

THE FALLON POST



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Battle of the Badges Blood Drive Collects 141 Units

By Lori Kaiser

A friendly rivalry between the Churchill County Sheriff’s Office and the Fallon Police Department helped replenish Northern Nevada’s blood supply after local law enforcement personnel and community members donated 141 units during the annual Battle of the Badges blood drive July 21-22, answering the call during the region’s most significant Type O blood shortage in two years.

The drive collected 141 units during the two-day event, just shy of its 150-unit goal, with law enforcement officers, their families, friends, and community supporters donating on behalf of one of the two agencies. The Churchill County Sheriff’s Office claimed this year’s Battle of the Badges title after receiving the most supporter stickers, but Vitalant officials said the real victory was the impact those donations will continue to have for patients across Northern Nevada and Eastern California.

Behind the scenes, a small army of supporters made it all happen, including Vitalant, the City of Fallon, and Shannon Perez with her Ladies Behind the Badge. The group has been the quiet backbone of the event for years, helping save lives through friendly rivalry and fun.



Churchill County School District employee Mathew Kaiser donates blood during the Battle of the Badges blood drive on July 21. Photo by Nevena Kaiser.

“It’s a communitywide effort,” said Scott Kelley, Vitalant account manager. “Everybody coming together to get 141 units. Those units will save lives and impact lives, and most of those units go right back to local hospitals.”

Vitalant, Northern Nevada’s only blood bank, supplies blood to hospitals throughout Northern Nevada and Eastern California. Kelley said the organization is experiencing its most severe Type O blood shortage in two years.

[Battle of the Badges continued on page 2]

Norcutt Wins Ward 1 Special Election After Ballot Error Forces New Vote



Lori Norcutt.

By Rachel Dahl

Lori Norcutt received the most votes in the Fallon City Council Ward 1 special election after a ballot assignment error forced the city to hold a second election.

According to results released Tuesday by the Churchill County Clerk’s Office, Norcutt received 122 votes, or 56.74 percent, defeating Ryan Swirczek, who received 76 votes, or 35.35 percent, and Daniel Doty, who received 17 votes, or 7.91 percent. The vote totals give Norcutt the majority needed to avoid a runoff election if the results are certified.

The Fallon City Council rejected certification of the June election and ordered a new vote after learning hundreds of eligible Ward 1 voters had not received the correct ballot.

The July 21 special election was ordered after county officials determined that 881 registered Ward 1 voters had been assigned to the wrong precinct before the June election. Because their voter records were not updated following changes within Nevada’s statewide election management system, those residents received ballots that did not include the City Council race.

Churchill County Clerk Linda Rothery said she did not expect the remaining mail ballots or signature-cure ballots to change the outcome.

“It’s apparent who the winner is,” Rothery said. “I don’t think enough additional mail ballots will come in to change the outcome.”

[Norcutt Wins continued on page 5]

Health District Confirms First Churchill County Case of Cyclosporiasis

Staff Report

The Central Nevada Health District (CNHD) has confirmed the first case of cyclosporiasis in Churchill County after a local resident with no recent history of travel outside Nevada was diagnosed with the intestinal illness.

The resident was evaluated and diagnosed at a Renown medical facility. Public health officials have not identified the food or environmental source of the infection, and the investigation remains ongoing.

The lack of recent travel distinguishes the Churchill County case from previous Nevada cases, which were linked to travel outside the state.

Cyclosporiasis is an intestinal illness caused by the microscopic parasite Cyclospora cayetanensis. People typically become infected by consuming



contaminated food or water, most often fresh produce. The illness is not generally spread from person to person. Common symptoms include prolonged watery diarrhea, stomach cramps, bloating, nausea, fatigue, loss of appetite, and weight loss. Health officials advise anyone experi-

encing those symptoms to contact a healthcare provider promptly.

CNHD said identifying the source of the exposure remains a priority. The district will continue working with state and federal public health partners as the investigation continues.

Health officials urge residents experiencing symptoms consistent with cyclosporiasis to contact a healthcare provider.



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FROM THE PUBLISHER

Captain’s Log:

The Long Game

By Rachel Dahl

I’ve made a lot of mistakes over the past seven years trying to figure out how to make a local newspaper work. Refusing to believe it cannot be done, we press on, continually and humbly relying on the old on-the-job training method, learning in the oldest classroom there is — learning as we go because we have to make it work.

We are building this plane as we learn to fly it. This past month has been lesson after excruciating lesson, and when I use the word “humbly,” I do so with great weight.

While talking with The Intern the other day, trying to solve yet another self-inflicted situation and reaching a level of intense discouragement, I received a profound life lesson for which I am deeply grateful.

Riggin is our intern, and we’ve had the pleasure of his company, his help, his sense of humor, and the opportunity to cheer for his many life successes over the past two years. We are better for having known him. We’ve also tried to give him a real job title several times, but the joy on his face when he introduces himself at meetings and events as “The Intern” is simply one of life’s great pleasures.

We were trying to solve a computer problem, and I was apologizing for slowing his progress on a task because of my lack of technical ability and generally causing the situation we were trying to fix.

He said to me, “Listen, you’re running a successful newspaper conglomerate and have a lot going on.”

To which I snorted coffee out my nose and said, “This is hardly a success.”

That young man, in all the naïveté of youth and optimism, just shrugged and said, “It’s the long game, Rachel.”

Indeed. Some days longer than others. So while we enjoy these last couple of weeks



with The Intern as he readies to leave the nest and head off to college, we’ll always be right here, hoping one day he’ll come back to us as our corporate lawyer, and of course we’ll be...

...Keeping you Posted.

Rach

[Battle of the Badges continued from page 1]

Type O blood is especially critical because it is the universal blood type used in emergencies when doctors do not have time to determine a patient’s blood type. Kelley said donations traditionally decline during the summer because high school and college blood drives pause while demand often increases with more accidents and trauma cases.

“That’s why Battle of the Badges and other summer blood drives are so critical,” Kelley said. Among those answering the call was Churchill County School District employee Mathew Kaiser, who donated on behalf of the Fallon Police Department.

He said he grew up down the street from Frank and Debra Shyne and became childhood friends with their sons, Joe and Dan. He dedicated his blood donation to the Fallon Police Department in honor of the Shyne family’s long-time dedication to law enforcement and service to the City of Fallon and Churchill County.

The 34-year-old, who has B-negative blood, said he had not donated since high school.

“It’s been too long,” he said. He described donating blood as “a vital thing” because hospitals rely on a steady blood supply for patients who need transfusions.

Community members who missed the July 21-22 drive will have another opportunity to donate Aug. 11 during a Vitalant community blood drive hosted by Banner Churchill Community Hospital from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Walk-ins are welcome, although appointments are encouraged.

Type O blood remains in critically short supply. The next opportunity to donate is Aug. 11 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. during the Vitalant community blood drive at Banner Churchill Community Hospital. Walk-ins are welcome, although appointments are encouraged.

PETS OF THE WEEK

Diamond Seeks Forever Home

After more than two months at the Fallon Animal Shelter, Diamond is ready to leave kennel life behind and find a forever family. The 9-year-old dog has become a staff favorite thanks to her calm personality, gentle nature, and excellent manners. House-trained and affectionate, Diamond loves attention, belly rubs, and spending time with people. She has a positive history with children and generally does well with larger dogs after a proper introduction. She is not recommended for homes with cats or small dogs. Meet Diamond at the Fallon Animal Shelter and see why this sweet girl has stolen so many hearts.



Meet Sable

Sable has been waiting six months for a family to call her own, and the Fallon Animal Welfare Group hopes her wait ends soon. This 8-year-old tabby is affectionate, talkative, and enjoys spending time with people. Whether she's following you around the house or “chatting” about her day, Sable loves attention and companionship. She is spayed, vaccinated, microchipped, and ready to join her forever home. If you're looking for a friendly feline companion with plenty of personality, Sable may be the perfect match. Contact the Fallon Animal Welfare Group to learn more about adopting Sable.



Questions? Call 775-217-4745

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

FEATURES

From Quilts to Giant Melons, Festival Invites Community to Compete

Staff Report

Every August, the exhibit halls at the Fallon Cantaloupe Festival & Country Fair fill with quilts, photographs, canned goods, artwork, flowers, and prize-winning Hearts of Gold cantaloupes entered by exhibitors from across Nevada. Many entries represent months of work before they reach the exhibit hall.

Amateur exhibitors of all ages can compete in dozens of categories, from photography and fine arts to sewing, knitting, food preservation, gardening, and flowers. The festival’s 2026 premium booklet includes entry requirements, judging information, and exhibit rules.

Nevada residents may enter work completed within the past year, provided it meets the requirements for its department. Youth exhibitors compete in Pee wee, Junior, Intermediate, and Senior divisions based on age.

Exhibits are judged using the Danish Judging System, which evaluates each entry against established standards rather than against other exhibitors. More than one blue ribbon may be awarded in a class if multiple entries meet those standards. Visitors also vote for People’s Choice Awards during the festival.

Among the festival’s best-known competitions is the Special Cantaloupe Growing Contest. Growers may enter Hearts of Gold cantaloupes in categories recognizing the largest, roundest, most unusual, and ugliest melons. Participants may also receive complimentary seeds through the festival and share photographs of their progress throughout the growing season using #TheColossalCantaloupe.

Visitors can browse exhibits ranging from heirloom recipes and handcrafted quilts to original artwork, flowers, preserved foods, and locally grown produce.

The 41st annual Fallon Cantaloupe Festival & Country Fair will be held Aug. 28-30 at the Rafter 3C Event Complex. Premium booklets are available through the Fallon Cantaloupe Festival & Country Fair.

FIVE WAYS TO JOIN THE COMPETITION

Photography: Landscape, wildlife, portrait, and creative photography classes are open to amateur exhibitors.

Home Arts: Quilts, sewing, knitting, crochet, embroidery, woodworking, and other handcrafted projects have their own divisions.

Food Preservation: Home-canned fruits, vegetables, jams, jellies, pickles, and other preserved foods are judged in multiple categories.

Flowers and Gardens: Exhibitors may enter fresh-cut flowers, floral arrangements, fruits, vegetables, and other garden produce.

Special Cantaloupe Growing Contest: Growers compete for awards recognizing the largest, roundest, most unusual, and ugliest Hearts of Gold cantaloupes.

THINKING ABOUT ENTERING?

The 2026 Fallon Cantaloupe Festival & Country Fair Premium Booklet includes complete competition rules, exhibit classes, judging information, entry requirements, and department-specific instructions for exhibitors.



Growers may enter Hearts of Gold cantaloupes in categories recognizing the largest, roundest, most unusual, and ugliest melons.

CCSD Welcomes Two New Administrators



Shannon Coombs has joined the Churchill County School District as director of student services. Photo courtesy of the Churchill County School District.



Marjorie Mauk has been named vice principal at Churchill County High. Photo courtesy of the Churchill County School District.

By Amber Hardin

Churchill County schools will begin the 2026-27 school year with two new administrators, as Shannon Coombs joins the district as director of student services and Marjorie Mauk has been named vice principal at Churchill County High School.

COOMBS TO LEAD STUDENT SERVICES

As director of student services, Coombs will oversee programs that include special education, Section 504 services, intervention services, federal programs, student assessments, and other district services that support students and families.

Coombs brings more than 25 years of experience in education, including classroom teaching, literacy support, and school administration. Most recently, she served as principal of Yerington Elementary School, where she focused on student achievement, school culture, and supporting diverse learning needs.

MAUK JOINS CCHS LEADERSHIP TEAM

Mauk joins Churchill County High School after spending the past nine years at Silverland Middle School in Fernley. During that time, she served four years as a teacher leader, supporting instructional coaching and school improvement initiatives.

She holds master’s degrees in elementary education and educational leadership and is pursuing a doctorate in educational leadership.

Superintendent Blake Cooper said both administrators bring leadership experience and a collaborative approach that will support students, educators, and the district as the new school year begins.

ORGANIZATION OF THE WEEK

Juvenile Probation and Detention Department

By Sydney Trainor

Churchill County’s Juvenile Probation and Detention Department works in partnership with the Tenth Judicial District Court to supervise and rehabilitate youth involved in the juvenile justice system. The department provides probation services, rehabilitation programs and secure detention when necessary while working alongside the Juvenile Court Master, schools, families and community partners to help young people avoid repeat offenses.

The department provides investigations, supervision and services for youth appearing before the Juvenile Court Master, who presides over juvenile matters in the Tenth Judicial District Court.

During Churchill County’s budget discussions earlier this year, Chief Juvenile Probation Officer Motulalo Otuafi outlined requests focused on aligning staff classifications with existing responsibilities rather than expanding the department. Otuafi requested reclassifying an office specialist position to legal secretary, explaining



the employee already performs many of those duties, including filing court documents and serving as clerk for the Juvenile Court Master.

The Juvenile Detention Division provides temporary, secure custody for youth awaiting court proceedings or serving short-term detention. In addition to maintaining a safe environment, the facility provides meals, educational opportunities and programs intended to support youth during their stay.

Otuafi also requested an additional \$10,000 for food services, citing rising food costs. He told commissioners the department explored several cost-saving options, including purchasing meals through the hospital, partnering with the Senior Center and coordinating food orders with Churchill County Social Services through Sysco. None of those alternatives would produce meaningful savings, he said.

When commissioners asked whether meals could be provided through the Churchill County School District, Otuafi explained that although some youth attending school receive breakfast there, the detention facility serves breakfast to every juvenile in its care to ensure no one begins the day hungry.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CCSD Announces Back-to-School Open Houses

By Amber Hardin

Churchill County School District schools will host a series of back-to-school open houses in August, giving students and families a chance to meet teachers, tour classrooms, and prepare for the start of the 2026-27 school year.

The events are intended to help students and families become familiar with their schools, learn important information for the upcoming year, and prepare for the first day of classes.



OPEN HOUSE SCHEDULE:
Aug. 18: Churchill County High School, 5:30-7 p.m. (grades 9-12)
Aug. 19: Churchill County Middle School, 5-6 p.m. (grade 6) and 6-7 p.m. (grades 7-8)
Aug. 20: Lahontan Elementary School, 4-5:30 p.m. (first grade only)
Aug. 21: E.C. Best Elementary School, 1-3 p.m. (second and third grades)
Aug. 21: Numa Elementary School, 3-4 p.m. (fourth and fifth grades)

Parents of Lahontan Elementary kindergarten students will be contacted by their child’s teacher during the week of Aug. 24 to schedule an individual open house date and time.

Northside Early Learning Center will host its prekindergarten open house from 2:30-4 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 27. Families who applied to the program began receiving qualification letters by mail during the week of July 20.

The first day of school for students in grades 1-12 is Monday, Aug. 24. Prekindergarten and kindergarten students at Northside Early Learning Center and Lahontan Elementary School will begin classes Monday, Aug. 31.



National Night Out Returns Tuesday, Aug. 4

Staff Report

Fallon residents are invited to join local first responders for National Night Out from 4 to 8 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 4, at Oats Park.

The annual event is designed to strengthen relationships between the community and local public safety agencies while promoting safer neighborhoods through positive interaction.

Families can meet the police, fire and EMS personnel, explore emergency vehicles, watch K-9 demonstrations and visit community resource booths. The evening also will feature games and activities for children, food vendors, giveaways and displays from public safety agencies.

National Night Out is free and open to the public. Community members of all ages are encouraged to attend.

Books, Bites & Beverages Returns Aug. 7

Raffle prizes, auction items and books are displayed at a previous Books, Bites & Beverages fundraiser. Photo courtesy of the Churchill County Library.



By Amber Hardin

The Churchill Library Association will host its annual Books, Bites & Beverages fundraiser Friday, Aug. 7, at the Churchill County Library to support library programs and services.

The event begins at 6:30 p.m. at the library, 553 S. Maine St. Tickets are \$35 per person and are available at the library circulation desk or from any Churchill Library Association member. Proceeds will benefit library programs and services throughout the year.

Guests can browse themed displays inspired by a variety of literary genres, including fantasy and fairy tales, Western and Nevada lore, mystery and true crime, romance, and horror. The evening will also include refreshments, signature drinks, raffles, giveaways, and a silent auction.

For more information, contact the Churchill County Library at 775-423-7581.



NAS Fallon Fed Fireman poses with two visitors at previous National Night Out event. Photo by Leanna Lehman.

FREE GREENWAVE SPORTS PHYSICALS

Tuesday, Aug. 11 from 1 to 6 p.m.

Churchill County High School Athletics will offer free sports physicals for CCHS student-athletes from 1 to 6 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 11, in the Churchill County High School Library.

The physicals are available at no cost and are open to CCHS students only. Completing a sports physical before the start of the fall season helps students meet participation requirements and be ready for practices and competition.

For more information, contact the Churchill County High School Athletics Office.

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, August 3 <i>LS Polish Dog Sauerkraut w/Apples Sweet Potato Fries Apple Sauce</i>	Tuesday, August 4 <i>Chicken Caesar Salad Minestrone Soup W/ White Beans WW Roll Spiced Apple Slices</i>	Wednesday, August 5 <i>Spaghetti w/Meatballs Zucchini Colorful Salad 9 Grain Bread Orange-Mango Cup</i>	Thursday, August 6 <i>French Toast w/Strawberries Turkey Sausage Stewed Tomatoes LF Yogurt Orange Juice</i>	Friday, August 7 <i>Baked Fish Fillet Coleslaw Tater Tots Garden Salad Peaches Tartar Sauce</i>
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FALLON DAILY BREAD

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

Monday, August 3 <i>Hot Turkey Sandwiches Mashed Potatoes & Veggies</i>	Thursday, August 6 <i>Taco Night Rice & Beans</i>	Monday, August 10 <i>Pancakes & Eggs Fruit</i>	Thursday, August 13 <i>Vegetable Beef Soup Salad & Bread</i>	Volunteer groups needed to help serve once per month, 3 p.m. until 6:30 p.m. Call for information.
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OBITUARIES

VICKI ANN KELLER
June 4, 1956 – July 21, 2026



Born June 4, 1956, to Thomas Robert and Mary Helen Harris. Vicki grew up in Fallon. She married the boy next door, Dale Keller, on November 22, 1975. Together they welcomed and raised two boys on the same properties they grew up on.

Vicki loved the outdoors. She felt most at home in a round pen working colts, riding a horse or sliding her Yankee man across an arena. You could find Vicki giving a riding lesson, making lasting memories with her friends and sitting horseback with a huge smile on her face.

Those who knew Vicki knew a fresh-dragged arena on a cool morning as the sun rose, while having horse trailers in her yard and friends on horseback, were days she cherished most.

Vicki is survived by her sons, Joseph Keller and Todd Keller, and her grandchildren, Trent Keller and Colbie Keller.

She is also survived by her siblings, Danny Harris (Peggy), and Tom Harris (Cindy).

She is preceded in death by her husband, Dale Keller; her parents, Robert and Helen Harris, and granddaughter Hailei Keller.

Services will be held Thursday, Aug. 6, 2026, at 10 a.m. at Smith Family Funeral Home, 505 Rio Vista Drive, Fallon, Nevada.

CAROL SULLIVAN
September 3, 1945 – July 18, 2026

In Loving Memory of Carol Sullivan.

Mom was the heart of our family. She had an incredible way of putting others before herself, never hesitating to help anyone in need. Mom sacrificed, provided, and loved with a generosity that had no limits. Her family was always her greatest priority, and she had a remarkable way of making each of us feel deeply loved and cherished.

Mom, thank you for the endless love, your sacrifices, and unwavering faith. You will be deeply missed, forever loved, and never forgotten.



GARY LEE HARGER
November 10, 1942 – June 3, 2026

Gary Lee Harger, 83, of Papillion, Nebraska, passed away on June 3, 2026, after a courageous journey with Alzheimer’s disease. Born on November 10, 1942, in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, Gary grew up in Center Point, Iowa, where he lived a full and purposeful life defined by hard work and a deep love for his family.

Gary proudly served his country in the United States Air Force, an experience that shaped his character and sense of duty. Following his military service, he moved to Victorville, California, and eventually settled in Fallon, Nevada, a small town he came to love deeply and where he would spend the majority of his life. In Fallon, Gary operated a car lot, a business he dedicated himself to for decades. He was a fixture in the community, known for his integrity and genuine way with people.

Gary was a thoughtful man and had a strong intuition regarding people, understanding them in ways that words alone could not capture. Beyond his work, Gary was a passionate collector of antique clocks. Over the course of his lifetime, he amassed a remarkable collection of 87 clocks, and he took

great pride in painstakingly restoring each one to working condition. The patience and care he brought to that labor of love reflected the kind of man he was in every aspect of his life.

Above all, Gary was a devoted father. His daughters were the center of his world, and even as Alzheimer’s took so much from him, it could never take that away. He always knew who they were, and his love for them remained steadfast and unmistakable until the very end.

Gary is preceded in death by his father, Max Harger; mother, Amorita Meythaler (Bill); brother, Dean Harger (Barbara); and brother, Dewey Harger (Shirley). He is survived by his daughters, Cherie Kitson-Winfrey (Scott) and Ellie Zehnder; grandchildren Colin and Caitlin Kitson, Jade, Eliza, and Ian Zehnder; and dear friends Joe and Jenny Benson.

A man of deep and abiding faith, Gary trusted in the Lord throughout his life. His family takes comfort in knowing that he is now at peace in the arms of his Savior, free from the burdens of this world and reunited with those who went before him.

A small ceremony will be held later this summer. Gary’s ashes will be laid to rest in the Dunkard Cemetery, located in Toddville, Iowa, where lie many of his beloved relatives.

EDNA L. DIANDA
Feb. 17, 1941 – July 24, 2026

It is with profound sadness that we announce the passing of our beloved mother, noni, great-noni, sister, aunt and friend, Edna L. Dianda, who passed away July 24, 2026, surrounded by the love of her family.

Edna was born Feb. 17, 1941, in Fallon, Nevada. She graduated from Churchill County High School and Northwest Nazarene University.

Edna was married to Anthony (Tony) Dianda for 33 years.

Edna loved to travel. She traveled throughout the United States, as well as to Greece and Alaska, to name just a few of her favorite destinations.

Her favorite pastime was planning family gatherings and spending time with friends and family. Edna was involved in many community projects.

Throughout her life, she was known for her kindness, generosity, unwavering love for her family and her ability to make everyone feel welcome. She found joy in the simple things, especially spending time with those she loved, caring for her home and always putting others before herself.

To those who knew her best, she was the heart of the family. She had a warm smile, a giving spirit and a hug that could make any day better. Even on her final morning, she spent her time caring for others, sharing hugs, saying “I love you,” working on her flowers and walking the family dog, Lady.

That selfless love is how she will always be remembered.



She leaves behind a family who adored and loved her and will forever cherish the memories, laughter, wisdom and unconditional love she shared throughout her life. Her legacy lives on in the countless lives she touched and in the family she loved so deeply.

Although our hearts are broken, we find comfort in knowing that love like hers never truly leaves us. We will carry her strength, compassion and gentle

spirit with us every day.

She is survived by her brother, Ray Carter; sister, Patricia (Floyd) Strickland; son, Paul Choinski; grandchildren, Winter Choinski, Amanda (John) Rippee, Michelle Choinski, Ryan Choinski, Thomas Choinski and Gabriel Choinski; nephew, Jordan Strickland; niece, Elisa (Steven) Homestead; and many more nephews, nieces and cousins, all of whom she loved.

Edna was preceded in death by her loving husband, Anthony (Tony) Dianda; her mother, Esther Carter; and her brothers, Clinton Price and Merwin Carter.

In lieu of a funeral, Edna asked that her family have a picnic in the park in October. The exact date will be announced at a later time. All who would like to attend are welcome.

The family extends heartfelt gratitude to everyone who has offered prayers, support and kindness during this incredibly difficult time.

Forever loved. Forever missed. Forever in our hearts.

Correction

In the July 10 edition of The Fallon Post, the name in the headline of Wallace Clark Dummar Jr.’s obituary was misspelled. Mr. Dummar’s name should have appeared as Wallace Clark Dummar Jr. *The Fallon Post sincerely apologizes to the Dummar family for this error. Obituaries are among the most important items we publish, and we regret that we did not accurately honor Mr. Dummar with the correct spelling of his name. We extend our deepest apologies to his family, friends, and loved ones.*

[Norcutt Wins continued from page 1]

The Churchill County Commission was scheduled to canvass the election July 29, after this edition of The Fallon Post went to press.

Mail ballots had to be postmarked by Election Day and received by Saturday. Voters with signature issues had until Monday to cure their ballots before the scheduled canvass.

Only 215 of Ward 1’s 1,938 registered voters cast ballots, an 11.09 percent turnout. Of those, 123 ballots were cast by mail, 50 during early voting, and 42 on Election Day.

“I always expect more turnout,” Rothery said.

“I was hoping we’d have better turnout for the second round because of how publicized it was. We pushed it out on social media, so this was a lot smaller than I expected.”

Before the June election was invalidated, Norcutt also led the unofficial vote with 161 ballots. Swirczek received 110 votes, and Doty received 32.

County officials said the affected voter records were manually corrected and verified before the special election. Additional checks were added to compare voter registrations with precinct assignments to help prevent similar errors in future elections.

The special election featured the same three

candidates who appeared on the June ballot.

If certified, the results would give Norcutt more than the majority required to avoid a runoff election.

Rothery said lower turnout is common in primary-style municipal elections because many voters wait until the general election to cast a ballot.

“I don’t think people view primaries as important,” she said. “We have people who only come out for the general election.”

Fallon City Clerk Michael O’Neill said turnout was also historically low when Fallon conducted its own municipal elections before joining the county election system.

FALLON COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Fallon Community Calendar Movie Day Coalition for Senior Citizens The Fallon Theatre Every third Friday at 1 p.m.	National Night Out America 250 Fallon Oats Park Aug. 4 from 4 to 8 p.m.	Folk Art with Mrs. Sorenson Churchill Arts Council Oats Park Art School Aug. 10-14. Ages 7-9, 9 to 10 a.m.; ages 10-12, 11 a.m. to noon.	Fallon Cantaloupe Festival & Country Fair Rafter 3C Event Complex Aug. 28-30
Ty’s Let’m Buck Rodeo City of Fallon America 250 Nevada State Fairgrounds Aug. 1. Slack at 8 a.m. Evening performance at 6 p.m.	Artistic Foundations with Adrienne Churchill Arts Council Oats Park Art School Every Tuesday in August from 9 to 10 a.m.	Vitalant Blood Drive Banner Churchill Community Hospital Aug. 11 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.	Cantaloupe Canter 5K Fallon Theatre In front of the Churchill County Aquatic Center 333 Sheckler Rd. Aug. 29. Check-in at 7 a.m.; race begins at 8 a.m.
Second Annual Junior Golf Fundraiser Fallon Golf Course 2655 Country Club Dr. Aug. 1 at 9 a.m.	Books, Bites & Beverages Churchill Library Association Churchill County Library Aug. 7 at 6:30 p.m.	Beauty and the Beast Rough Stock Rodeo and Concert De Golyer Bucking Horse and Bull Bash Churchill County Fairgrounds Aug. 15. Gates open at 3 p.m. Rodeo at 6 p.m.	
Adult Watercolor Workshop Churchill Arts Council Oats Park Art School Aug. 3 and 4 at 9 a.m.	Dust Devil Sprint Triathlon America 250 Fallon Churchill County Aquatic Center Aug. 8 at 7:30 a.m.	Free Concert in the Park Churchill Arts Council Oats Park Aug. 15 at 7:30 p.m.	



COMMUNITY

Behind-the-Scenes Crew Keeps Rafter 3C Arena Event-Ready

Story and photos by Nancy Chapman

From rodeos and barrel races to Cowboy Fast Draw and cutting horse competitions, every event at the Rafter 3C Arena and Event Center begins long before the first competitor enters the arena. Behind the scenes, a small maintenance and events crew prepares the footing, equipment, and facility to meet the unique demands of each event.

“They all take great pride in their jobs, and it shows,” said Jesse Segura, deputy director of the Rafter 3C Event Complex.

One weekend, the arena floor may need to be firm and hard-packed for the Fastest Gun Alive competition. Days later, it must be transformed into a softer, sandier surface for the Pacific Coast Cutting Horse Association cutting, where proper footing is essential for the safety and performance of horse and rider.

Matthew Montavalo, Rafter 3C maintenance coordinator, has worked at the facility for five years. He joined the staff shortly after the building was completed and helped develop the arena footing used today.

Montavalo’s background in mining, with an emphasis on soil composition, helped shape an



Matthew Montavalo, Rafter 3C maintenance coordinator, stands beside the arena groomer and tractor used to prepare the footing for events at the Rafter 3C Arena and Event Center.



Justin Lovett, Rafter 3C maintenance technician, stands with the skid steer used to level and prepare the arena floor for competitions throughout the year.

arena surface that can be adjusted for a variety of events. Working with Segura and arena designer Jim Kiser, he helped develop the arena footing that now accommodates everything from rodeos to horse shows.

“When I first came here, the arena floor as we know it today wasn’t here,” Montavalo said. “There were no concrete retaining walls, handrails, or bleachers.”

Montavalo also remembers the arena’s inaugural Professional Bull Riders event on New Year’s Eve, when Fallon briefly lost power. The facility’s backup generator restored the lights and sound within moments, allowing the event to continue.

Justin Lovett, a Rafter 3C maintenance technician, brings a construction background and experience working with soil. He helps determine how much water and conditioning the arena surface requires before each event.

Preparing for the Pacific Coast Cutting Horse Association cutting required moving approximately 115 tons of existing arena material before adding another 453 tons of sand purchased by the association from Cinderlite of Reno. The competition is scheduled for July 29 through Aug. 1.

Hunter Giovanetti, Rafter 3C event specialist, works alongside Segura to coordinate the facility’s busy schedule and steps in wherever needed to help ensure events run smoothly.

During competitions, visitors often see Montavalo and Lovett maintaining the arena between events while Segura and Giovanetti coordinate operations behind the scenes.

Whether the arena is hosting Night of Fights, dog agility competitions, Cowboy Fast Draw, barrel races, rodeos, or cutting horse events, the crew’s work ensures the facility is ready before spectators arrive and continues throughout each event.

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DID YOU KNOW?

Exploring the people, places, and stories that shaped Churchill County

From Fallon to 70mm

By Lori Kaiser

A recent article in The Seattle Times highlighted Fallon’s own Aaron Ride-nour for his work as a 70mm projectionist. His career, however, began in the projection booth of the Fallon Theatre.

Before digital projection, every movie shown at the Fallon Theatre depended on the skill of a projectionist. Originally opened as the New Rex Theatre in 1920 and converted for sound films in 1930, the theater relied on projectionists to thread reels through mechanical projectors, monitor each showing, and switch reels with split-second timing.

According to the Churchill County Museum, projectionists watched for cue marks that briefly appeared in the upper corner of the film. Those marks signaled when to start a second projector, so audiences experienced a seamless transition from one reel to the next. A missed cue could result in broken film, a dark screen, or an interrupted performance.

The Fallon Theatre upgraded to a platter system in 1983, allowing an entire feature film to run from a single projector after the reels were assembled. Even then, projectionists remained responsible for building each print, threading the projector, monitoring the presentation, and dismantling the film afterward.

Unlike digital projection, 70mm film requires specialized equipment and careful preparation. Large-format film prints are significantly larger and heavier than standard 35mm prints, and every showing depends on experienced projectionists who understand how to assemble, thread, and operate the equipment correctly. Only a limited number of theaters in the United States continue to present films in the format.

Movie enthusiasts value 70mm for its exceptional image quality, clarity, and immersive presentation. Although digital technology has become the industry standard, many filmmakers continue to champion film, and audiences still seek opportunities to experience movies as they were originally intended to be shown.

Ridenour built on the foundation he learned in Fallon to become a leading 70mm projectionist. He later served as lead projectionist at Seattle’s Cinerama and now oversees 70mm presentations at Seattle’s SIFF Cinema Downtown, helping preserve one of cinema’s most specialized crafts.

For Ridenour, a career preserving one of filmmaking’s oldest traditions began in a much smaller projection booth in Fallon. His story is a reminder that the community’s historic theater helped launch a career dedicated to keeping the art of film projection alive.



A silhouetted projectionist operates a vintage film projector, representing the craft that launched Fallon’s Aaron Ridenour on a career preserving 70mm film presentations.

BUSINESS



Julian joins his grandparents, Clear Path Healthcare owners Martina and Tony Jacovino, in restocking the Fallon Cares box outside the Fallon Chamber of Commerce. Photo courtesy of the Fallon Chamber of Commerce.

Clear Path Healthcare Helps Restock Fallon Cares Box

By Amber Hardin

Clear Path Healthcare recently partnered with the Fallon Chamber of Commerce to help restock the Fallon Cares box, donating food and personal care items for residents who need assistance.

Owners Martina and Tony Jacovino, joined by their grandson, Julian, helped replenish the community pantry outside the Chamber office. The donation box, formerly known as the Karma Box, operates on a simple principle: take what you need and leave what you can.

The Fallon Cares program provides free nonperishable food, hygiene products and other essentials. Additional community boxes are located in the lobby of the Churchill County Sheriff's Office and outside the Wolf Center.

Clear Path Healthcare opened its Fallon office earlier this year and provides in-home care services for seniors and others who need assistance with daily living. Services include personal care, companionship, respite care, post-hospital recovery support and dementia care.

Community members wishing to support the Fallon Cares program may donate nonperishable food, hygiene products and other approved items at any of the three community boxes.

High Desert Vitality, Body In Knead Celebrate Joint Ribbon Cutting



Molly McClure, left, owner of Body In Knead, and Kim Padilla, owner of High Desert Vitality, pose before a joint ribbon-cutting ceremony.

Story and photos by Nancy Chapman

High Desert Vitality and Body In Knead celebrated a joint ribbon-cutting ceremony July 24 at 40 E. Center St., Suite 12, welcoming community members and Chamber of Commerce representatives to mark the opening of the two businesses.

Fallon Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Lucy Carnahan hosted the ceremony, recognizing both businesses during the shared celebration.

High Desert Vitality is led by Kim Padilla, an advanced practice registered nurse with more than 14 years of health care experience. The clinic specializes in hormone therapy, men's and women's health, weight management, and personalized wellness programs designed to meet each patient's individual health goals.

Padilla develops individualized care plans based on each patient's medical history and health concerns. Services include hormone optimization, peptide therapy, vitamin injections, treatment for chronic fatigue, and support for patients experiencing perimenopause and menopause symptoms.

High Desert Vitality operates on a self-pay membership model rather than accepting health insurance. Membership fees vary based on each patient's individual health needs. Padilla said she opened the clinic after recognizing a need for personalized wellness care focused on restoring balance, improving mood, increasing strength, and supporting healthy aging.



Kim Padilla cuts the ribbon during the Chamber of Commerce ceremony celebrating the openings of High Desert Vitality and Body In Knead.

Body In Knead, owned by Molly McClure, also celebrated its opening during the joint ribbon-cutting ceremony. Operating from the same location, the massage therapy practice offers therapeutic, relaxation, and medical massage services tailored to individual clients. According to the Fallon Chamber of Commerce business directory, the practice focuses on pain relief, stress reduction, and services for veterans.

Both businesses were recognized during the Chamber of Commerce ribbon-cutting ceremony at 40 E. Center St., Suite 12.





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LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Laura Mills Park Walking Path Replacement Enters Next Phase

By Riggin Stonebarger

The Fallon City Council approved an \$815,798.81 contract Tuesday to replace nearly three-quarters of a mile of aging walking paths at Laura Mills Park with wider, fiber-reinforced concrete paths as part of a larger park improvement project.

The council awarded the contract to Ernst Earthworks. The project will replace both the interior and exterior asphalt walking paths with concrete designed to improve accessibility and address long-standing drainage issues.

Public Works Director Brian Byrd said the existing asphalt paths will be removed and replaced with wider concrete paths that include improved slopes and drainage.

“The removal of the existing asphalt will allow for the installation of wider paths, proper slopes, and alleviating low areas,” Byrd said.

The walking path project is one phase of broader improvements planned for the park. Byrd said the city has already completed a new exercise area on the north side, and previously purchased playground equipment will be installed while the walking paths are under construction.

City crews also plan to install a professionally designed irrigation system, improve soil conditions, and reseed the park.

“Our hope is that we get the walking paths, the playground, seed in the ground, and the irrigation system before Oct. 1,” Byrd said.

Construction will require temporary closures within the park.

“The plan is to close the interior walking path portion where the playground is because that’s where the majority of the work and hazards are going to be,” Byrd said.

He said staff hope to keep portions of the exterior walking path open for as long as practical before expanding closures as construction progresses.

Councilman Paul Harmon encouraged the city to better inform residents about the project in response to ongoing public inquiries about improvements at the park.

“I think if there’s any way that we can publicize this project,” Harmon said. “I think we’ve gotten a lot of feedback about Laura Mills Park.”

Harmon said he hopes residents will recognize the improvements as part of the city’s ongoing investment in the park.

“I don’t know if the city did the best job of promoting what project we were going to be doing,” Harmon said. “Hopefully by October we’ve got seed on the ground and grass growing, and it looks really nice.”

Byrd said the project will be funded primarily through city bond proceeds. The council approved the contract unanimously.



Residents walk through Laura Mills Park as construction begins on a project to replace the park's aging asphalt walking paths with wider, more accessible concrete paths designed to improve drainage and accessibility. Portions of the park will remain open while work continues. Photo by Lori Kaiser.

Trustees Ask How District Will Improve Student Achievement

By Leanna Lehman

Churchill County School District trustees took a closer look at how the district plans to improve student achievement during discussion of the Fiscal Year 2027 District Performance Plan at their July 21 meeting, asking administrators how broad district goals translate into help for students in the classroom.

Assistant Superintendent Mike Walker explained that the performance plan is a broad roadmap built around goals previously established by the board, including increasing the district’s graduation rate to more than 90% by the end of the 2026-27 school year. He said the plan is expected to change as the Nevada Department of Education rolls out new accountability requirements under Senate Bill 460.

Walker said the district’s strategy includes reviewing student performance data, providing teacher training and supporting schools as they work to improve reading, math and overall student achievement. He said the district plan is intended to establish overall goals and direction,

while allowing individual schools the flexibility to address the unique needs of their students.

Trustee Julie Guerrero-Goetsch said she was looking for more information about what specific interventions students receive, noting the draft appeared to place greater emphasis on teacher training than on the strategies being used to help struggling students.

Walker said the district plan is designed to provide overall direction, while each school develops its own improvement plan based on the needs of its students.

“At the district level, we have to make sure that we have the best practices trained and implemented in our schools,” Walker said.

“The school level ... gets a little bit deeper into the weeds” because administrators know the specific needs of their students and classrooms.

Churchill County Middle School Principal Dr. Deana Porretta offered one example, explaining that the middle school will dedicate part of its advisory period several days each week to reading and writing support. Students will be grouped based on assessment results so instruction

can better address their individual needs and help them improve throughout the year.

Walker said Churchill County High School is also expanding student support through regular reviews of academic data, common assessments and student goal-setting. He said schools across the district are using student performance data to identify where additional help is needed and adjust instruction accordingly.

Trustees also revisited questions from the previous meeting about Career and Technical Education goals. Walker explained the difference between students who complete a CTE program and those who go on to earn an industry certificate, suggesting the board may want to consider the more rigorous standard when updating future district goals.

The board unanimously approved the FY27 District Performance Plan.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for August 18, with a special meeting set for July 30 to approve the recent appointment of Neil Rombardo as the district’s new legal counsel.

Library Improvements, New Technology Highlight Trustees Meeting

By Sydney Trainor

The Churchill County Library has completed renovations to its children's area and is preparing to introduce new technology for patrons, Director John Hong reported during the July 23 meeting of the Library Board of Trustees.

Hong said the renovated children’s area now includes lower shelving on wheels that makes book covers easier for children to browse while allowing staff to reconfigure the space as needed. The redesign also created a permanent Story Time area. He also announced the library has selected a new adult services librarian and that the hiring process is nearing completion.

Grant-funded technology is expected to arrive by the end of July. Six Samsung tablets will be available for in-library checkout, allowing patrons to access library databases and print documents. Four DVD players also will be

available for checkout for residents who still borrow DVDs but no longer own a player.

Hong also highlighted participation in the Summer Reading Program. The June 6 kickoff drew more than 181 attendees, and readers have already claimed more than 600 prizes. The program continues through July 31. During June, Story Time attracted 404 participants, author talks drew 37 attendees, and Chess Club welcomed 61 participants.

Trustees reviewed Board Training Module 7, which focused on the responsibilities of board officers. Hong outlined the duties of the chair, vice chair, secretary, and treasurer, noting that boards may establish additional officer positions as needed. Trustee Ryan Swirczek said the chair’s authority to appoint committees stood out to him, even though the Churchill County Library Board does not currently use committees.

Trustee Mattie Serna requested a future agenda

item explaining how board officers are elected each January.

During trustee reports, Sari Koehler promoted the Friends of the Library’s Books, Bites & Beverages fundraiser, scheduled for 6:30 p.m. Aug. 7. Proceeds will support the Summer Reading Program, volunteer appreciation events, Story Time crafts, the adult lunch book club, adult crafting programs, and STEAM programming. Koehler also thanked the community and library staff for supporting library programs. Serna echoed those comments after participating in Story Time.

Hong also announced a Nevada Department of Wildlife program featuring live animal artifacts, including bones and pelts, at 2 p.m. Aug. 4.

In other business, trustees unanimously approved the June 2026 budget report and gift fund report. The board’s next meeting is scheduled for Aug. 7.

Home-Based Business Variance Approved

By Riggin Stonebarger

The Fallon Board of Adjustment approved a variance July 23 allowing a home-based nail technician business to operate in a residential neighborhood after the applicant agreed to a parking plan intended to address concerns from a neighboring property owner.

The variance allows Maria Refugio Tapia Duran Urrutia to operate the business from her home at 480 W. B St. in an R-1 residential zone. As part of the approval, Tapia agreed to establish designated client parking on the opposite side of the street to reduce traffic and parking concerns near neighboring properties.

Neighbor Nicholas Meader submitted a letter expressing concerns that customers could create parking congestion and limit vehicle turnaround

space on West B Street. The applicant agreed to the parking arrangement after the concerns were discussed.

City Engineer Derek Zimney presented the request to the board. The application included a letter describing the proposed business and a floor plan showing the portion of the home that would be used for clients.

The variance was approved on a 4-0 vote. The variance must be exercised within 180 days or it will expire.

The hearing had originally been scheduled for July 7 but was canceled after an incorrect address appeared on the agenda. The application was reconsidered during the board’s July 23 meeting.

COURT

Tenth Judicial District Court

The Tenth Judicial District Court convened Tuesday, July 21 with Judge Thomas Stockard presiding.

By Teresa Moon

Gonzalo Diego Nunez pleaded guilty to the wobbler charge of Attempt to commit grand larceny of personal goods or property of a value of \$1,200 to \$5,000.

A wobbler may be sentenced as either a gross misdemeanor punishable by up to 364 days in jail and a fine of \$2,000; or as a felony, punishable by 1 – 4 years in prison and a fine of \$5,000. Sentencing was set for August 11 to allow time for victim notification.

Kaza Kaylor, in custody, admitted to a technical probation violation for using prohibited substances.

Senior Deputy District Attorney (SDDA) Chelsea Sanford argued that Kaylor has been on probation for five months and has accumulated repeated violations by continuing to use controlled substances while failing to pay restitution. The State asked that her probation be temporarily revoked for 30 days.

Defense Attorney Charles Woodman acknowledged that Kaylor had tested positive for controlled substances several times and did not object to the State’s request for a 30-day sanction.

Judge Stockard temporarily revoked Kaylor’s probation for 30 days, with credit for 13 days served. He also ordered a substance abuse evaluation.

Courtney Elizabeth Clark, in custody, appeared for sentencing on a charge of Principal to Grand Larceny of Personal Goods or Property, Property valued at more than \$1,200 but less than \$5,000. The offense is a Category D felony and is punishable by 1–4 years in prison and a fine up to \$5,000, to which she pleaded guilty on Feb. 24.

SDDA Chelsea Sanford argued that Clark failed to appear for both her Pre-Sentence Investigation interview and multiple court hearings, demonstrating that she is not a suitable candidate for probation. Sanford said Clark has repeatedly blamed others for her conduct, including her friends and former boyfriends.

Sanford also read from the victim impact statement, which described the lasting emotional effects of the theft.

“Being robbed takes a toll on people psychologically and affects people long after financial problems are cleared up,” the victim wrote. “I don’t think there’s any chance of Courtney paying restitution. I believe Courtney to be incorrigible, and she will be doing the same thing



the first chance she gets. Jail won’t hurt or help me, but it might prevent someone from becoming her next victim.”

Sanford argued that Clark’s conduct and criminal history demonstrated she was not an appropriate candidate for probation.

CCPD Jacob Sommer acknowledged that Clark had squandered a favorable plea agreement by failing to appear.

“Ms. Clark has engaged in conduct that probably means that she doesn’t deserve probation,” Sommer told the court. He argued that mercy can sometimes produce the greatest return, saying Clark has begun to recognize how her actions have affected her family. The defense requested probation with strict conditions, including 60 days in jail to be served on weekends.

Clark told Judge Stockard, “I am very ashamed of the fact that I did try to not come to court ... I really do feel like I deserve at least a chance ... I really hope that you think I can have a chance at parole and probation.”

Judge Stockard sentenced Clark to 19 to 48 months in prison.

“I have considered probation,” Stockard told Clark. “I’ve also considered your previous criminal history ... I’m not going to grant you the privilege of probation.”

Clark was remanded to the custody of the Churchill County Sheriff’s Office for imposition of the sentence.

Rene Lucio Williams, in custody, admitted to a non-technical probation violation, and new charges have been filed against the defendant.

Chief Deputy District Attorney Lane Mills told

the court, “Williams did poorly as you probably expect from his criminal history ... Here he is on probation again ... At some point there has to be consequences for conduct. If there are no consequences for conduct, that’s not good for our society at large.” Mills asked for revocation of the defendant’s probation, stating, “He’s used up all of his chances.”

Churchill County Alternate Public Defender Wright Noel agreed that there is no question here that his client violated his probation. Noel said what’s important is that when they go to find his client, “they find him at his job.” He noted Williams has always been employed

This was an indiscretion on his part. It was a felony; I don’t think he realized it was a felony when he did it ... I do think another chance here is warranted.”

Williams told the Court he has no problem with doing house arrest, inpatient, or outpatient. He stated, “Sending me back to prison does nothing for me ... I understand I messed up and I’m willing to do the repercussions ... I messed up one time ... and here we are, sir.”

Judge Stockard revoked Williams’ probation, telling him that his conduct “goes to the very heart of supervisability ... it goes to the very honesty of the ability to supervise you. Stockard imposed the underlying sentence, and Williams was remanded to the custody of the sheriff’s office.

Paul Lee Jr’s sentencing was continued to August 4.

Jacob Robert Strock was not present for his scheduled sentencing. A bench warrant is currently in place.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

School District Selects Neil Rombardo as New Legal Counsel

By Lori Kaiser and Leanna Lehman

Churchill County School District trustees interviewed two finalists for the outside legal counsel position during a special session following their July 21 regular meeting, selecting Neil Rombardo of Rombardo Legal Services LLC for the position.

The interviews are part of the district’s search to replace longtime legal counsel Sharla Hales, who is retiring after more than two decades. Hales explained that, in addition to receiving packets from interviewees Mark Feest and Neil Rombardo, the district received two other proposals. Hales said one prospective applicant submitted only a résumé before the deadline, while another law firm submitted a proposal after the deadline. Neither submission met the district’s requirements nor was considered for the interviews.

Rombardo, who was selected by the board, wrote in his proposal to the board of trustees that after 27 years of serving public entities in Northern Nevada, he established Rombardo Legal Services LLC to provide dedicated, highly specialized general counsel services to select public and educational agencies.

Rombardo wrote that his firm operates as a lean, agile solo legal practice. “While I am the sole practicing attorney and employee of the firm, the firm maintains a strategic office-sharing arrangement with an established business entity in Reno.”

He further explained that his operational framework provides the firm with comprehensive, built-in professional, paraprofessional, and administrative support. “As a direct result, Churchill County School District is guaranteed continuous accessibility, seamless document management, and an immediate point of contact during standard business hours, blending the personalized attention of a solo practitioner with

the infrastructure of a traditional office.”

Regarding his experience, Rombardo listed his time as chief general counsel for the Washoe County School District, writing, “I have extensive experience in guiding public bodies through the complexities of Nevada’s Open Meeting Law (OML), public records acts, policy developments, and parliamentary procedures.”

Additionally, Rombardo shared his experience in labor relations and employment law, student rights and special education, and contracts and risk management. “I also believe that proactive legal advice mitigates risk management for public bodies,” wrote Rombardo.

In closing, he wrote, “I am fully prepared to dedicate my extensive public sector experience to the protection and advancement of the Churchill County School District.”

Mark Feest, who was also interviewed, is retiring as chief executive officer and general manager of CC Communications after 13 years. He previously served as general counsel for CC Communications and as senior civil deputy district attorney for Churchill County. In his proposal, Feest wrote, “I advised county commissioners, elected officials, boards, commissions, and department directors on a broad range of public law issues.”

“For more than twenty years, I have served Nevada public entities in positions requiring sound legal judgment, practical problem solving, and unwavering commitment to public service.” He explained that his career had afforded him the opportunity to view public law from two complementary perspectives—first as legal counsel to governmental agencies and elected officials, and later as the chief executive officer of a public enterprise.

Feest also noted that he has remained actively engaged in the legal analysis underlying virtually every significant organizational decision.

“My interest in Nevada K-12 education law has grown considerably in recent years. I have undertaken extensive study of the statutes, regulations, administrative guidance, constitutional principles, and judicial decisions governing Nevada public schools, including board governance, student discipline, special education, employment matters, public finance, public records, procurement, ethics, and Open Meeting Law.”

Reference letters for Feest included County Commissioner Matt Hyde, Fallon City Councilwoman Kelly Frost, and Dr. Stuart Richardson, among others.

Trustee Julie Guerrero-Goetsch disclosed that her daughter is engaged to the son of one of the finalists. She said she determined the relationship did not present a disqualifying conflict of interest and participated in both the interviews and the vote on the appointment.

Trustees asked each candidate about legal experience, public agency representation, board governance, and their approach to advising a Nevada school district.

Board members noted that while Rombardo’s proposal was slightly more expensive, his extensive experience would allow the district to work more efficiently and help avoid many of the common issues encountered by less experienced counsel. Board President Gregg Malkovich said that experience like this doesn’t come around very often and that having someone with Rombardo’s experience will help the district avoid common mistakes that can occur with a change of counsel

The board of trustees set a special meeting for July 30 to approve the selection. At press time, the official appointment and acceptance of Rombardo’s letter of engagement were pending board approval.

EDUCATION

Bighorn Bulletin

By Angela Viera, Photos courtesy of Oasis Academy.

Oasis Academy Welcomes Tori Sleight as New K-12 School Leader

As Oasis Academy prepares to welcome students back to campus in August, the school is also welcoming a new K-12 School Leader dedicated to building relationships, supporting students and staff, and continuing the school’s commitment to excellence.

Tori Sleight was selected as Oasis Academy’s new K-12 School Leader earlier this year, bringing with her 26 years of experience in education and a passion for student success. Throughout her career, Sleight has focused on creating positive learning environments where students, teachers, and families work together to help every child reach their full potential.

Sleight holds a bachelor’s degree in early childhood education from St. Cloud State University in Minnesota, along with two master’s degrees—one in early literacy from Nova Southeastern University and another in educational administration from Sierra Nevada University.

Sleight said the opportunity to lead Oasis Academy was one she couldn’t pass up.

“I applied for the leadership position at Oasis Academy because I want to have a broader impact on student success,” she said. “I enjoy supporting both students and teachers, building strong relationships, and helping create a school culture where everyone can succeed. What drew me to Oasis Academy is its commitment and dedication to students, families, and the community.”

Oasis Academy has consistently been one of Nevada’s top-performing charter schools. Serving students in kindergarten through 12th grade, the school offers a rigorous college-preparatory education with a strong emphasis on science, technology, engineering, and mathematics



Tori Sleight recently joined Oasis Academy as the school’s new K-12 school leader.

(STEM), career readiness, and project-based, hands-on learning opportunities. The high school maintains a 100 percent graduation rate, dual-credit opportunities, career and technical education pathways, and a wide variety of successful athletics and co-curricular programs.

Sleight officially began her contract with Oasis Academy on July 1. During her first year, she plans to focus on listening, learning, and becoming an active part of the Oasis Academy community.

“This school year, I hope to get to know our students, staff, and families, build strong relationships, and create a school where everyone feels welcome, supported, and connected,” she said. “I’m excited to build on the great work already happening at Oasis Academy and help create opportunities for every student and teacher to learn, grow, and be successful together.”

Looking further ahead, Sleight envisions a school that continues to grow while remaining true to its core values.

“Five years from now, I hope the school is known for its strong sense of community, high expectations, and continuous growth,” she said. “I’d like to see students thriving academically and personally, teachers feeling supported and empowered, and families viewing the school as a trusted partner in their children’s education.”

Rather than making sweeping changes, Sleight said her leadership philosophy centers on preserving the strengths that have made Oasis Academy successful while finding opportunities to make an already exceptional school even stronger.

“My plan is to honor what makes the school so successful by listening, learning, and working closely with students, staff, and families,” she

said. “I want to build on the great work already happening, support our teachers, and continue creating opportunities for every student to thrive.”

She also hopes to expand opportunities for student recognition and family engagement.

“Even great schools can keep growing,” Sleight said. “I’d love to find more ways to celebrate our students, get families even more involved, and continue to create fun opportunities for students to learn, lead, and discover their interests. I also want to make sure our teachers feel supported and have time to learn from one another so we can keep building on everything that already makes Oasis Academy such a special place.”

Building trust through open communication will also be a priority.

“I want to create opportunities for students, parents, teachers, and staff to share their ideas, concerns, and feedback,” she said. “My goal is to be present and approachable, and to make sure everyone feels heard. A strong school community is built when people feel valued and respected.”

Students and staff can also expect to see their new school leader throughout campus each day.

“I plan to stay connected by being visible around campus, greeting students and staff, visiting classrooms, attending activities, and taking time to have meaningful conversations throughout the day,” Sleight said. “I want students and staff to know that I am available, that I care about their experiences, and that I am part of the school community.”

Originally from a small town in northern Wisconsin, Sleight said family has always been an important part of her life. She is married to a retired Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department officer and is the proud mother of two daughters. Her oldest graduated from the University of Nevada, Reno, and lives in Sparks, while her younger daughter is currently attending UNR.

Veritas Preparatory School

Classical and Christian

Veritas Expands to Welcome New Students and Programs

By David Ernst



Students at Veritas Preparatory School.

Veritas Preparatory School continues to be blessed with growth as new students and staff join the school community for the coming academic year.

One of the most significant changes this year is the division of the combined third- and fourth-grade classroom into two separate classes. Veteran teacher Mrs. Gretchen Felte will continue teaching third grade, while Mr. Nick Springfield joins the Veritas faculty as the new fourth-grade teacher. Creating separate classrooms will allow each teacher to focus more closely on the academic and developmental needs of students at each grade level while maintaining the school’s commitment to small classes and individualized instruction.

Veritas is also expanding its music and art curriculum for students throughout the school. Mrs. Kayla Holtmeyer joins the faculty to teach music and art to students in K4 through fourth grade. Through these classes, younger students will have additional opportunities to develop creativity, explore artistic techniques, and build foundational musical skills.

Older students will also benefit from new music instruction. Headmaster David Ernst will teach guitar to students in fifth through eighth grade, giving them the opportunity to learn the fundamentals of playing an instrument, develop musical discipline, and experience the joy of making music together. These new offerings complement the school’s continued Latin instruction for upper-grade students and further strengthen Veritas’ classical, well-rounded approach to education.

The expansion of the faculty and curriculum comes alongside the completion of Veritas’ new classroom building. The building will provide dedicated classrooms for the combined fifth- and sixth-grade class and the combined seventh- and eighth-grade class. Construction is expected to be completed within the next few weeks, providing additional space for the school’s growing student body.

Each of these developments reflects the continued support of Veritas families, staff, and the broader community. The school is grateful for the opportunity to welcome new students and teachers while continuing to provide an education centered on academic excellence, Christian character, and a love of truth, goodness, and beauty.

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ASE CERTIFIED

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SPORTS

Fallon All-Stars Win Two at Pacific Southwest Regional

By Nancy Chapman

Fallon’s Babe Ruth 13–16 All-Stars won two games on their home field before their run ended in the 2026 Pacific Southwest Regional Tournament at Churchill County High School.

The regional featured teams from California, Hawaii, Nevada, and Utah, including Santa Maria, Hanford, South Lake Tahoe, Kai Holomua, Lone Peak, Bei-Mateo, and host Fallon. Hanford, California, captured the championship and advanced to the Babe Ruth World Series in Branson, Missouri.

Fallon’s All-Stars, coached by Colton Coverston, Brian Byrd, Riley Horn, and Jake Lewis, opened tournament play against Santa Maria. Santa Maria built an early lead before Fallon rallied with three singles and a double but came up short in a 7-5 loss.

Facing elimination, Fallon responded with a dominant 13-0 victory over Utah’s Lone Peak. Mason Llamas collected two hits and drove in a run, Samuel Vinsonhaler singled home two runs, Kylend Powell added an RBI single and later stole home, and Mason White also stole home in the third inning. The game ended after five innings under the 10-run rule.

Fallon stayed alive with a 6-2 victory over Santa Maria in a rematch. Mason Llamas singled, Mason White drove in two runs, Powell stole home, and White earned the win on the mound to send Fallon into another elimination game against Bei-Mateo.

Fallon’s tournament concluded with a hard-fought 3-1 loss to Bei-Mateo.



Fallon pitcher Raymond Gallio delivers a pitch during the 2026 Pacific Southwest Babe Ruth 13–16 Regional Tournament at Churchill County High School. Photo by Shayna Byrd.



Fallon Babe Ruth 13–16 All-Stars gather on the mound during tournament play in the Pacific Southwest Regional Tournament. Photo by Sheree Jensen.

Miguel Ceja Jr.’s sacrifice fly gave Bei-Mateo an early lead. Llamas drove in Fallon’s lone run, while the All-Stars played error-free defense. Kenton Bryant led the team with six defensive plays.

Hanford defeated Bei-Mateo 10-0 in the championship game to win the Pacific Southwest Regional title and earn a berth in the Babe Ruth World Series.

In addition to hosting tournament games, Fallon welcomed visiting players and families with free access to the Oats Park Municipal Pool and Splash Pad, along with activities at the City-County Gym, Churchill County Library, Churchill County Museum, Fallon Golf Course, the Fallon Theatre, Fox Peak Cinema, and Andy’s Arcade.

Fallon Cowboys Shine at National High School Finals Rodeo

By Nancy Chapman

Fallon athletes turned in impressive performances against the nation’s best as they represented Team Nevada at the 2026 National High School Finals Rodeo in Lincoln, Nebraska.

The weeklong championship featured nearly 1,800 contestants from 44 states, five Canadian provinces, Australia, Guatemala, Mexico, and New Zealand, making it the world’s largest youth rodeo competition.

Jace Jepson highlighted the Fallon contingent in tie-down roping, winning two go-rounds during the national finals. Jepson posted an 8.44-second run to win the opening go-round and matched that time to capture the sixth go-round before finishing fifth in the average.

Jepson also teamed with fellow Fallon cowboy Stix Lee in team roping. The pair recorded a 6.42-second run to win a go-round and finished sixth in the average against many of the nation’s top teams.

Lee also competed in tie-down roping, where he finished seventh in the world and earned National High School Rodeo Association Rookie of the Year honors. Wyatt Peek qualified in both tie-down roping and team roping. Peek partnered with Caleb Edgmon in team roping, where the pair finished 13th in the average.

Rio Segura represented Fallon in both saddle bronc riding and steer wrestling, qualifying for the national finals in two events. Beau Drake Jr. also earned a berth in the championship field in bull riding after qualifying through the Nevada



Stix Lee competes during the 2026 National High School Finals Rodeo. Lee finished seventh in the world in tie-down roping and earned National High School Rodeo Association Rookie of the Year honors. Photo courtesy of the Lee family.

High School Rodeo Association season.

The National High School Finals Rodeo was held July 19-25 at the Sandhills Global Event Center in Lincoln, Nebraska, where competitors vied for world championships across multiple rodeo disciplines.

- FALLON RESULTS AT THE NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL FINALS RODEO**

Jace Jepson

 - Won Go-Round 1 in tie-down roping (8.44 seconds)
 - Won Go-Round 6 in tie-down roping (8.44 seconds)
 - Fifth in the tie-down roping average
 - Sixth in the team roping average with Stix Lee
- Stix Lee**

 - Won a go-round in team roping with Jace Jepson
 - Sixth in the team roping average
 - Competed in tie-down roping
 - Finished seventh in the world in tie-down roping
 - Named National High School Rodeo Association Rookie of the Year
- Wyatt Peek**

 - Top 20 in tie-down roping
 - 13th in the team roping average with Caleb Edgmon
- Rio Segura**

 - Qualified in saddle bronc riding
 - Qualified in steer wrestling
- Beau Drake Jr.**

 - Qualified in bull riding

COMING UP

- FOOTBALL**

Churchill County High School Greenwave at Bishop Manogue Catholic High School, Reno. Junior varsity: 4:15 p.m.; varsity: 7 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 18
- TENNIS**

Churchill County High School Greenwave opens the season against South Tahoe High School. The boys travel to South Tahoe High School for a 3 p.m. match, while the girls host South Tahoe High School at 3 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 19
- VOLLEYBALL**

Churchill County High School Greenwave at Sparks High School. Freshman: 4 p.m.; junior varsity: 5 p.m.; varsity: 6 p.m. Friday, Aug. 21
- BOYS SOCCER**

Churchill County High School Greenwave at Debbie Smith Career and Technical Academy. Junior varsity: 3 p.m.; varsity: 4:45 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 22
- GIRLS SOCCER**

Churchill County High School Greenwave hosts South Tahoe High School. Junior varsity: 10 a.m.; varsity: 11:45 a.m.



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www.tcid.org or 2666 Harrigan Road, Fallon, Nevada. EOE.

C O L U M N S

What’s Cooking in Kelli’s Kitchen: Sublime Summer Salads

By Kelli Kelley

I was walking through the produce section of Safeway this last week and noticed a crowd gathered in the lettuce section. This was no surprise as we continued to wither in the scorching heat of a seemingly endless chain of 100-plus degree days. Since all of Churchill County seems to be making salad simultaneously, this seems like a perfect time to highlight some of my favorite no-cook or minimal-cook, salad, no-recipe recipes.

Tangy Grilled Salmon Salad Ingredients:

- Limes
- Red and Green chiles, thinly sliced
- Shallot, thinly sliced
- Salt
- Sugar
- Fish Sauce
- Olive Oil
- Salmon
- Salad Greens
- Soft Herbs (dill, cilantro, basil, mint)
- Radishes or Cucumbers, or both



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

DIRECTIONS:

Preheat your grill or smoker. If the salmon has skin, remove it with a sharp knife. Juice one lime into a small bowl and add sliced chiles and half of the shallots. Add in a pinch each of salt and pepper and a couple of good glugs of fish sauce. Let sit for a bit, then whisk in the olive oil (about twice as much as the fish sauce). The dressing won’t emulsify, so you will whisk it again before dressing your salad. Drizzle salmon with olive oil and season with salt and pepper. Cut a second lime in half and drizzle with olive oil. Grill the salmon alongside the lime halves (cut side down) until



the fish is just done, flipping halfway through (between 2-5 minutes per side). Transfer salmon and limes to a plate and drizzle with some salad dressing. In a medium bowl, combine the other half of the shallots with salad greens, a ton of herbs, and the crunchy ingredients. Toss with the remaining dressing, a squeeze of the cooked lime, and a drizzle of olive oil. Add in chunks of salmon and toss to combine. Serve.

Indonesian-Style Chicken Salad Ingredients:

- | | |
|----------|--|
| 4 cups | Shredded chicken |
| | Salt & pepper |
| 1 bunch | Green onions, white and green parts thinly sliced |
| 1/4 cup | Mint leaves, thinly sliced |
| 1/4 cup | Cilantro leaves and tender stems, chopped |
| 1 | Red bell pepper, stemmed, seeded, and cut into thin strips |
| 1 | Serrano pepper, seeded if you want, and minced |
| 2 cups | Bean sprouts |
| 1 | Romaine lettuce heart, leaves separated, washed & dried |
| 1/4 cup | Lime juice |
| 2 tsp. | Ginger, minced |
| 2 cloves | Garlic, minced |
| 1 tbsp. | Fish sauce |
| Pinch | Cayenne pepper |
| 2 tbsp. | Crunch peanut butter |
| 1/3 cup | Buttermilk |
| 1/4 cup | Roasted peanuts, coarse chop |

DIRECTIONS:

1. Put the chicken in a bowl and season with salt and pepper. Add the white parts of the green

onions, mint, cilantro, red pepper, serrano pepper, and sprouts. Toss well.

2. Combine lime juice, ginger, garlic, fish sauce, and cayenne in a small bowl. Add the peanut butter and stir well to combine. Whisk in the buttermilk. Adjust seasoning.
3. Line a dish with lettuce leaves. Toss the chicken mixture with the dressing and mound over the lettuce. Garnish with roasted peanuts and the green onion tops.

Greek Fattoush Salad Ingredients:

- | | |
|----------|---|
| 1/3 cup | and 2 tbsp. extra virgin olive oil |
| 2 tbsp. | Red wine vinegar |
| 1 clove | Garlic, minced |
| 1/2 tsp. | Dried oregano |
| | Salt and pepper |
| 1 cup | Cherry tomatoes, halved |
| 1 | Can chickpeas, drained and rinsed |
| 1 | Yellow bell pepper, stemmed, seeded and diced |
| 1/2 | Hothouse cucumber, halved, seeded and diced |
| 1/2 cup | Kalamata olives, pitted |
| 1/4 cup | Parsley, chopped |
| 1/4 cup | Minced red onion |
| 2 tbsp. | Capers, chopped |
| 2 ea. | Green onions, thinly sliced |
| 1 | Handful pita chips, crumbled |
| 8 oz. | Feta, crumbled |

DIRECTIONS:

1. In a small bowl, combine 1/3 cup olive oil with vinegar, garlic, and oregano. Season to taste.
2. In a large bowl, combine the remaining ingredients, drizzle with dressing, and toss to combine.

Crossword

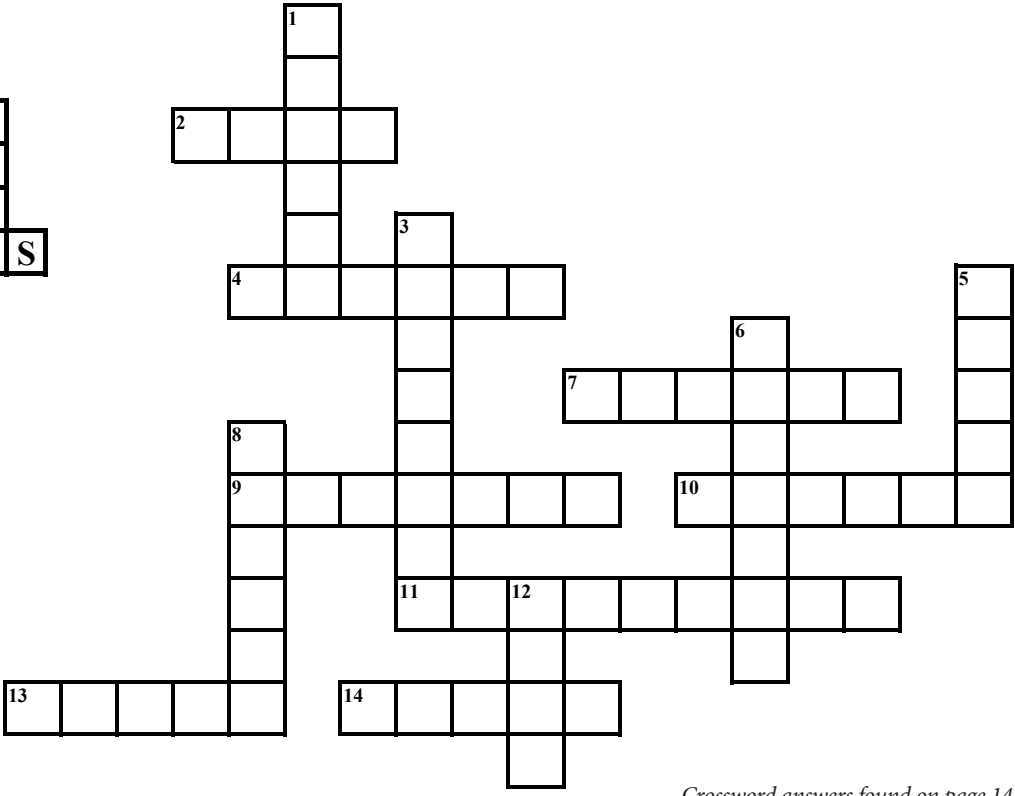
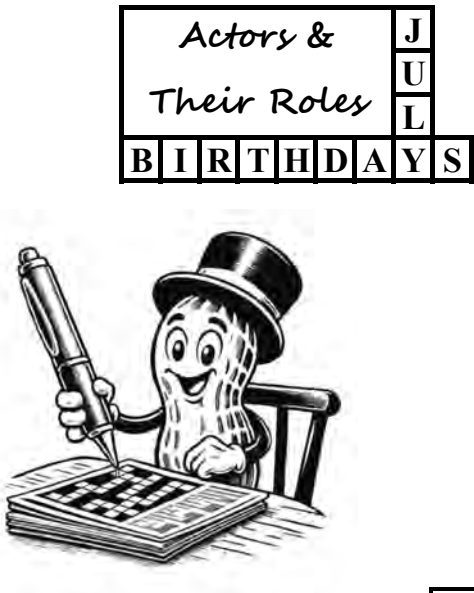
By Peanut

Across

2. Indiana Jones
4. Mission’s Ethan Hunt
7. Phoebe on Friends
9. Wesley on Trek’s TNG
10. Mayberry’s Barney Fife
11. Daughter on All in the Family
13. Ethel on I Love Lucy
14. Psycho’s Marion Crane

Down

1. TV’s Wonder Woman
3. Mrs. Doubtfire
5. Forrest Gump
6. Silver Screen’s King of Siam
8. TV’s Herman Munster
12. The Avengers’ Emma Peel



Crossword answers found on page 14

M E E T I N G S

August 6–27, 2026

Board of County Commissioners

Meets the first Thursday and third Wednesday of each month
155 N. Taylor Street
Next Meeting: Aug. 6 at 8:15 a.m.

CC Communications

Meets the first Thursday of each month at 11 a.m.
155 N. Taylor Street
Next Meeting: Aug. 6 at 11 a.m.

Churchill County School Board

690 S. Maine St.
Next Meeting:
Aug. 18 at 5:30 p.m.

Library Board of Trustees

Meets the third Thursday of each month at 3 p.m.
155 N. Taylor Street
Next Meeting: Aug. 27 at 3 p.m.



WATER LEVELS

Measurements Taken July 27 at 5:30 a.m.

Lahontan Reservoir	154,700 af
Carson River Below Lahontan	839 cfs
Truckee Canal at Wadsworth	132 cfs
Truckee Canal at Hazen	104 cfs
Carson River at Ft. Churchill	0.72 cfs

July 27, 2024	July 27, 2023	July 27, 2022
234,315 acre feet	294,028 acre feet	91,632 acre feet

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

COLUMNS

Postcards:
Fallon 1951

Part 4: Sex, Drunkenness, and Juvenile Delinquency

By Michon Mackedon

Last week, I wrote about the ways in which morality and domesticity defined our small-town activities, as portrayed in the local papers seventy-five years ago. While the big stories were about Korea and atomic testing, the bulk of local news detailed bridge club meetings, community dances, potluck dinners, sewing circles, marriages, births, and quiet politics. The most popular TV shows of the era were “I Love Lucy” and “Leave It to Beaver.” Both were built around benign plots: silly marital disputes—settled with a kiss—or the harmless pranks of otherwise perfect children—disciplined with a frown and a lecture.

Yet, there were cracks in the cultural armor: Sex, booze, and crime were threatening the orderliness of everyday life in the community!

Some incidents might be seen as poking rather small holes in the fortress. A March 24 “Fallon Eagle” headline announced, “Dancing Teacher Uses Rubber Check.” The story was that “Lee Charlotta, alias Harriet Granger, doing business as Charlotta’s School of the Dance, is being sought by officers on a complaint signed by Willie Capucci of the Esquire Club.” Miss Charlotta had cashed a \$75 check without funds to cover it. She reportedly left for Las Vegas, but her “whereabouts had not been determined.” One shudders to think that Miss Charlotta had been teaching some of Fallon’s finest young ladies!

That story was followed by one that, again, seems harmless to the contemporary reader, yet the content and tone were quite out of the ordinary, even risqué for the moment. The “Fallon Eagle,” August 11, 1951, printed a letter from the White Pine Chamber of Commerce to the Churchill Chamber of Commerce. The White Pine Chamber was seeking a Fallon model “to pose in meager garments on skis atop Sand Mountain. ... We have talked about the sure-fire publicity value of a scantily clad model on Sand Mtn. Could Churchill County furnish a suitable model? ... The two chambers could share the cost. ... Build and costumes of models are important—in fact, fundamental—as you know.”

Not so easy to dismiss was the growing juvenile delinquency problem. To quote the “Eagle,” November 10, 1951, “Fallon’s juvenile delinquency problem blazed into the news headlines again this week with the jailing of



AI-generated illustration created with ChatGPT (OpenAI). Depicts a stylized 1951 Fallon Eagle front page and is not a reproduction of an actual newspaper page.

Charles A. Anderson, 55, on a charge of furnishing liquor to minors.” Anderson was apprehended at 429 Humboldt Street “where a wild drinking party was in progress.” There, city police officers, “accompanied by the grand jury committee investigating the City of Fallon, broke up the party.” Apparently, the grand jury had been in session when the members were informed about the party. Three of them surrounded the house, along with the arresting officers. “The group observed actions of the minors...for some minutes before they entered the dwelling.” Grand Jury Chairman John Hannifan said, “What transformed was indeed a shock to these men.”

Here, the news is, yes, underage drinking, but also the fact that the grand jury intervened as well as city police officers. The situation was, indeed, dire.

As 1951 drew to a close, it must have seemed to the good citizens of Fallon that

the sky was falling. The “Fallon Eagle,” December 8, 1951, detailed “The sordid story of the alleged rape” of a 15-year-old girl following a Harmon School Dance.

“The disappearance of the 15-year-old was reported to Gibbs [police officer Ed Gibbs] and Fister [police officer Larry Fister] at 2:30 a.m. Sunday by the girl’s sister who said she had been taken out by two boys at the Harmon dance. A search resulted in the discovery of the young girl in the back seat of a car on Maine St. in a semi-conscious condition attired in scanty clothing.” An exam showed that she’d been raped, and confessions from the young boys were obtained.

The shock of the story is that a rape had taken place in Fallon involving young people. But beneath the ugly surface also lurked the disquieting fact that the rape had taken place in conjunction with a Harmon School Dance, with alcohol involved. A widespread, almost sacred community pride was attached to rural school activities, from Old River to Harmon to St Clair. They were safe; they were family-oriented; they were wholesome. That perception was shaken, literally overnight.

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

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

Allison’s Book Report:

“The Romance Revival” by Christina Lauren

By Allison Diegel



This week’s book is coming from one of my favorite romance authors — actually, I take that back. This week’s book was written by a duo of authors — that’s right! “Christina Lauren” is the pen name of two besties who write funny, heartfelt, and sexy books that you will not be able to put down!

“The Romance Revival” takes readers on a wild, high-stakes emotional ride that blends classic romance tropes with a clever sci-fi twist.

The story revolves around Dr. Emery Finch, a brilliant, workaholic scientist who usually prefers spreadsheets and lab coats to whirlwind romances. Three years prior, Emery did the ultimate out-of-

character thing by spontaneously marrying Luca, an incredibly charming, easygoing landscaper she met during a wild weekend in Las Vegas. Opposites immediately attracted, but as time went on, the reality of their differing lifestyles began to create real cracks in their relationship.

Emery became increasingly consumed by her top-secret research project, constantly blowing off date nights, missing anniversaries, and placing her high-stress career above her marriage. She always told herself that once her big breakthrough was finally revealed, Luca would understand all the sacrifices she made.

Tragedy strikes before she gets that chance when a devastating accident takes Luca’s life. Heartbroken and completely desperate, Emery decides to throw out the ethical rulebook. She uses her confidential, cutting-edge medical technology to pull off an absolute miracle and bring Luca back from the dead. There’s just one huge catch: The procedure completely wipes Luca’s memory of their entire life together. He has no recollection of their Vegas wedding, their sunny beach days, or the quiet domestic routine they built. Suddenly, Emery is sitting across from the love of her life, and to him, she is a total stranger.

Rather than walking away, Emery sees this incredible scientific miracle as her ultimate second chance. Determined not to repeat her past mistakes, she vows to win his heart all over again, balancing her secret

guilt with a genuine effort to show up as a better partner. As they navigate this bizarre, tender, and often hilarious new dynamic, Luca finds himself falling for her a second time, while Emery learns what it truly means to prioritize love over work. Packed with witty banter, emotional vulnerability, and a subtle edge of suspense, the novel explores whether true love can survive a clean slate. Ultimately, it delivers a heartwarming story about second chances, personal growth, and the lengths we go to for the people who anchor us.

I hope you love this fun read — come back next week for another great pick. Until then, don’t forget to check out my Instagram [@allison.the.reader](https://www.instagram.com/allison.the.reader) for more book recommendations and book-related fun!

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

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COLUMNS

Fallon Theatre Movies & More

Case No. 26-10DC-0589
IN THE TENTH JUDICIAL COURT
OF THE STATE OF NEVADA IN
AND FOR THE COUNTY OF
CHURCHILL, NEVADAState of
Nevada, Dept. of Public Safety, Investi-
gation Division v. One (1) Black Glock
21, .45 ACP Semi-Automatic Pistol,
S/N CATY16; One (1) Grey Citadel 12
Gauge Boss-25 Shotgun S/N 205-
25TG2032; Summons and Notice of
Forfeiture Action. TO: ALL INTER-
ESTED PARTIES, claiming any interest
in the above-named Defendant property;
Dana Douglas Crawford, 1206 East
Front Street, Fallon, NV 89406. Those
claiming an interest in the defendant
property are required to file an Answer to
the Complaint for Forfeiture which
is served upon you, and serve the
Answer upon Plaintiffs attorney: Aaron
D. Ford, Attorney General, Laura M.
Ginn, Senior Deputy Attorney General,
555 Wright Way, Carson City, NV
89711 within twenty-one (21) days
after service of this Summons and
Notice, exclusive of the day of service.
The Answer must set forth the response
to the Complaint and the nature and
existence of any right, title or interest
claimed in the defendant property. If
you fail to do so, judgment by default
will be taken against you for the relief
demanded in the Complaint. This action
is brought to recover a judgment forfeiting
the above-named defendant property
and declaring that the above-named
defendant become the property of the
plaintiff as the result of commencement
of an action seeking forfeiture of the
above-named defendant property
pursuant to Nevada Revised Statutes
sections 179.1156 to 179.121, inclusive,
and 453.301. Dated 5/22/2026
By Deputy Clerk Tiffany Josephs
Submitted by Laura M. Ginn,
Bar No. 8085.

Published in
The Fallon Post
July 24, 31, August 7 and 14, 2026
Ad #7631

We are officially standing at the crossroads of summer as we say goodbye to the last day of July on Friday and welcome the first day of August on Saturday. The summer heat isn’t going anywhere just yet, making it another absolutely perfect weekend to escape the blistering sun and step into the cool, refreshing comfort of our historic, fully air-conditioned auditorium. We have a spectacular set of features lined up for you this weekend, continuing our massive four-part animated twisted fairy tale journey and pairing it with one of the most high-stakes, hard-hitting cinematic showdowns of the 1980s.

At 6 p.m. on both Friday and Saturday, grab the kids and journey back to the swamp as we continue our series of four with the fantastic, animated sequel, “Shrek 2” (2004). Fresh off their honeymoon, Shrek and Princess Fiona return home only to find an invitation to visit Fiona’s parents, the King and Queen of the Kingdom of Far Far Away. The only catch? Her parents have no idea their daughter married a giant green ogre, let alone became one herself. Alongside the hilariously talkative Donkey, the modern fairy tale adventure introduces unforgettable new characters like the swashbuckling Puss in Boots. It’s a laugh-out-loud masterpiece that is just as fun for parents as it is for kids. Rated PG, it runs 1 hour and 33 minutes.

Or, at 7 p.m. both nights, the ultimate Cold War boxing rivalry takes center stage in “Rocky IV” (1985). Sylvester Stallone returns as Rocky Balboa, the reigning world heavyweight champion who steps back into the ring for the most personal and dangerous fight of his life. After his close friend Apollo Creed is tragically defeated in an exhibition match by the ruthless Soviet powerhouse Ivan Drago (played by Dolph Lundgren), Rocky vows to avenge his friend on Soviet soil in a brutal, 15-round Christmas Day battle. Driven by one of the greatest movie soundtracks and training montages in cinematic history, it is a thrilling, patriotic classic. Rated PG, it runs 1 hour and 31 minutes.

Coming up in only two weeks, we have the 12th Annual Community-Wide Reunion on Friday, Aug. 14, and Saturday, Aug. 15. Come on down that Friday night at 7 p.m. as we fire up the stage for the official weekend kick-off concert featuring a live performance by Kat & Dave. Then, join us for a walk down memory lane on Saturday morning by stopping by between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. for guided tours of our beautiful,



historic Theatre. It is a fantastic opportunity for alumni, teachers, and friends to reminisce, so gather your old classmates and join us for a weekend celebrating the people and places that make our town so special.

Then, on Aug. 29, lace up your running shoes and get ready for another local favorite tradition, the annual Cantaloupe Canter 5K. Held in conjunction with the beloved Cantaloupe Festival & Country Fair, this energetic morning run or walk is a fantastic, family-friendly fundraiser that directly supports the historic Fallon Theatre. Early registration is open now for just \$25, or you can sign up on race day for \$30. The meet-up location is in front of the indoor pool at 333 Sheckler Road, with check-in and same-day registration kicking off at 7 a.m. before the official race starts at 8 a.m. Be sure to sign up by Aug. 7 to guarantee an event T-shirt.

Heading into fall, on Saturday, Sept. 26, get ready to cruise down memory lane with one of our absolute favorite summer traditions. The 10th Annual Show-N-Shine is officially taking over downtown as we close Maine Street for a spectacular morning filled with gorgeous classic cars, delicious food, great music, and plenty of community pride.

And here’s something we’re super excited about: In October, get ready to step into the world of bugs with Flik and friends for a fully immersive, one-weekend-only 4D movie experience with “A Bug’s Life” on Friday, Oct. 2, and Saturday, Oct. 3.

Lastly, on Friday, Nov. 20, get ready for a night of pure laughter as clean, family-friendly stand-up comedy returns to the Fallon Theatre stage at 7 p.m. We are thrilled to welcome Nashville-based comedian Lee Hardin. You might recognize him from his 2019 Dry Bar Comedy special, “Not Quite A Grown-Up,” or his regular appearances on “The Mike Huckabee Show.”

As always, we are incredibly proud to serve as your community hub for film and live performances. Be sure to visit our concession stand for fresh popcorn and your favorite treats to complete your free moviegoing experience. If you are interested in renting the Theatre for a private event or seeing your name in lights on our marquee, please don’t hesitate to reach out. You can call us at 775-423-6210 or email thefallontheatre@gmail.com for more details. We can’t wait to see you this weekend.



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CROSSWORD ANSWERS

Crossword found on page 12

BRYNNER

CARTER

CRUISE

FORD

GWYNNE

HANKS

KNOTTS

KUDROW

LEIGH

RIGG

STRUTHERS

VANCE

WHEATEN

WILLIAMS



Remembrance

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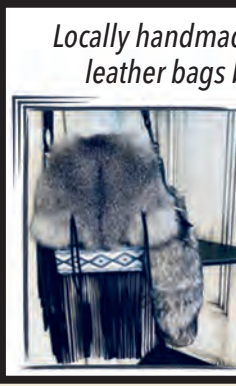


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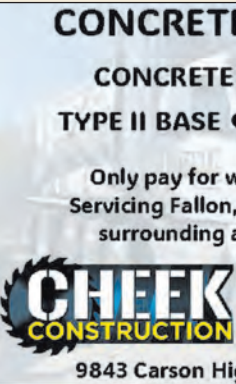


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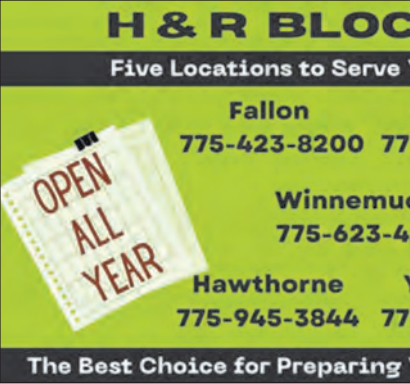


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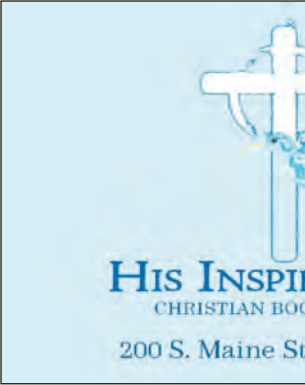
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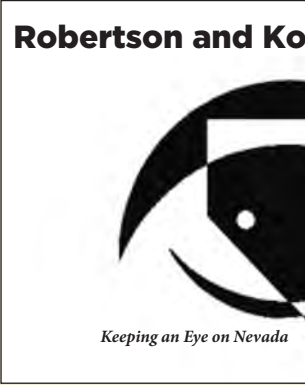
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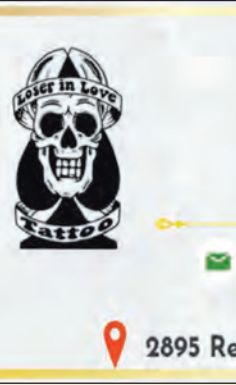
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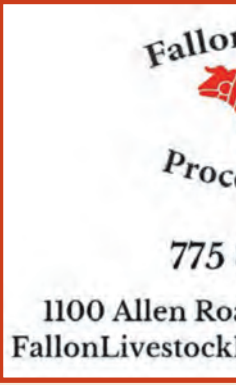
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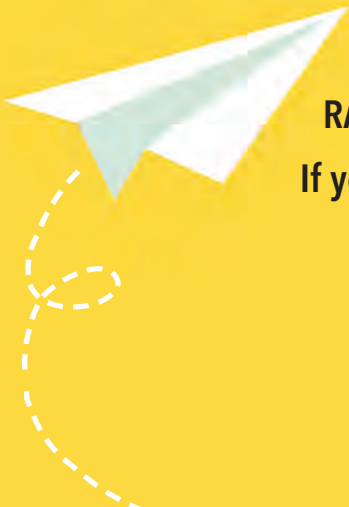
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