

THE FALLON POST



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Fallon Tribe Breaks Ground for New Dispensary



Members of the Fallon Tribal Development Corp. and Fallon Business Council were on hand for the groundbreaking ceremony on May 30. Pictured above from left to right are FBC Vice Chairman Andy Hicks, FBC member Edwin Conway, Fallon Mayor Ken Tedford, FTDC board member Kathleen Gutierrez, FTDC Treasurer Jon Pishion, FTDC Secretary Melanie McFalls, FTDC President Cody Downs, FTDC Vice President Tanzi Kancler, and FBC Secretary Phillip Johnson, FBC Secretary. Photos courtesy of Melanie McFalls.

By Christy Lattin

Members from the Fallon Tribal Development Corporation held a ground breaking ceremony for the Desert Embers marijuana dispensary on Friday, with plans to open in July. The dispensary will sell both recreational and medical marijuana products, and is located on land owned by the Fallon Paiute Shoshone Tribe.

Cody Downs, president of the Fallon Tribal Development Corporation (FTDC), said the dispensary will start life in a modular building

at 192 Bottom Road at the intersection of Bottom and Reno Highway. Downs said the FTDC will construct a permanent building in the future after they have determined how much space they will need based on the traffic in the dispensary.

The Fallon tribe has been discussing opening a dispensary for several years, Downs said, but were hesitant to jump right in due to uncertainty regarding legal issues and concerns about increasing crime. Once they saw that dispensaries opened by other tribes and

[Fallon Tribe continued on page 2]

Fallon Rotary Celebrates 100 Years of Service

By Rachel Dahl

The Rotary Club of Fallon is turning 100, and the entire community is invited to join the celebration.

Mark your calendars for Saturday, June 14, 2025, as the club hosts its centennial anniversary at the Fallon Convention Center, honoring a century of service, fellowship, and local impact under the club's longstanding motto: Service Above Self.

The evening kicks off with cocktails at 5:30 p.m., followed by dinner at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are \$50 and include a first bar trip, entry into the door prize drawing, and access to a full evening of festivities. Guests can also try their luck with a 50/50 raffle, with proceeds supporting Rotary's many community initiatives.

Dinner will be catered by 3C Catering, with bar service provided by the Fallon Chamber of Commerce. The highlight of the evening will be a special performance titled "100 Years of Fallon Rotary: A Celebration of Fallon's Past," a tribute to the people and projects that have helped shape the community over the past century.

Whether you're a longtime Rotarian, a newcomer to town, or simply someone who values community service and connection, this is an event you won't want to miss.

For tickets, contact Darrell Hook at 530-598-6497, dhehook@gmail.com, or reach out to any Fallon Rotarian.

Let's raise a glass to 100 years of doing good—right here in Fallon.



Rotary President Darrell Hook and member Mel Glover. Photo courtesy of Fallon Rotary Club.



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FROM THE PUBLISHER

Captain’s Log
Ode to Anne



By Rachel Dahl

Tall Anne, Ranson, and I met for lunch yesterday to remember our dear Anne Pershing – Short Anne, as I called her when we were doing *The Fallon Star Press* together.

Once a year, as close as we can to the anniversary of her leaving us, the three of us convene a long lunch in the booth she loved at Jerry’s. I remember as clear as day when I was in high school, seeing her sitting back there with J.C. Copley, both wearing their huge late-80s glasses, both smoking cigarettes, sitting with their heads together, obviously plotting some newspaper lady things.

Of course, I was late to meet them. Getting ready to jump on a call to talk about printing, a text came through from Anne to see if I was on my way. I thought our lunch was set for the 9th, so I sheepishly ran to my truck, zoom call in hand, and blew into the restaurant 20 minutes into our catch-up.

We always talk a lot when we’re together – whether we catch each other at a public meeting or have to jump on the phone for something. But this lunch is even worse. We do ramble. We got that tendency from her: talk until the barriers fall down, and you get to the good stuff. It’s one of the gifts she encouraged in us, a tool of the trade, so to speak.

We toasted her with our iced tea, and we wandered through our memories. We laughed at how she knew us all so well, each of our talents and weaknesses, and how to get the most out of us. And then Tall Anne said how weird that it’s been ten years.

And we couldn’t believe it – we started wandering through the time frame, and none of us could nail down the day or the year. But I had a voicemail saved all these years, so we dug through my phone and listened to the message she left me a week before she died.

“Ok you little twerp, this is Anne, and I’m gonna die before we ever get together again to have lunch or dinner or coffee...” In April of 2016. So it’s been nine years. Before I listened to that message, I got a note from Jenny that Anne was gone, and then I couldn’t bring myself to hear it.

The service wasn’t held for about a month, so it was the day I drove to Reno, way past when she left it before I ever got the courage to listen. And then I burst out laughing and crying all over my steering wheel. She really did know us each so well.

It struck me as we chatted, how lucky we are to all be involved in community newspapering. Still using all the skills Anne taught us and how proud she would be of where we all are in our lives right now.

So while we remember old friends and appreciate all they mean to us, we’ll still be right here...

... Keeping you Posted.

—Rach

[Fallon Tribe continued on page 2]

in other cities didn’t lead to skyrocketing crime rates, the FPST decided to move forward with their plans.

“After seeing other tribes undertake it successfully, we decided to go that route,” Downs said.

Five jobs are currently posted for Desert Embers, with plans to increase the staff as needed. They haven’t yet determined permanent hours of operation at this early stage and will make that decision after the dispensary has been open for a few weeks.

Downs said the FTDC is also considering developing the lot further with additional businesses behind the dispensary. Tule Enterprises LLC will be overseeing the operations of Desert Embers for the FTDC.



The Fallon Tribal Development Corp. members who worked to bring Desert Embers to life. Pictured above from left to right are FTDC Secretary Melanie McFalls, FTDC President Cody Downs, board member Kathleen Gutierrez, FTDC Vice President Tanzi Kancler, and FTDC Treasurer Jon Pishion.

ESTATE SALE JUNE 7 & 8

Motivated Sellers Needing Motivated Shoppers–All Must Go!
From 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. – No Early Birds Please

This is a lifetime of accumulation. Everything from linens, kitchenware, a shop full of tools, vintage and current, camping gear, bedroom sets, antique and newer. There are hobby items, vintage yard deco items, teak gun cabinet and dresser, office desk and computer, toiletries, garden equipment, composter, rototiller, chipper and mowers. Upright walker with seat, never used.

Every household item you can imagine!

505 Hunter Park Way, Fallon, Nevada 89406

FEATURES

Fallon MFT Powwow Honors Healing, Heritage, and Tradition

By Leanna Lehman

The Moving Forward Together Powwow, held from May 30 to June 1 at the Rafter 3C Events Complex in Fallon, was a three-day gathering that honored Native culture through dance, song, art, and storytelling. The intertribal event welcomed dancers, relatives, and guests from across the region and beyond.

Festivities began Friday with a bustling Indigenous Arts Market featuring Native American artwork, handcrafted jewelry, blankets, beadwork, clothing, and other traditional items. The day also included a Youth Voice Night and the fifth convergence of the Great Basin Tribal Alliance, hosted by the Fort McDermitt Paiute-Shoshone Tribe.

Saturday’s early session featured a Talking Circle with Elder Ronnie Dixon, along with a mix of intertribal dances, games, and specialty contests. Participants of all ages joined the circle. Children as young as two danced in full regalia beside parents and grandparents, their handmade beadwork, ribbons, and feathers moving in rhythm—each outfit a work of art, each step part of a larger story.

Throughout the weekend, the arena pulsed with color, drumbeats, and community. Dancers filled the floor—from Golden Age participants who’ve moved in powwow circles for decades to juniors, teens, and tiny tots just beginning their journey. Events included open intertribal dances, competitive categories for men and women, and a variety of community specials. Highlights included the Potato Dance and the Boot and Hat Special, sponsored by the Buckaroo Traditions Gathering to honor Nevada’s cowboy and ranching families.

One of Saturday’s featured events was the Women’s Red Dress Dance Special, hosted by Sarah Cameau, vice president of War Party Ranch—a nonprofit that empowers Native women through programs in hunting, fitness, self-defense, and traditional skills. Rather than conventional outreach, War Party Ranch focuses on restoring strength and self-reliance, breaking cycles of abuse by changing the way women are treated, particularly



Head Dancer William Dick. Photo by Colten Tohannie and Buck Harjo.

within Native communities. The Red Dress Dance was an elimination contest with 14 women competing for a full buffalo harvest. But the prize was more than meat—it was an experience. The winner’s selected female party will participate in the entire harvest process, learning to field-dress the animal and prepare it using traditional methods. The goal is communion, cultural reconnection, and confidence-building through shared knowledge and ceremony. The final dance round was accompanied by the renowned Black Lodge Singers, the event’s Host Drum, whose voices and drumbeats brought weight and energy to the floor. Tomasita Mountainsheep was named the top dancer. Resplendent in red sequins, fur, and braids, she stood out with both presence and experience as the eldest woman in the group. The other dancers—each in striking red dresses and jingles—moved with purpose and grace, honoring the strength and memory of missing and murdered Indigenous women (MMIW). Another highlight was the Head Woman’s Old Style Jingle Dress Dance, a competitive category for women and girls 13 and up. Shirley Cypher of the Reno-Sparks Indian Colony and Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribes led the dance. A lifelong powwow dancer, Cypher is known for her welcoming spirit and her love of the jingle dress tradition.

The Head Man’s All Men’s Traditional Special brought high energy to the arena. Fallon’s own William Koipa Dick led the dance.



Youth Dancer. Photo courtesy of MFTP.

A Northern Traditional dancer in the circle since he could walk, Dick represented both his hometown and his heritage, joining the other dancers’ spirited display of strength, respect, and cultural pride. More than just a celebration, the MFT Powwow was a living, moving circle for stories, songs, and survival. The alcohol and substance-free event created a space for sobriety, reflection, and connection. Elders, parents, and youth stood together—passing down tradition not just through memory but through drumbeats and dance. In the circle, there was space for everyone.

Note: In the May 30 article of The Fallon Post, it was incorrectly noted that the MFT Powwow was held in partnership with the Churchill Community Coalition. The Powwow is now organized and produced independently.



Tomasita Mountainsheep, Red Dress Special Dance winner. Photo by Leanna Lehman with permission.



Jingle Dress and Red Dress Special Dancer. Photo by Colten Tohannie and Buck Harjo.



Indigenous Arts Market. Photo by Colten Tohannie and Buck Harjo.

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ASE CERTIFIED

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Scoops, Service, and Support
at Empty Bowls Event

Staff Report

On Saturday, June 1, the community came together at Western Nevada College Fallon Campus for the Empty Bowls event, a heartwarming blend of artistry, generosity, and ice cream. Attendees were invited to donate a non-perishable food item or make a monetary contribution to support the Fallon Karma Box. This local initiative assists those in need.



Handcrafted ceramic bowls made for the event.



Empty Bowls Volunteer Team. Photos courtesy of Fallon Chamber of Commerce.

In return, participants had the opportunity to choose from a stunning selection of handcrafted ceramic bowls, each one a unique piece of art and a poignant reminder of the cause. After selecting their bowl, guests were treated to a scoop of ice cream, bringing a sweet ending to a sweet act of giving. The event was organized by the Fallon Chamber of Commerce, which extends a sincere thank you to WNC for the use of their building.

Group photo. Back row, left to right: Chamber Ambassador Scott Johnston, Chamber Director Merlene Ward, Chamber Executive Director Lucy L. Carnahan. Front row, left to right: Chamber Treasurer Valerie Johnston, Chamber Ambassador Teresa Little, Chamber Director Ava Case, Chamber Vice President Angela Guthrie, Chamber Secretary Michelle Gabiola-Rogers. Photos courtesy of Fallon Chamber of Commerce.

Fallon Theatre Movies & More June 6 & 7

By Kelli Perez

Hello, Fallon friends. June is here, and we’re kicking off the summer with stories full of heart, courage, and adventure on the big screen at the Fallon Theatre. Come on in and escape the heat with us—we’re also bringing back our delicious soda floats for the summer. Just \$5 at the concession stand, they’re the perfect treat to enjoy with your movie.

At 6 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, we’re thrilled to present “Moana 2” (2024), the much-anticipated sequel that reunites Moana and Maui for a bold new journey across the ocean. Packed with new songs, breathtaking animation, and a powerful message of leadership and discovery, this film is rated PG, runs 1 hour and 40 minutes, and is perfect for the whole family.

At 7 p.m. both nights, we’ll be showing “Arthur the King” (2024), an inspiring film based on a true story. Follow adventure racer Michael Light and a scrappy street dog named Arthur as they form an unbreakable bond while tackling a grueling race through the wild. This uplifting story of loyalty and determination is rated PG-13



and runs 1 hour and 47 minutes.

Looking ahead to July, we’re turning up the volume with a high-energy live music event on Saturday, July 19 at 7 p.m. Join us for performances by Acid Box, a hard rock/heavy metal/punk fusion band with blues influence from Fallon—loud, raw, and ready to bring the noise—and Cryptilians, a punk-adjacent group out of Reno known for their lean, no-frills sound. Admission is \$10 at the door, and it’s sure to be a night to remember.

Later this summer, don’t forget our fundraising Show ‘N’ Shine happening Saturday, Sept. 27 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. This annual car show is free to attend and always draws a crowd. If you have a vehicle you’d like to show off, sign-up information is available now at fallontheatre.com. Enjoy music, food and fun with the whole family!

As always, our auditorium and marquee are available for rentals. Reach out to us at 775-423-6210 or thefallontheatre@gmail.com to reserve space for your next event or celebration. We’ll see you at the movies.

PETS OF THE WEEK

Adopt Sweet Cubby



This is Cubby (D-461). He is a 1 1/2-year-old husky / shepherd mix. Cubby loves to play “catch me if you can,” tug-of-war, and he loves to release the zooooomies! We were told Cubby does well with other dogs, wants to play with cats, and had no issues around ducks and chickens.

If you think he would make a good addition to your household, please give us a call or come check him out at the Fallon Animal Shelter.

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

Puppies Ready for New Home

Bark in the Park returns June 6–7, and this year it’s bigger than ever. Join CAPS for two days of adoptable pets, community fun, and a chance to support animals in need.

Our newly resurfaced back kennels are open, and the shelter is bustling—including the Space Litter, a group of 10 adorable puppies now ready for homes. These 8-week-old pups, six girls and four boys, came to us after their mother was found deceased. With brindle coats, gray fur, and bright blue eyes, each is as unique as their story. Meet them online at capsnevada.org or in person during the event.



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

Say Hello to Gracie



This sweet 1-year-old tabby girl is full of personality and love. Gracie is super talkative — she’s always ready to chat and would happily keep you company with her adorable meows for hours! She’s also playful and energetic, especially when her favorite feather toys come out. Whether she’s chasing a teaser or curling up next to you for a good gossip session, Gracie is sure to fill your home with joy. Spayed and fully vaccinated, Gracie is ready for her forever home. If you’re looking for a fun, affectionate companion with lots to say, Gracie might just be your perfect match!

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

Tintabulations

Handbell Ensemble

Presents

Spring 2025 concert series

Sunday,
June 15

at 1 p.m.



Bein' Green

Fallon Theater | 71 S. Maine Street, Fallon
www.tintabulations.com | tintabulations@gmail.com

OBITUARIES

RUTHENA GAYE JOHNSTON
June 8, 1935 – 15, 2025



Ruthena Gaye Johnston, a life-time resident of Fallon, Nevada, was a cherished member of her community who passed away peacefully on May 15, 2025, in China, Texas, with her daughter Ella Leger by her side. She was born on June 8, 1935, in Gila Bend, Arizona, to Ella Eva Champion Bailey and Joy B. Bailey. Known for her unwavering kindness and vibrant spirit, Gaye touched the lives of many through her community involvement and heartfelt presence. She will be deeply missed by her family, friends and all who were fortunate enough to know her. Her legacy of achievement and dedication will continue to inspire those she leaves behind. She was preceded in death by her husband, Robert Johnston; a sister, Beth Lafky; two brothers, Hugh and Joy B. Bailey Jr.; and great-granddaughter, Pyper Dalton.

Her contributions extended far beyond her immediate surroundings. Gaye was an active participant in local organizations, always lending a helping hand to those in need. Her passion for education and her love of learning were evident through the countless students she taught throughout her 30-plus years as a teacher in the Churchill County School District. She also played a pivotal role in organizing many community events. She was instrumental in bringing girls softball to Fallon through the Bobby Socks organization and coached for many years, fostering involvement and achievement. She was active in the Democratic Party, RPEN, AAUW, 4-H and the teachers union. In addition to her community efforts, Gaye was a devoted mother, grandmother, great-grandmother and friend. Her wisdom and humor were a source of comfort and guidance to her loved ones. Those close to her will forever remember her infectious laughter and the warmth she brought to every gathering. Her memory will live on through the countless lives she touched and the indelible mark she left on Fallon’s history. Gaye’s dedication to her community and her family was stellar. Her home was a gathering place for friends and relatives, where lively discussions, heartfelt advice and shared laughter created a haven of love and unity. Gaye found joy in teaching and learning and was an advocate of education, literacy, women’s rights and the achievement of goals and success. She instilled responsibility, dedication and accountability in her children. She is survived by her sister, Eva Wilborn; her son, Robby Johnston (Rhonda Johnston) of Fernley, Nevada; her daughters, Dani Dalon (Brad Dalton) of Wells, Nevada, and Ella Leger of China, Texas; six grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren. Her family invites all those who knew her to celebrate her life at a memorial service to be held at the Fallon Wolf Center on Aug. 16, 2025, at 2 p.m. In lieu of flowers, the family encourages contributions to the Wolf Center.

FALLON ANIMAL WELFARE GROUP

BINGO NIGHT

Friday, June 27

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

50/50 RAFFLE

Enjoy Drinks by Tipsy
Tumbleweed Mobile Bar



Pre-sale starts now:

Limited Event—only 60 tickets available!

Purchase tickets: 775-426-9345

\$20 - pack of 5 games of 3 Bingo cards and a dauber. Additional cards are \$10 each.

90 N. Maine Street, Fallon

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

WATER LEVELS

Measurements Taken June 2, 2025, at 1:30 p.m.

Lahontan Reservoir	199,300 af
Carson River Below Lahontan	654 cfs
Truckee Canal at Wadsworth	143 cfs
Truckee Canal at Hazen	89 cfs
Carson River at Ft. Churchill	737 cfs

June 2, 2024

June 2, 2023

June 2, 2022

302,833 acre feet

171,461 acre feet

154,354 acre feet

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

MEETINGS

June 9–13, 2025

Fallon City Council

1st and 3rd Tuesdays
of the month

City Hall, 55 W Williams Ave.

County Meetings

155 N. Taylor St.

Commission Chambers

Planning Commission

Wednesday, June 11 at 6 p.m.

Advisory Boart to Manage
Wildlife

Wednesday, June 11 at 7 p.m.

Central Nevada Health District

Thursday, June 12 at 1:30 p.m.



SENIOR CENTER MENU

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

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

<div>Monday, June 9</div> <div>BBQ Chicken Breast Onion Ring Baked Beans Peas & Pearls Pineapple Chunks WW Bread</div>	<div>Tuesday, June 10</div> <div>Taco Casserole Spanish Rice Seasoned Zucchini Cantaloupe</div>	<div>Wednesday, June 11</div> <div>Grilled Chicken Fettuccini Broccoli Peach Slices Garlic Bread</div>	<div>Thursday, June 12</div> <div>Turkey Pot Pie Mixed Green Salad FF Italian Dressing Orange Mango Cup Whole Grain Bread</div>	<div>Friday, June 13</div> <div>Father's Day Lunch Meatloaf Whipped Potatoes & Gravy Garlic Green Beans Diced Pears Apple Slices</div>
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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.

<div>Monday, June 9</div> <div>Buffet Night</div>	<div>Thursday, June 12</div> <div>Breakfast for Dinner Eggs, Bacon, Sausage Bagels</div>	<div>Monday, June 16</div> <div>Shephard's Pie Fruit & Bread</div>	<div>Thursday, June 19</div> <div>BBQ Sandwiches Bean Salad</div>
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Volunteer groups
needed to help serve
once per month,
3 p.m. until 6:30 p.m.
Call for information.

COMMUNITY

Lost Federal Funding Forces Nevada’s Summer Food Program

Staff Report

A once-promising initiative that brought fresh, locally grown food to schools, food banks, and underserved communities across Nevada—including Fallon—has been shut down following the withdrawal of federal funding.

The program, known as Home Feeds Nevada, was part of a larger initiative by the Nevada Department of Agriculture to strengthen local food systems, support small-scale producers, and enhance access to fresh foods in rural areas. It was funded through two federal programs: the Local Food Purchase Assistance Cooperative Agreement and the Local Food for Schools initiative. Together, these programs directed more than \$8 million to Nevada over the past two years.

That funding was unexpectedly cut earlier this year by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, leaving the state unable to sustain ongoing operations. As a result, Home Feeds Nevada and similar food distribution efforts are coming to an end as the remaining funds are exhausted. The Nevada Department of Agriculture has confirmed that the program will close by June 30 unless alternative funding is secured.

The Nevada Department of Agriculture explained that with federal funding no longer available, there are currently no resources to continue operating the Home Feeds Nevada program. While the program technically still exists, there are no funds to support its implementation.



Summer Food Service Program 2024, free lunches offered to local children. Photo courtesy of CCSD.

In Fallon and surrounding counties, Home Feeds Nevada helped provide locally grown meats, fruits, and vegetables to food pantries and school lunch programs. Many of these communities, including tribal partners like the Fallon Paiute Shoshone Tribe, had come to rely on the consistency and quality of local food sources made available through the program.

The Nevada Department of Agriculture has begun exploring options to preserve certain aspects of the program, including potential state appropriations and private donations; however, no decisions have been finalized. Without intervention, the infrastructure built over the last two years—relationships, distribution routes, cold storage

coordination—will begin to unravel.

The loss of the program also raises concerns for summer and fall food access in rural Nevada, especially as federal pandemic-era nutrition expansions wind down. Programs like the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP), which provides free meals to children when school is out, remain intact but are now missing a key local sourcing component that improved both nutrition and regional food security.

As the state looks ahead, agricultural leaders and community organizations are urging lawmakers and private partners to find a path forward—before the progress made is lost for good.

Fallon Youth Club Built for Kids, Backed by the Community

Story and photo by Nancy Chapman

What started as three modular trailers on school property has grown into one of Fallon’s most important community resources: the Fallon Youth Club. From the beginning, its mission has been simple—make sure every child has a safe place to go after school, no matter what.

Director Shannon Goodrick remembers opening day in 2004. “We had 25 students,” she said. “Growing to 100 by week’s end.”

A small group of board members first identified the need for an after-school program in Fallon. They partnered briefly with the Boys and Girls Club before deciding a local, community-specific facility would better serve families. That’s when Goodrick was brought on to lead what became the Fallon Youth Club.

Even through tough times—like the 2008 recession—the board kept the club afloat by diversifying revenue and keeping it affordable. Today, the club operates under a “30% rule,” meaning no single funding source can account for more than 30% of its revenue. Even with 34.5% of the budget coming from grants, those are divided across four different awards.

“The thing we are most proud of is the 40% that of our budget is raised here in our community between private donations and our fundraising events,” Goodrick said. “These



Fallon Youth Club.

make up nearly half of our budget and is funded locally.”

In 2017, the city, county, and youth center agreed to build a new facility. Construction progressed until COVID-19 halted operations and closed the club for 16 weeks. With grant deadlines still in place, the team got creative. Staff produced and mailed pamphlets with learning activities to members’ homes—giving families tools to keep kids busy and on track.

In February 2021, the Fallon Youth Club officially moved to its new location at 324 Pennington Circle. By 2024, enrollment had grown to 456 children. Nearly half had attended for more than two years. The club serves a wide cross-section of the community: 38% of members live with both parents, 29% with a single parent, 16% with a parent and stepparent, and 9% with others such as relatives or foster families. Half of all members live in poverty, and another 38.7% fall into the low to moderate income range. Just 12% live above the poverty line.

The club helps members understand the value of their education. They work daily with their partners to ensure that each member has opportunities to experience learning in a fun way. Through homework assistance and tutoring, learning happens all day! FYC connects parents, teachers and afterschool staff to help reach positive outcomes for each student.

In April 2024, the Fallon Youth Center continued to grow, launching The Little Club House for infants and young children. Its mission: to provide a childcare facility for families and the community.

Program costs are kept low—\$35 per week for after-school care and \$75 during summer break. This is accomplished with family fees, grants, fundraising, and community giving. The club is working toward a goal of 1,000 people giving \$10 per month. That \$10,000 would help pay for after-school supplies, COVID-relief needs, and staff health insurance.

Out of 31 dedicated FYC staff members, 20 grew up attending the youth center, graduated high school, and are now part of the staff. These very members come back to work at the facility that gave them so much.

For more information or to join, the Fallon Youth Club can be reached at 775-423-6926, online at www.fallonyouthclub.com or via email at sgoodrick@fallonyouthclub.com.

PLEASE JOIN
CHURCHILL ANIMAL PROTECTION SOCIETY
FOR OUR 19TH


Churchill Animal Protection Society

BARK
IN THE
PARK

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COMMUNITY

CC Library Summer Reading Program Begins June 7

Staff Report

Kick off your summer with the Churchill County Library’s 2025 Summer Reading Program, open to all ages—newborn through adult. The program runs from June 7 through July 31, and registration is open now at bit.ly/CCLSummerReading. Participants can track their progress using a printed reading log or by logging books online through Beanstack.



Patrons enjoy the Nevada Department of Wildlife’s presentation at the library. Photo courtesy of CCL.

The kick-off event takes place Saturday, June 7 at 10 a.m. at the library. Stop by to pick up a registration bag and check out the amazing vehicles our local community helpers use. With each visit to the library during the program, participants who show their reading log—printed or digital—will receive a free book. Readers will also be entered into a grand prize raffle for their age group. To join online, visit churchillcountylibrary.beanstack.com/reader365 or download the Beanstack app from your phone’s app store.

YOUTH PROGRAMMING

- Children’s Story Time takes place Wednesdays at 11 a.m., and Thursdays at 10 a.m. and 11 a.m., featuring picture books and

- accompanying crafts. Geared toward ages 3–5, but all are welcome.
- Reading with Rover is June 12 at 3:30 p.m. Practice your reading skills with some of the best listeners—therapy dogs—and keep the book you read. Geared toward ages 6–11.
- STEAM Fridays continue each week at 1:30 p.m., with rotating science, technology, engineering, art and math activities. For ages 6–11, but all are welcome.
- Elementary Book Club meets virtually on June 27 at 3 p.m. for grades 3–5. Reserve your spot at bit.ly/CCElementaryBookClub.
- 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten encourages families to read together. Recognition is given for every 100 books read. Sign up anytime at bit.ly/CCL1000BBK.

ADULT PROGRAMS

- Sen. Rosen’s office will hold community office hours at the library on June 12 at 1 p.m.
- Crafting for Grownups takes place June 12 at 4 p.m. Stop by and try a new craft.
- Nevada Federal Credit Union offers a financial literacy session on June 14 at 2 p.m.
- Spice Club continues this month featuring cumin.

ALL-AGES ACTIVITIES

- Game Night is held every Wednesday at 4 p.m. Bring your own games or enjoy those provided by the library.
- Virtual Reality sessions take place Tuesdays at 3:30 p.m. for ages 10 and up. Minors must have a signed permission form.
- Nevada Department of Wildlife presents “Meet Our Wild Neighbors” on June 24 at 2 p.m., exploring Nevada’s animals—feathered, furry and scaly.
- Puzzle Race is June 28 at 10 a.m. Think you can assemble a jigsaw puzzle faster than your neighbor? Put your skills to the test.
- Seed Library is available all month. Pick up vegetable and flower seeds to get your summer garden growing.

All programs are free and open to the public. The library will be closed on June 19 in observance of the Juneteenth holiday.

The Churchill County Library offers free public computer use, small meeting rooms, and access to online learning tools like Rosetta Stone, Libby, Hoopla, and Kanopy. Printing and photocopying are available for a small fee. Year-round reading challenges for all ages can be accessed through the Beanstack app or website. The library does not charge overdue fines. Hours are Monday–Friday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., closed Sundays and major holidays. For details, visit churchillcountylibrary.org or call 775-423-7581. The library is located at 553 S. Maine St., Fallon.

Art, Talent, and Cantaloupe Pride
Festival Shirts Design Winners Announced



Artwork by Vanessa Burch-Urquhart: “Field and Plane” scene.



Artwork by Adrian Tom, for his stunning hand-drawn artwork.

By Rachel Dahl

Fallon showed up and showed off for the 40th Anniversary Festival shirt design contest. With over 30 entries submitted, the response was nothing short of inspiring, revealing just how much artistic talent lives right here in our own backyard.

After a tough selection process, the Festival Committee is thrilled to announce this year’s winners:
Festival Shirt Design Winner: Adrian Tom, for his stunning hand-drawn artwork
Volunteer Shirt Design Winner: Susan Day, recognized for her vibrant digital design.
But the celebration doesn’t stop there; three talented artists earned Honorable Mentions, and their work will be turned into collectible festival stickers:
Vanessa Burch-Urquhart — for a beautifully painted “Field and Plane” scene
Marsha Hogsed — for her charming farm scene featuring a banner
Allison Lister-Bridgewater — for a bright digital design of a sliced cantaloupe with a bold #40
The committee extended a sincere thank you to everyone who submitted artwork. “Your creativity and enthusiasm brought joy to this milestone celebration and made choosing just one winner a delightful challenge,” Adrienne Snow, director of the festival, said.
Be sure to stop by the swag shop during the #40thAnniversaryFestival to grab your shirts, stickers, and more.

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ANNIVERSARY

CELEBRATION
Saturday, June 7th at 12 - 11pm

PICK YOUR PRIZE GIVEAWAY!
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SUN	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
STARS & STRIPES 12pm-4pm	KENTUCKY DERBY Dash for Cash 6pm-10pm	JACKPOT BASH 6pm-9:30pm	CASH BINGO 12pm-4pm TOP DOG POKER 7pm-11pm	PRESS YOUR LUCK 7pm-11pm

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COMMUNITY

Scouts Offering Flag Fundraiser to Support Local Troop



Gavin Sellstrom of Troop 1776 gathers flags at the end of the day on Memorial Day. The flags will go out to subscribers again on Independence Day. Photo courtesy of Troop 1776.

By Rachel Dahl

You may have noticed last week on Memorial Day morning, as you drove around Fallon, the sudden appearance of American flags lining the streets. The phenomenon is one of the best traditions in our small town and is our own Boy Scout Troop 1776.

Each year, the Scouts offer a flag subscription fundraiser. For just \$30 a year, these young leaders will post an American flag in front of your home or business on five patriotic holidays: Presidents’ Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, and Veterans Day. Scouts show up at dawn to post the flags and return at dusk to respectfully retire them for the evening. If you haven’t seen them in action, it’s worth stepping outside with your coffee. It’s a beautiful and quiet reminder of the spirit that ties our community together.

“This is an amazing way to participate in Fallon’s small-town patriotism,” Lucy Carnahan, Fallon Chamber director, said.

One parent said, “We’d love to add you to the program — and it really helps our Scouts cover campouts, gear, and uniform expenses.”

Funds raised go directly to Troop 1776, and every subscription makes a big difference.



TO SIGN UP:

- Online: use the QR code
- Email: Troop1776.fallon@gmail.com
- Text or call Misty: 775-217-5829

Reach out, and the scouts will be glad to help.

Get Ready for a “Bee-autiful” Independence Day in Fallon

By Rachel Dahl

Fallon is buzzing with excitement as plans come together for one of the community’s most beloved traditions, the annual Fourth of July Parade and Block Party on Maine Street.

This year’s theme, “America the Bee-autiful,” is more than just a clever pun. It’s a heartfelt tribute to our local and regional beekeepers who work tirelessly to support pollinator health. Pollinators are an essential part of the Lahontan Valley farming ecosystem and have been facing several tough seasons. The parade honors their role in keeping the community sweet, colorful, and growing.

Festivities kick off Friday, July 4, at 10:00 a.m. sharp, following the familiar route from the middle school through the heart of downtown. Floats, flags, music, and a whole lot of red, white, and blue are expected to line the streets, along with a few antennae and wings. The community is encouraged to use their imagination as they decorate their “floats.”

The celebration starts early this year with the annual pie baking contest, where locals can showcase their best flaky crusts and fruit fillings on Saturday, June 21, at the Wolf Center (457 Esmeralda). Winners will take home bragging rights and a beautiful pie dish.

The parade is open to all who wish to participate, from civic groups and youth clubs to businesses and creative individuals with a flair for the festive. Entry is free for non-profits and individuals, \$30 for businesses, and \$50 for political candidates. The registration deadline is Friday, June 27. Categories for awards include everything from Best Youth Group to Most Patriotic, as well as the coveted Chamber Choice Award.



To register a float or get more info, visit FallonChamber.com, ChurchillCounty.org, or scan the QR code below. You can also call Lucy Carnahan at 775-423-2544 or Beth Webb at 775-423-7733.

So, don your stripes, add some sparkle, and maybe even a few fuzzy bee wings, and let’s celebrate our country and the small-town charm and community pride that make Fallon “bee-autiful” every day of the year.

Scan to register your float or find more information!



GOVERNMENT

Nevada Lawmakers Conclude 2025 Session with Key Measures Still Awaiting Governor’s Approval

Staff Report

The 2025 regular session of the Nevada Legislature adjourned just after midnight on June 3, following four months of lawmaking shaped by intense policy debates, budget negotiations, and a narrow Democratic majority. With Democrats one seat short of a two-thirds supermajority, the session required frequent cooperation across party lines—though sharp divisions remained on several major issues.

PERMANENT STANDARD TIME PROPOSAL FAILS TO ADVANCE

Assembly Bill 81, commonly known as the “Lock the Clock” proposal, sought to exempt Nevada from observing daylight saving time, instead keeping the state on permanent standard time. The bill cleared the Assembly with bipartisan support but did not receive a hearing in the Senate and missed a key committee deadline. Without further movement before adjournment, the measure effectively died for the session.

STATUS UNCERTAIN ON FARM LABOR PROTECTIONS

Senate Bill 172 proposed a formal set of workplace rights for Nevada’s agricultural labor force, including rules on rest breaks, housing conditions, and the right to organize. The measure passed the Senate in late May and was amended in the Assembly

shortly before the close of session. As of June 2, the bill was sent for reprinting, but no confirmation was available indicating a final Assembly vote. The bill passed the Assembly on May 26 and, on June 1, was read for a third time and amended. Unless the matter passes the Senate before the close of the session on 12:32 a.m. June 3, the bill will not be enacted.

FUNDING BOOSTS FOR CHARTER EDUCATORS

Lawmakers approved Assembly Bill 398, which directs tens of millions in new funding to the State Public Charter School Authority over the next two fiscal years. The legislation is designed to increase compensation for charter school teachers and support staff while also offering \$5,000 incentives for hard-to-fill positions, such as special education and Title I schools with high vacancy rates. The bill received bipartisan support and cleared both chambers.

FIREARMS RESTRICTIONS FOR YOUNG ADULTS AWAIT ACTION

Assembly Bill 245 restricts the sale and possession of certain semiautomatic firearms for individuals under the age of 21. The legislation passed both the Assembly and Senate and was delivered to the governor on May 27 but has not yet been signed into law. The governor has expressed concern over similar proposals in the past, and it remains

to be seen whether he will approve, veto, or let the bill become law without signature.

PRIMARY ELECTION ACCESS COULD EXPAND

A pair of election-related bills are also awaiting executive review. Assembly Bill 597 would allow nonpartisan voters—Nevada’s largest voting bloc—to choose a party ballot in primary elections. The measure received final passage on June 2. Meanwhile, Assembly Bill 562 allocates funds to improve the state’s election infrastructure, including voter registration systems and data connectivity among state agencies. The bill passed both houses overwhelmingly, with only a single opposing vote cast in the Assembly.

Once the Legislature adjourns, the governor has a limited window to act on the remaining bills. Measures delivered before adjournment must be signed or vetoed within five days, excluding Sundays. Bills received afterward have a ten-day deadline. If no action is taken within the applicable period, legislation becomes law without the governor’s signature.

The 2025 session reflected a mix of bipartisan accomplishments and unresolved debates, particularly on labor, education, firearms access, and election participation. With several high-profile bills still in limbo, attention now turns to the governor’s office as final decisions are made in the days ahead.

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CHURCHILL COUNTY COURTS

Tenth Judicial District Court

Tuesday, May 27, Judge Thomas Stockard presiding

By Teresa Moon

Bryant Bennett Jayne pleaded guilty to four Gross Misdemeanors: two counts of Unlawful Acts Related to Human Excrement or Bodily Fluid Without Disease; one count of Battery of an Officer, a Provider of Healthcare, a School Employee, a Taxicab Driver, a Transit Operator, or a Sports Official; and one count of Intimidating a Public Officer Without Threat. Each charge is punishable by up to 364 days in jail and a fine of up to \$2,000.

The factual basis included multiple incidents while Jayne was in custody: spitting on a deputy’s arm, having feces on his person and throwing water on two deputies, spitting on another deputy, and threatening to harm or kill deputies’ family members. The court set sentencing for July 22.

Matthew Bernard Williams, in custody, appeared for a sentencing violation hearing. Churchill County Public Defender (CCPD) Jacob Sommer said he had discussed the matter with his client, who intends to deny the allegation. An evidentiary hearing was set for June 9 at 1:30 p.m.

Jeremy Lee Morton, in custody, pleaded guilty to Possession of a Controlled Substance (methamphetamine), a first or second offense, a Category E Felony punishable by one to four years in prison and a fine up to \$5,000. CCPD Sommer requested provisional entry into the Western Regional Drug Court program.

Chief Deputy District Attorney Lane Mills said law enforcement had responded to the home of Morton’s parents, from which he had previously been trespassed. Mills had no objection to Drug Court but asked that housing and victim safety be addressed. Judge Stockard granted provisional drug court admission. Morton will remain in custody until the Drug Court judge releases him. Conditions include maintaining appropriate housing, testing clean prior to release, and refraining from any contact with the victims. Sentencing was set for July 29.

Lawrence Alvin Stone, in custody, pleaded guilty to the Category E Felony of Possession of a Controlled Substance (methamphetamine), a first or second offense, punishable by one to four years in prison and a fine up to \$5,000. Churchill County Alternate Public Defender (APD) Wright Noel requested Drug Court, to which CDDA Mills did not object.

Stone told the court he wanted “to do a program to get some extra help.” Judge Stockard suspended proceedings, deferred judgment, and placed Stone on 12 months probation, requiring a substance abuse evaluation and compliance with recommendations.

Ryan James Seilhymer, in custody, admitted to a Non-Technical Sentencing Violation. APD Noel said his client would not seek reinstatement but instead “just do the time,” acknowledging the missed opportunity and expressing regret

Seilhymer thanked the court, saying, “I made the bed, and I can lie in it.” Judge Stockard revoked probation and imposed the original sentence for Possession of a Controlled Substance (heroin), a Category B Felony to which Seilhymer pleaded guilty on May 11, 2021.



He received 283 days of credit for time served.

Joshua Jamar Harvey, in custody, admitted to a Technical Sentencing Violation related to residence and controlled substance provisions. Senior Deputy District Attorney Chelsea Sanford requested a 30-day revocation and that Harvey be required to complete a 30-day inpatient program.

CCPD Sommer did not object but asked that Harvey be released upon completion to preserve his employment. Harvey told the court, “It took me a long time to just get a job here, and I just don’t want to lose it due to a mistake. And I apologize. I take full responsibility.” Judge Stockard temporarily revoked probation and modified the terms to require inpatient treatment within six months.

John Reed Crysler, in custody, appeared for sentencing on the Category B Felony of Driving Under the Influence of an Intoxicating Liquor or a Controlled or Prohibited Substance. The charge, to which he pleaded guilty in March, carries a mandatory prison sentence.

CCPD Sommer said Crysler, age 64, expressed regret and acknowledged he can no longer drink. “He regrets not taking care of this sooner,” Sommer said, requesting the minimum sentence.

“I truly did not ever want to get another DUI,” Crysler stated. “It was my mistake.” He apologized to the court and the community. Judge Stockard imposed fees and assessments and sentenced Crysler to 48–120 months in prison and a fine up to \$2,000, with 116 days of credit for time served. He was remanded to the custody of the Churchill County Sheriff for imposition of sentence.

Austin Taylor Dyer’s sentencing violation hearing was continued to June 3.

Charles Lee Gilmore’s hearings were continued to June 10.

Didn’t Steal It, Just Had It
Chandler Still Headed to Prison

By Teresa Moon

Jeffrey Allen Chandler, in custody, appeared for sentencing Tuesday, May 27, in the Tenth Judicial District Court before Judge Thomas Stockard on a Category C Felony charge of Possession of a Stolen Motor Vehicle. Chandler pleaded guilty in March.

Churchill County Public Defender Jacob Sommer began his argument by addressing the legal standard of the case: “Knew or should have known.” He told the court that Chandler had made it clear he did not have actual knowledge the motorcycle was stolen at the time of purchase.

Sommer said his client bought two other motorcycles from the same seller—both of which were not stolen—and emphasized that Chandler had no involvement in the theft itself. “The facts indicate that Mr. Chandler was on reasonable notice that there could have been a problem, and so that’s the reason he took responsibility,” Sommer said, reiterating that he did not participate in the actual theft of the bike.

The defense acknowledged Chandler’s extensive criminal history but pointed to recent progress. “He’s been trying to get himself sorted out with a number of things,” Sommer said. “He is now clear-minded and understands some of the mistakes he has made throughout this case—not just the behavior that got him here, but also the struggles he had in Court Services and things like that.” He asked Judge Stockard

to consider probation, conditioned on Chandler completing a substance abuse evaluation and complying with its recommendations.

Sommer then addressed restitution, noting the amount being asked (\$7,500) is significant, and said that there was not a legal basis for a full recovery because “Mr. Chandler did not, and I emphasize, he did not steal that motorcycle.” Additionally, another individual is involved in the case.

Senior Deputy District Attorney Chelsea Sanford advocated for full restitution, stating the victim had provided documentation showing comparable motorcycles ranged from \$5,999 to \$14,999 in value.

“The motorcycle was in working order when it was stolen,” Sanford said. “Replacement costs, depreciation, customization, upgrades, and market demand were all considered. The defendant was the ultimate benefactor of this stolen property—he received a good deal because it was stolen. We need to make the victim whole.”

Sommer countered that the discounted price wasn’t due to the bike being stolen but because it had a nonfunctional engine. “It was in the same condition when it was recovered as when he purchased it,” Sommer said. He argued that a more reasonable restitution figure would be \$2,000. “If Mr. Chandler were to testify, he would say the bike was already in that condition when he bought it.”

Chandler addressed the court, apologizing to the victim for the emotional and financial



Jeffrey Chandler. Photo courtesy of CCSO.

toll of the incident. He also expressed remorse for what he called his “childish acts and behaviors” during prior court appearances, acknowledging he had been disrespectful to the court. He accepted full responsibility for possession of the motorcycle.

The victim was present and gave a detailed statement, telling the court that his motorcycle had been in great condition before the theft but was recovered in a

severely damaged state.

“It’s missing all its bearings and plastic pieces,” the victim said. “Some parts have been spray-painted different colors, the ignition was jammed out, and now it doesn’t even run.” He described the bike as an older model—“kind of like an old hot rod”—with expensive, hard-to-find parts and asked for full restitution.

Sommer asked the victim if he had any specific evidence that Chandler caused the damage. The victim confirmed that he did not.

After reviewing arguments and testimony, Judge Stockard ordered Chandler to pay \$2,500 in restitution and sentenced him to 19–48 months in the Nevada State Prison.

Addressing the defendant, Judge Stockard said, “I’ve considered probation in this case. However, looking at your criminal history, it’s not appropriate.” Chandler was remanded to the Churchill County Sheriff for transport to the Nevada Department of Corrections.

EDUCATION

Logos Christian Academy

Congratulations to Logos Christian Academy 8th Graders!

These seven industrious, hard-working students are preparing to head to high school next year. We hope they carry with them the lessons learned at Logos—that God loves them and has great plans for their lives.

Some of our graduates have been with us since kindergarten, so it is bitter-sweet to see them go. While entering high school can be daunting, they all have a strong foundation in Christ. They know the Word and where to turn when challenges arise, and they believe they can achieve anything.

We celebrated their graduation on the last day of school, Thursday, May 22, with a ceremony attended by many proud parents, grandparents and family members. Special guest Tiffany Mora, a Logos alumna, delivered a speech, and Chris Cooper closed the ceremony with a prayer. We also want to extend our gratitude to UPLIFT for hosting the 8th grade luncheon immediately following graduation. It was a beautiful event from start to finish.



Left to right: Rachel, Madeline, Zoey, Jace, Rocky, Jesse and Evan.

Our students will be continuing their education at CCSD and Oasis next year, and we are proud to share that they all excelled in their placement tests. Congratulations to Mrs. Amber Fitzer, our 7th and 8th grade teacher, for her outstanding work with these students.

As Zoey, Maddie, Jace, Jesse, Evan, Rocky and Rachel stand on the brink of a new beginning, I hope they take a moment to reflect on the journey they have traveled and the bright futures that lie ahead. They have learned, grown and be-

come the best versions of themselves, ready to embrace the challenges and opportunities that await. My prayer is that they inspire one another to chase their dreams, show kindness and resilience, and make a positive impact on those around them. The world needs their creativity, determination and unwavering spirit. Congratulations, graduates!

“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.” – Jeremiah 29:11

Bighorn Bulletin

LEGO ROBOTICS LOOKING FORWARD TO NEXT YEAR

Oasis Academy Middle School’s Robotics Competition Team offers the perfect blend of teamwork, creativity, and hands-on problem-solving for students interested in engineering, science, and programming. This summer, the team is seeking students who enjoy building, researching, and thinking critically.

Students in grades 5–8 who are interested in joining the team must register in Aktivite starting June 1. Tryouts will be held Friday, Sept. 5, from 1 to 4 p.m. Contact Coach Keitz with questions.

The team competes in the First Lego League’s Challenge Division, where students build and program a robot, research a problem related to the annual theme, and present their solution to a panel of judges. The 2025–26 theme, “Unearthed,” encourages teams to discover artifacts that help build a better world.

Competitions are daylong events held on Saturdays, typically in Reno. They are elimination-based, with only top-scoring teams advancing.

OASIS ACADEMY FFA CELEBRATES A YEAR OF ACHIEVEMENT AT ANNUAL BANQUET

The Oasis Academy FFA Chapter wrapped up a successful year with its annual banquet, recognizing student accomplishments and the continued support from families, staff, and community partners.

The banquet highlighted student performance across a range of competitions and projects. At the Nevada FFA State Convention, students earned top honors in Career Development Events (CDEs), including plant and animal systems agriscience fairs. Several teams advanced to national competition.

The chapter also celebrated achievements in farm and agribusiness management, agricultural sales, and poultry evaluation. These successes reflect the commitment of students and the dedicated coaching they received throughout the year.

FFA Advisor Jackie Bogdanowicz, recently named Ag Teacher of the Year by the Nevada Ag Foundation, expressed her pride in the students and thanked coaches, volunteers, and chaperones for their support.

One of the highlights of the evening was the installation of the newly elected officer team. 2025–26 officers are President Taylor Sowersby, Vice President Meirra Cavanaugh, Secretary Laynee Diaz, Treasurer Trevor Barrenchea, Reporter Sadie Whitaker, Sentinel Lily Smith, and Historian Reese Laca. In a first for the Oasis Academy chapter, Grace Laca will serve as the Chapter’s Junior Advisor.

FFA degrees and awards were given to students, including Greenhand and chapter degrees, leadership, and service awards.

Star awards: Star Greenhand Bailey Beebe, Star Farmer Grace Laca, Star Member Joshua Gusewelle

Star awards: Star Greenhand Bailey Beebe, Star Farmer Grace Laca, Star Member Joshua Gusewelle.

Discover Degrees: Addison Allegre, Avery Laca, and Bailey Peixoto.

Greenhand Degrees: Bailey Beebe, Amberlyn Casey, Tyler Crystal, Kaden Detomasi, Lyannnrose Goss, Stevie Hiskett, Brooke Manskie, Shayana McNamer, Kylie Moya, Lora Siebecker, Lily Smith, and Sadie Whitaker.

Chapter Degrees: Logan Casey, Meirra Cavanaugh, Kaylee Craig, Danielle Fenton, Cristian Keener, Reese Laca, Abigail Madera, and Taylor Sowersby.

Honorary FFA Degrees: Amber and TJ Gusewelle, Amparo Esparza and Servando Rios, Carissa, and Jason Gardner, and Amanda Daigh.

Service Awards: Grace Laca, Taylor Sowersby, Meirra Cavanaugh, Trevor Barrenchea, Reese Laca, Ryder McNabb, Matthew Bird, Christian Benham, Dahlila Creer, Tyler Crystal, Laynee Diaz, Abigail Madera, Lorena Rios, and Sadie Whitaker.

Leadership Awards: Grace Laca, Taylor Sowersby, Meirra Cavanaugh, Trevor Barrenchea, Reese Laca, Ryder McNabb, Matthew Bird, Bailey Beebe, Laynee Diaz, Abigail Madera, Lorena Rios, Washington Scott, Lily Smith, and Sadie Whitaker.

The chapter also recognized four graduating seniors for their dedication to the program: Lyly Daigh, Joshua Gusewelle, Adam Garcia, and Lorena Rios.

In addition to honoring students, the banquet celebrated the critical support provided by Oasis Academy staff and community members. Coaches, volunteers, and families were thanked for their continued contributions throughout the year, with honorary degrees awarded to those who have offered exceptional service.

“It’s incredibly rewarding to see our students’ hard work and growth celebrated at the end-of-year banquet. It’s more than just a ceremony; it’s a reflection of their dedication, leadership, and the bright future of agriculture,” Bogdanowicz said.

Combined, Oasis Academy’s middle and high school FFA programs include more than 70 members, making them one of the largest co-curricular programs at the school. For more information, contact Advisor Jackie Bogdanowicz at jbogdanwicz@oanv.org.

Veritas Preparatory School – Classical and Christian

Veritas Bids Graduating 8th Graders Proud Farewells



Veritas Gradating 8th Graders.

On Thursday, May 22, the students, teachers and families of Veritas Preparatory School gathered in the chapel to celebrate the graduation of the Class of 2025. While several of the five graduates had only joined the school in recent years, others were saying goodbye to a place they had called home since kindergarten. The

ceremony marked the close of their middle school journey and the exciting beginning of their high school years.

Headmaster Jill Rosario addressed the graduates with warm words of encouragement, speaking about each student and the unique strengths they brought to the school community. Each graduate also gave a personal speech, expressing gratitude to the parents, teachers and classmates who had supported them along the way. They shared a “Top Ten” list, highlighting their favorite memories from their years at Veritas.

The ceremony included a benediction offered by the father of graduate Jonathan Oranebo. He encouraged the students to continually seek after God and strive to walk in His ways. As parting gifts, each student received the Bible they had used during their time at Veritas, along with a special box set of The Lord of the Rings, a series that held special significance during their years at the school.

The celebration concluded with the traditional 8th Grade Walk. Attendees lined the sidewalk outside the chapel, cheering and applauding as the graduates made their final walk as Veritas middle schoolers.

Congratulations to the 8th grade graduates—John Dunkin, Orianna Hubbard, Sonora McInturff, Nate Nuckolls and Jonathan Oranebo—of Veritas Preparatory School, Class of 2025! May God bless you in your future endeavors.

COLUMNS

What’s Cooking in Kelli’s Kitchen:
Not Just for Cooking: Paprika

By J Hodnett for Kelli Kelly



June 7 marks the beginning of the Churchill County Library’s Summer Reading Program, and in keeping with this year’s theme—Color Your World—we have spices for June and July that are not only widely used in cooking, but also traditionally used as dyes. Paprika is one such spice, and often the “natural color” in red or orange foods is paprika as well.

I love making natural dyes, but usually only indulge for dyeing eggs. Red cabbage, onion skins, coffee, beets and other plants make wonderful natural dyes, as well as some spices. Start with one tablespoon of spice for each cup of water, and bring to a boil. Generally, darker colors come from boiling items in the dye water, whether it’s eggs or fabric or yarn. For lighter colors, soak in the warm or cool colored water. The pH of your water will affect the final color, but paprika should give you an orangey-brown dye. Cotton and other natural fibers will take this kind of dye, while many man-made fibers will not. And generally, food dyes are not colorfast and will fade over time.

Since paprika is so dramatically red, it’s often used as much for its color in cooking as for the extra heat or smokiness it adds. Paprika is a kind of chili powder, and can be made into sweet or hot varieties, either of which can also be smoked.

Deviled eggs are probably the most well-known example of using paprika in this way, and everyone likely has their favorite way of making them. My recipe is below. The library’s spice sample this month is a sweet paprika, made of ground chilis with the ribs and seeds removed to make it less spicy, and is perfect for topping deviled eggs.

But my favorite way to use paprika is on salmon fillets. Usually, I just squeeze half a lemon over the fillet, then cover with a generous sprinkling of salt and paprika, and roast at 425 degrees for 15 to 25 minutes, depending on the thickness of the fillet. But I was interested to try the Salmon Dry Rub recipe in June’s Spice Club brochure. Stop by the library in June to get your sample of paprika with more recipes!

Deviled Eggs

Makes 8

There are as many ways to boil eggs as there are to make them, but what works best for me is using an Instant Pot. Ingredient amounts can be modified to taste and consistency.

Ingredients:

- 6 Eggs
- 1 Avocado

- 4 tsp. Spicy brown mustard
- 2 tbsp. Dill relish
- Salt to taste
- Paprika to sprinkle

DIRECTIONS:

Put eggs on a trivet in an Instant Pot. Add one cup of water. Set manual cook time for 6 minutes.

Prepare an ice bath in a bowl with cold water and ice.

After 6 minutes are up, let the pressure release for five minutes before releasing the remaining steam and opening the pot.

Put eggs directly in the ice bath and leave until cool.

Peel eggs and cut in half. Remove yolks and place in a medium bowl. Save the 8 best whites and add the whites of the remaining two eggs to the bowl. Add avocado, mustard and relish, and mash with a fork until desired consistency.

Place about a tablespoon of the mixture in each egg half. Sprinkle with paprika.

Salmon Dry Rub

Ingredients:

- 1 1/2 tbsp. Wild ramps, lightly crushed (or a mix of garlic and scallion)
- 1 tbsp. Kosher salt
- 1 tsp. Paprika
- 1 tsp. Coriander seeds, lightly crushed
- 1/2 tsp. Sumac
- 1/2 tsp. Thyme
- 1 1/2 lbs. Salmon fillet, skin on
- 2 tbsp. Olive oil



DIRECTIONS:

Lightly score the flesh side of the salmon, no more than 1/8 inch deep. This allows the spice rub to penetrate and stay in place better during cooking.

Combine the spice rub ingredients and sprinkle liberally over the salmon.

Drizzle the top of the seasoned salmon with olive oil and grill or roast, spiced side down, for about 4 minutes. Flip to the skin side and cook another 4 to 6 minutes until crisp.

J is the Children’s Services Librarian at the Churchill County Library. Currently, J is undergoing chemotherapy and modeling an increasingly wide variety of hats.

Crossword

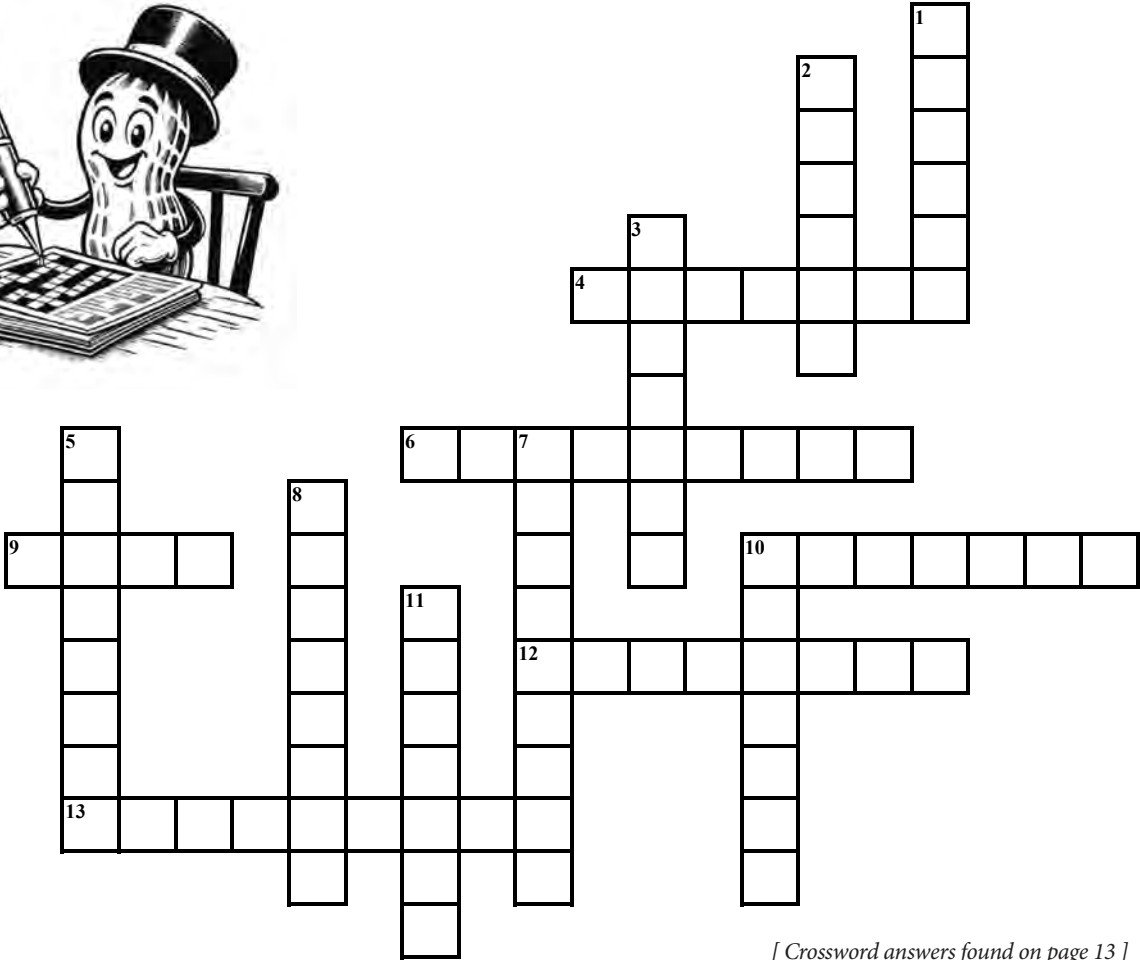
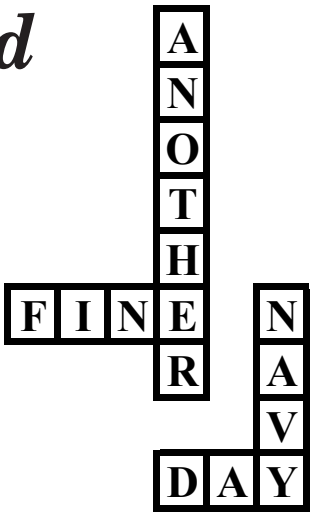
By Peanut

Across

- 4. Life jacket
- 6. SEAL insignia
- 9. Jail
- 10. Sailor
- 12. Wake up call
- 13. Pig boat

Down

- 1. Hostile aircraft
- 2. Rain locker
- 3. US Marine
- 5. Navy aviators
- 7. Tin can
- 8. Wall
- 10. Ship’s CO
- 11. Birdfarm



[Crossword answers found on page 13]



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and photos.

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CROSSWORD ANSWERS

Crossword found on page 12

AIRDALES
BANDIT
BRIG
BUDWEISER
BULKHEAD
CARRIER
DESTROYER
JARHEAD
MAEWEST
REVEILLE
SHOWER
SKIPPER
SUBMARINE
SWABBIE



COLUMNS

Allison’s Book Report

“The Whispers” by Ashley Audrain

By Allison Diegel

Summer weather hit us all at once here in Fallon, skipping any transition from chilly spring to surface-of-the-sun-level summer. Our A/C has been struggling to keep up, and our above-ground pool isn’t quite ready for swimmers, so this morning I’m taking the teens to the outdoor pool to cool off!

This week, I have a thriller that is perfect summer reading for the pool—or wherever you’re staying cool. “The Whispers” by Ashley Audrain is a wonderfully tense and juicy ride. It’s the end of summer on Harlow Street—a picture-perfect, well-to-do neighborhood where all the couples and their kids are gathered for a fancy catered barbecue. The drinks flow late into the night, and the party is fabulous—until the picture-perfect hostess, Whitney Maxwell, suddenly explodes in a fury when her son, Leo, disobeys her. Everyone at the party practically hears her exquisite veneer crack. It’s a moment that sends a shiver down your spine, revealing that all is not as serene as it seems. Later that night, Leo falls from his bedside window. It’s a shocking event that throws the entire perfect façade of Harlow Street into chaos. Whitney can only sit by her son’s hospital bed, refusing to speak to anyone, as his life hangs in the balance. The big question, of course, is: was it an accident, or something far more sinister? The story unwinds over a tense three days,

as each of four key women grapples with what happened on that terrible night. We get deep into the minds of Whitney herself, burdened by her own secrets and the immense pressure of motherhood; Blair, her best friend, who’s struggling with her own dreams of a family; Susanna, the seemingly unflappable matriarch of the neighborhood, hiding a painful past; and Tish, the newer resident, trying to navigate the complex social landscape while observing the simmering tensions. Audrain does a fantastic job of exploring envy, the tricky terrain of women’s friendships, desire and those nagging intuitions that we often silence. “The Whispers” isn’t a fast-paced thriller as much as it is a chilling psychological deep-dive. It peels back the layers of these women’s lives, revealing hidden resentments, unspoken secrets and the surprising ways their lives are interconnected. It’s a gripping read that reminds you that even in the most beautiful, seemingly perfect settings, dark secrets can fester—and the “whispers” of doubt and judgment can have devastating consequences. “The Whispers” definitely cements Audrain as a major talent in women’s fiction, leaving you wondering just how much goes on behind closed doors in every neighborhood. Stay cool, Fallon. I hope you enjoy this week’s pick, and don’t forget to pop over to my Instagram @allison.the.reader for more fun summer recommendations.



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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C O L U M N S

Postcards: Fallon’s Sister City

By Michon Mackedon

If you consult the online encyclopedia, Wikipedia, for information about Fallon, Nevada, you will find the perplexing sentence, “Fallon is twinned with the following towns: Vani, Georgia.” You might wonder, “What is a twin town, and why is Fallon paired with Vani, Georgia? I can answer those questions.

In 2002, my son, John Mackedon, joined the Peace Corps and was assigned, after training, to teach English in the Republic of Georgia, a storied land nestled between the Black Sea on the west and Azerbaijan to the east. Russia lies directly north separated from Georgia by the Caucasus Mountains.

John was hard to reach due to time zones and almost non-existent telephone service, but he was finally able to place a call home to his father and me. After saying, “Hello, I’m fine,” he followed with, “You have to visit this magical place.” He was enchanted by the country’s people, language, culture, mountains, vineyards, and villages. He outlined his plan to guide us through Georgia. He also told us that he had read about the Sister Cities program, implemented by the Washington D.C.-based Sister Cities International, and wanted our help in linking Fallon with Vani, Geogia, where he was teaching. (In Europe, Sister Cities are also known as Twin Towns.)

Mayor Tedford and the Fallon City Council approved the idea, and the paperwork was generated, bonding two towns situated half of a world apart. Mike and I travelled to Georgia in June, 2003, and, with John, we sat at a table in the City Hall of Vani, as the mayor signed the Sister City documents. Also present was a representative of Eduard Shevardnadze, then President of Georgia. The City Hall was an impressive building, with tiled floors and intricately detailed woodwork, but outside its walls, the streets were claimed by cows,

chickens, and pigs, a sign of the economic challenges then faced by a former Soviet Republic.

Vani shares with Fallon the facts that they are small towns located on rivers. The population of Vani is less than 5000. Additionally, both serve as what Americans would call a county seat. However, Vani can claim an ancient history and a unique legendary past. At the archaeological museum near the town, myth meets scientific evidence to reveal that Vani was the center of the land of Colchis, with ruins dating as far back as 6000 B.C.E. According to Greek mythology Colchis was visited by Jason and the Argonauts in their quest for the Golden Fleece. Within the museum, we read tentative explanations for the origin of the term “Golden Fleece.” In antiquity, sheep fleeces, stretched over a wooden frame, would be submerged in a stream, and gold flecks, borne down from upstream placer deposits, would collect in them, hence forming a golden fleece. Jason, according to legend, found “the Golden Fleece,” then, as myths often go, he married the daughter of the king. After some bloodshed, he carried his bride, Medea, and the fleece back to Greece, where, as readers of Greek mythology know, more tragedy ensued. (Incidentally, we met several women in Georgia named Medea.)

We, too, were captivated by the country of Georgia and returned to visit in 2004. Small advances had been made to the infrastructure. Improvements continue, and the country is now becoming a tourist destination. It is my hope that, in the future, someone else from Fallon, Nevada, will visit our Sister City, Vani, Georgia.

Please send your story to mackedon@phonewave.net

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

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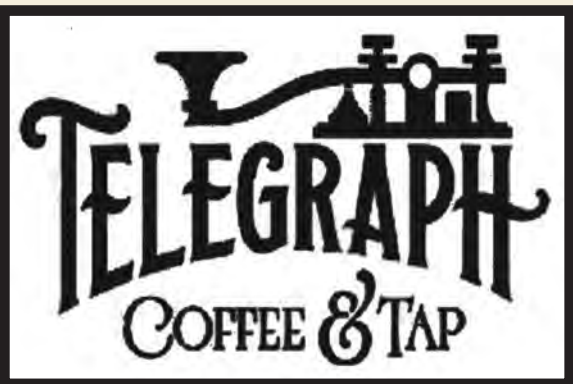
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- 4:00 p.m. Carnival until 10:00 p.m.
- 5:00 p.m. Silver State Livestock Show
- 5:30 p.m. Lions Club BMX Bike Race
Pig Scramble, Mutton Bustin,
Dare to be a Cowboy to follow
Horseshoe Contest
- 6:00 p.m.

Friday, August 15

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

Saturday, August 16

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

Sunday, August 17

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