessions: Tuesdays at 3 pm.
- Reading with Rover: December 11 at 3:30 pm; practice reading and keep your book. Ages 6-11, all welcome.
- STEAM sessions: Fridays at 1:30 pm; science, technology, engineering, art, and math activities. Ages 6-11, all welcome.
- Children’s story time: Wednesdays at 11 am; Thursdays at 10 am and 11 am. Ages 3-5, all welcome.
- Elementary Book Club: Virtual meeting December 19 at 3 pm for grades 3-5. Reserve at [bit.ly/CCElementaryBookClub](http://bit.ly/CCElementaryBookClub).

FOR ADULTS

- Senator Jacky Rosen’s office hours: Dec. 11, 1 pm. Share your community concerns with her staff.
- Crafting for Grownups: Dec. 11 at 4 pm & Dec. 13 at 2 pm. Make candles this month.
- Spice Club: December’s featured spice is clove.

FOR ALL AGES

- Game night every Wednesday at 4 pm.
- Play library games or bring your own—everyone welcome!

SERVICES AT THE LIBRARY

- Free desktop computers for public use.

OASIS COMMUNITY CHURCH IS HOSTING:

# The Winter Arts & Crafts Fair

DECEMBER 20, 2025  
10AM TO 5PM  
OASIS COMMUNITY CHURCH  
1520 S. MAINE ST. FALLON NV

The following is a list of vendors:

Battle Born Creations  
Cleansing Candle Shop  
Cook Creations  
Gems & Jules  
Granny’s Pak Boutique  
Let Us Charm You  
Life’s Little Treats  
Made to Craft  
Nettles Face and Body Art  
7 Sisters Co.  
Scherrie’s Bowtique  
Taqizas La Gloria  
venus3connection

We will also have:

wreaths  
crystal/bead suncatchers  
paper crafts  
tamales  
face painting  
wood burned products  
handmade ornaments  
wrapped stones  
laser printing  
sublimination cups  
bead pens  
and so much more!

Free Admission for Attendees  
(Donations are appreciated but do not feel obligated)

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food, fun and  
entertainment!

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775-423-2411



BUSINESS



Mustfa, Kyrie, and Jorja Anderson. Photo by Nancy Chapman.

D50 Custom Design’s Christmas Tree Lot Draws Community Crowds

Local Youth Groups Benefit From Festive Event at Louie’s ACE Home Center

By Nancy Chapman

D50 Custom Design’s second annual Christmas Tree Lot, set up by owners Rusty and Dan Diaz at Louie’s ACE Home Center, saw a fantastic turnout during its opening weekend, November 28 through 30, 2025. Families from all around Fallon flocked to pick out their perfect tree, including newcomers Mustfa and Tierra Anderson and their children, who were thrilled to purchase a Douglas Fir.

The event isn’t just about bringing holiday cheer—it also supports local youth organizations. On opening day, members of the Churchill County High School Swim Team helped prepare trees and assist customers with loading. The Oasis Grad Night Committee stepped in over the weekend, and more help is scheduled for the weekends ahead: December 6 and 7 with the CCHS FFA, and December 13 and 14 with Oasis Grad Night. Each group receives a percentage of the proceeds to bolster their programs, making this tree lot a win-win for the community and its youth.

Green Goddess Collective Brings Holiday Cheer to Churchill County With Festive Marketplace

By Jim Fleming

The Green Goddess Collective, a group of artists, farmers, and cottage food producers in Churchill County who join to form a weekly marketplace, has plans for another big year.

This Saturday, December 6th, from noon to 4 pm, the Collective’s members will offer a pre-Christmas edition of the Green Goddess market at 448 S. Maine St. Vendors will sell jams, jellies, bread, pastries, jewelry, and other craft foods, and handmade artwork, conveniently and cozily snuggled inside near a crackling fire. Outside, Otis’s Food Truck will sell burgers, and the Rebel and Roam mobile cocktail truck will provide refreshments.

Karen Nichols has hosted the Green Goddess Collective’s 8 to 10 sellers, most Thursdays, at the home office of Red Carpet Events and Design, which she owns. Green Goddess will resume in April and continue every Thursday from 2 to 6 pm through October in 2026. And, as they did in 2025, they will also take over a couple of



The Green Goddess Collective is open for business 12-4 pm, Saturday, December 6 at 448 S. Maine Street. File Photo.

blocks of South Maine St., near the intersection with Stillwater Ave., a couple of times in the spring and fall.

Nichols says the Collective’s markets have “turned into a really special gathering place for locals” and that the vendors themselves enjoy a sense of community as well. “The people that are members of the Green Goddess have formed really tight bonds, and we miss each other

when we end the market [for the winter] .... we support each other’s businesses and each other.”

- VENDORS FOR SATURDAY:**
- **Arbol de Vida** - Bespoke soaps, lotions, and other body care products
  - **Autumn Lunargy & Co** - Gems and jewelry
  - **Battle Born Bread** - Sourdough breads and muffins
  - **Boho Gypsy’s Treasures** - vintage treasures
  - **Deep Roots Bake Co** - Homemade baked goods and gluten-free treats
  - **Fisk Farm Herbs** - Honey and honey shrubs
  - **Mewaldt Farms** - Freshly made shortbreads and natural soy candles
  - **Nearly Native Plant Nursery** - succulent plants and arrangements
  - **Salisha’s Delicious** - Jams, jellies, gift baskets, relishes, and pickled vegetables
  - **Viking Girl Lavender** - Lavender products
  - **Yellow Petal Flower Farm** - dried wreaths
  - **Revel & Roam Cocktail Co.** - Crafted mocktails and cocktails
  - **Otis’ Food Truck** - delicious, freshly made burgers and fries

Small Business Saturday Event Continues to Grow

[ Shop Small Business continued on page 1 ]



Country Girl Bunkhouse. Owner Aspen Swanger sells turquoise jewelry, leather bags, and crocheted dolls made by her grandmother, Marie Swanger. Photo courtesy of Jim Fleming.



The Dusty Patch. Owners Lacey and Hunter Holcombe make custom sweatshirts, hats, and cups. Photo courtesy of Jim Fleming.



Mane Attraction. Elaine Brannen has owned this Maine St. barber shop (which doubles as a military history museum) since 2018. Photo courtesy of Jim Fleming.



Evan’s Alpacas. Steven Evans owns 30 alpacas here in Churchill County and makes downy-soft, hypoallergenic hats, sweaters, and dolls from yarn spun from their coats. Photo courtesy of Jim Fleming.



Nearly Native Nursery. Marlea Stout sells an impressive variety of native plants and some non-native succulents for you to grow in your own house or garden. Photo courtesy of Jim Fleming.



Our own Shania Brown at the Welcome Center. Photo courtesy of Fallon Chamber of Commerce.





# FALLON ON ICE

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EVENT TODAY. SCAN TO LEARN MORE.





COURT

Tenth Judicial District Court

The Tenth Judicial District Court convened on Nov. 18 with Judge Thomas Stockard presiding. Defendants on the first portion of the docket were reported in the Nov. 28 edition of The Fallon Post.

By Teresa Moon

Heidi Kelley, in custody, pleaded guilty to the Category E Felony of Possession of a Controlled Substance (methamphetamine), a first or second offense punishable by 1–4 years in the Nevada State Prison and a fine of up to \$5,000. Judge Thomas Stockard set sentencing for Jan. 20.

Michelle Yvonne Read, in custody, pleaded guilty to Attempt to Commit Assault with a Deadly Weapon, a Category D Felony punishable by 1–5 years in prison and a fine of up to \$10,000.

Churchill County Public Defender (CCPD) Jacob Sommer asked that Read be released on her own recognizance (OR). Deputy District Attorney Priscilla Baker did not object, noting the release would give Read “an opportunity to show the court that she is supervisable.” The state also requested a no-contact order with the victims.

Judge Stockard granted OR release with Court Services supervision. Conditions include no use of alcohol or controlled substances, daily check-ins, random testing, and a clean test before release. He ordered a Pre-Sentence Investigation (PSI), set sentencing for Jan. 27, and set a condition of no victim contact.

Nike Salas, in custody, appeared for a status hearing. The matter was previously continued after he was unable to attend the Western Nevada Regional Specialty Court program through no fault of his own. CCPD Sommer told the court that Social Services staff developed a treatment plan following an evaluation by Jackie Burger and that his office has worked to ensure Salas can continue in care after release. He said Salas has been in custody for 546 days.

Sommer noted the proposed plan includes counseling, medication management, and ongoing support, but acknowledged housing remains an issue. He said Salas wants to put into practice “the coping skills” he gained during prior treatment.

Senior Deputy District Attorney Lane Mills said the state’s position had not substantially changed since the prior hearing. He asked that several conditions from the evaluation be required if Salas is reinstated on probation, including weekly counseling with weekly reports, full compliance with recommendations, signed HIPAA releases for medical reports, and consistent contact with his care provider. Mills said, “We see this individual as a potential risk,” and argued the conditions were needed to mitigate that risk.

Judge Stockard expressed concern about Salas’s housing situation, noting the need for a stable plan given the current weather. He reinstated Salas on probation with all conditions requested by the state and ordered him to coordinate immediately with Social Services regarding housing and health care. Salas must also report to the Division of Parole and Probation the same day.

Charlette Maria Brooks appeared for sentencing on two Category B Felonies of Battery by a Probationer, Parolee, or a Prisoner, and on a Misdemeanor count of Battery Constituting Domestic Violence. She pleaded guilty to all charges in August.

Senior Deputy District Attorney Chelsea Sanford told Judge Stockard that Brooks has had two additional arrests since this incident—one in Lyon County and one in Churchill County. Sanford described the original case as “unfortunate” for both the officers and Brooks’s mother, noting that the defendant assaulted her mother, continued the violence when law enforcement arrived, and spat on two officers. She told the court, “Not all batteries result in bruises or open wounds. Some batteries, such as this one, are much more insidious.” Sanford said the new arrests showed similar behavior and asked that any probation include at least 45 days in custody “so she can think about her actions.”

Alternate Public Defender Wright Noel acknowledged the additional arrest in Churchill County but said the circumstances differed from the instant case. He said Brooks had gone to the hospital and was placed on a legal hold without realizing it. The battery occurred when she attempted to leave and was physically restrained by staff. Noel said she has obvious issues worsened by substance use, but has been working toward stability. He asked for probation, stating that Brooks completed inpatient treatment at New Frontier, has been seeking employment, attending AA for the past year, and is “very regretful about what happened that day.” The defense asked for probation.

Brooks told the court, “I’ve come a long way, I have,” adding she has “no desire to drink, or honestly do anything,” and wants to work, continue AA, attend church, and address her mental health. She said, “This is not where I want to be ... I feel terrible about what I have done.”

Brooks’s mother gave a victim impact statement, saying the incident caused significant stress for the family but adding her daughter “has really, really been trying” and that she has seen “a really big difference” since Brooks completed treatment. She told the court she did not want her daughter to go to prison.

Judge Stockard granted probation on two consecutive suspended 24–60-month sentences on the felony charges. Brooks must complete substance abuse assessments and follow all recommendations. Stockard ordered her to serve 45 days in the Churchill County Jail beginning immediately.

On the misdemeanor domestic violence charge, Brooks received five days in jail, 48 hours of community service, weekly domestic-violence counseling for at least six months at her own expense, and a \$200 fine. She received credit for five days of time served.

CNHD Operations Update as Search for Physician Administrator Advances

By Leanna Lehman

The Central Nevada Health District Board approved a series of grants, contracts, and staffing actions at its Nov. 13 meeting, while also reviewing Burning Man public health operations and outlining next steps to recruit a new administrator/physician health officer to oversee expanding jail medical services.

The meeting opened with the appointment of Dr. James Zubernis as the district’s physician representative. Interim Administrator Shannon Ernst said outgoing representative Dr. Heath chose not to renew. Clerk Treasurer Pam Moore administered the oath.

BURNING MAN REVIEW

Ernst presented a report prepared by member Maria Menjavar on this year’s Burning Man operations. Of 457 issued permits, 416 inspections were completed. Ernst said the district met its goal of daily coordination meetings with event staff and relied on contracted inspectors so local inspectors could remain available to their communities.

Communications proved challenging once attendance exceeded 60,000. “We lost communications across the playa and to home,” Ernst said, adding that CNHD is evaluating alternatives for next year.

She said new or first-time permit holders often present a higher risk, particularly with pumper truck compliance. CNHD plans to expand pre-event education, require more permit information in advance, and develop a Burning Man-specific “What You Need to Know” link.

Board members asked about the fiscal impact. Ernst said direct costs totaled \$67,125, with another \$15,840 in in-kind support. Revenues reached \$61,253, with four unpaid permits and one unpaid pumper service accounting for about \$3,000. If all had paid, the event would have ended with a \$2,847 deficit. “The goal is not to make money,” Ernst said, “but to cover our costs.”

GRANTS AND AGREEMENTS

The board unanimously ratified several subawards, including a \$160,107 preparedness grant and a two-year Fund for a Healthy Nevada award meant to cover service gaps that fees cannot fund. Members also approved a \$3,360 Verizon contract to unify phone service across four counties after discovering calls were not reaching all offices. Ernst credited Grants and Accounting Specialist Shasta Garrison for resolving the previous provider issue and said Verizon supplied equipment at no cost.

Additional approvals included a \$94,008 agreement for foodborne illness testing and a \$89,997 award supporting Nevada’s Influenza A/H5N1 response. Ernst said the H5N1 grant expires in December, but CNHD requested an extension because “that particular flu generally happens in the spring.”

The board also approved soliciting proposals for a \$95,000 Community Health Needs Assessment required for accreditation, a \$7,000 annual contract with Unite Us for electronic referral and case.



Burning Man Agency Relations Manager Katie Hoffman and Associate Director of Government Affairs Marnee Benson during public comment at the Nov. 13 meeting.

ADMINISTRATOR/PHYSICIAN HEALTH OFFICER

The board moved forward on increasing the salary range for the vacant administrator/health officer position, setting a cap not to exceed \$380,000. Ernst said CNHD began recruiting in August, posting the job nationally, but has not found a qualified candidate. The district wants a physician who can oversee public health programs and expand jail medical services.

Because the position is ultimately a Churchill County post, Ernst said the salary must align with county pay scales and be approved by the Churchill County Board of County Commissioners.

Cost-sharing among counties would be based on jail operations. “We don’t want the impact for CNHD to be extreme,” she said, “but we need to meet the needs of the communities.”

INMATE MEDICAL PROTOCOLS

The board approved extending Dr. Ted McDonald’s contract through Jan. 31, not to exceed \$15,000, to develop correctional facility medical protocols. Ernst said the work was initially planned for January but stalled because CNHD has no permanent administrator or health officer. Completing the protocols now ensures they are ready when that person is hired.

She said McDonald agreed to \$100 per hour and expects the work to stay within 150 hours. If not, CNHD will return in mid-January. Ernst noted the district is pursuing opioid settlement dollars as a funding source but would use the general fund until then.

STAFF REPORTS

Clinical Services Manager Kathleen Patterson reported contraception services, STI testing and treatment, cancer screenings, TB monitoring, and seven flu pods conducted in October. CNHD is adding a rapid HIV/syphilis finger-stick test that provides results in about 20 minutes. A brief discussion followed on pneumonia vaccines; Ernst said CNHD does not stock private vaccines due to high costs and waste risks.

Epidemiologist Victoria Sepcic reported low early-season respiratory virus activity, stable STI counts, and no measles or pertussis cases in district counties. She said CNHD is preparing for another H5N1 season and plans to launch chronic disease prevention classes in February. She also noted the Paiute Shoshone Tribe of Fallon has paused collaboration with CNHD, complicating disease reporting.

FINANCE AND PUBLIC COMMENT

Garrison reported FY26 revenue to be just over \$700,000, about 26% of the budget, and expenses of \$428,000, or 17.3%. The board approved the financial report and set its next meeting for Jan. 15.

Burning Man Associate Director of Government Affairs Marnee Benson and Agency Relations Manager Katie Hoffman spoke during public comment, thanking CNHD for its work. Benson added that they look forward to the 2026 planning season. Chairman Ken Tedford said ongoing communication will make each year smoother.



EDUCATION

# Churchill County High School NHS Leads Season of Giving with Community-Wide Impact

## Student-Led Service Projects Rally Generosity and Support Across Fallon

Staff Report

Churchill County High School’s National Honor Society (NHS) is at the heart of a sweeping Season of Giving, launching a series of impactful service projects that underscore the compassion, generosity, and leadership of its student members.

“We have so many wonderful things happening all at once, I wanted to compile the information with pictures to give everyone an idea of the scope of what our students are doing and achieving,” NHS Advisor Monica Fairbanks shared. “It is amazing to see the number of emails and phone calls coming in from community partners and district staff who want to contribute.”

In October, NHS members collected socks, gloves, hats, and other cold-weather essentials for the Socktober event. Every item found its way to the Domestic Violence Intervention office in Fallon, helping residents face the chill with comfort and dignity.

Also in October, NHS students visited local neighborhoods during Halloween to collect canned goods from community members. Their efforts ensured that local families would have access to nourishing meals throughout the holiday season.

November’s Thanksgiving food basket drive filled the shelves of the SIT food bank with an abundance of donations. The generous outpouring from students, families, and community members will help sustain Churchill County households during the winter months.

The NHS’s commitment continues through a leading role in the CCHS Holiday Shop, a community-wide initiative that provides essential items to Students in Transition (SIT) families. This year’s Holiday Shop will offer clothing, toys, toiletries, diapers, household items, Christmas decorations, gift items, and more. “Our priority is to ensure that families in the SIT program have access to the items they need,” Fairbanks emphasized.



Honor Society students organize for Socktober. Photo courtesy of Churchill County High School.

Donations are still being accepted at the CCHS front office, and community members are encouraged to contribute. The initiative is a partnership among CCHS National Honor Society, CCSD Students in Transition, CCHS Churchill Closet, and Churchill County FFA.

**The students’ efforts are matched by robust support from local businesses and civic organizations:**

- Fallon Ford Toyota is donating \$2,500 toward the NHS Hygiene Basket drive to support CCHS students in need, with a potential match up to \$5,000.
- The Beta Sigma Phi Xi Chi chapter contributed \$200 to the Students in Transition Department to assist families through the Holiday Shop.
- The Preceptor Zeta chapter of Beta Sigma Phi is donating goods and considering a cash donation for the SIT program.
- Amentum at NAS Fallon provided 49 new Carhartt-style coats via the NAS Fallon School Liaison for students visiting the Holiday Shop.
- Additional donations from the school community and the public reflect widespread backing for the Holiday Shop and SIT program.

These projects are just a glimpse of the many initiatives NHS members are championing throughout their Season of Giving. Their work stands as a testament to the positive impact students can create in their community.

For more information or to schedule a follow-up interview or news story, please get in touch with Monica Fairbanks at 775-423-2181 ext. 4135 or email [fairbanksm@churchillesd.com](mailto:fairbanksm@churchillesd.com).



Paige Frey and Avery Deaolia practice CPR in class at Churchill County High School. Photo courtesy of Churchill County High School.

# CCHS Students Enroll in CNA Program Through WBL Grant

Churchill County High School students are taking steps to enroll in the Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) program at Western Nevada College, supported by the school’s Work-Based Learning (WBL) grant.

The program provides hands-on training in patient care, safety, and medical communication, preparing students to take the CNA certification exam in Nevada.

This opportunity allows students to gain real healthcare experience, enter the workforce quickly, and build a pathway toward advanced careers such as LPN or RN. The WBL grant covers tuition and required materials, helping students access high-demand career training at no cost.

# CCHS Hosts Successful Career Fair Connecting Students with Future Opportunities

The Work-Based Learning program at Churchill County High School hosted a highly successful Career Fair on Friday, November 7. The event attracted participation from more than 750 students, all eager to explore potential career and educational pathways.

The Career Fair featured an impressive lineup of booths representing a wide range of opportunities — including apprenticeships, colleges, beauty schools, and military and industry recruiters. Among the participating institutions were Truckee Meadows Community College (TMCC), Western Nevada College (WNC), Montana Tech, Western Montana, the University of Nevada, Reno (UNR), Idaho State University, Lewis and Clark College, the Operating Engineers, Nevada Builders, Sierra Nevada Job Corps, UNLV, Great Basin College (GBC), and numerous local and regional employers, including representatives from Nevada’s gold mining industry.

Feedback from vendors was overwhelmingly positive, with many noting that students were engaged, professional, and asked thoughtful, in-depth questions about career paths and training opportunities. Many vendors also pointed out that student interest and preparedness have grown over recent years.

Students, in turn, shared enthusiastic reviews of the event, calling it “the best Career Fair yet,” and appreciating the wide variety of new colleges and industry partners represented this year.

Churchill County High School expressed gratitude to all participants, staff, and students who contributed to the fair’s success, noting that events like this help students make informed choices about their futures and strengthen partnerships between education and industry in Churchill County.



Representatives of Kinross Gold Corporation meet with students at the Career Fair. Photo courtesy of Churchill County High School.

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GRADUATE

>>>

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EDUCATION

CCHS Winter Sports

CCHS BOYS BASKETBALL		
Dec. 6	Moapa Valley @ CCHS	V 12:00 PM
Dec. 10	Incline HS @ CCHS	F 3:00 PM   JV 4:30 PM   V 7:30 PM
Dec. 11	Away @ Wooster HS	V 6:00 P
Dec. 13	Away @ Sparks	F 10:00 AM   JV 11:30 AM   V 1:00 PM
Dec. 18	South Tahoe @ CCHS	F 3:00 PM   JV 4:30 PM   V 7:30 PM
Jan. 6	League Away @ Fernley	F 3:00 PM   JV 4:30 PM   V 7:30 PM
Jan. 7	Away @ Bishop Manogue	V 6:00 PM
Jan. 9	League Lowry @ CCHS	F 3:00 PM   JV 4:30 PM   V 7:30 PM
Jan. 10	Away @ Reno HS	F 10:00 AM   JV 11:30 AM   V 2:30 PM
Jan. 13	League Away @ Dayton	F 3:00 PM   JV 4:30 PM   V 7:30 PM
Jan. 16	League Elko @ CCHS	F 3:00 PM   JV 4:30 PM   V 7:30 PM
Jan. 17	League Spring Creek @ CCHS	F 10:00 AM   JV 11:30 AM   V 2:00 PM
Jan. 20	League Away @ Debbie Smith CTE Academy	F 3:00 PM   JV 4:30 PM   V 7:30 PM
Jan. 21	League Fernley @ CCHS	F 3:00 PM   JV 4:30 PM   V 7:30 PM
Jan. 24	League Dayton @ CCHS	F 10:00 AM   JV 11:30 AM   V 2:30 PM
Jan. 26	League Away @ Wooster	F 3:00 PM   JV 4:30 PM
Jan. 30	League Away @ Lowry	V 7:30 PM
Feb. 6	League Away @ Spring Creek	F 3:00 PM   JV 4:30 PM   V 7:30 PM
Feb. 7	League Away @ Elko	F 10:00 AM   JV 11:30 AM   V 2:30 PM

CCHS GIRLS BASKETBALL		
Dec. 4–6	Tournament Away @ Spanish Springs HS	Times TBD
Dec. 10	Incline HS @ CCHS	F 3:00 PM   JV 4:30 PM   V 6:00 PM
Dec. 11	Away @ Wooster HS	V 5:00 PM
Dec. 13	Sparks @ CCHS	F 10:00 AM   JV 11:30 AM   V 1:00 PM
Dec. 18	South Tahoe @ CCHS	F 4:30 PM   JV 3:00 PM   V 6:00 PM
Jan. 6	League Away @ Fernley	F 3:00 PM   JV 4:30 PM   V 6:00 PM
Jan. 9	League Lowry @ CCHS	F 4:30 PM   JV 3:00 PM   V 6:00 PM
Jan. 10	Away @ Reno HS	F 11:30 AM   JV 10:00 AM   V 1:00 PM
Jan. 13	League Away @ Dayton	F 3:00 PM   JV 4:30 PM   V 6:00 PM
Jan. 16	League Elko @ CCHS	F 4:30 PM   JV 3:00 PM   V 6:00 PM
Jan. 17	League Spring Creek @ CCHS	F 11:30 AM   JV 10:00 AM   V 1:00 PM
Jan. 20	League Away @ Debbie Smith CTE Academy	F 4:30 PM   JV 3:00 PM   V 6:00 PM
Jan. 21	League Fernley @ CCHS	F 4:30 PM   JV 3:00 PM   V 6:00 PM
Jan. 24	League Dayton @ CCHS	F 11:30 AM   JV 10:00 AM   V 2:30 PM
Jan. 26	League Away @ Wooster HS	JV 3:00 PM   V 6:00 PM
Jan. 28	Spanish Springs HS @ CCHS	F 3:00 PM   JV 4:30 PM   V 6:00 PM
Jan. 30	League Away @ Lowry	JV 3:00 PM   V 7:30 PM
Feb. 6	League Away @ Spring Creek	JV 3:00 PM   V 7:30 PM
Feb. 7	League Away @ Elko	F 11:30 AM   JV 10:00 AM   V 1:00 PM

CCHS WRESTLING	
Dec. 5–6	Earl Wilkens Memorial @ Rafter C3 Arena, Fallon
Dec. 12–13	Shadow Ridge HS, Las Vegas
Dec. 19–20	Reno Tournament of Champions @ Reno Events Center
Dec. 29–30	Sierra Nevada Classic @ Reno Events Center
Jan. 2–3	Rollie Lane Invitational @ Ford Idaho Center, Nampa, ID
Jan. 10	Steve Deaton Memorial @ Douglas HS, Minden
Jan. 16–17	Kiwanis Tournament @ Spring Creek HS
Jan. 23–24	Fernley HS, Fernley

Oasis Winter Sports

GIRLS BASKETBALL		
Dec. 5	Tournament Away @ Virginia City	JV 9:45 AM
Dec. 6	Away @ Battle Mountain	JV 8:15 AM
Dec. 16	League Away @ Pershing County	V 6:00 PM
Dec. 19	League Yerington @ Oasis	JV 3:00 PM   V 6:00 PM
Jan. 9	League Battle Mountain @ Oasis	JV 3:00 PM   V 6:00 PM
Jan. 23	League Away @ Battle Mountain	JV 3:00 PM   V 6:00 PM
Jan. 27	League Pershing County @ Oasis	V 6:00 PM
Jan. 30	League Away @ Yerington	JV 3:00 PM   V 6:00 PM

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Veritas Preparatory School  
Classical and Christian

Veritas Welcomes the  
Advent Season with Hope and  
Expectation

By Assistant Headmaster David Ernst, with photos courtesy of Veritas

As December arrives, Veritas Preparatory School begins its annual celebration of Advent, a cherished season of preparation, reflection, and joyful anticipation. Advent is the time of year that invites students and families to pause amid the busyness of the season and turn their hearts toward the coming of Christ.

Throughout the month of December, the school participates in a variety of activities that celebrate the Advent season. On Tuesday, December 9, Veritas will host its annual Advent Night celebration. Each grade level is diligently preparing a presentation for families and fellow students, with each one highlighting a different aspect of the Advent story. On Monday, December 15, students are invited to an Advent breakfast to begin a week of daily chapels that focus on the birth of Christ and the miraculous events at the heart of Advent. The week will conclude with a Christmas carol sing-along for parents and students to enjoy together.

While the Advent season often comes with excitement - Christmas singing, decorations, and special programs - Veritas emphasizes the spiritual heartbeat behind the celebration. Families at Veritas are encouraged to continue Advent traditions at home, using Scripture readings, advent calendars, music, and prayer to draw closer together as they prepare for Christmas.

With hearts turned toward the manger and eyes lifted toward the promise of Christ’s return, the Veritas community steps into this season with gratitude, peace, and joyful expectation.



Fallon Rotary  
Annual Christmas Drive  
for Local Homebound Senior’s

Puzzles (word search, crossword, etc.), Compression socks (XL, 8-1/2. 14, 12,10), Warm clothes, Bed sheets, Slippers, Doormat, Wash cloth, Sanitation wipes, Hairbrush, Liquid laundry soap, Dish soap, Toilet paper, Paper towel, Tape, Tissues, Cat Litter, Cat and Dog food or treats, Hand towels, Blankets, Shampoo/Conditioner, Lotion/Diabetic lotion, Canned soup, Pancake mix, Stretch pants, Canned food, Body wash, Pillows, Paper plates, Socks, Toothpaste, Toothbrushes, Napkins, Gloves, Jackets, Cookies, Snacks, Garbage bags, Mouth wash, Floss, Hand soap, Warm PJ’s, Winter hat/scarves, Calendar, Note-books and anything else you think they might need. Please look for easy-to-open packaging. Items for both men and women.



Bring item’s for our local homebound senior’s to Kent’s Supply Center, 260 N. Maine St., Fallon. If you have any questions please call 775-423-2126.

Please drop off unwrapped gifts by December 7.



SPORTS

Fallon Rodeo Ranks High in Fall Standings

FALLON RODEO TEAM RANKS HIGH IN FALL STANDINGS

Junior High

Ainsley Macpherson - 1st Barrel Racing, 5th Pole Bending, 8th Goat Tying  
Stella Lee - 2nd Breakaway, 2nd Barrel Racing, 2nd Pole Bending, 2nd Ribbon Roping, 2nd Team Roping  
Chloe Kent - 2nd Goat Tying

High School

Clayton Hiibel - 6th Boys Cutting  
Megan Allison - 1st Goat Tying  
Brooke Allison - 2nd Goat Tying  
Stix Lee - 1st Team Roping, 7th Tie Down Roping

Alamo Rodeo

Clayton Hiibel - Boys Cutting 5th  
Megan Allison – High School (HS) Breakaway Roping 7th, HS Goat Tying

7th

Brooke Allison - HS Goat Tying 2nd  
Ainsley Macpherson – Junior High (JH) Barrel Racing 5th, JH Goat Tying

8th

Stella Lee - JH Barrel Racing 3rd, JH Breakaway Roping 3rd, JH Goat Tying 5th, 3rd JH Pole Bending  
Chloe Kent - JH Goat Tying 1st, JH Pole Bending 2nd

Moapa Valley Rodeo

Clayton Hiibel - Boys Cutting 3rd, Team Roping 2nd, Tie Down 9th  
Megan Allison - Goat Tying 1st  
Brooke Allison - Goat Tying 2nd  
Ainsley Macpherson - Barrel Racing 4th, Goat Tying 4thm, Pole Bending

9th

Stella Lee - Breakaway 2nd, Goat Tying 7th  
Chloe Kent - Goat Tying 1st, Pole Bending 1st



Stella Lee on barrels. Photo by Hailey Kennedy Photography.



Clayton Hiibel team roping. Photo by Hailey Kennedy Photography.



Aisley MacPherson goat tying. Photo by Hailey Kennedy Photography.

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SPORTS

Greenwave Mitey Mites Claim Regional Title After Score Mix-Up

By Rachel Dahl

What started as a heartbreak finish for the Fallon Greenwave Mitey Mites cheer squad turned into the comeback story of the season, all while the kids were asleep.

On Sunday, Nov. 23, the squad wrapped up their routine at the Pacific Northwest Regionals, hitting every stunt and formation with the confidence of a team that had gone undefeated all year. But when the awards were announced, Fallon was named third.

According to head coach Tori Edgington Ausano, the squad took the news with the kind of grace adults could learn from. “We all took the loss very well,” she said. “They performed the routine amazingly... we thought maybe we just fell short.”

The team went to bed that night as third-place finishers.

The next morning, everything changed.

When the league released the official digital scorecards on Nov. 24, Fallon had actually won the entire competition. A mistake in the awards-presentation order meant the Mitey Mites never heard their name called for the top spot — but on paper and in performance, they are the 2025 Pacific Northwest Regionals Champions.

“We’ll never get our moment back as being announced first place at Regionals,” Ausano said. “But I told my team we can celebrate the win louder than the loss at this point.”

And they have plenty to celebrate. The Mitey Mites completed a clean sweep this season — first place at every competition — an almost unheard-of run in youth cheer.



Greenwave Mighty Mites Cheer Pacific Northwest Regional Champions. Photo courtesy of Tori Edgington Ausano

“Cheer is a tough sport,” Ausano reminded. “They throw kids their size in the air, and all of their hard work in a season comes down to two minutes and 30 seconds on the mat.”

The regional directors are now sending Fallon their rightful first-place trophy.

The squad won’t be celebrating alone. The Greenwave Peewee team, the age group above Mitey Mites, also captured first place at Regionals, giving Fallon a double-header of championship titles.

Both Pop Warner cheer teams will take part in one of Fallon’s favorite traditions — dyeing the city fountain green in honor of their regional victories.

A loud, well-earned finish for two teams that never stopped climbing.

Students Earn Statewide Awards for Academic Excellence

By Sydney Trainor

Student athletes from Oasis Academy and the Churchill County School District have recently earned one of Nevada’s most prestigious honors: placement on the NIAA All-State Academic Team for the Fall 2025 season. This recognition highlights their unwavering commitment to excellence both in the classroom and on the field or court.

The NIAA All-State Academic Team award is granted to varsity athletes who have achieved a 4.0 unweighted GPA during the semester while actively participating in an NIAA-sanctioned sport. This distinction is a testament to exceptional discipline, effective time management, and steadfast commitment. Schools play a critical role by verifying each student’s academic eligibility and submitting their names for statewide acknowledgment.

This fall, eight students from Oasis Academy were celebrated for their outstanding achievements. The honorees include:

- Cross Country: Leo Arcoraci, Elijah Jones, and Alexis Slupski
- Volleyball: Dahlila Creer, Grace Laca, and Lyannrose Goss
- Girls' Golf: Bailey Beebe and Meirra Cavanaugh

Churchill County High School also produced an impressive list of academic achievers across various sports:

- Football: Matthew Bird, Blake Dinneen, Dion Gocong, Maxton Richardson, Drake Rowlett, and Rio Segura
- Girls' Volleyball: Ava Bunyard, Dylan Ekins-Faught, Layla Wakler, and Kadence Wiessmer
- Girls' Soccer: Elizabeth Bergman, Kaylee Craig, Haley Flick, Emma Lewis, Isabel Linares, Alexandra Perez Garcia, Karlie Simper, Kortnie Simper, and Kylee Simper
- Boys' Soccer: Asher Irving, Keaton Jaques, and Jackson Storm
- Girls' Tennis: Evangalene Grondin and Jeana Lee
- Girls' Golf: Samantha Maffi
- Cross Country: Rebekah Knight, Abigail Lacow, and Zoe Rasmussen

Balancing rigorous practices, late games, and a demanding academic schedule is not easy. The All-State Academic distinction serves as a powerful reminder of the dedication these student athletes demonstrate daily. Their achievements prove that it is possible to succeed at the highest levels both academically and athletically.

Cross Country Runners Earn Spots at State Championships

By Sydney Trainor

*Long-distance runners from Fallon concluded their season with impressive showings at the NIAA State Cross Country Championships. The event took place on November 8 at Rancho San Rafael Park in Reno, where runners enjoyed favorable conditions with temperatures in the mid-60s and mostly sunny skies. Participants from the 2A and 3A divisions faced the challenging state course.*

Churchill County High School celebrated the qualification of three girls and one boy for the Class 3A state meet. Junior Cassandra Hooper led the Greenwave, finishing 24th in the girls’ 5K with a time of 23:44.

Fellow junior Tommie Fitzer secured 30th place, crossing the finish line at 24:21. Freshman Aubrey Strickland, making her debut appearance at the state level, achieved a 41st-place finish with a time of 26:00.

In the boys’ 3A race, Churchill County High School junior Jackson Barbee delivered a strong performance, placing 37th with a notable time of 19:17 in the 5K event.

Junior Leonidas Arcoraci represented Oasis Academy in the Class 2A boys’ state race. Arcoraci completed the course in 23:44, earning 36th place. His participation signaled a significant achievement for the Bighorns’ emerging cross-country program.

With athletes from both Churchill County High School and Oasis Academy competing at the state level, the championships highlighted the ongoing progress in local distance running. As teams look ahead, this meet serves as a benchmark for continued growth and sets the stage for the 2026 season.

COLUMNS

Movies & More

Fallon Theatre Ushers in the Holiday Season with Festive Lineup and Community Events  
Classic Films, Caroling, Variety Shows, and More Await Downtown This December

By Kelli Perez

The holiday spirit is alive and thriving at the historic Fallon Theatre, where a jam-packed calendar of festive events promises to bring cheer to the heart of downtown. As the community gathers for the annual Maine Street Christmas Tree Lighting, the celebration continues indoors at the theater, glowing with warmth, laughter, and the magic of the season.

Immediately following the tree lighting, attendees can head into the Fallon Theatre’s upper auditorium for classic Christmas cartoons from the late 1960s and early 1970s. At the same time, the Lahontan Valley Concert Choir fills the air with carols on stage. The festivities roll into a screening of the family favorite “Jingle All the Way” (1996) at 7 p.m. on both Friday and Saturday, December 5th and 6th. Each night, guests can enter a free raffle for a coveted Turbo Man action figure, sponsored by Premier Pawn; the drawing will be broadcast live on Facebook at around 7:15 p.m. on Friday, December 6th. Raffle tickets can also be redeemed at Andy’s Arcade for \$1 in play as a special thank-you.

The Christmas spirit carries on Sunday, December 7th. At 5 p.m., Victory Church hosts a community evening with carols, free cocoa, and cookies in the lower theater. At 6:00 PM, audiences can choose between two heartfelt films:



December 12 and 13, “Home Alone” (1990) at 6 p.m.

“The Best Christmas Pageant Ever” (2024) and “The King of Kings” (2025), both rated PG. Classic cartoons return Sunday at 6:00 PM for more family fun, with full concessions open for popcorn, candy, and drinks. For more details, visit Victory Church’s website.

The holiday lineup continues Thursday, December 11th, with a Christmas Variety Show from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Admission is just \$5 at the door, including complimentary cocoa and cider, and a showcase of local music, dance, comedy, and more.

Next up, on Friday, December 12th, and Saturday, December 13th, the Churchill

Community Coalition presents free screenings of “Home Alone” (1990) at 6 p.m. and “A Christmas Story” (1983) at 7 p.m. Then, families can enjoy the return of “The Polar Express” with free showings at 6 p.m. and 7 p.m. on Friday, December 19th, and Saturday, December 20th, complete with a complimentary hot cocoa bar for all attendees.

Please note that the theater will be closed on Friday, December 26th, to give volunteers a well-deserved break. The year wraps up with two classics: “Follow That Dream” (1962) at 6 p.m. and “3 Godfathers” (1948) at 7 p.m., offering a nostalgic close to 2025.

Looking ahead, mark your calendar for Saturday, March 7th, 2026, when the Fallon Theatre hosts “Heritage of the West,” a free celebration of regional music, poetry, and storytelling. Interested participants can contact huck\_salt@yahoo.com or call 775-423-2055 or 775-217-4142.

With most regular movie screenings free and the concession stand stocked for every craving, Fallon Theatre remains a vibrant hub for community, tradition, and holiday joy throughout the season and beyond.



COLUMNS

What’s Cooking in Kelli’s Kitchen: Cozy and Rested

By Kelli Kelly

Last week, while scrolling Facebook with one hand and holding a warm mug of coffee in the other, a post caught me in that rare quiet moment between obligations. The message was simple, almost whispered through the noise of holiday productivity culture: “Instead of finishing the year strong, finish the year rested.” I wish I could credit the author directly, but social media wisdom often comes to us like snowflakes (beautiful, singular, fleeting, and impossible to catch twice). What matters isn’t who wrote it, but how it landed. For me, it landed like a weighted blanket I didn’t know I was missing.

After a year defined by building, pushing, proving, advocating, creating, leading, advising—after showing up to every meeting, sprint, stakeholder interview, policy review, draft, red line, late-night brainstorm, and early morning to-do list—rest felt not like surrender, but arrival. December doesn’t need my strength. November already held that. December needs my calm.

That moment of digital permission led me to a winter philosophy that has nothing to do with analytics dashboards, legislative calendars, or prototype pressure-testing sessions. Hygge first entered mainstream American vocabulary through curated candle aesthetics and Scandinavian lifestyle Pinterest boards, but the concept itself is older than the trend and deeper than décor. Hygge is warmth felt inward, simplicity lived outward, comfort crafted with intention, and atmosphere treated as nourishment. For me, Hygge has always lived more in doing than in de-



sign. And where better to do cozy than the kitchen, the warmest room in the house, especially in winter, especially when there’s a pot humming on the stove and citrus and spice floating on the air. December, in its truest Hygge form, asks us to soften lighting, slow our pace, deepen connection, and cook without complication. Cozy isn’t a mood. It’s a method.

There’s storytelling alchemy in winter kitchen rituals. You don’t need ambitions the size of Olympic medals; you need ingredients the size of your pantry, which is why stove-top simmer pots are one of the most effortless answers to the question, “How do I make my house feel like winter tastes?” A simmer pot is the quiet power move of the season: it creates an undistracting ambiance while invisibly doing meaningful work. It asks almost nothing of you beyond slicing fruit, dropping in spice, and adjusting the flame. The fragrance is instant comfort: citrus oils open-

ing like little sunrise worlds, cinnamon grounding the air, cloves offering spice like punctuation, and apples adding something sweet but steady. This pot perfumes your home for hours, all from the back burner. It’s even better when the pot simmering on the back of the stove yields a delicious, seasonal beverage!

This drink, which lives at the intersection of storytelling, simmering, and sipping, is Wassail. Wassail is more than a beverage; it’s an edible fireside essay, spiced, nostalgic, communal (Hygge in a mug). Start with a quality apple cider, add citrus juice (orange for brightness, pineapple for a subtle tropical note that somehow works if you don’t question it too hard), then sweeten with brown sugar, and season with cinnamon, ginger, allspice, and nutmeg. Let it simmer long enough for the spices to bloom, but not so long that it still tastes like a drink rather than a candle. Top it with a glug of brandy if you like.

Winter cooking doesn’t need complexity to be profound. It needs warmth to be shared, simplicity to be savored, and rituals that remind you to breathe while stirring the pot. The world keeps asking us to “finish strong” (whatever that means), but winter quietly asks us to finish gently, and fed. Strength built the road we traveled this year. Rest lets us actually enjoy the view. So simmer the pot. Light the candle. Drink the thing. Eat the thing. And when the house smells like nostalgia and nourishment, please remember, you were enough all year long. Now you get to be cozy.

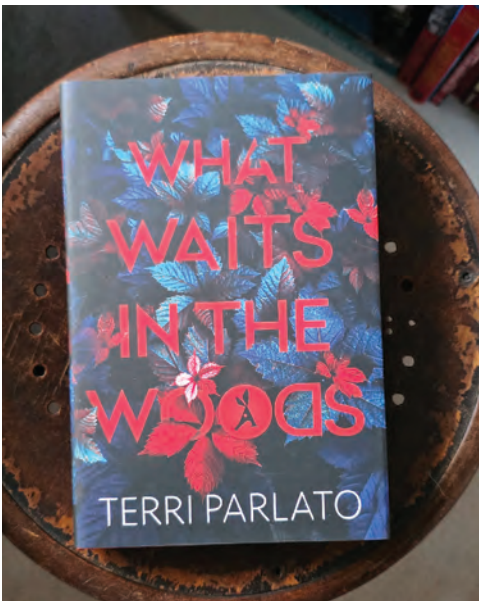
Allison’s Book Report: “What Waits in the Woods” By Terri Parlato

By Allison Diegel

Here we are, up to our knees in holiday cheer. I admit that it has all snuck up on me and I feel like it should still be September. Usually at this time of the year, I am already well into my holiday romance binge, but this year I haven't even started. Maybe next week? We will see. In the meantime, I have a suspenseful and gripping mystery – and while it is decidedly un-Christmassy, I think it can still be enjoyed under a cozy blanket by the light of a Christmas tree.

Terri Parlato’s “What Waits in the Woods” is a twisty, psychological thriller that proves you can never truly leave your past behind. We meet Esmé Foster, a former dancer whose promising career was unfortunately cut short by a brutal injury. After years away, she decides it's time to return to her small, suburban hometown of Graybridge, Massachusetts, to help her brother care for their ailing father. It’s not the homecoming she envisioned - it's much, much worse.

Esmé literally arrives home to a police blockade: the body of her high school friend, Kara Cunningham, has been discovered right there in the woods behind the Foster family house. The murder investigation is handled by Detective Rita Myers, a savvy cop who knows that in close-knit communities like Graybridge, the friendliest facades often hide the darkest secrets. As Detective Myers starts pulling on threads, she quickly discovers the town has a history of tragedy and a circle of friends tangled in mistrust.



For Esmé, the case becomes deeply personal and terrifying. Esmé has always been haunted by a traumatic memory from her mother’s fatal car accident years ago - a man who appeared at the scene and threatened her.

Was that figure real, or just a concussion-fueled hallucination, as her family always insisted? Now, with Kara dead, Esmé can't shake the chilling suspicion that Kara’s murder was a horrible case of mistaken identity, and she was the killer's intended target all along.

The novel bounces between Esmé’s increasingly unsettling journey of rediscovering her hometown’s buried secrets and Detective Myers's frantic search for a motive and a killer. As Esmé reconnects with old friends and family she thought she knew, she realizes that the woods aren't the only thing holding dark truths. To save herself and bring the nightmare to an end, Esmé must face the possibility that everything she believed about her past - and that horrifying night

eleven years ago - might be a lie. I hope you enjoy this week's book – even if it isn't quite in keeping with the season. Don't forget to pop over to my Instagram @allison.the.reader for more recommendations and book talk.

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

Crossword

By Peanut

They Did it in  
DECEMBER

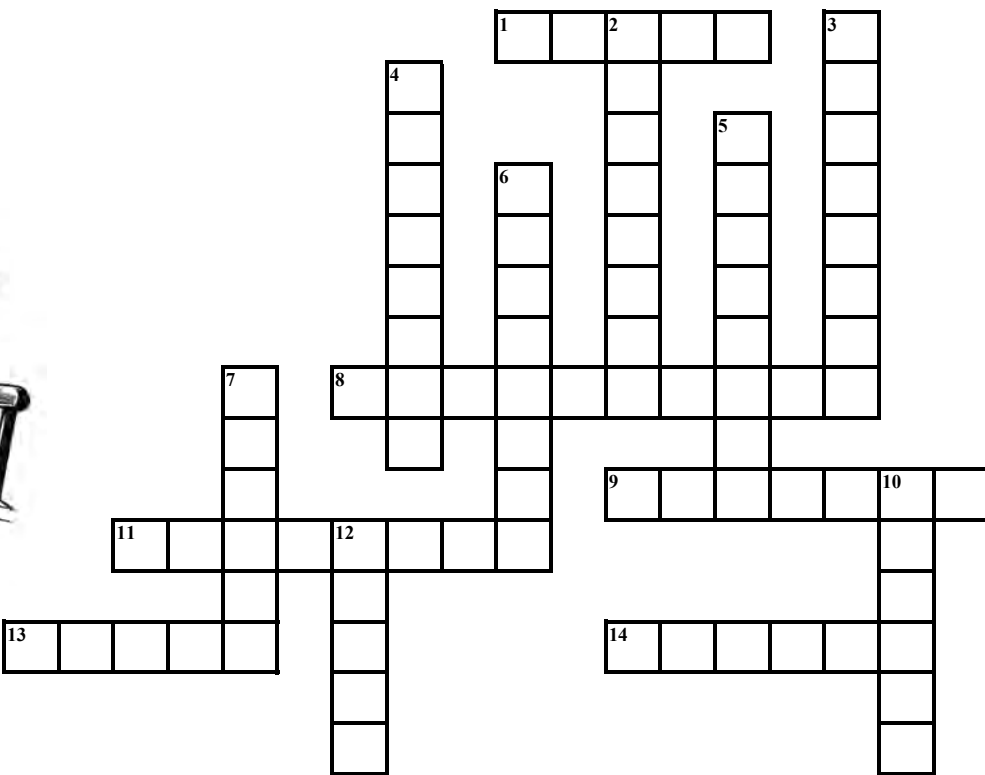
Across

- 1. 1822 - Pianist debuted in Vienna
- 8. 1783 - Resigned army commission
- 9. 1968 - Relaunched singing career
- 11. 1951 - Retired from NY Yankees
- 13. 1869 - Robbed bank for first time
- 14. 1990 - Poland presidential winner

Down

- 2. 1534 - Ottoman occupied Baghdad
- 3. 1911 - Norwegian reached South Pole
- 4. 1917 - Boys Town founder
- 5. 1926 - Detective novelist disappeared
- 6. 1941 - War declaration signer
- 7. 1887 - Doyle's detective debuted
- 10. 1936 - Abdicated throne
- 12. 1912 - Fairy tales published

[ Crossword answers found on page 15 ]



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email: [steve@klmlawfirm.com](mailto:steve@klmlawfirm.com)  
Attorney for Petitioner

IN THE SECOND JUDICIAL  
DISTRICT COURT OF THE STATE  
OF NEVADA IN AND FOR THE  
COUNTY OF WASHOE

In the Matter of the Estate of  
CAROL MARIE HALL  
Deceased.

**NOTICE OF HEARING:  
PETITION TO CONFIRM SALE  
OF REAL PROPERTY**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that  
SHIRLEY GILPIN filed a PETITION  
TO CONFIRM SALE OF REAL PROP-  
ERTY at 1480 River View Drive, Fallon,  
Nevada 89406, for \$365,000.00 and has  
set the matter for hearing on the requests  
in the Petition for Wednesday, the 17th  
day of December, 2025, at 1 p.m. in the  
Probate Court of the Second Judicial  
District Court, 75 Court Street, Reno,  
NV 89501. The matter will be approved  
subject to possible overbids without  
further hearing unless an objection is  
filed. You do not need to appear unless  
you wish to object.

This hearing will be conducted by  
conference call only. Any person who  
wishes to be heard on this matter  
shall obtain the public dial-in  
number and Meeting ID by visiting  
<https://www.washoecourts.com/>  
Probate, or by calling 775-328-3100  
at least two (2) days in advance of the  
hearing.

AFFIRMATION PURSUANT TO  
NRS 239B.030  
The undersigned affirms that the  
preceding document does not contain  
the social security number of any person.  
DATED this 13th day of November,  
2025.

KREITLEIN MOSS, LTD.  
By: /s/ Stephen C. Moss  
STEPHEN C. MOSS, ESQ.  
Nevada State Bar No. 0631  
1575 Delucchi Lane, Suite 105  
Reno, NV 89502  
775-786-2222  
email: [steve@klmlawfirm.com](mailto:steve@klmlawfirm.com)  
Attorney for Petitioner

Published in  
*The Fallon Post*  
Nov. 21, 28 and Dec. 5, 2025  
Ad #6390

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

Pursuant to NRS 164.025, notice is  
hereby given that B.F. (RICK)  
MCCOY and JULIE R. SMITH are  
duly appointed and qualified co-Trustees  
of the B & A MCCOY FAMILY  
TRUST. The B & A MCCOY FAMILY  
TRUST was created on June 2, 1994,  
by Bert F. McCoy and Arlie D. McCoy  
as Trustors and Grantors. Grantor,  
Bert F. McCoy, died on January 5,  
2014, and Grantor, Arlie D. McCoy,  
died on June 21, 2024. A creditor  
having a claim against the Grantors  
and/or against the trust estate must  
file a claim with the undersigned at  
the address given below within  
90 days after the first publication of  
this notice.

Dated this 20th day  
of November, 2025

FUNK FIRM, PLLC  
By: Stephanie K. Funk, Esq.  
Attorney for the co-Trustees  
Nevada Bar No. 12898  
3895 Warren Way, Reno, NV 89509  
775-260-9268  
[stephanie@funkfirm.com](mailto:stephanie@funkfirm.com)

Published in  
*The Fallon Post*  
Dec. 5, 12 and 19, 2025  
Ad #6395

**WOODY’S AUTOMOTIVE  
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2004 LINCOLN NAVIGATOR (CA)  
KLY339 VIN# 5LMFU28595LJ05502  
REG OWNER: JAVIER RAMIREZ  
LEGAL OWNER: BRUCE LEE  
MALONSON

2004 DODGE RAM (AZ)ARA6XB  
VIN# ID7HA18D34S660658  
LEGAL OWNER: DANA M MITCHELL

1998 TOYOTA CAMRY (OR)  
YKC718 VIN# JT2BG22K6W0197630  
REG OWNER: JENNIFER NEWKIRK  
LEAGAL OWNER: JEFFERY  
WILLIAMS

2008 MITSUBISHI GALANT (NV)  
899S97 VIN# 4A3AB36F48E012031  
REG/LEGAL OWNER: BRIAN  
KIETY, PISTLE HARRIS

1996 SATURN SL2 VIN#  
1G8ZK5270TZ387877  
LEG/ REG OWNER: SCOTT  
THOMAS SHEA

1994 CHEVY C3500 VIN#  
1GCHC33K1RJ327653  
REG OWNER: ROBERT WILSON  
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LOANS 554

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*The Fallon Post*  
Nov. 28, Dec. 5 and 12, 2025  
Ad #6391

**PROPOSALS REQUESTED BY CITY OF FALLON  
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT US-50/SHERMAN AVENUE  
INTERSECTION PROJECT CONTRACT NUMBER CH-2025-486  
PWP CH-2025-486 THIS IS A FEDERALLY FUNDED PROJECT**

Proposals via in person will be received by the City of Fallon Administrative  
Office, City Hall, 55 West Williams Avenue, Fallon, NV until 2:00 P.M. Local Time  
on Tuesday, January 6, 2026, for Contract Number CH-2025-486.

Said Proposal shall include all labor, tools, implements, machinery, materials,  
and any incidentals necessary to complete the work in the manner and time  
prescribed, and in strict conformity with the Contract Documents to the satisfac-  
tion of the City Engineer. In general, the major work items include:

Removal of existing power poles, installation of a complete signalized intersec-  
tion system, pavement markings and other miscellaneous work as outlined in the  
plans and specifications.

Minority and Women Business Enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to  
submit bids in response to this notice, and will not be discriminated against on  
the grounds of race, color, or national origin in consideration for and award of  
any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement. The City of Fallon  
affirms its interest in and encourages the different contracting communities to  
actively pursue participation and utilization of Minority and Women Business  
Enterprises on City projects.

The proposed contract is under and subject to Executive Order 11246 of  
September 24, 1965, and to the Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) and Labor  
Standard Provisions. Minimum Wage rates have been determined by the Labor  
Commissioner of the State of Nevada and are set forth in the contract documents.  
In no case shall the wage rates be less than prescribed therein. In the event there is  
a difference between the minimum wage rates as predetermined by the Secretary  
of Labor and the prevailing wages rates as determined by the State Labor Com-  
missioner for similar classifications of labor, the contractor or and his subcontract-  
or shall not pay less than the wage rate which is the higher of the two.  
Additionally, if a classification that is being used does not appear in the Davis  
Bacon Wage decision, a Request for Classification will be required and will be for-  
warded to the U.S. Department of Labor for approval.

1. This is a Federal-aid contract and the requirements for such shall apply. On a  
Federal- aid contract, any Contractor otherwise qualified by the State of Nevada  
to perform such work is not required to be licensed nor to submit application for  
license in advance of submitting a bid or having such bid considered, provided,  
however, that such exception does not constitute a waiver of the State’s right under  
its license laws to require a Contractor, determined to be a successful bidder, to be  
licensed to do business in the State of Nevada in connection with the award of the  
contract to him.

2. Contractors and subcontractors are required to hold a valid Contractor’s  
license of a class corresponding to the work to be done, in accordance with the  
provisions of NRS 624, prior to being awarded a contract. NOTICE TO  
CONTRACTORS NTC-2 Federal # SPF-050-2-(346)

3. Bidders are responsible to comply with all Federal, State, County and Local  
laws, statutes, policies and procedures required to perform the scope of work.  
All bidders must comply with the requirements of doing business in Nevada, as  
directed by the Office of the Secretary of State (including a State Business  
License), and any other County or Local agencies as may be applicable.

4. All Contractors doing business in Nevada must have a Federal Tax  
Identification Number.

5. The following signed certification is required of the person, firm, association or  
corporation in order for the bid to be considered responsive: • Anti-Collusion Affi-  
davit (form included below) • Restrictions on Lobbying Using Appropriated Federal  
Funds (form included below) • Bidder Subcontractor Information (5%) • Bidder  
Subcontractor Information (1%) • List of Subcontractors and Suppliers Bidding

6. All proposals must be accompanied by a proposal guaranty (bid bond or  
other guaranty) made unconditionally payable to the City of Fallon in the amount  
equal to 5% of total bid amount. The guaranty may be cash, cashier’s check,  
certified check, money order, bank draft, an undertaking executed by a corporate  
surety company authorized to do business in the State of Nevada, an electronic  
bid bond validated with Surety 2000 or SurePath, or any other guaranty that may  
be especially approved by the City of Fallon. Such proposal guaranty is to be  
forfeited to the City of Fallon should the bidder to whom the contract is awarded  
fail to enter into the contract within 20 days of the award of the contract.

The bidder must supply all the information required by the bid documents and  
specifications and complete all forms in the Proposal, including, but not limited to  
the Section 3 Clause, Suspension and Debarment Certificate, Prime Contractors  
Agreement of Compliance, and Bidders Statement on Previous Contracts Subject  
to EEO Clause. The EEO requirements, labor provisions, and wage rates are in-  
cluded in the specifications and bid documents.

The Bidders attention is directed to Nevada Revised Statutes 338.01165 setting  
forth the requirements for the use of apprentices on public works which requires a  
contractor or subcontractor to comply with certain requirements relating to the  
use of apprentices on public works.

Complete digital project bidding documents are available at  
[www.questcdn.com](http://www.questcdn.com) - Project Name: US50 and Sherman Avenue Signalized Inter-  
section Project, #CH-2025-486 and may be downloaded for a non-refundable fee.  
Prospective bidders shall purchase digital documents from Quest CDN to receive  
addenda postings. Please contact Quest CDN at 952-233-1632 or  
[info@questcdn.com](mailto:info@questcdn.com) for assistance with digital project information. Bids will only  
be accepted from bidders on the Quest CDN plan holders list. Documents may  
also be examined for free at J-U-B ENGINEERS, Inc., 5109 Neil Road, Suite 500,  
Reno, NV, 89502, (775)–852–1440 or on Quest CDN.


The contact person for this project is Derek Zimney, City Engineer, with the  
City of Fallon, and may be reached at (775) 423-5107, [dzimeny@fallonnevada.gov](mailto:dzimeny@fallonnevada.gov).

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December 5, and 12, 2025  
Ad #6394



Send us your sports  
stories and photos.

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**CROSSWORD ANSWERS**  
*Crossword found on page 14*

AMUNDSEN	GRIMM	PRESLEY
CHRISTIE	HIROHITO	SULEIMAN
DIMAGGIO	HOLMES	WALESA
EDWARD	JAMES	WASHINGTON
FLANAGAN	LISZT	



COLUMNS

PostCards: A Woman’s View, Part 4

By Michon Mackedon

If you’ll bear with me, I have a few concluding remarks about the diary of Delia Brown, especially in terms of what we learn about the growing and changing Lahontan Valley. The diary fragments cover the years between 1868 and 1897, with the bulk of the preserved writing falling between 1882 and 1887.

In the 1868 fragments, we hear Delia complain, almost daily, of John’s absence and her abiding loneliness. By the early 1880s, neighbors call on her... almost daily; ranch hands bunk in her home; Stella’s friends frequently stay over; John’s business associates come and go; tinkers named Levi and Jasper peddle household items; Delia hires Native American women to help with the washing and ironing. Indeed, the evidence of a busy, thriving environment is everywhere. The children ride their horses weekly to Temperance meetings in Stillwater; Stella attends school at “Old Adobe” in the St. Clair District.

Oct. 19, 1881. John gone with hay. Jasper here peddling tinware. Stella gone to Auntie’s [John’s brother Lyman’s wife, who lived nearby].

Oct. Jan. 5, 1882. John took the girls [Stella and her friend, Lizzie] to Stillwater to the dance.

Feb. 4, 1882. Horse race at Stillwater today.

John & the boys getting wood. Ben Cope here to dinner tonight.

Feb. 23, 1882. Stella gone to Auntie’s. Too many men around for me to leave home. Jasper came last night.

The list of visitors to the Brown ranch reads like a who’s who of early Churchill County. The Thompson and West’s 1881 “History of Nevada” lists 13 “Patrons” [I assume they are referring to landowners] as constituting the residents of the county, including J.W. Allen, Lem Allen, Ephraim Clark, J.J. Cushman, D.L. Dillard, A.W. Doolittle, Asa Kenyon, William McGee, J.W. Richards, Henry Theelan, J. Walker, and D. Wightman. All of them are mentioned at least once in the diary as having visited with the Browns during the 1880s.

Travelling outside the immediate area also becomes easier. The Browns travel to Reno, Virginia City, Wadsworth, Ragtown, and Lovelock. John Brown makes trips to Carson City and places in California to buy and sell stock, and Willie and Stella both spend some time attending California boarding schools.

The 1880s saw not only improved roads and schools but also advancements in the technology of everyday living. In 1887, Delia received, as a gift from John Brown, a sewing machine: “John came last night & brought me a sewing machine—the first I ever had.” In July 1887, she received a type of washer/wringer device.

She writes, “Stella thought we could do the washing ourselves as we have a new ringer.” Later, she writes of lending her “tub and wringer” to a neighbor for the day.

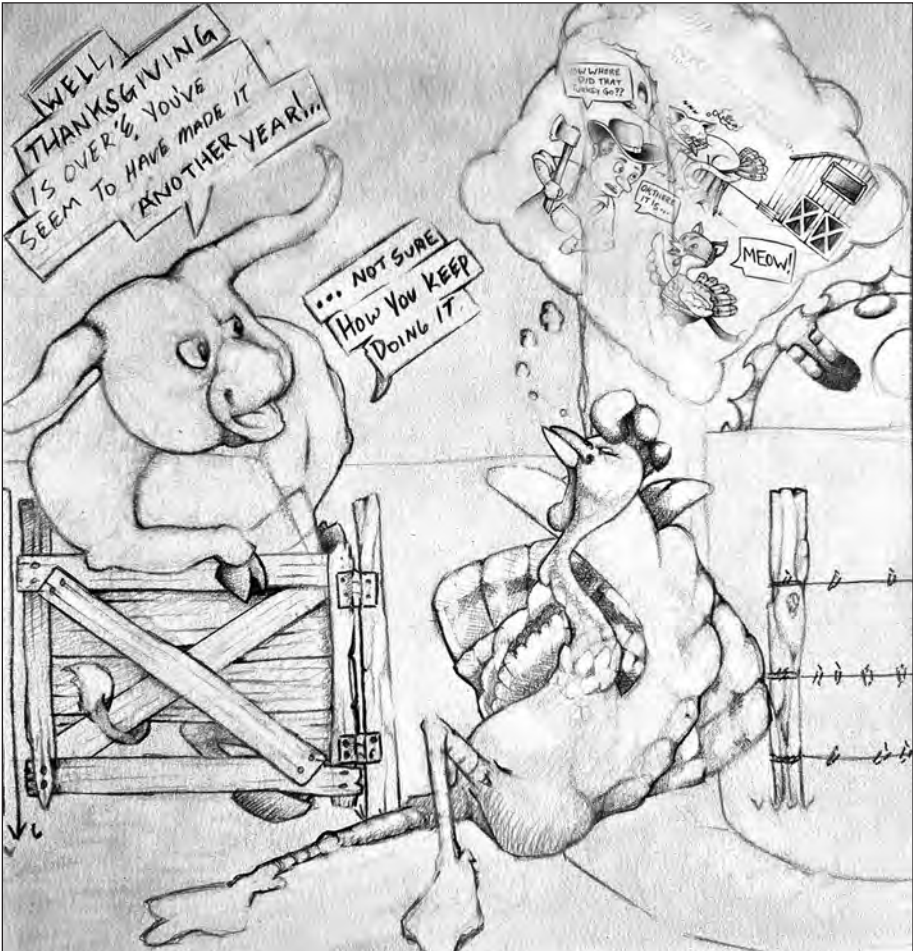
By 1897, the changes are even more dramatic. John often goes “to town” to visit a doctor, and Delia is privy to the national news. She writes on February 4, 1897, “Inauguration Day. Hope they have fine weather at Washington, & that business may prosper with the change.”

The population of Churchill County was 196 in 1870. By 1900, it had grown to 830. The real surge began a few years later with the aid of the Newlands Project, so that by the 1910 census, figures show the County population had reached almost 3000.

The roots that were put down by settlers like the Browns ensured that the elements of a sound community were in place. The number of schools grew; land was cultivated; roads were maintained; government was attended to; commerce expanded; and neighbors took care of neighbors.

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

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



Truckee-Carson Irrigation District  
Notice of Claims Approved by Board of Directors  
April, May, and June 2025

Notice is given by the Truckee-Carson Irrigation District (TCID), duly organized and existing pursuant to Chapter 539 of the Nevada Revised Statutes of the following list of claims allowed during the months of April, May, and June 2025; that this list is made based upon NRS 539.485.

Operating Expenses	April	May	June
Operations and Maintenance	493,804	231,057	258,277
Carson Lake Pasture	6,607	4,669	4,837
Administration	184,002	139,817	248,820
Total Expense	684,413	375,543	511,934
Other Expense	65,000	254,691	196,187
Depreciation Expense	53,160	0	0
Total Other Expense	118,160	254,691	196,187
Total Expense and Other Expense	802,573	630,234	708,121

Dated this sixth day of November 2025  
/s/ Benjamin Shawcroft, General Manager

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December 5, 2025  
Ad #6393

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