

KEEPING YOU POSTED ON LOCAL NEWS

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\$2.00 | The Week of June 13, 2025

Fire Rips Through Properties East of Fallon: One Home Lost, Others Damaged



Firefighters work to contain the blaze. Photo by Aubrey Paul.

By Rachel Dahl

A fast-moving fire that erupted late Sunday morning near the Reno Highway and Sheckler Cutoff scorched several properties, destroying one home, damaging others and drawing a massive response from agencies across the region.

According to the Churchill County

Sheriff's Office, the fire was first reported just before 11:20 a.m. June 8. Fallon Churchill Fire Department was first on scene and quickly called for additional help as winds pushed the blaze toward nearby residences.

In the end, at least one home was a total loss. Two other houses were severely damaged, along with multiple trailers, sheds and outbuildings. Emergency personnel from more than a dozen agencies responded, including NAS Fire, Truckee Meadows Fire, North Lyon Fire, Banner Churchill EMS, and the Tahoe Hand Crew, among others. The State Fire Marshal is investigating the cause.

But in the smoke and chaos, neighbors and strangers stepped up.

"Today was not about whose house it was or what started the fire," said Aubrey Paul, whose family home was among those threatened. "It was about family no matter what. About strangers with hearts of gold risking their lives to save animals and your most precious memories of your kids."

Paul's children were raised in the home that narrowly escaped the worst of the flames. She said she watched in awe as firefighters, friends and strangers leapt into action without hesitation. "They still call it home. Thanks to all who dove in to save it."

Just down the road on Hooper Place, Jerry Giovanetti and his family counted themselves among the lucky ones. "Because of all of you, our homes are still standing and our animals are safe," he said in a message of thanks to firefighters and neighbors. "We are truly overwhelmed by your kindness and courage."

[Fire continued on page 2]

Commissioners Select New County Manager

By Christy Lattin

Churchill County commissioners selected Chris Spross as the top candidate for county manager in a





Jennifer Savage, from LinkedIn.





special commissioners meeting held Wednesday. Spross was chosen from a pool of four applicants that included two local residents and two experienced managers.

Spross is the current assistant Churchill County manager and was hired into that newly created posi-

tion in March 2024. Prior to that, he served as director of the county's Public Works and Planning Department for three years.

Following several hours of interviews, commissioners ranked each candidate on a scale of 1 to 4 to indicate their top selection. Chief Civil Deputy District Attorney Joe Sanford compiled the rankings and read the averages for each applicant. Spross emerged as the top candidate, with Jennifer Savage

Chris Spross, from LinkedIn.

close behind as the second choice.

Commissioner Matt Hyde told Savage he appreciated that she did her homework, read the county's Master Plan and referred to it several times during her interview. Hyde said he wished they had two positions to offer, and added that Spross impressed him with his answers regarding leadership. Commissioner Myles Getto said Spross "had the upper hand over Ms. Savage"

Leif Steinbaugh, Fallon Post file photo.

Peter Jankowski, from LinkedIn.

because he's currently employed by the county and knows its issues intimately.

The Human Resources manager and District Attorney's Office will next negotiate an employment contract with Spross. Commissioners will meet in another special meeting June 12 to review the contract and formally offer the position to Spross at the negotiated salary. Sanford said if the

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Volunteers Victoria Crystal

FROM THE PUBLISHER Captain's Log The Evidence File

By Rachel Dahl

When I first started writing a weekly column, back in 2005 for Anne at the Fallon Star Press, people would ask where the ideas came from each week? Didn't I ever run out of things to write?



Ideas would come at the strangest times. And they still do. Driving down the road and you hear a funny phrase and think, "Oh, that's a column." Or something happens, and you can see a lesson wrapped in the way the drama unfolded — that's a column.

I used to keep a manila folder on my desk labeled IDEAS, and in that were scraps of paper, restaurant napkins, Post-its, anything lying around when the idea struck that would hold ink. On Wednesday mornings, when the column was due, I would reach for the folder and rummage through the scraps and lists until I found one that grabbed me and looked like it might have potential.

But now deadlines are Tuesdays, and the IDEAS folder is instead a file on my phone in the Notes app called "writing."

Inside there is the funniest assortment of quips, blurbs, and sometimes just a word, typed out in haste with no telling what I was thinking at the time. And it's not as fun to rifle through as the paper file was. No pieces of evidence to help jar a story loose.

It may have been a better system back in the day. The item on which the note was scrawled would often provide clues to where I had been at the Eureka moment. Who I was with, maybe what the conversation would have been. On my phone, these little, sterile digital tracks are documented, but unless I also wrote where or who or what I was thinking at the time, sometimes there is absolutely no recollection of what I was thinking — or why this word "unencumbered" or "trails" is even in there.

Or better yet — what's this one supposed to mean? "Stuck in the desert of the thoughts in your own mind."

I sort of want to remember what the context is around that one.

So while I scroll through the evidence that ideas come from anywhere, I'll be right here...

... Keeping you Posted.

Dach

[Fire continued from page 1]

One family, the Satathites, wasn't as fortunate. Their home was lost entirely, and they are now working to rebuild from scratch. Community members have rallied around them, organizing donations to help meet their immediate needs. Contributions can be dropped off at Williams Tire Pros, 1800 S. Taylor St. Organizers are requesting clothing and supplies, including children's clothes in sizes 10-12 and shoes in sizes 3 and 4; women's clothes in small and medium, with shoe sizes 7.5 and 8; men's clothes in large, with shoe size 8.5; and clothing for a grandmother in size 2XL, with shoe size 7.5. Additional needs include blankets, pillows, cat and dog food, and litter. Organizers ask that no furniture or large items be donated at this time. No fatalities were reported, but several animals were lost or injured, and the emotional toll has been heavy. In their statement, the Sheriff's Office extended thoughts and prayers to those affected and expressed



Nancy Coon Jim & Tina Dakin Tess Fife Mike & Beth Reese Harry Smith

Mail

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please email: publicnotices@thefallonpost.org.

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Please send via email to: admin@thefallonpost.org You can attach a photo. Obituary text must be sent in Word document format, or in the body of an email, no images or pictures of text, please.

SUBSCRIPTIONS OR ADDRESS CHANGE

Can be placed online, and by mail at 169 E. Center Street, or by phone: 775-423-4545. Single copies may be purchased for \$2 at local merchants listed on page 12.

Neighbors helping neighbors. Photo by Shannon Joslyn.

gratitude to every agency and individual who responded.

As the investigation continues, what's left behind isn't just charred ground — it's a solid reminder that when disaster hits, the Fallon community rises to the occasion.

[Commissioners continued from page 1]

commission doesn't accept the terms, they may decide to make a different offer or extend an offer to Savage.

Applicants included Chris Spross, Jennifer Savage, Leif Steinbaugh and Peter Jankowski.

Spross joined the county in 2020 and helped manage the construction of the Rafter 3C Arena. Prior to that, he spent 30 years in the mining and construction industry, including 12 years at A&K Earth Movers. His résumé shows he climbed the ladder from construction engineering jobs to vice president, division manager and president. He earned a mechanical engineering degree from Saskatchewan Polytechnic, holds several leadership certificates, and has two contractor's licenses.

Savage is originally from Montana and currently works at the Gresham, Oregon, Police Department as administrative director. She has experience in project management, budgeting and finance, and held several management roles at state health services agencies in Montana and North Carolina. She holds a degree in public relations and an MBA focused on project management.

Steinbaugh is a retired Navy captain who resides in Fallon and currently works as a military contractor. A former Naval aviator, he served as the commanding officer of NAS Fallon from 2013 to 2016 and as director of the Naval Aviation Warfighting Development Center (NAWDC) at NAS Fallon from 2016 to 2020. He earned a mechanical engineering degree from the U.S. Naval Academy and an MBA with a focus on finance. He served briefly with the Churchill County Sheriff's Office and is a volunteer firefighter with the Fallon Churchill Fire Department.

Jankowski currently lives in Arizona and has experience as a town administrator in several small communities in Maine, Massachusetts and Arizona. He was hired as the Mesquite city manager in 2002 and was most recently the town manager in Surfside, Florida. He holds a degree in economics and is a licensed attorney.

FEATURES

Fallon Police Captain John Riley Graduates from Prestigious FBI National Academy





Capt. John Riley upon graduating from the FBI National Academy.

Capt. Riley with FBI Director, Kash Patel. Photos courtesy of John Riley.

By Rachel Dahl

Fallon Police Department's Captain John Riley has joined the ranks of an elite group of law enforcement leaders across the globe, graduating June 5 from the FBI National Academy's 294th session in Quantico, Virginia.

Captain Riley, who began his law enforcement career in Fallon in 2003, has steadily risen through the ranks over the past two decades. His resume is a portrait of dedication—he's served as a dispatcher, patrol officer, domestic violence investigator, detective, and patrol sergeant and currently oversees operations as the Support Services Captain. Now, with this milestone under his belt, he adds "FBI National Academy graduate" to that list.

The FBI National Academy is one of the most respected leadership programs in law enforcement worldwide. Entry is by invitation only, reserved for officers who have demonstrated exemplary leadership and commitment to public service. Of the 56,000-plus graduates since the academy's founding in 1935, only a small percentage come from agencies in communities the size of Fallon.

The 10-week academy brought together 199 law enforcement professionals from 48 states, the District of Columbia, 14 countries, six military organizations, and four federal civilian agencies. The program includes advanced coursework in areas such as leadership, communication, behavioral science, and physical fitness. Classes are taught by FBI special agents, professional staff, and faculty members, many of whom hold advanced degrees and are internationally recognized in their fields. The program is conducted in

Ride. Dance. Give.

PRCA Bronc Rider Joins TikTok Dance Challenge at Fallon Benefit Rodeo

Staff Report

Join us for two unforgettable nights of adrenaline, community spirit, and heartfelt support at the Fallon PRCA Rodeo, happening June 17 and 18 at the Churchill County Fairgrounds Outdoor Arena at the Rafter 3C Events Complex.



A wild ride for Mitch Pollock in Arlington, Texas, earlier this spring. Photo courtesy of Mitch Pollock.

This year, the arena lights will shine even

brighter as we ride not just for glory, but for two beloved young members of our community: LeAnne Wallace, 16, who is bravely fighting leukemia, and Nick Delgado, 24, battling testicular cancer.

We're challenging everyone to take part in the "8-Second Ride & Dance for \$100" TikTok Challenge — and we've got one of the best leading the way! Mitch Pollock, a native Nevadan from Winnemucca, PRCA and NFR bronc rider, and recent winner of the Eastern Oregon Rodeo, will be riding and dancing in the arena to raise money for these local kids.

Mitch will ride his bronc, then step into the spotlight for a TikTok dance challenge — and he's inviting YOU to join him in supporting the cause.

HOW YOU CAN HELP:

- Donate \$100 at FallonPRCArodeoweek.com, or bring \$100 cash to the rodeo.
- Share your own ride or dance on TikTok to spread the word and inspire others to give.
- Come out and cheer for Mitch, LeAnne, Nick, and all those stepping up to help.

This special event is part of the 3C Community Foundation Kickoff PRCA Rodeo. The newly formed foundation aims to provide financial lifelines for locals facing medical and personal hardships — starting with LeAnne and Nick.

Let's ride, dance, and give — together — for these two inspiring young fighters. Fallon, it's time to show up and shine.



partnership with the University of Virginia, allowing participants to earn college credit as part of their training.

FBI Deputy Director Dan Bongino delivered the commencement address at the graduation ceremony, and Brandt "BT" Carmical of Camp Robinson Police Department in Arkansas served as the class spokesperson.

The honor isn't just ceremonial. Most graduates go on to hold executive positions in their departments and are expected to serve as mentors and changemakers in their communities. With more than 20 years in law enforcement and deep roots in Fallon, Captain Riley fits that mold.

Riley's participation is more than a personal achievement; it's an investment in the future of policing in the community. From recruitment and training to crisis response and community engagement, the ripple effects of this experience will be felt throughout the department and beyond.

"Captain Riley has been a steady, capable presence in Fallon law enforcement for many years," said Mayor Ken Tedford. "His leadership and this accomplishment reflect the caliber of our public servants. We're proud to have him representing Fallon on a national stage."

FALLON ANIMAL WELFARE GROUP



Enjoy Drinks by Tipsy Tumbleweed Mobile Bar



Pre-sale starts now: Limited Event–Only 60 tickets available!

Purchase tickets: 775-426-9345 \$20 - pack of 5 games of 3 Bingo cards and a dauber. Additional cards are \$10 each.

90 N. Maine Street, Fallon

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

Fallonprcarodeoweek.com

Rodeo proceeds will drive the 3C community Foundation to support Nick Delgado and Leanne Wallace's battle against cancer. Our mission behind the 3C Community Foundation is to provide financial support to community members and organizations in need through community and economic impact events.





Fallon Police Chief Ron Wenger with P.O.S.T certified officers Matthew Davis, Bailey Coombs, Connor Draper, Keiran Wilson, and Captain Daniel Babiarz.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Four New Officers Join Fallon Police Department After POST Graduation

Story and photo courtesy of Fallon PD

The Fallon Police Department is proud to welcome four new officers to its ranks following their successful graduation from the Nevada Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) Academy in Carson City.

Officers Matthew Davis, Bailey Coombs, Connor Draper, and Keiran Wilson have completed 18 weeks of intensive training, preparing them for the demands and responsibilities of serving in law enforcement.

"These officers have shown commitment, discipline, and integrity throughout their training," the department shared. "We are excited to have them join the team and look forward to supporting them as they begin their careers serving the Fallon community."

The department encourages residents to give a warm welcome to the new officers as they begin patrol duties and community engagement. Their addition strengthens the department's mission to protect and serve with professionalism and pride.

Fallon Theatre Movies & More June 13 & 14

We're rolling into another weekend of fun at the Fallon Theatre, and we've got the perfect double serving of family-friendly adventure and classic comedy! We're also keeping things cool for summer with \$5 soda floats, so grab yours at the concession stand and enjoy the show.

This Friday and Saturday at 6 p.m., we're showing "Planet 51" (2009), a hilarious animated sci-fi tale that flips the alien invasion story on its head. When astronaut Chuck Baker lands on a distant planet, he's shocked to find it's already inhabited by greenskinned, suburban-living aliens who think he's the invader! This film is rated PG and runs 1 hour and 31 minutes. At 7 p.m. both nights, don't miss "The Muppets Take Manhattan" (1984), the charming musical comedy that follows Kermit, Miss Piggy, and the rest of the gang as they try to make it big on Broadway. Full of heart, laughs, and catchy

By Kelli Perez

tunes, this G-rated film runs 1 hour and 34 minutes and is a treat for all ages.

On Sunday, June 15 at 1 p.m., we're thrilled to host Tintabulations Handbell Ensemble as they present their concert "Bein' Green." This talented group of musicians brings vibrant energy and remarkable precision to every performance. Come enjoy the beautiful harmonies of this unique and engaging musical experience.

Then on Tuesday, June 25 at 6 p.m., we're screening "Cowboy Up" (2001) as a special kickoff event for the upcoming De Golyer Bucking Horse & Bull Bash! Sponsored by the rodeo itself, this gritty rodeo drama stars Kiefer Sutherland and follows the highs and heartbreaks of a young bull rider chasing his dream. This one-night screening sets the perfect tone for the excitement to come.

Looking ahead to July, we've got some-

thing loud and local coming your way! On Saturday, July 19 at 7 p.m., join us for a night of live music featuring Acid Box and Cryptilians. Acid Box is a Fallon-based fusion of hard rock, heavy metal, punk, and blues — bold and unapologetically loud. Cryptilians bring their no-nonsense punkadjacent sound straight from Reno. Admission is just \$10 for a full night of music!

And don't forget about our fundraising Show 'N' Shine on Saturday, September 27 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. This community-favorite car show is free to attend and open to all. If you've got a sweet ride to show off, registration info is available now at fallontheatre.com. Expect music, food, and fun for the whole family.

As always, our auditorium and marguee are available for rentals. Reach out to us at 775-423-6210 or email thefallontheatre@gmail.com to book your event today.

Adorable Pets for Adoption



The shelter currently has 16 cats and kittens available for adoption, and 23 dogs.

PETS OF THE WEEK Comet is Ready for Adoption



Our newly resurfaced back kennels are open, and the shelter is bustling — including the Space Litter. These pups — initially six girls and four boys - came to us after their mother was found deceased. Each is as unique as their story. You can meet them online at capsnevada.org or come visit us in person. This is Comet. He is one of two gray and brown boys. Unlike his brother, Astro, Comet has some white on his chest and chin, and a small "M" marking on his forehead. Currently, his eyes are bright green-blue and full of puppy wonder and spice. Fiery, active, and affectionate are just a few words to describe this adorable little guy. Comet is ready to rocket straight into your heart.

Say Hello to Snickers



All these adorable pets need forever homes. Could that home be yours?

Also, remember to contact us if your pet is missing. We always have strays from across the Lahontan Valley and would love to reunite these lost animals with their owners.

You can check out available animals on Facebook at City of Fallon Animal Shelter — but remember, we do not respond to online comments. Please call us at 775-423-2282 so we can assist you directly.

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

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

Snickers is a gorgeous 3-year-old female tabby with a calm, gentle spirit. Whether curled up in a cozy corner or stretched out in a sunbeam, she's always content — especially when getting loving pets from her humans.

She's not demanding or overly energetic, making her an ideal companion for a quiet household or anyone who appreciates a relaxed, mellow cat. Snickers enjoys attention but is also independent enough to entertain herself. She is spayed, fully vaccinated, and ready to settle into a loving forever home. Looking for a sweet, laid-back friend? Snickers could be the purr-fect match!

Fallon Animal Welfare Group is a 501(c)(3) charity supporting the welfare of cats in Churchill County, Nevada. Questions? Call 775-217-4745 or, for barn cats, call Pat at 775-217-7248.

SENIOR CENTER MENU

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

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

Monday, June 16

Chili Cheese Baked Potato Steamed Carrots WW Banana Muffin FF Blueberry Yogurt

Tuesday, June 17 Teriyaki Chicken Breast Fluffy Brown Rice Baked Beans Broccoli Cauliflower **Pineapple Cup**

Wednesday, June 18

Tuna Noodle Casserole Herbed Vegetables Sliced Tomatoes Wheat Bread **Oatmeal Date Bar**

Thursday, June 19

- Center Closed -

Friday, June 20

Chicken Tenders Tater Tots Garden Veggies **Cinnamon Pears** Ranch Dressing Fresh Apple

FALLON DAILY BREAD

WOLF CENTER | 457 ESMERALDA AVE., FALLON NV | 775-423-4714 Meals are served Mondays and Thursdays from 5 - 6 p.m.

Monday, June 16 Shephard's Pie Fruit & Bread

Thursday, June 19 **BBQ** Sandwiches Bean Salad

Monday, June 23 Walnut Pesto Pasta Salad & Dessert

Thursday, June 26 **BLT Sandwiches Potato Salad & Fruit** **Volunteer groups** needed to help serve once per month, 3 p.m. until 6:30 p.m. **Call for information.**

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RANDALL EUGENE STANLEY May 27, 2025

Randall Eugene Stanley peacefully passed away May 27, 2025, at his home in Fallon, Nevada.

Randy was the proud owner of One Overhead Door, a business he founded more than 30 years ago. He was a beloved figure in the community, known for his dedication to helping others. His business will continue to thrive under the capable leadership of Garrett Roosa and his son,

Ben Stanley, ensuring that the core values and principles of the company endure.

Randy is survived by his loving son, Benjamin Stanley; his mother, Beth Stanley; and his sister, Jill Robinson.

He was deeply cherished and respected by family and friends across the country, leaving behind a legacy of love and connection.

- The Stanley family



MICHAEL WOODLEY

August 17, 1946 – June 1, 2025

Michael (Mike) Stephen Woodley, of Springville, Utah, passed away on June 1, 2025, surrounded by loved ones.

He was born on Aug. 17, 1946, in Reading, Pennsylvania, to Robert and Eunice Woodley. His family moved to Virginia when he was 2, later settling in Nevada.

At 17, Mike enlisted in the U.S. Army (Nevada National Guard) and was stationed in Aberdeen, Maryland. He

earned a diploma in automotive repair and a Sharpshooter Badge. After his service, he earned a certificate in construction training and specialized in concrete work across multiple states.

Mike was preceded in death by his parents, Robert (Pops) and Eunice (Betty) Woodley; his brother, Robert (Bob) Woodley; his son, Michael; his stepson, David; one grandchild; and one great-grandchild.

Mike had four children, 13 grandchildren, and 13 great-grandchildren. His son, Michael Coen (deceased), and grandchildren: Raymond, Haley, Savanna, and Malena. His daughter, Lanel Jasper, and her husband, Cliff, of Rio Linda, California, and grandchildren: Melissa, Brinda, and Jessica. His son, Maverik Woodley, and his wife, Rachael, of Arlington, Texas, and grandchildren: Emma, Mattalynn, and Luna. His son, Monty Woodley, and his wife, KyLee, of Waco, Texas, and their children: KayDee, Monty II, and LillyAnn. Mike also had three stepsons: Terry, David (deceased), and Jimmy Keenan.

Mike is survived by his sisters: Carol Norman; Barbara (Don) Hepler; Gretchen (George) Dini; Sandy (Don) Tibbals; Sherry (Mike) Ybarguen; and Shelia (Bryan) Masini.

A burial and military rites will be held on June 16 at 9:30 a.m. (Pacific Daylight Time) at the Northwest Nevada Veterans

O B I T U A R I E S

RAMON K. LOPEZ June 2, 1958 – October 16, 2024

Ramon Kent Lopez passed away of natural causes (atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease) in Fallon, Nevada, on October 16, 2024, at 66 years of age. He was born the youngest of four siblings in Elko, Nevada, on June 2, 1958, to Delphina (Goicoechea) Lopez and her husband, Romano.



He was proud of his Spanish and Basque heritage, loved growing up in northeastern

Nevada with daily views of the Ruby Mountains, and recounted often and fondly memories of what made his childhood and adolescent years so special — not the least of which was the priceless network of friendships he cultivated and happily clung to.

He was a social animal from the get-go. He liked being around others — in school, at catechism, family gatherings, on sports teams, while Basque dancing at the annual festival, and lifeguarding at the city pool. He was elected Elko High School's student body president and named as a Nevada Boys' State delegate his junior year, then selected as the EHS "Outstanding Male Student" as a senior in 1976.

Following graduation from the University of Nevada, Reno, in 1981 with a degree in business administration, Ramon put his training to good use first in Elko, then Reno, with jobs ranging from insurance agent, stockbroker, and convention center/visitors' authority sales manager, to retail sales, to 15 years in the gaming industry.

There are inescapable universal experiences in one's life that define the essence of the human condition, both positive and negative. As Ramon navigated his way over and through some of the speed bumps and roadblocks associated with love, loss, sadness, and a search for meaning, he found guidance, support, and solace from such invaluable programs as New Frontier and The Lighthouse, as well as years of weekly AA meetings and generous sponsorships here in Fallon. His love of distance running started early, becoming a very healthy positive addiction through time, and even when some physical limitations shortened his stride, he continued moving as best he could around town and the surrounding countryside. More than a pastime, it was a godsend.

Ramon never married. He is survived by his three siblings: Elaine Starr (Jim), Gary Lopez (Linda), and Vera Ascasibar (Darby Long); nephews Adam and Chris Starr, Dan, Patrick, and Nick Lopez, and Steven Acker; nieces Juliette and Nicole Ascasibar, and Jennifer Acker. Additionally, Ramon left behind several grandnieces and grandnephews, and a cool bunch of cousins.

His cremains will be buried in the family plot in the Elko City Cemetery following a celebration of life and memorial service at Burns Funeral Home chapel at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, July 16, 2025. A lunch gathering will be held at the Elko Basque Clubhouse immediately following the committal ceremony.

In lieu of flowers, you may want to consider a donation to a favorite charity.

Memorial Cemetery in Fernley, Nevada. A memorial service will follow at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 155 U.S. 95 Alternate, Fernley, NV 89408, with a luncheon afterward.

To send condolences or flowers, please contact SmithFamilyFuneralHomeFallon.com.

Join us for a Celebration of Life for

Albert Jackson McMindes and Nancy Jane McMindes Friday, June 20, 2025 | 11 O'Clock

NORTHERN NEVADA VETERANS MILITARY CEMETERY 14 Veterans Way, Fernley, Nevada

Wake to follow —
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS POST 1002
405 S Maine Street , Fallon, Nevada
Please bring a hat / sunglasses.



WATER LEVELS

Measurements Taken June 9, 2025, at 5:30 p.m.

Lahontan Reservo	ir	189,900 af
Carson River Below Lahontan Truckee Canal at Wadsworth Truckee Canal at Hazen Carson River at Ft. Churchill		760 cfs
		369 cfs
		256 cfs
		542 cfs
June 9, 2024	June 9, 2023	June 9, 2022
301,481 acre feet	211,498 acre feet	153,706 acre fee

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

Celebration of Life

LAVERNE FITHIAN RICHARDS June 18, 1967 – February 23, 2025

Saturday, June 21, 2025 from 4-6 p.m.

American Legion Post 16, 90 N. Ada St., Fallon NV Attire is casual. No food please.

Laverne passed away on February 23, 2025, after a brief battle with ALS. As per Laverne's request, we would like to invite her family and friends to gather to celebrate her life. Please bring a story to share as we remember and honor Laverne and all the lives she touched in so many ways.





COMMUNITY

Churchill County School District Celebrates 2024–2025 Retirees

Decades of Dedication Honored with Gratitude and Grace

By Rachel Dahl

The Churchill County School District honored more than a dozen retiring educators and staff members May 28, gathering at the district office to celebrate a combined legacy of nearly 350 years of service to local students and families.

These individuals — teachers, custodians, secretaries, specialists and support staff — have not only worked in the schools, they've woven themselves into the very fabric of the community. Whether teaching kindergarten, fixing sprinkler lines, unlocking classroom doors at 6:30 a.m. or answering phones with a warm voice, they've helped shape generations of Churchill County children.

"These people aren't just employees," Superintendent Derild Parsons said. "They're the heartbeat of our schools. They showed up year after year, for the snow days, the tough days, the test days, and the moments that truly mattered."

THE DISTRICT RECOGNIZED THE FOLLOWING RETIREES: Classified Staff

- Lori Brown 23 years as a paraprofessional IA in special education
- Toni Venturacci 22 years as a school secretary
- • Robert Fredrick — 15 years as a custodian
- David Jackson 22 years as a maintenance/grounds technician
- Cheryl Mnichowski 25 years as a paraprofessional IA in special education
- Debra Shyne 18 years as executive assistant to the superintendent and school board
- Sharon Oswald 21 years as a custodian

Licensed Educators

- Lori Kaiser 35 years as a teacher
- Kathryn Buckmaster 27 years as a teacher
- Sandra Gilbert 25 years as a teacher



Lori Kaiser, Kathy Buckmaster, Superintendent Derild Parsons, Toni Venturacci, and Becky Dendauw. Photo by Kaitlin Ritchie.

- Trudy Mills 9 years as a teacher
- Jeremie Sorensen 27 years as a teacher
- Becky Dendauw 25 years as a speech-language pathologist

Not all retirees were able to attend in person, but each was recognized for their invaluable service.

As these dedicated professionals move into retirement, they leave behind full classrooms and full hearts.

The Fallon Post joins the school district and the community in offering heartfelt thanks and best wishes for whatever adventures lie ahead. Whether it's quiet mornings, travel, time with grandchildren or simply sleeping in on the first day of school — we're grateful. You've earned it.



Local Author Joy Kincaid to Speak at Faith Ministry Women's Conference

Staff Report

Local author and speaker Joy Kincaid will be the featured speaker at the upcoming Faith Ministry Women's Conference on June 13–14 in Reno. Joy will share the powerful story behind her book about her son Ben's journey with Trisomy 18 & Esophageal Atresia.

Dana Bradwater and Principal Tim Spencer. Photo courtesy of Dr. Sue Segura.

Gift Cards to Help CCHS Students Prepare for the Workforce

Dana Bradwater of Soroptimist International and CCHS Principal Tim Spencer accept gift cards to support female students in Churchill County High School's Business Work-Based Learning internship program. The gift cards will help students "dress for success" as they prepare for job interviews. Ben will also be attending, and their books will be available at the event. The conference includes evening and full-day sessions. To register, visit faithministryreno.com, click the Give tab, then PayPal, select One Time, and enter your amount (\$45 for both days, or \$15 Friday / \$30 Saturday). Be sure to write "Women's Conference" in the note box and specify your meal choice: ribs or fish.

Bring a friend and join us for a weekend of faith, fellowship, and inspiration.



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GOVERNMENT

County Commission Update *Airport, Staffing, and Legislative Priorities*

By Rachel Dahl

Churchill County commissioners revisited a long-discussed proposal to help fund a new Fixed-Base Operator (FBO) building at the Fallon Municipal Airport during their regular meeting Thursday, June 5.

No formal action was taken due to a clerical error in the agenda, but commissioners expressed support for continuing discussions about a \$500,000 county contribution to the project.

County Manager Jim Barbee explained that the proposed funding would represent roughly a third of the estimated total cost of the facility, which



Fallon Municipal Airport. Photo courtesy of City of Fallon.

would replace the current FBO building, constructed in the 1940s or 1950s. He noted the airport is similar to the Rafter 3C Arena in that both serve users from the city and county, and both are important to local economic development.

"I am in support of this project. It needs an update," said Commissioner Myles Getto. "It needs a facelift, renovation — 'atrocious' might be the right word."

Commissioner Eric Blakey noted he had not yet reviewed the full history of county involvement in the project but agreed an upgrade is needed. Commissioner Matt Hyde added that, from a business and communications standpoint, the outdated building is an obstacle. "I would like to see a plan. I do believe it needs to be updated and will serve the community and those who want to come here, do business, and fly directly into Fallon."

Barbee said the county previously committed \$37,000 toward architectural design work and that the project has remained on the radar since at least 2018. The city continues to work on finalized plans.

Because the item was listed as informational only, no vote could be taken. Commissioners agreed to revisit the funding commitment at a future meeting with proper notice.

OTHER BUSINESS

The board honored Jackie Bogdanovich for being named Ag Teacher of the Year by the Nevada FFA Foundation. Oasis Academy administrator Rochelle Tisdale praised Bogdanovich's work over the past decade, noting she built the program from just 14 students to more than 100.

"She's been the only ag teacher we've had, and the kids love her," Tisdale said. "She's built something truly special."

Bogdanovich, modestly standing at the back of the room, received a warm round of applause.

NDOT Widening Project *Public Input Needed*

Staff Report

Northern Nevada drivers have a chance to weigh in on the future of Interstate 80 as the Nevada Department of Transportation (NDOT) seeks public input on a plan to widen one of the region's busiest stretches of freeway.

The project would expand I-80 from two to three lanes in each direction between Vista Boulevard in Sparks and the USA Parkway interchange, aiming to ease traffic and improve safety on a corridor that sees more than 50,000 vehicles a day.

Locals can review the project's Environmental Assessment and share feedback both online and in person.

HOW TO PARTICIPATE:

- Online: Visit I80EastNV.com anytime between June 9 and July 18 to review project documents and submit comments. The virtual hearing is available in English and Spanish.
- In Person: Attend an open house on Wednesday, June 25, from 4 to 7 p.m. at the Rainbow Bend Community Clubhouse (500 Rue de la Blanc, Lockwood). A formal presentation will begin at 5:30 p.m.
- Submit Comments: Share input through the website, at the in-person meeting, by email to info@i80eastnv.com, or by mail to NDOT Project Manager Chris Kuhn, 1263 South Street, Carson City, NV 89712. The deadline is 5 p.m. on July 18.
- Those needing accessibility support can contact NDOT Public Involvement Specialist Justin Hopkins at (702) 385-6509 or jhopkins@dot.nv.gov.

WHAT'S PROPOSED:

In addition to adding a third lane in each direction, the project would replace certain bridges, widen shoulders, and improve interchanges along the corridor. NDOT says the upgrades aim to reduce traffic backups and improve safety.

Traffic volume on this stretch has grown by more than 70% over the past decade. NDOT reports an average of 144 crashes per year in the area and estimates that the proposed improvements could lower crash rates by about 20%.

The public hearing is part of the environmental review required under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The process follows earlier public meetings held in 2023 and 2024.



Commissioners also approved two parceling proposals — one by Bart Hyatt for a six-lot residential division on Boundary Road, and another by Alex Quintana for a four-lot division on Cardinal Drive. Both projects met zoning and infrastructure requirements. Quintana's development includes a conservation easement protecting a large wetlands pond.

The board unanimously approved a contract extension with Sevon Consulting LLC to continue administering the county's indigent defense program. The contract includes hourly rates of \$75 for fiscal year 2025–26 and \$100 for fiscal year 2026–27.

Commissioners also approved updated and new job descriptions for the Recorder's Office and Clerk/Treasurer's Office. A new "Election Technician" role was created to help manage increasingly complex election operations, a responsibility previously divided among deputy clerks.

Three additional roles — Recordation Clerk Trainee, Recordation Clerk, and revised deputy positions — were also formalized to reflect a reorganization approved in the recent budget cycle. County staff noted that these updates will help streamline hiring and clarify job functions moving forward.

Deputy District Attorney Joe Sanford provided a detailed update on the 2025 Nevada Legislature, noting that more than 250 bills passed in the final day alone.

KEY BILLS EXPECTED TO BENEFIT CHURCHILL COUNTY INCLUDE:

- AB104 and SB36, allowing for potential water rights buyback programs.
- AB174, lifting "provider of last resort" burdens from local telecoms such as CC Communications.
- AB241, allowing multifamily housing in commercial zones with local standards, prompting upcoming zoning code revisions.
- SB93, applying prevailing wage requirements to federally funded broadband projects, raising potential financial concerns for local grant-funded infrastructure.

Several problematic bills failed, including a proposed public records ombudsman and a controversial property tax abatement for energy-efficient buildings.

Sanford indicated that while a special session is possible, the governor has not yet signaled intent to call one.

FARMERS MARKET PROPOSAL

During public comment, James Fleming presented plans for a new farmers market to launch in July 2026 at the fairgrounds. He described broad community support and a \$10,000 startup fund in development, with assistance from local agencies and UNR's Cooperative Extension.

Parks and Recreation indicated that Thursdays would be available for the event, pending irrigation schedule adjustments. Fleming plans to submit a formal request for future agenda consideration.

CHURCHILL COUNTY COURTS

Tenth Judicial District Court

Tuesday, June 3, Judge Thomas Stockard presiding

By Teresa Moon

Elizabeth Ann Evans pleaded guilty to Possession of a Controlled Substance (methamphetamine), a first or second offense, a Category E Felony punishable by one to four years in prison and a fine up to \$5,000.

Deputy District Attorney Chelsea Sanford said the case is subject to mandatory probation and asked for standard conditions. Churchill County Alternate Public Defender Wright Noel also requested probation.

Judge Stockard granted Evans probation on sentence of 12–32 months in prison. Evans ordered to obtain a substance abuse evaluation and follow all recommendations.

Jessup Reece Morrison appeared for sentencing on the Category B Felony of Driving Under the Influence of an Intoxicating Liquor or a Controlled or Prohibited Substance, a Third or Subsequent Offense, to which he pleaded guilty in October 2023. The plea agreement reduced the potential sentence from two to 15 years to 1-6 years.

The court reviewed a Pre-Sentence Investigative Report, a letter from Reno-Sparks Gospel Mission, an evaluation from Alliance Mental Health, a Court Services memo, and character references.

Defense attorney Steve Evenson said Morrison completed the Gospel Mission program "absolutely 100% remarkably well" and argued sending him to prison would be "an absolute travesty." Evenson said, "If I had to do this again with Mr. Mills, I would not do it." He cited Pershing County Judge Wagner: "You don't send someone to prison to rehabilitate them; you send them there to punish them." Evenson requested credit for time served and for approximately 355 days spent at the Mission.

Judge Stockard asked whether Evenson had any statutory authority to credit the treatment program. Evenson said he did not.

Morrison told the court he went to the Mission determined to succeed and had taken leadership roles, volunteered, completed counseling, and participated in classes and Bible study. Since completing the program, he has secured housing, employment, and enrollment at TMCC. "I've been working tirelessly," Morrison said. "I worked and fought for my life ... and for my sobriety."

Judge Stockard fined Morrison the statutory \$2,000 and sentenced him to 12–36 months in prison. "I think you should be congratulated on what you've done," Judge Stockard said, noting he must follow the law as negotiated. Morrison was remanded to the custody of the Churchill County Sheriff.

Paul Anthony Rice, in custody, admitted to Non-Technical Sentencing Violations, including absconding. In April 2023, Rice was sentenced on three felony charges: Ex-Felon Not to Possess an Electric Stun Device; Unlawful Obtaining and Using of Personal Identifying Information of Another to Avoid or Delay Prosecution; and Ex-Felon Failure to Stop on the Signal of a Peace Officer. His 80–204 month aggregate sentence was suspended, and he was placed on probation for 96 months.

Senior Deputy District Attorney Chelsea Sanford asked that probation be revoked in its entirety. "The state did not believe in all his promises. Unfortunately, the state [was] proven correct by his own conduct," she said.

Churchill County Alternate Public Defender (APD) Wright Noel acknowledged the violations but said Rice had demonstrated some positive progress, including employment, housing, and family responsibilities, before "slipping up." He did not request reinstatement but asked that sentences run concurrently.

Rice told the court, "I know who I am in jail. I know who I am in prison. On the streets, it's a struggle. So, I'm right where I need to be." He apologized for disrespecting the court. "I have people who believe in me. I just don't believe in myself, I don't think."

Judge Stockar revoked Rice's probation and imposed his underlying sentences of 80–204 months, with credit for 527 days served.

Anthony Peter Kancler appeared for sentencing on two charges: Count I, the Gross Misdemeanor of Abuse, Neglect, or Endangerment of a Child Not Causing Substantial Bodily or Mental Harm; and Count II, Misdemeanor Driving Under the Influence of a Controlled Substance (methamphetamine). He pleaded guilty to both in April.

The court reviewed an evaluation from Dr. Hixon-Brenenstall, finding Kancler eligible for probation.

Deputy District Attorney Priscilla Baker said Kancler had taken methamphetamine and drove with his two children, ages 7 and 9, causing an accident. Baker said he has since taken responsibility and is motivated to continue treatment. The state requested a suspended 364-day sentence and probation on Count I, and 10 days with credit for seven days served on the DUI charge, per statutory requirements.

Churchill County Public Defender Jacob Sommer agreed with the state and read from a counselor's letter stating Kancler is building "a stable and healthy future." Sommer said Kancler is employed, has changed his life, and regrets involving his children. He asked for the remaining three DUI days to be served on house arrest.

Kancler told the court the incident had a positive effect on his life: "If this didn't happen, I would still be out there." He said his children are doing well, and he is grateful.

On Count I, Judge Stockard delivered a suspended sentence of 364 days and 12 months' probation. Kancler must obtain and follow substance abuse evaluation recommendations. On Count II, he received a 10-day jail sentence, with seven days credited and the remaining three days of house arrest to be served within 45 days.

Matthew Dean Goodner failed to appear for sentencing. Released on his own recognizance in May with an ankle monitor, he removed it later that day. Neither Court Services nor his attorney have heard from him. A warrant remains active.

Austin Taylor Dyer's sentencing violation hearing was continued to June 24.

Inappropriate Interaction Earns Hicks 364 Days in Jail

By Teresa Moon

Taylon Jeffery Hicks appeared for sentencing in the Tenth Judicial District Court on June 3 before Judge Thomas Stockard. Hicks, who is in custody, pleaded guilty to a misdemeanor charge of Open and Gross Lewdness in February, which is punishable by up to 364 days in jail.



Taylon Hicks. Photo courtesy of CCS0.

Deputy District Attorney Priscilla Baker called the matter "a difficult case," explaining that Hicks had been staying with relatives and failed to register within 48 hours as required, which led to his initial arrest. According to the Churchill County Sheriff's Office, Hicks was arrested on Oct. 4, 2024, on a Contempt of Court Warrant and a felony Failure to Register as a Sex Offender charge. The current case developed later.

According to Baker, during an interaction with a female—at which time they were intoxicated—Hicks was inappropriate with her. Although the victim feels traumatized, she also recognizes Hicks struggles with severe substance abuse and wants him to get help.

"So, with that, the state believes he should be put in either in-patient treatment or Drug Court to get a handle on his substance abuse," Baker said, asking the court to place Hicks on probation at the victim's request, "and get a handle on his treatment."

For the court to consider Hicks for probation in case, Hicks underwent a risk assessment. According to Churchill County Public Defender Jacob Sommer, the evaluation made recommendations for probation and placement in the Western Nevada Regional Drug Court program. He referenced recommendations by evaluator Dr. Hixon-Brenenstall, indicating that everyone—Mr. Hicks included, would benefit.

Sommer said his client is a young man who has battled substance abuse from an early age, and now recognizes that many of the issues and challenges in his life stem from his addiction. "Mr. Hicks intends to move forward; he knows that his substance abuse needs to be something he gets a handle on immediately. He has family support ... they intend to support him in whatever way they can," Sommer concluded, requesting probation with placement in the specialty court program as a condition.

Hicks addressed the court, saying, "All my problems have been surrounded by substance abuse, and I'm tired of messing with it."

"I find that you are eligible for probation based on the evaluation by Dr. Hixon-Brenenstall," Judge Stockard told Hicks. "But I am not going to grant you that privilege."

Fees and assessments were imposed, and Hicks was sentenced to 364 days in the Churchill County Jail. He was remanded to the custody of the Churchill County Sheriff for imposition of the sentence.

MEETINGS June 16-20, 2025

Churchill County School District 4th Wednesday of the month at 5:30 p.m. 690 S. Maine Street CCSD Admin Bldg

> Fallon City Council 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month at 9 a.m. City Hall 55 W. Williams Avenue

TCID Next meetings: July 8, Aug. 5, Sept. 2 at 9 a.m. 2666 Harrigan Road

> County Meetings 155 N. Taylor Street

Local Emergency Planning Committee Tuesday, June 17 at 10 a.m. City of Fallon Public Works 327 N. Maine Street

Insurance Advisory Committee Tuesday, June 17 at 1:30 p.m. Room 102

> Regional Transportation Commission Wednesday, June 18 at 9:30 a.m., Room 104

Board of County Commissioners Wednesday, June 18 at 1:15 p.m. Chambers

County Business Licenses - May

Bunn Productions LLC Film Productions and Event Planning Jenn Bunn 12050 Carr Ln, Fallon

> Frontier Fence Fence Contractor Scott Nelson 4745 Golden Circle, Fallon

G's Mufflers and Custom Classics LLC Muffler Repair George Luna 5015 Reno Hwy., Fallon

> **Keltic Fish LLC** Contractor / IT Firm 9410 Prototype Dr Ste 19, Reno

Lucian LLC DBA Otis' Grill Mobile Food Truck Paul Pryor 6387 Westwind Way, Fallon

Nevada Tire Recycling LLC Tire Recycling Juan Antonio Hernandez Roman 11555 Lovelock Hwy, Fallon

Peachy Queens Traveling Tavern Mobile Bar 960 Auction Rd, Fallon

Still Blacktop Paving, LLC Construction, Paving Daniel Fraiman 44 Red Rock RD, Truckee

Super Electric Electrical Contractor Terry Thom 1875 Flint Springs Ct, Sun Valley

> The Odd Job Squad Handy Man Richard Smith 215 Amanda Ln., Fallon

BUSINESS



Isaac Martinez at Peek Construction.

Peek Construction Partners with CCHS

Story and photo by Dr. Sue Segura

Peek Construction has become Churchill County High School's newest Work-Based Learning program business partner. Peek, along with A&K Earthmovers, presented information on the construction trades to CCHS students last month.

Former CCHS graduate Isaac Martinez, now with Peek, is pursuing a career as a civil engineer. He began his education at Western Nevada College through the Nevada Promise program and will transfer to the University of Nevada, Reno this fall. Martinez was brought on at Peek to begin assisting in the estimating department.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

Mental Health Awareness Month in Nevada is a time to push forward — not fall behind. Expanding access to care and encouraging open conversation is only part of the picture. The other piece is making sure future mental health treatments actually reach the patients who need them.

With the Trump administration's recent executive order comes a lot of concern that innovation could be at risk. This order would base our drug prices on countries that use strict pricing models and often limit or delay access to modern therapies. If we copy those systems, it will be harder to bring future mental health treatments to patients in Nevada and across the country, as investments will be severely depleted.

Additionally, the executive order doesn't listen to the true concerns of patients. The biggest drivers of patient frustration aren't always visible. PBMs operate in the background, but their decisions shape what gets covered and how much it costs. Until that's addressed, no pricing reform will deliver the stability patients are looking for.

Nevada should focus on solutions that protect innovation and make care more stable for those who depend on it. That starts by moving past MFN and toward reforms to PBMs.

Sincerely, Denise Abbey, LCSW, QMHP May 27, 2025



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Lynlee Lenon and Robert Kovnat.

FIRST GRADERS HATCH CHICKS

Mrs. Sara Peixoto's first grade classroom at Oasis Academy was filled with excitement and curiosity in the last weeks of school as students witnessed the hatching of baby chicks, bringing their science curriculum to life in a memorable way.

Over the past several weeks, first graders carefully monitored eggs in an incubator, learning about the life cycle of chickens and the science behind incubation. The project reached its peak when the first cracks appeared in the eggs, followed by the arrival of fluffy black and yellow chicks.

Students took turns checking the incubator and even choosing names for the new chicks. The project is one of many at Oasis Academy that emphasizes experiential learning and STEM education, a hallmark of the school's approach.

For Oasis Academy's first graders, the lesson was more than just science — it was an unforgettable experience that sparked wonder, teamwork, and responsibility.

OASIS ACADEMY'S 7TH ANNUAL FUTURE FEST DINNER: FUELING THE FUTURE OF STEM

Oasis Academy celebrated its 7th annual Future Fest Dinner on April 18, 2025, at the

EDUCATION Bighorn Bulletin

Fallon Convention Center, marking a pivotal evening dedicated to supporting the school's Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) programs, and scholarships for seniors. The event drew enthusiastic support from the community, local businesses, and families, all united by a shared commitment to advancing educational opportunities for Oasis students.

Future Fest is more than just a fundraising dinner — it's a community tradition that underscores Oasis Academy's dedication to academic excellence and innovation. Attendees enjoyed a catered meal by The Slanted Porch, participated in live and silent auctions, and fun raffles, and connected with educators and students whose lives are directly impacted by the school's robust STEM offerings.

As part of the event, student science fair projects were displayed throughout the venue, showcasing the emphasis on STEM for the event and highlighting the scientific prowess of Oasis students.

STEM education at Oasis includes handson science fairs, a thriving Future Farmers of America (FFA) chapter, a partnership with Western Nevada College that allows high schoolers to pursue dual enrollment and earn associate degrees alongside their diplomas, TrigStar participation, robotics programs, and much more.

The success of Future Fest is a testament to the generosity of Oasis Academy's supporters. Local, state, and national businesses, families, and individuals contributed through sponsorships, donations, and auction prizes, making it possible for the school to pursue ambitious projects and maintain its standard of excellence.

This year's sponsors and donors included The City of Fallon, CC Communications, Coeur Rochester, Ranson Photography, Tedford Tire, The Woodliff Company, SS Hert Trucking, Academica, CPA Fallon, Manpower, Rochelle Tisdale, Sheldon's Pest Management, Great Basin Dairy, Les Schwab, A&K Earth Movers, Jeff and Virginia Knight, Frame Architecture, Hiskett and Sons, Chris and Samantha Gomes, Atlantis Casino, Banner Churchill Hospital, Benham Diesel, Big R, Biggest Little Steakhouse, Cactus Pete's, Carry Thibaut, Churchill County Federal Credit Union, Colleen Mandic, Dane and Kelly Nott, Diana Paul, Dicaperl Minerals, Discovery Museum, Edison Electric, Eric and Heidi Grimes, Financial Horizons Credit Union, First Independent Bank, Frey Ranch, Gourmet Gift Baskets, Harvey's Resort, Hotel and Casino Lake Tahoe, Hiskett and Sons, Home Means Nevada, Huck Salt, J&M Fresh Floors LLC, Jackie Bogdanowicz, Jeanne Evatt, Jeff and Virginia Knight, Jeff's Digitex, Jen Beebe, Jerri Fry Cornu, Jessica Molatore, Jim Menesini Petroleum, John and Kathy Keitz, Johnny's Ristorante Italiano, Juliana Acomb, Just Country Friends, Kathryn Jones, Kris Nastro, La Cucina Italian Eatery, Larry Tucker, Lilla Allegre, Louie's Ace Home Center, Mackedon, deBraga and Rowe Law, Melissa Mackedon, Michael and Sons Jewelry, Michelle Gambiola-Rogers, Misty Alegre, Motel 6, Natale Laca, New West Distributing, Nothing Bundt Cakes, Oasis Academy FFA, Oasis Academy Honor Society, Oasis Online, Peppermill, Rambling Horse Ranch, Renae Paholke, Reno Cheesecake Factory, Rochelle Tisdale, Sahara Resort, Scheels, Scott and Anna-Lisa Laca, Shannon Garcia, Shawna Harper, Sheree Jensen, Starr Friedenthal, Tabasco, Tamarack Resort, Taryn Lenon, Telegraph, Texas Roadhouse, The Coffee Shop, The Wok, Theresa Guillen, Tumbleweed Garbage Disposal, Vicky Zubieta, Victoria Crystal, Vortex Optics, Western Nevada Supply, Wild Island, WinCo Foods, Workman Farms, Jared and Katrina Laca, Keurig Dr Pepper, Valley Distributors, Miles Construction, and Mark Venturacci.

Special thanks as well to David Halloran for emceeing the night, and to Ted Guazzini for auctioneering.

As Oasis Academy continues to grow and evolve, the Future Fest Dinner remains a cornerstone of its fundraising efforts. The school's leadership, faculty, and students are deeply grateful for the ongoing support that makes innovative STEM programming — and so much more — possible.

For more information about supporting Oasis Academy or participating in future events, interested parties are encouraged to contact the school's public relations coordinator, Angela Viera, or visit the Oasis Academy website.

Three Former CCHS Students Complete Work-Based Learning Health Program



Left to Right, Addison Sandberg, Makayla Matheson, and Katelen Helton.

Story and photo by Dr. Sue Segura

Three former Churchill County High School students — Addison Sandberg, Makayla Matheson, and Katelen Helton graduated in May 2025 after completing a Work-Based Learning program funded through Nevada Works, with support from the Governor's Office. The program was coordinated at the high school by Dr. Sue Segura.

The goal of the program is to prepare students for careers as medical assistants and help address the growing demand for health care professionals in northern Nevada.

Sandberg, Matheson, and Helton earned certificates in phlebotomy, EKG technology, and medical assisting. According to program data, 100% of students who completed the program secured job placements in the health care field.

Veritas Preparatory School – Classical and Christian A Joyful Send-Off: Veritas Ends School Year with Celebration and Gratitude



5th & 6th Grade students enjoyed the Sprinkle Ice Cream & Treats.

The 2024–2025 school year has officially come to a close, capping off months of academic growth, spiritual development, and personal achievement at Veritas Preparatory School.

The final week of school was filled with memorable events, including classroom parties, a lively field day, a fun-filled trip to Top Gun Skate, and a sweet visit from Sprinkle Ice Cream and Treats. Kindergarten graduation was another highlight, drawing family and friends to campus to celebrate an important milestone.

On the last day of school, students gathered in the lunch hut to enjoy ice cream, sign memory books, and say goodbye to friends for the summer. Many also bid farewell to beloved classmates from military families who are relocating to new duty stations — a bittersweet tradition at Veritas.

Parents and students filled the chapel to honor the kindergarten class of 2025.

K5 teacher Mrs. Jung, channeling her best Mary Poppins, led the students in songs, recitations, and a delightful review of the year's learning. Each student proudly received a prestigious kindergarten completion certificate to mark the occasion.

While summer break brings a welcome rest, plans for the upcoming academic year are already underway. Veritas looks forward to welcoming new families, adding staff positions, expanding academic offerings, and making improvements to the campus.

In the meantime, students are looking forward to sunshine, adventures, summer reading, and perhaps a bit of sleeping in. As one kindergartner put it, "I'm going to miss my teacher — but I'm really excited to go to the pool!"

The Lord continues to bless Veritas, and families now look ahead with gratitude for a year well spent — and anticipation for the one to come.

SPORTS ROUND UP

Former Fallon Quarterback Returns to Support His Alma Mater



Ryder Segura, Rio Segura, Joe Pyle, and Mathew Bird. Photo courtesy of Sue Segura.

Staff Report

Former Churchill County High School standout and Nevada Wolf Pack football player and quarterback, Joe Pyle (Class of 2015), returned home this week, teaching and working with Northern Nevada and California youth. He trains and coaches for the 3DQB quarterback organization, which focuses on techniques, nutrition, and leadership. Pyle said his primary role is quarterback mechanics and fundamentals

Pyle, who began his collegiate career at the University of Nevada as a quarterback before transitioning to wide receiver, is now a proud member of the 3DQB quarterback development program. He was on hand to mentor young athletes and give back to the community that helped shape his journey both on and off the field.

"It's always special to come back to where it all started," Pyle said. "Fallon is home. Giving back to these kids, working with the coaches, and being a part of this camp means the world to me."

Pyle, who also played at Golden West College and Missouri State, shared valuable insights on what it takes to excel on and off the field, emphasizing leadership, hard work, and resilience.

In addition to returning for the camp, Pyle had more personal milestones to celebrate. This past week, he passed the Bar exam and married another Fallon native, Haylee Paladini — a proud moment for the hometown crowd cheering him on.

Fallon Hornets Baseball Announces New Home Field, Fresh Start

Staff Report

Fallon Hornets Baseball announced last week that the club has secured the old Babe Ruth field on East Richards — and this time, it's all theirs. After a season of change and growth, the organization is celebrating not just a new home, but a fresh beginning.

Coaches and staff say they've worked together to restructure and streamline operations from top to bottom, with a renewed focus on what matters most: keeping kids on the field and fostering a love for the game.

"We're buzzing with excitement," the club shared. "Our goal is simple — to give these players a fun, productive environment where they can grow, play, and enjoy every inning."

With their own field and a united team behind the scenes, the Hornets are stepping up to the plate for what promises to be a strong season ahead.



Photo courtesy of Fallon Hornets Baseball.



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COLUMNS

What's Cooking in Kelli's Kitchen: Shaved Fennel and Citrus Salad with Meyer Lemon Vinaigrette

By Erik Jimenez in for Kelli Kelly

It appears that summer is finally upon us! After months of never-ending snow and bitter cold, we have reached the season of fresh fruits and vegetables here in the Great Basin.

To celebrate the changing of the seasons and the blooming of so many plants, I'd like to present this month's recipe: a simple, yet elegant salad that highlights high-quality, fresh ingredients.

This is a recipe I've made for numerous dinner parties, and I recently prepared it for someone very special during a three-course summer picnic, which was described as "incredibly extra."

Nevertheless, this salad is guaranteed to be a showstopping hit, regardless of the occasion. By roasting beets until tender,

combining them with crisp shaved fennel and

bright citrus, we create varied textures in each bite — all enhanced by a simple Meyer lemon vinaigrette.

I like to serve this salad quite fancily, using a metal ring mold to create a tower of contrasting textures and colors. However, if you are short on time, you can simply segment the citrus, combine all the ingredients, and it will still taste great.

I hope you enjoy this simple summer salad as much as I do. Provecho, amigos.

Shaved Fennel and Citrus Salad with Meyer Lemon Vinaigrette Ingredients:

3 Fennel bulbs

- 3 Medium red beets
- 4 Assorted citrus fruits (grapefruit, blood orange, tangerine, mandarin orange, cara cara orange, etc.)
- 2 Meyer lemons, zest and juice
- Vegetable oil or other high smoke point oil, as needed
- 4 oz. High-quality extra virgin olive oil
- 2 tsp. maple syrup
- 1.5 tsp. Dijon mustard
- 3 tbsp. Fresh dill
- 1/2 tsp. Kosher salt
 - Freshly cracked black pepper, to taste Flaky salt, to taste





DIRECTIONS:

- 1. Preheat the oven to 400°F. Trim greens and tips off the beets, but leave their skins on. Lightly massage each beet with a small amount of vegetable oil and sprinkle with kosher salt. Wrap each beet individually in foil, place in a baking dish, and roast until tender but still holding their shape. This can take anywhere from 50 minutes to 1 hour and 15 minutes, depending on the size of the beets.
- Once the beets are tender and a knife can be inserted with virtually no resistance, remove from the oven, unwrap, and allow to cool. Once cool enough to handle, remove the skins and refrigerate to chill. I like to roast the beets the night before serving this salad.
- 3. Remove the green tops and fronds from the fennel, leaving just the bulbs. Slice each bulb in half and shave using a mandoline slicer or a very sharp knife aim for slices about 1/16 inch thick.
- 4. Make the vinaigrette. Zest and juice the lemons into a jar or large cup. Add maple syrup, Dijon mustard, kosher salt, and olive oil. Using an immersion blender, blend until an emulsion forms. Taste and adjust seasonings as needed.
- 5. Toss the fennel with the vinaigrette and set aside.
- 6. Peel the citrus fruits, gently removing as much pith as possible. Slice each fruit into thin, even rounds.
- 7. Slice the beets into rounds, similar in size to the citrus slices.
- 8. Finely chop the dill.

10

- 9. To plate, layer a metal ring mold with one slice of beet, two slices of citrus, some dressed fennel, and two more slices of citrus. Press down gently to form a tower. Repeat for remaining servings.
- Remove the ring mold, and top each serving with dill, freshly cracked black pepper, and flaky salt.

Erik Jimenez splits his time between the statehouse and the stove he's Nevada's Chief Policy Deputy by day and an inventive chef by night. He brings flavor to everything he does—from state finance to five star culinary delights.



12



Across

- 2. Lives in a pride
- 6. Chinese bear
- 7. Stiped cat
- 8. Scaly anteater
- 10. Tusked whale
- 12. White whale
- 13. Right, blue, gray
- 1. Marsupial

Down

- 3. Large ape
- 4. Orange butterfly
- 5. Artic ursa
- 6. Black cat
- 9. Sea cow
- 11. Red, gray

[Crossword answers found on page 13]

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COLUMNS

Allison's Book Report

"The Love Elixir of Augusta Stern" by Lynda Cohen Loigman's

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO ACT ON RESOLUTION TO AUGMENT BUDGET

In accordance with the provisions of N.R.S. 354.598005, notice is hereby given that the Board of County Commissioners of Churchill County, State of Nevada, will act on a resolution to augment and make such other revisions to the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Budget. Revisions to funds that receive ad valorem taxes are the General Fund in the net amount of \$1,013,076; Social Services Fund \$105,000; Indigent Hospital Fund \$20,000; and Indigent Services Fund \$555,419; in order to appropriate greater than anticipated opening fund balances and revenues to allow for increased appropriations as deemed necessary. The meeting will be held in the County Commissioners Chambers, 155 North Taylor Street, Fallon, Nevada 89406 on June 18th at 1:15 p.m., at which time all persons may attend and be heard. Prior to the meeting written comments may be filed with the Clerk of the Board and will be considered.

Sherry Wideman, CPA Churchill County Comptroller

Published in *The Fallon Post* June 13, 2025 Ad #6326

By Allison Diegel

The days are long and busy this time of year, but that shouldn't stop you from picking up a good book and taking some time to immerse yourself in a great story. If you love a light and inspirational read, historical fiction, a second-chance-atlove story, and/or dual timelines, have I got a book for you!

Lynda Cohen Loigman's "The Love Elixir of Augusta Stern" is a poignant tale of rekindled love, family secrets, and the enduring pull of a mysterious past. The story unfolds across two distinct time periods, master-

fully intertwining the vibrant youth of Augusta Stern in 1920s Brooklyn with her contemplative later years in a Florida retirement community.

On the cusp of her eightieth birthday, Augusta finds herself at a crossroads. Newly retired from a long career as a pharmacist, she moves to an active senior community in southern Florida, seeking a new rhythm for her life. What she doesn't anticipate is a reunion with Irving Rivkin, the charming delivery boy from her father's old pharmacy, and the very man who broke her heart six decades earlier. This unexpected encounter immediately transports Augusta back to the pivotal moments of her youth, unearthing buried emotions and unresolved questions.

Growing up, Augusta idolized her father, Solomon Stern, the esteemed owner of the neighborhood pharmacy and the trusted expert on all local ailments. However, Augusta's world shifts dramatically after her mother's death, when her Great Aunt Esther moves in. Esther, a healer in her own right, possesses a unique approach to remedies, offering Solomon's customers unconventional concoctions ranging from soothing



chicken soup to a mysterious array of potent powders and potions.

As Augusta prepares for pharmacy college, she finds herself torn between her unwavering loyalty to her father's scientific methods and a growing fascination with her great aunt's enchantments. Adding to this internal conflict is her complicated relationship with Irving. Desperate for clarity, Augusta impulsively uses one of Esther's most potent elixirs, leading to consequences that leave her disillusioned and alone, vowing to reject Esther's "magic" forever.

Sixty years later, the sudden reappearance of Irving forces Augusta to confront the mistakes of her past. Haunted by the outcome of that fateful elixir, she grapples with nagging questions: What truly happened that day, and how did her carefully laid plan go so spectacularly wrong? Did Irving genuinely love her, or was he merely playing a part in a larger scheme? As Augusta navigates this second chance at connection, she embarks on

a journey of introspection, seeking to understand the events that shaped her life and, perhaps, reclaim the magic and belief in love she abandoned so long ago.

"The Love Elixir of Augusta Stern" is a compelling exploration of memory, regret, and the timeless pursuit of understanding one's own heart.

Whatever it is you're reading this week, don't forget to pop over to my Instagram @allison.the.reader for more recommendations and let me know what you think I should read next.

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.



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COLUMNS

PostCards: The Fallon Swimming Pool

By Michon Mackedon

Last Saturday, at about 3:30 p.m. on a very hot day, I drove by the Fallon Municipal Swimming Pool, part of the Oats Park complex. It was the height of the heat; my car gave me the news that it was 95 degrees outside. I wanted to test my memories of the place, memories stemming from both my childhood days (1950's) and my early parenthood days

(1970's and 80's). I remembered, in my youthful years, being up to my neck in refreshing chlorinated water and tentatively jumping, not diving, from the 10-foot-high diving board. I also remembered visiting Bob's Market, across Park Street from the pool, to buy a post-swim candy bar. Years later, I watched my own children learn to swim there while I watched swimming lessons from the southside bleachers. I needed to know: was the "pool" still the cool place to be on a torrid Fallon summer day?

On that Saturday afternoon, the pool was hoppin'. Every parking space was filled. The sounds were familiar—splashes, screams, parental warnings, and squeals of pure delight. The sights were also familiar, except for the fact that the legendary 10-foot-high diving board has been replaced by a less dangerous model, a curved plastic tube, which safely drops the adventurer into the water, with a smaller splash. The bleachers are also gone. But, the Fallon Swimming Pool is, indeed, thriving, and it provides tangible proof that a well-designed and well-built facility can weather the ravages of time.

In May 1937, the plan to build the Pool was launched. Editorials in the Fallon Eagle had questioned the town's "lack of initiative" in maintaining the existing, but unkempt, Oats Park.

To the rescue came the members of the Fallon 20-30 Club (a service organization for men between the ages of 20 and 30). They took up the idea of building a swimming pool in the park, raising enthusiasm but little money. It was, after all, the middle of the Great Depression. The resourceful Club members then turned to the federal Works



Projects Administration (WPA) for financial assistance. WPA, at the time they received the Fallon swimming pool proposal, had already helped fund Fallon's South Maine Street ball field and a new asphalt tennis court at Oats Park. The rule applied was that a local entity supply 20-40% of the cost of the project; the WPA would provide the rest through paid labor.

The WPA was funded by the Franklin Roosevelt administration in 1935 to provide public works jobs for otherwise unemployed men and women. Over its life span, and that of its successor, the Work Projects Administration (1939-1943), it hired 8.5 million people. The WPA construction dossier

is impressive to look at, citing the funding of over 40,000 new and 85,000 improved structures, including roads (620,000 miles), bridges (10,000), schools (5900), libraries (1000), courthouses, hospitals, sidewalks, and city halls. Also in the dossier are 65 ski jumps, 254 golf courses, 3,185 playgrounds, and 805 swimming pools, including the Fallon Municipal Swimming Pool.

With a plan in hand and an application sent to the WPA, the 20-30 Club members approached the Fallon City Council, who voted to approve the WPA contract, which allotted \$51,000 in labor toward the project. In March 1937, the concrete was poured for the 110 x 50-foot Fallon Pool.

On July 30, 1939, the pool was formally opened, with fanfare. A dedication ceremony honored John Oats for his gift to Fallon of the entire Oats Park parcel. The Fallon Municipal Band played for 60 minutes, and swimming was free for the day.

Now, almost 90 years later, we have received our money's worth. Not only is the Pool still the cool place to be on a hot summer's day, but it is surrounded by the many improvements brought by the City of Fallon to Oats Park over the ensuing years: a stage for performances and concerts; a pickle ball court; a splash park; a children's playground, a ballpark and lush, green grass. I'll bet there is not a person in Fallon who hasn't enjoyed the Pool or its surroundings.

Please send your story or an idea for a story to mackedon@phonewave.net. This week's story was suggested by Syvia Lumos. Thank you, Sylvia.

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

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Thursday, August 14 <u>Kids Night</u>

4:00 p.m.	Carnival until 10:00 p.m.
5:00 p.m.	Silver State Livestock Show
5:30 p.m.	Lions Club BMX Bike Race
	Pig Scramble, Mutton Bustin,
	Dare to be a Cowboy to follow
6:00 p.m.	Horseshoe Contest

Friday, August 15

8:00 a.m.	Silver State Livestock Show
0.00 a.m.	SILVEL STOLE FLAESTOCK SHOW
4:00 p.m.	Fair Opens
5:00 p.m.	Carnival until 10:00 p.m.
6:00 p.m.	Frog Jump
6:30 p.m.	LL Productions Truck & Tractor Pull
9:00 p.m.	Dancing Under the Stars
9:00 p.m.	Hispanic Band

Saturday, August 16

8:00 a.m.	Silver State Livestock Show
10:00 a.m.	Main Street Fair and Rodeo Parade
10:00 a.m.	Fair Opens
12:00 p.m.	Four Star - CCPRA Rodeo
12:00 p.m.	YHS Basketball Cornhole Tournament
1:00 p.m.	Carnival until 11:00 p.m.
5:00 p.m.	Littlest Cowboy / Cowgirl Contest
6:00 p.m.	Yerington Fire Department Demo Derby
9:00 p.m.	Dancing Under the Stars
9:00 p.m.	Hispanic Band

Sunday, August 17

- 9:00 a.m. Livestock Buyer Sign up
- 9:00 a.m. Mud Volleybal
- 10:00 a.m. Fair Opens until 4:00 p.m.
- 10:00 a.m. Motorcross Barrel Racing
- 10:00 a.m. Painting Class
- 10:30 a.m. Silver State Youth Livestock Show Buyer Lunch
- 11:00 a.m. Carnival until 2:00 p.m.
- 12:00 p.m. Silver State Youth Livestock Show Auction



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For more information please call, Lisa Tibbais 775-221-4087 or Donna McDonald 775-309-3720.

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