

KEEPING YOU POSTED ON LOCAL NEWS

TheFallonPost.org | Vol. 6 No. 26

\$2.00 | The Week of May 2, 2025

Squish's Pressure Washing Honored as SBA's Young Entrepreneur of the Year

By Rachel Dahl

Fallon's small business community is getting a moment in the spotlight in honor of National Small Business Week. The Nevada District Office of the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) has announced its 2025 Small Business Award winners, and Fallon's own Tanner Huckaby, owner of Squish's Pressure Washing LLC, has earned the title of Young Entrepreneur of the Year.

If you've seen a freshly cleaned storefront or a gleaming semi-truck rolling down Highway 50 lately, chances are Tanner "Squish" Huckaby had something to do with it. Now, the hometown entrepreneur is receiving welldeserved recognition.

Squish's Pressure Washing, launched in August 2021, has earned Huckaby the Young Entrepreneur of the Year award from the SBA's Nevada District. He will be honored alongside other statewide small business leaders at the SBA's 2025 Small Business Awards luncheon on May 9 in Las Vegas.

Kelli Kelly, a small business counselor at the Small Business Development Center in Fallon who has supported Huckaby, praised his dedication. "I was not, in the least bit, surprised when Tanner was named Nevada's Young Entrepreneur of the Year by the Small Business Administration. Tanner is a driven small business owner who embodies the entrepreneurial spirit. He is resourceful, resilient, and self-motivated—consistently looking for innovative ways to improve and diversify his services. I am so proud of Squish and all that he has accomplished," she said.

"I started with a hose, a dream, and the stubborn Huckaby work ethic passed down

Fallon Youth Turn Out in Force for Global Youth Service Day

By Rachel Dahl with thanks to Mary Sorensen

Fallon's young people made a big impact over the weekend during Global Youth Service Day, rolling up their sleeves to improve the community in more ways than one.

On the morning of April 26, about 70 volunteers ages 12 to 18 gathered at Oats Park at 9 a.m., launching a series of projects across town. They painted the walls and floors of the park bathrooms, refreshed the backstops at the batting cages, and pulled weeds throughout the park.



Brennan Sorensen and Wesson Johnson.

North Taylor Building to contribute their own acts of kindness. They packed 104 activity bags for pediatric patients at Renown Children's Hospital and created heartfelt cards for more than 190 homebound seniors served by Meals on Wheels.

"My favorite thing was making cards for people because I just thought it was a kind thing to do!" said Hattie Sorensen, one of the young volunteers.

The children's service project was organized by Courtney Johnson, who serves as Stake Primary President and works as a nurse at Renown.

Fallon's Global Youth Service Day projects were organized through JustServe.org, a community platform connecting volunteers with local service opportunities. JustServe sponsors two major events in Fallon each year — Global Youth Service Day in April and the 9/11 Day of Service in September — aiming to create meaningful opportunities for families to serve together. "Anyone can participate," said regional JustServe representative Terra Koenig. Glen and Beth Perazzo coordinate local efforts. Organizers encourage community members to visit JustServe.org year-round to find ways to get involved. Celebrating its 37th year, Global Youth Service Day (April 25–27, 2025) is the longest-running annual youth service event in the world, inviting youth ages 5 to 25 to work together for the common good and highlighting the impact young people have on their communities every day.



Fernley students Hunter Vanderkelen, Bella Bezinque, Henry Hardman, Sam Seamons, and Reece Chapman.

from my great-grandpa Elmer," Squish said.

That determination shows in every job, from pressure-washing storefronts and semitrucks to soft-washing homes and cleaning heavy equipment. Squish's Pressure Washing operates year-round, but business picks up when warmer weather arrives and RVs, boats, and trucks emerge from winter storage. Huckaby has built a reputation for tackling tricky projects, window cleaning, oversized machinery, and specialty jobs that others often turn down.

When he's not power-washing Northern Nevada into a sparkling shine, Squish helps with his family's multigenerational business, Huck Salt, and runs his own farm, continuing

[Squish's continued on page 2]

Their efforts extended beyond the park. Volunteers emptied roughly 25 pallets of sandbags for Churchill County on Miners Road, helping with seasonal flood preparations. Across town, Brad Barton led a two-hour cleanup of the river area near Financial Horizons Credit Union. Volunteers cleared trash, debris, and overgrown willows and Russian olive trees, making it easier for floaters to safely exit the river this summer. With the help of a roll-off trailer donated by Tumbleweed Garbage, the cleanup team managed to fill the entire bin with river trash and green waste.

Later that afternoon, 103 younger children, ages 3 to 11, gathered at the

Covernment



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The Fallon Post 25 South Maine Street Fallon, Nevada 89406 Address correction required



Publisher/President Rachel Dahl rachel@fallonmediallc.com

Editor Leanna Lehman LeannaLehman@thefallonpost.org

Advertising

For advertising contact: 775-481-3582, or email Advertising@FallonMediaLLC.com

Layout & Ad Design

Christine Bryner christine@studio509llc.com

Office Manager

Cheryl Venturacci

Logistics Manager Denice Pinder

Contributors

John Baker Winston Brooks Nancy Chapman Stuart Cook Allison Diegel Suzann Gilliand-Peterson **Isis Harris** Sonya Johnson Vicki Jones Kelli Kelly **Christy Lattin** Trina Machacek Michon Mackedon Anne McMillin Teresa Moon Sylvia Nash **Robert Perea** Kelli Perez Kaitlin Ritchie Angela Viera Patricia Whitten Vic Williams

> **Volunteers** Victoria Crystal

FROM THE PUBLISHER

Captain's Log

Family Trips, Mochamoolattes, and Mischief

By Rachel Dahl

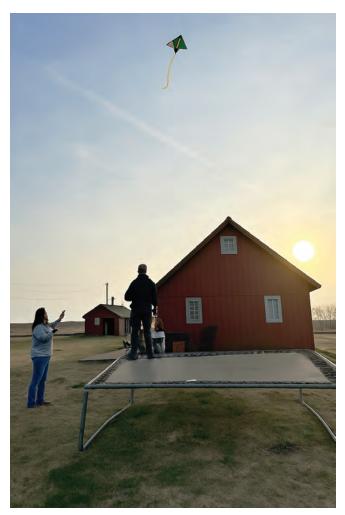
I am in North Dakota this week, and it isn't even THAT cold.

Why is everything so relative? Let's be clear: the wind is howling at this moment, and I'm in a huge sweatshirt and a thick pair of sweats my kid let me borrow. So, at least I'm not freezing, but spring in this neck of the woods is a different sort of animal than we're used to in the Lahontan Valley.

We could say that it's a real pretty day and that would be accurate. North Dakota does have a lovely Little House on the Prairie charm about it.

But the best thing is being able to spend the week with my little grandson, my big son, and his sweet wife. My sister, number five, and her family also live here, so we've been going on long walks across the prairie every day, collecting amber and quartz as we go.

So far, there have been no hilarious stories of granny going end over end through the snowbank during this trip, and there is no ice fishing. Rhett and I have plans to walk to the Dairy Queen when he gets off the bus today and get some Mochamoolatte for Granny and whatever concoction he likes.



He's been going with my sister and me on our long walks, and he's very entertaining. He has the non-stop eight-year-old chatter and does laps around us as we cover our miles. He also loves rocks but he's more focused on finding skipping rocks so when we get to the little ponds he can show us his skipping skills.

At one point, this sharp crack-zing stopped Susan and I in our tracks as we jumped and looked only to find Rhett excited out of his mind – he had been throwing rocks at the power lines above us and had finally, actually connected. He was so satisfied. And then, because he had figured out the trajectory, he continued his successful, nerve-jarring target practice for another half mile, serenading us with his zing-popping.

The next morning, his mom, exhausted at the breakfast table, said he had come into her room at three a.m. complaining that his arm hurt, and she couldn't figure out why. Not sure she was super impressed with me when I explained our previous day's activity while she did that same head shake my own mom used to do.

So while I finish out the week out on the prairie, we'll all be right here...

...Keeping you Posted.

_Dach

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

Mail

25 South Maine Street Fallon, Nevada 89406 775-423-4545 admin@thefallonpost.org

The Fallon Post (ISSN 2767-6234) is published weekly, on Friday, by The Fallon Post, 25 South Maine Street Fallon, NV 89406

Periodical Postage is paid in Fallon, NV POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Fallon Post, 25 South Maine Street Fallon, NV 89406 Copyright © 2024

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TO SUBMIT AN OBITUARY

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

SUBSCRIPTIONS OR ADDRESS CHANGE

Can be placed online, and by mail at 25 South Maine Street, or by phone: 775-423-4545. Single copies may be purchased for \$2 at local merchants listed on the back page.

[Squish's continued from page 1]

the agricultural tradition started by his greatgreat-grandfather Henry Huckaby in 1925.

"The ingenuity of small businesses drives the economy across the great state of Nevada," said Saul Ramos, Nevada SBA District Director. "By fueling free enterprise, and with grit and determination, entrepreneurs create jobs, families are given a better life, and whole communities are transformed. This is an occasion to recognize trailblazing individuals."

This year's SBA awards highlight a range of Nevada's entrepreneurial successes. Along with Squish, honorees include:

- Small Business Persons of the Year: Kristen Corral-Marin, Carlos Corral-Marin, Daniel Simmons, and Regina Simmons of Tacotarian, Las Vegas
- Woman Owned Small Business of the Year: RENUoil of America, Inc., Las Vegas
- Family Owned Small Business of the Year: La Vecindad, Las Vegas
- Microenterprise Small Business of the Year: Path To Publishing, Las Vegas
- Veteran Owned Small Business of the Year: John's Spring and Suspension LLC, Reno
- Legacy Small Business of the Year: Undercover Productions Inc., Las Vegas
- Rural Owned Small Business of the Year: KADRI Clothing, Wells
- Entrepreneurial Spirit Awards: Kathleen Taylor and Janet D. Hartley
- **Exporter of the Year:** Abingdon Co., Las Vegas
- 8(a) Graduate of the Year: S&B Christ Consulting, Las Vegas

Since 1953, the SBA has supported small businesses across the country, helping them start, grow, expand, and recover. The SBA's annual awards recognize outstanding entrepreneurs who drive economic growth, create



Photo courtesy of Squish.

jobs, and strengthen their communities.

For Squish, it's never just about clean surfaces. It's about honoring family roots, staying connected to the community, and building something lasting—one wash at a time.

Congratulations to Tanner Huckaby for continuing the Fallon legacy of small business and standout entrepreneurs. He joins the distinguished ranks of Lattin Farms and Kent's Supply Center, who have also been honored by the SBA over the years.

FEATURES

Nick Dondero was an officer with Fallon Police Department and two local tribal law enforcement agencies for a few years prior to his 2007 misdemeanor domestic battery conviction in Churchill County.

- PART I --Battle for the Badge

Nick Dondero Ordered to Vacate Office of Esmeralda County Sheriff



Nick Dondero before 2024 court appearance in Esmeralda County. Photo by Leanna Lehman.

By Leanna Lehman

In a tense Esmeralda County Commission meeting last week, a local resident asked, "How can we trust a sheriff who never qualified to be one?" Around her, neighbors shifted in their seats—some nodding in agreement, others crossing their arms. Outside the building, rumors swirled that Sheriff Nick Dondero, despite a sealed domestic battery conviction and lack of peace officer certification, continued to carry a firearm and wear the badge while others openly spoke in support of their elected sheriff. The Supreme Court rejected that framing.

Court documents filed April 22, 2025, confirm that Dondero never applied for POST certification—a fact corroborated by POST Executive Director Mike Sherlock. According to Sherlock, even if Dondero had applied after receiving POST's August 2023 letter stating he was ineligible for certification, there would not have been enough time to complete the required training before the January 2, 2024, deadline.

"Indeed, the record reflects that Dondero never applied for POST certification, either before or after receiving this letter, despite having the opportunity to do so," continued the justices.

The second barrier to Dondero's eligibility was his 2007 domestic battery conviction, which was sealed in 2016. Under Senate Bill 225, passed in 2023, individuals with such convictions are barred from serving as peace officers—even if the record is sealed.

"Sometimes, it is possible for people to slip through that fence because the conviction has been sealed," said Sen. Dallas Harris, the bill's sponsor. "That hole will be closed in this bill."

The court noted that the authenticity of Dondero's 2007 judgment of conviction, in which he pleaded no contest, was not disputed.

Dondero remains a dividing figure in Esmeralda County. To some, he's a no-nonsense sheriff with rural roots and a perfect fit for Nevada's least populated county and its two primary communities, Dyer and Fishlake Valley. To others, he's a man who never should have worn the badge—a candidate who campaigned hard but ignored the rules that come with the job. Concerns about concealed weapon permits, his right to carry a firearm, and his sealed record have followed him since early in his tenure.

"Let this be a turning point where Esmeralda County stands firmly against lawlessness and prioritizes the voices of those who elected you.," said one resident at the meeting, opposing the many that support the county's decision to appeal Dondero's refusal to step down.

But for now, the state's highest court has spoken: Nick Dondero no longer holds the office of sheriff—lawfully or otherwise.



That moment captured what had been simmering for more than a year: a battle over trust, law, transparency, and legitimacy. And this month, the Nevada Supreme Court ended the speculation.

"IT IS HEREBY ORDERED: Nicholas Dondero is unlawfully holding the office of Sheriff of Esmeralda County, and that he shall be immediately ousted and altogether excluded therefrom."

So reads the ruling issued by the Nevada Supreme Court filed in the Fifth Judicial District Court on April 22, ordering Esmeralda County Sheriff Nick Dondero to vacate office following a protracted legal battle over his eligibility to serve.

The decision stems from a writ of quo warranto issued by District Court Judge Kimberly Wanker based on a Nevada Supreme Court decision issued April 1. The ruling upholds a writ of mandamus brought by Nevada Attorney General Aaron Ford. Together, the rulings conclude that Dondero failed to meet peace officer certification requirements and was further disqualified due to a prior domestic violence conviction.

The April 1 writ overturned Wanker's 2024 denial of summary judgment, which had blocked the state's effort to remove Dondero from office. In their Order Granting Petition for a Writ of Mandamus, Justices Pickering, Cadish, and Lee wrote:

"Under the circumstances here, where the State argues that the material facts are undisputed and that the district court erroneously interpreted and applied the governing law, we elect to consider the State's petition."

A writ of mandamus compels a government official, agency, or lower court to perform a legal duty. In Dondero's case, it was used to force compliance with the state law requiring sheriff certification through Nevada POST (Peace Officer Standards and Training). In simple terms, the court said, You don't get to opt out of this. It's the law.

Despite the high court's ruling, as of April 21, Dondero had not stepped down. Esmeralda County commissioners voted on April 15 to support his stay in office and pursue an appeal—potentially to the U.S. Supreme Court. The move followed a heated public meeting filled with sharp divisions over the sheriff's leadership.

The state's argument hinged on two key facts: Dondero never earned POST certification within the one-year timeframe required under NRS 289.555(1)(b) and holds a disqualifying 2007 conviction for misdemeanor domestic battery.

However, in a January 2024 district court hearing, the issue of POST certification became tangled in unusual reasoning—led not by Dondero's defense but by the bench itself. Judge Wanker took the lead in arguing that POST was to blame for Dondero's lack of certification, a position later echoed by Dondero's counsel, Augustus Claus, and Nye County Chief Deputy District Attorney Brian Kunzi, who represented Esmeralda County after its district attorney, Bob Glennon, conflicted off the case.



Photo courtesy of Dr. Sue Segura.

CCHS Intern Spotlight

Drake Reid, a senior at Churchill County High School, is already getting a head start on his future. He is currently working for the City of Fallon as an assistant to the linemen, gaining valuable hands-on experience. After graduation, Drake plans to earn his CDL and attend lineman school to pursue a career in the field.

A N N O U N C E M E N T S

Several Top CCHS Students Visit Stanford and Cal Poly



Story and photo courtesy of Dr. Sue Segura, CCHS

Twenty-one Churchill County High School students with 4.0 GPAs and exemplary attendance records embarked on an unforgettable college tour this month, visiting two of California's most prestigious universities — Stanford University and California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo (Cal Poly).

The group departed Fallon at 5:30 a.m. and arrived at Stanford University around 11 a.m. After an insightful campus tour, they continued south down I-5, stopping for a hearty steak dinner at Harris Ranch — generously sponsored by Kelly Robbins of New Millennium.

Students spent the night at Harris Ranch and rose early for the next leg of the trip to Cal Poly. The tour included a visit to the Cal Poly dairy farm, where one student's father had once worked while attending college and now owns his own dairy in Fallon. Ben Londo, the group's Cal Poly tour guide, arranged for students from various academic disciplines to speak with the Churchill County students, offering valuable insight into what it takes to gain admission and succeed at Poly.

The next stop was the historic Madonna Inn, where Connie Pearce, the inn's owner, treated the group to six dozen homemade cookies to enjoy at nearby Avila Beach. There, students dipped their feet in the ocean, played a few rounds of volleyball, and enjoyed refreshing ice cream, courtesy of Berney Realty.

The journey ended with all of the students sleeping peacefully on the return trip home — a well-earned rest after an inspiring adventure.

Fallon Theatre Movies & More May 2–3

By Kelli Perez

Thank you for being part of what makes the Fallon Theatre so special, as your support keeps our historic venue alive with movies, music, and live performances. A quick reminder that our Annual Sustaining Membership Meeting is coming up this Wednesday, April 30 at 6 p.m. All current and prospective members are welcome! We'll share updates, set goals, enjoy some cake, and hold a raffle for attending members. We hope to see you there!

This weekend, we are thrilled to present a special showing of "The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe" (2005), sponsored by Victory Baptist Church, on Thursday and Friday, May 2 and 3. Based on the beloved novel by C.S. Lewis, the film follows four siblings who discover a magical world hidden behind a wardrobe door, where they join the fight to free Narnia from the grip of the White Witch's eternal winter. The film is rated PG and runs 2 hours and 23 minutes. The 6 p.m. screenings will feature a one-of-a-kind 4D sensory experience, complete with seat vibrations, scents, mist, and other immersive effects that will transport you straight into the world of Narnia. The 7 p.m. screenings will present the film in its standard format for those who prefer a traditional viewing experience. All showings are free to attend, and a reservation link can be found on our website at fallontheatre.com. signature Turkish Delight. Guests will also enjoy photo opportunities with beloved characters including the four Pevensie children, the White Witch, and Mr. Tumnus, all set against a backdrop of special Narnia-inspired decorations that will make the theatre feel truly magical.

Looking just past the weekend, don't miss "Head Over Feet," a tribute band celebrating the music of Alanis Morissette, performing live on Monday, May 5 at 7 p.m. With a passion for authenticity and a high-energy stage presence, this band invites audiences to relive the magic of Alanis Morissette's iconic sound. Tickets are \$15 at the door.

Later in the month, we're excited to welcome River Rogue to the Fallon Theatre stage on Friday, May 17 at 7 p.m. This talented cover band, featuring musicians from Schurz, Fallon, and Carson City, brings an energetic mix of country, rock, and blues for a night of great music. This concert is free to attend, so gather your friends and enjoy an evening of live entertainment. Looking even further ahead, save the date for our Fundraising Show & Shine on Saturday, September 27 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. This fun and free community car show is open to the public. Those interested in participating can find the signup link on our website.

In addition to the immersive film experience, we'll have themed concessions such as a special chocolate drink and the White Witch's As always, both our auditorium and marquee are available for rentals. Contact us at 775-423-6210 or email thefallontheatre@gmail.com to book your next message or event!

Scrappi Needs a Home



This playful, affectionate pup is about 2.5 years old and ready to find his forever home. Scrappi loves car rides, enjoys the water, and already has a head start with house training and leash skills.

If you're looking for a loyal companion who's full of fun and ready for adventure, Scrappi might be the perfect match. Stop by the Fallon Animal Shelter or give us a call to meet him!

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

PETS OF THE WEEK

Please Help Donate

CAPS is currently in need of puppy formula, puppy food, and both wet and dry kitten food as the shelter welcomes a new influx of young animals. Bleach, dish soap, hand soap,



printer paper, paper towels, toilet paper, and monetary contributions for veterinary care and operations are also greatly appreciated.

Meet Dante — a one-year-old mixed breed with a big heart and a playful nature. He enjoys playing fetch, running with the zoomies, and learning new commands. Dante can be a little shy in new situations but responds well to patience and encouragement. He is currently recovering from an ACL injury and early arthritis and will be in a foster home for a few months. Dante is still available for adoption; please contact CAPS to arrange a meet and greet.

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

Say Hello to Cosmo

Say hello to Cosmo – a sweet and shy 6-monthold tortoiseshell kitten ready to find her forever home. She is spayed, fully vaccinated, and has a gentle soul that just needs a little patience and love to truly shine.

This beautiful girl is looking for a calm, understand-

ing home where she can feel safe and cared for. If you are someone who finds joy in earning a shy cat's trust, Cosmo might be the perfect match.

If you are interested in meeting her, reach out today and help give Cosmo the loving home she deserves.

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.



OBITUARIES

JOY MAE (KITE) MOWATT SAWYER

August 14, 1936 - April 15, 2025

Joy passed peacefully from this life into Glory on April 15, 2025, at the age of 88 in Oro Valley, AZ. She was born to Raymond and Irene Kite on August 14, 1936, in Mc-Cloud, CA. Joy graduated from McCloud High School in 1954, married Donald Mowatt, and they moved to Mount Shasta, CA where they raised their family.

Joy loved to cook from scratch (including grinding wheat for weekly bread, and using home-preserved foods that were organically grown), cooked for the senior lunch program at the Mount Shasta City Park, and later worked at the Tree House Restaurant for many years. Her cinnamon rolls were a sought-after

treat at the Coffee Connection in Mount Shasta. She played the piano, sang in the Methodist church choir and with the Sweet Adelines, was a T.O.P.S. member, loved to sew, quilt, and garden, and was an avid Tole painter.

Joy married her second husband, Robert (Bob) Sawyer, in 1983, and the two loved to work together with Habitat for Humanity and on



church building projects with MAPS RV Volunteers. They moved to Fallon, NV, where they were extremely active with their SDA church and Sabbath school, surrounding themselves with many close friends that were like family.

After the passing of her beloved husband in 2013, Joy moved to Oro Valley, AZ to be near her daughter and son-in-law. They often took short trips together, and in recent years, played board games together daily, and often with friends. She maintained her faith regularly with bible studies, and kept in touch with a couple high school friends and cousins.

Joy was preceded in death by her parents, her son Steven Mowatt, and daughter-in-law Cathy Mowatt. Joy is survived by her daughters Sherry Olivier and

Kathleen Olds, son Doug Mowatt, stepson Bob Sawyer and stepdaughter Ivy Diezel, and nine grandchildren. Also surviving her are Joy's brothers Dick, David, and Dale Kite; former sister-inlaw Carol McDaniel; and their families.

No services will be held at this time. A celebration of life will be held in Arizona at a later date. May her memory be a blessing for all who knew and loved her.



NOW HIRING: County Manager

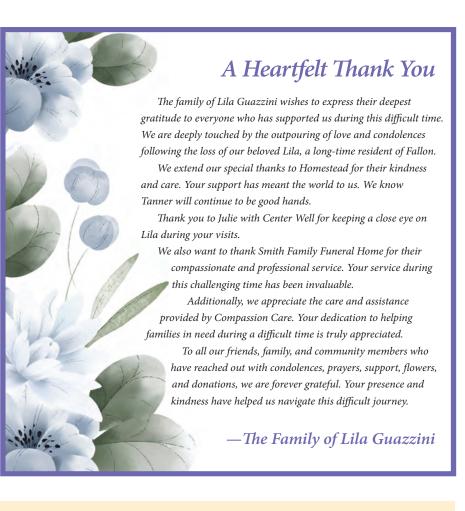
Salary Range: \$163,446 - \$219,835

Churchill County, Nevada is seeking an experienced County Manager to lead and oversee county operations. The ideal candidate will be forward thinking and have a commitment to public service.

Key areas of expertise include:

- Strong financial management and budgeting
- Water resources management
- Economic development and community growth

If you are interested in this position, please submit an application online at www.churchillcounty.org/careers <u>by 10:00 am on May 1, 2025</u>.





MEETINGS April 5 – May 9, 2025

Fallon City Council Meeting Tuesday, May 6 at 9 a.m. City Hall 55 W. Williams Avenue

> Truckee Carson Irrigation District May 6 at 9 a.m. 2666 Harrigan Rd.

County Meetings 155 N. Taylor St. Commission Chambers Parks & Recreation Tuesday, May 6 at 7 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.

Monday, May 5

Split Pea Soup Turkey Sandwich Cucumber Salad Baked Potato Chips Fruit Cocktail FF Blueberry Yogurt

Tuesday, May 6 Beef Nacho Casserole Refried Beans Spanish Rice Orange Spinach Salad Seasonal Fruit

Wednesday, May 7

Chicken Fried Steak Country Gravy Whipped Potatoes WW Roll Green Beans Peaches

Thursday, May 8

Honey Apricot Chicken Wild Rice California Blend Vegetables WW Bread Orange Sections

Friday, May 9

MOTHER'S DAY Shrimp Louie Salad Hard Boiled Egg LS Dressing Heirloom Bean Soup Tropical Fruit Salad

FALLON DAILY BREAD

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

Monday, May 5 Beef Stroganoff Salad **Thursday, May 8** Chili Corn Bread Salad

Monday, May 12 Salisbury Steak Rice and Salad **Thursday, May 15** Mac and Cheese Vegetable and Bread Volunteer groups needed to help serve once per month, 3 p.m. until 6:30 p.m. Call for information.

COMMUNITY

Hamlet at the High School

Courtesy CCHS Theatre

Are you hesitating to get tickets to "Hamlet" because you're worried it's over your head? Don't be. Did you know Shakespeare's original audiences didn't always catch every word either? That's why it's our job as actors to bring the story to life and make sure everyone understands what's happening—no matter the language. We've focused on making every moment of our "Hamlet" crystal clear, from the suspense of a ghostly visit to thrilling sword fights, secret plots, and shocking poisonings. Don't miss out on this classic tale of revenge, mystery, and drama—there's something for everyone.



"Hamlet" is arguably Shakespeare's most iconic play. Hamlet talks to the skull, uses theatre to test his uncle's guilt, speaks the "To be or not to be" speech, and more. Even Disney's "The Lion King" is loosely based on "Hamlet."

Grab your tickets at our.show/fallon/hamlet and join us for an unforgettable night at the theatre. Shows are May 1 at 4:30 p.m., May 2 at 7 p.m., and May 3 at 1 p.m.



Statewide Investment Helps Remodel Fallon Walmart



File photo.

Staff Report

Fallon's Walmart is getting a fresh new look this year as part of a major investment by the company to update stores across Nevada. Located at 2333 Reno Highway, the Fallon store is one of four Nevada Walmarts selected for a full remodel in 2025, joining locations in Reno, Gardnerville, and Winnemucca.

According to officials with Walmart the store remodel in Fallon is scheduled to begin next month and intended to be completed in the Fall of 2025.

The upgrades are part of Walmart's nationwide effort to remodel more than 650 stores, aiming to enhance the in-store experience for customers while also expanding online order pickup and delivery options.

Shoppers can look forward to a bold new store design with updated signage and displays, expanded departments with even more selection, and a revamped pharmacy area with wider aisles, privacy checkout spaces, and a private screening room

"Our stores often serve as the heartbeat of the communities we operate in, and these remodels are a testament to our dedication to enhancing that role," said Jay Cordray, Walmart Senior Vice President for West U.S. Business Operations. "By investing in our stores and associates, we are not only improving the shopping

AT THE 3C ARENA FALLON, NV

WEDNESDAY MAY 14TH 3PM - 7PM FREE FOR ALL!

GUEST SPEAKER: EMMA WHITE

SOUND BATH WITH NIKKI COLLIER

BULLET JOURNALING WITH YOUKI MYERS

LIFE CENTER

DIFFERENT ACTIVITIES FOR ALL THE FAMILY MEMBERS!

CHURCHILL COMMUNITY COALITION experience but also reinforcing our commitment to being a vital part of the community's fabric."

In addition to physical store updates, Walmart is continuing to invest in its employees and communities. The company employs more than 16,000 associates across Nevada and recently distributed bonuses to more than 8,900 hourly workers statewide.

Walmart's community support also includes donations to local organizations, disaster relief efforts, and partnerships with local suppliers — including more than \$21 million in community investment and \$209 million spent with Nevada suppliers in the past year alone.

Fallon shoppers can expect construction to continue throughout the year, with the goal of creating a more welcoming, modern, and convenient shopping experience right here at home.

For more information on Walmart's investments in Nevada, visit corporate.walmart.com.

Lahontan Valley Concert Choir Presents

SALUTE TO AMERICA

THURSDAY, MAY 8, 2025 7:00 PM EPWORTH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 280 EAST STILLWATER AVE. FALLON, NV 89406

Please bring canned food donations for the Community Food Pantry.



Raffle Prize Tickets \star 25 for \$20 Need not be present to win

GOVERNMENT

New Industrial Zoning Plan Could Guide County Growth

By Rachel Dahl

At a joint meeting of the Churchill County Commissioners and the Planning Commission on April 26, officials took a major step toward reshaping how industrial development is managed across the county. In an effort to provide greater clarity for both property owners and the public, the county is proposing to split its current single industrial zoning category into three distinct classifications: Light Industrial (I-1), Medium Industrial (I-2), and Heavy Industrial (I-3).

The discussion focused on modernizing Churchill County's land use table to make it easier for businesses, developers, and residents to understand what uses are allowed in different areas. Planning Director Randy Hines explained that the current system, which relies heavily on special use permits (SUPs) for nearly all industrial activities, creates uncertainty and delays. Under the proposed system, many standard uses would be approved through a more straightforward design review process, while more intensive uses would still require public hearings and special permits.

"We want to create more clarity so that if someone is interested in a property, they know up front what they can do with it — and what their neighbors can do — without having to guess or go through a lengthy special use permit process for every project," Hines said.

PROPOSED CHANGES INCLUDE:

- Breaking industrial zoning into three tiers: Light (I-1), Medium (I-2), and Heavy (I-3) Industrial
- Expanding the industrial land use table to include more specific use categories, each with clear requirements
- Implementing a stronger design review process requiring engineered site plans, drainage reports, and mitigation of potential impacts
- Maintaining public notifications and the ability for public input, even for uses approved administratively

Under the new system, uses such as indoor light manufacturing and warehousing would be allowed in Light Industrial zones without



Fallon DFA Milk Plant during construction. Photo courtesy of Savage and Sones.

an SUP, while more intensive activities like hazardous material processing would be confined to Heavy Industrial areas and still require additional oversight.

Officials emphasized that public input would remain an important part of the process. Adjacent property owners would be notified of proposed projects even if a special use permit is not required, and residents would still have the right to appeal approvals.

Planning commissioners also discussed the importance of carefully defining uses to avoid future confusion. They cited examples such as lithium processing, a topic of significant local concern, and stressed the need to differentiate between hazardous and non-hazardous uses when assigning zoning classifications.

By creating clearer zoning pathways, county leaders hope to encourage appropriate industrial growth, protect existing neighborhoods, and provide certainty to developers and residents alike.

"It's about shaping where we want our community to grow and being honest and upfront with businesses and citizens from the very beginning," Commissioner Matt Hyde said.

The proposed zoning changes will continue to be refined with public input before any final decisions are made.

SB172 Amended to Exclude Overtime for Ag Labor, Other Industry Changes Under Consideration

By Leanna Lehman

Nevada lawmakers are moving forward with legislation that could significantly alter working conditions for agricultural employees across the state — changes that would especially impact Northern Nevada's farms, dairies, and ranches.

Senate Bill 172, known as the Agricultural Workers' Bill of Rights, introduced by Senator Edgar Flores (D-Las Vegas) earlier this year, includes a broad range of labor protections for farmworkers, a group historically exempt from many federal and state labor laws.

Initially, SB 172 proposed agricultural employees would become eligible for overtime pay after eight hours in a day or 40 hours in a week — a significant shift from current practice. Employers would also be required to provide rest and meal breaks, meet specific standards for employer-provided housing, and allow service providers like legal aid or healthcare professionals to visit workers living on-site.

However, the legislation was amended in April to exclude overtime requirements.

If passed, the legislation would grant agricultural laborers the right to collectively bargain and establish an Advisory Committee on Agricultural Work to oversee implementation and provide guidance to state officials.

These changes are long overdue and much needed, say SB172 supporters. They point out that agricultural laborers often face physically demanding work in extreme weather conditions without the basic protections afforded to workers in other industries.

"Agricultural workers are essential to our economy and our food supply," Flores said during a committee hearing. "They deserve dignity and fairness in the workplace."

However, not everyone agrees on the bill's approach or potential consequences.

Northern Nevada's agricultural producers, particularly dairy operators, have voiced concern about the financial burden the proposed requirements could place on tight margins. Three Northern Nevada dairymen expressed concern about the proposed legislation but declined to comment.

Industry groups have warned the bills could significantly raise operational costs, making it harder for smaller, family-owned farms to compete. Some have also raised questions about whether the changes could make finding and retaining workers more difficult, particularly during peak seasons like harvest and calving.

Opponents also note that many farms already provide housing and additional worker support. A one-size-fits-all approach may not work across Nevada's diverse agricultural landscape, where operations range from large corporate farms to small family dairies and ranches.

Lawmakers are currently reviewing the financial impact the bill could have on state agencies tasked with enforcement, as well as the broader economic ripple effects on Nevada agriculture.

The conversation around agricultural labor protections is not new. Neighboring states like California and Oregon have adopted similar measures in recent years, requiring overtime pay and improving conditions for farmworkers. Supporters of SB 172 argue that Nevada is simply catching up. Others worry the state could lose its competitive edge in an already challenging agricultural economy.

In addition to SB 172, legislators are considering Senate Bill 233, which would create a Task Force on Farm Labor. That group would study agricultural labor issues in more detail and recommend future policy changes.

The Agricultural Workers' Bill of Rights would mark one of the most significant shifts in Nevada's agricultural labor laws in decades. The final outcome could reshape employment practices across Northern Nevada's dairies, alfalfa fields, vineyards, and ranches — producers are closely watching.

As of April 29, 2025, SB172 remains under review in the Senate Finance Committee. The bill has received an exemption from standard legislative deadlines, allowing it to continue through the legislative process beyond the usual cutoff dates.

WATER LEVELS

Measurements Taken April 29, 2025, at 8:45 a.m.

Lahontan Reservoir	198,400 af
Carson River Below Lahontan	446 cfs
Truckee Canal at Wadsworth	153.0 cfs
Truckee Canal at Hazen	78.5 cfs
Carson River at Ft. Churchill	571 cfs

April 29, 2024	April 29, 2023	April 29, 2022
282,069 acre feet	74,414 acre feet	149,788 acre feet

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

CHURCHILL COUNTY COURTS Tenth Judicial District Court

Tuesday, April 22, Judge Thomas Stockard presiding

By Teresa Moon

Angelica Leticia Rickards admitted to a Non-Technical Probation Violation for failing to complete the Western Nevada Regional Specialty Court program.

Deputy District Attorney Priscilla Baker reminded the court that Rickards was convicted of Attempt to Commit Robbery after attempting to forcibly take a vehicle from a driver who had given her a ride. Baker said Rickards was given multiple chances but continued to miss tests, treatment sessions, and court appearances despite being placed in the WNRSC. "She picked and chose what conditions she wanted to adhere to," Baker said, noting Rickards had eight missed drug tests, one positive test, nine missed treatments, and two missed court dates. The state asked for probation to be revoked, stating Rickards was no longer eligible for mental health court.

Churchill County Alternate Public Defender (APD) Wright Noel argued Rickards had made significant progress, citing a letter from her therapist describing her determination and efforts. He noted she is employed and praised by her employer. Noel told the court, "If we look at where Ms. Rickards was at the beginning of this case, and we look at where she is now, Judge, we're half way through a success story."

Rickards accepted responsibility in court, stating, "I really want the chance to keep going."

Officer Powell with the Division of Parole and Probation (P&P) confirmed Rickards had shown progress and felt she could succeed on probation.

Judge Stockard reinstated Rickards' probation, removed the specialty court condition, and ordered forfeiture of any good time credit.

Donnie Lee Brown, in custody, pleaded guilty to Burglary of a Business, a Category C Felony punishable by 1–5 years in the Nevada State Prison and a fine up to \$10,000.

Brown admitted he entered Walmart with

the intent to commit larceny.

Churchill County Public Defender (CCPD) Jacob Sommer explained that in exchange for Brown's plea, he agreed to pay \$365.21 in restitution, plead guilty to petit larceny in a separate case, and enter a guilty plea to Failure to Appear, with other charges dismissed.

Deputy District Attorney Chelsea Sanford noted the plea deal pertained only to Churchill County charges.

Judge Stockard ordered a Pre-Sentence Investigation Report and set sentencing for June 24. Brown was released on his own recognizance (OR), with the condition that he check in daily with Court Services upon release. A status hearing was set for May 20.

Kenneth Lee McDougall, in custody, appeared for sentencing on two Category C Felonies: Burglary of a Business and Grand Larceny.

Senior Deputy District Attorney Chelsea Sanford asked the court to follow the sentence in the plea agreement, noting McDougall's substantial criminal history.

She explained that while traveling from Las Vegas to Reno, McDougall ran out of money for drugs, broke into a local business by throwing a rock through the window, and stole items valued at over \$1,000 after insurance deductions.

Noel also requested the court follow the recommendation, noting McDougall was ashamed of his conduct and had apologized.

Judge Stockard sentenced McDougall to two consecutive terms of 24–60 months for an aggregate of 48–120 months in the Nevada State Prison. He ordered restitution of \$1,000 and said, "Absent this agreement, things would be much different," Stockard said, citing McDougall's extensive history of crimes of dishonesty.

Terral James Meisenheimer, in custody, appeared for sentencing on Count I: Possession of a Stolen Vehicle, a Category C Felony, and

Count II: Burglary of a Motor Vehicle, a Category D Felony (second or subsequent offense).

Chief Deputy District Attorney Lane Mills detailed Meisenheimer's criminal history, which includes 17 felonies, 13 of them felonies, and five prior prison sentences.

Mills noted Meisenheimer has a Salvation Army bed date but pointed to his "catch, release, probation" history in California and requested a prison sentence.

APD Noel acknowledged Meisenheimer's lengthy record but said his client now recognized the need for treatment and asked for probation conditioned on completion of the Salvation Army program.

Meisenheimer addressed the court, saying, "At this point in my life I really do want to try again and make an effort."

Judge Stockard sentenced Meisenheimer to consecutive prison terms of 19–48 months and 12–36 months. Stating, "I have considered probation. I think Salvation Army is a wonderful program. It's just something you're going to have to do after you go to prison," Stockard said.

Juan Jesus Rangel, in custody, admitted to a Non-Technical Sentencing Violation of absconding.

SDA Sanford asked for probation revocation, citing that this was Rangel's second time absconding. Rangel was granted probation on a 12-30 month sentence for Possession of a Controlled Substance for the Purpose of Sale.

Defense Attorney Charles Woodman agreed, stating, "Rather than ask the court to reinstate him, a second time absconder... it just might be the fastest path to him actually being released from custody."

Rangel apologized in court, stating, "I do wish that my mind had been a little straighter."

Judge Stockard revoked Rangle's probation, imposed the underlying sentence of 12–32 months, and remanded him to the custody of Churchill County Sheriff's Office.

YOU CAN HELP PLEASE TAKE THIS SURVEY

Prison for Alcaraz Following High-Speed Pursuit and Collision



The Coalition is a part of an Office of Traffic Safety Grant that intends to capture knowledge and attitudes about impaired driving. By impaired driving, we mean a person operating a vehicle, is under the influence of any legal or illegal drugs or has illegal or legal drug levels in their body. <u>This survey is confidential and</u> <u>anonymous</u>. The results of this survey will help the State of Nevada and the Substance Misuse Prevention Coalitions throughout Nevada to create more meaningful and appropriate education campaigns in their efforts to make Nevada's highways and interstates safer.



By Teresa Moon

Tenth Judicial District Court convened Wednesday, April 22, with Judge Thomas Stockard presiding.

Joseph Alcaraz III, in custody, appeared for sentencing in Tenth Judicial District Court before Judge Thomas Stockard on Wednesday, April 22. In February, he pleaded guilty to two counts, Failure to Stop on the Signal of a Peace Officer While Under the Influence, a Category D Felony, and Count II, and Battery with a Deadly Weapon, a Category B Felony.

Deputy District Attorney Chelsea Sanford requested consecutive sentences, citing the seriousness of the offenses.

Sanford explained that Alcaraz took a vehicle without permission. The victim notified law enforcement who located the vehicle at 2:11 a.m. Alcaraz led deputies on a pursuit up Lovelock Highway, speeding and swerving across the center line. He then made a fast U-turn and continued fleeing.

At 2:16 a.m., the chase ended when Alcaraz intentionally struck a vehicle that had pulled over for emergency lights. Sanford noted the victim heard acceleration, not braking, before impact.

"This was not a fender bender; this was an intentional hitting of a vehicle," Sanford said. "He used his vehicle as a ramrod."

Sanford presented photos of the vehicles citing the danger posed by Alcaraz's actions. Though he has no prior felonies, Sanford argued for a stiff penalty to protect the community.

Churchill County Public Defender Jacob Sommer acknowledged the seriousness of the case, stating, "Joseph recognizes, as we reviewed these photos, that this is not acceptable. This is dangerous."

While agreeing time in custody was appropriate, Sommer proposed probation after 320 days, noting Alcaraz's 254 days in jail.

He also described Alcaraz as a young man who faced hardship and poor decisions but is capable of change. "He's not a bad young man. He's struggled," said Sommer. "Now he's going to be a convicted felon."

Sommer noted Alcaraz showed remorse in the Pre-Sentence Investigation report acknowledging it was a traumatic incident for the victims.

Alcaraz addressed the court, speaking about growing up around violence and hardship and describing alcohol as his escape.

"It was a night of selfishness. I didn't care about what happened to others," he said.

He offered a deep apology and a desire to change. "This is not the life I want to live. This is not who I want to be. I want to be a better person. And with another chance I believe I can be," he said.

Judge Stockard sentenced Alcaraz to 16–48 and 48–120 months in prison to run consecutively.

"I have considered probation; this is not a case I find it appropriate to grant probation," Stockard said.

EDUCATION

Purple Star Awards Oasis Recognized for Supporting Military Students



L to R. Middle School Counselor Gabby Medraso, Middle School Principal Amanda Barbosa, and Head of Counseling Andy Lenon receive the Purple Star certificate.

Oasis officials and quests celebrate Purple Star recognition.

Guest speaker retired U.S. Navy Commander Kristopher Nastro.

Story and photos by Victoria Crystal

Oasis Academy College Prep middle school and high school programs were honored on April 24 as Purple Star Schools, recognizing their work to support military families and students.

The Purple Star program helps highlight schools that make extra efforts to ease the challenges military kids face when moving

between schools, states, and even different countries. With families moving every few years, finding a school that understands those struggles can make a big difference.

The recognition was especially meaningful with April being the Month of the Military Child — a time dedicated to honoring the strength and resilience of military kids everywhere.

This year, Nevada added 14 new Purple Star Schools, bringing the total to 44 across the state. Out of about 760 public schools, that's a big honor, and it's exciting to see Oasis Academy – with enrollment of nearly

100 military students of the 818 students enrolled, on the list. Guest speaker Oasis Academy parent and pilot retired U.S. Navy Commander Kristopher Nastro was followed by KellyLynn Charles from the Department of Education, sharing importance of recognizing and supporting military-connected students.

The dandelion is the official flower of military kids, and it's easy to see why – they grow and bloom wherever life plants them. Congratulations to Oasis Academy for helping make Fallon a welcoming place for military families.

Logos Christian Academy

Springtime brings a flurry of activities, and after returning from Easter Break, our students have hit the ground running with full schedules and happy hearts.

Story and photo courtesy of Logos



second tour covered mining, explaining how miners in Nevada work and the benefits of mining for everyone. They enjoyed lunch in the park afterward. A big thank you to all the parent volunteers who helped make this trip a success! Kindergarten and first-grade students celebrated Earth Day by learning about kid-friendly ways to help the planet. As part of a reduce, reuse, recycle project. they took old, broken crayons and melted them into fun new shapes that can be enjoyed again. Additionally, we had a wonderful Chapel session on Monday featuring Pastor Phil Christian from Summit Christian Church in Fernley. He spoke about the Whole Armor of God, specifically The

This week, some of our students participated in Ag Day at the Rafter 3C Arena. The Churchill County Junior Livestock Show and Sale took place at the arena, where students from Logos and surrounding schools attended to see independent youth members exhibit their livestock projects. The event promotes excellence in livestock production, skills, and practices. A special highlight was Evva Brown from third grade, who presented a cow and even placed in the competition. Great job, Evva!

Students in grades 2 through 4 visited

the Nevada State Museum in Carson City, enhancing their Nevada history lessons through a variety of hands-on activities. They enjoyed two tours: one focused on Native Americans, where students learned about local tribes and had the opportunity to handle artifacts; the

Logos students enjoying Ag Day at 3C last year.

Sword of the Spirit. His engaging style captivated the students, and we sincerely appreciate him taking the time to speak to our school.

"Ask the Lord for rain in the springtime; it is the Lord who sends the thunderstorms." — Zechariah 10:1

Classical and Christian Students Celebrate a Season of Learning and Faith

The last few months have been a vibrant and enriching time for students at Veritas Preparatory School, filled with activities that deepened both their academic learning and spiritual growth.

During April's Chapel service, students had the unique opportunity to engage directly with a panel of local pastors from Parkside Bible Fellowship and Grace Bible Church. Students were invited to ask any questions related to the Bible, leading to a lively and thoughtful discussion. Topics ranged from theological inquiries to practical applications of faith, and the pastors answered with wisdom and encouragement, providing a memorable experience for all who attended.

In the classroom, Mrs. Pustovrh's

fifth- and sixth-grade students brought literature to life by diving into J.R.R. Tolkien's classic novel "The Hobbit." As part of their studies, the students designed and built their own hobbit holes,

By Assistant Headmaster David Ernst with photo courtesy of Veritas



Veritas students' Hobbit Holes

showcasing remarkable creativity and craftsmanship-creations that would have made Bilbo Baggins himself proud.

As Easter approached, the entire school community took time to celebrate the **Resurrection of Jesus Christ. Students** and staff enjoyed a much-needed break from their studies to spend quality time with family and reflect on the significance of the holiday.

In preparation for the Easter season, the second-quarter hymn, "Christ the Lord Is Risen Today," was chosen to anchor the school's musical worship. Students enthusiastically learned and sang the beloved hymn, deepening their understanding of its powerful message of hope and victory.

Veritas Preparatory School continues to blend academic excellence with faith-based education, creating a nurturing environment where students grow not only in knowledge but also in character.

EDUCATION



Compiled by Kaitlin Ritchie with photos courtesy of CCSD.

CCHS

On April 19, CCHS Track and Field hosted a youth and open track meet, offering the community a chance to learn about and participate in the sport. After receiving numerous inquiries from parents about how to get young children involved, event coordinator Tiffany Wright organized the event as both an introduction to track and field and a fundraiser to support the program.

More than 50 athletes, ages 5 to 50, participated. "A highlight of the event was the return of the 2019 school record-holding 4x1 and 4x2 relay teams, who challenged the current 4x1 team to an exciting race," Wright said.

Due to its success, the team plans to make the meet an annual event and will hold additional camps and meets over the summer. "It was a great day of fun, learning, and competition," Wright said.

CCMS



CCMS band performs for fifth grade students.

Middle school choir and band students visited Numa Elementary to introduce their programs to fifth graders preparing to choose electives for next year. CCMS counselors also attended, sharing information about additional elective options available at ChurchillCSD. "We are excited to see these students next year at 650 South Maine Street," Vice Principal Dr. Deana Porretta said. The visit gave fifth-grade students a fun preview as they prepare for the next step in their educational journey.

NUMA



Numa students in Alissa Bailey's class math challenged with eating 5 ft. of fruit roll-up.

Students in Alissa Bailey's class began their final math unit of the year, learning how to convert customary and metric units of measurement. "One thing we like to talk about is how math is everywhere in our world. So I wanted to have a little fun during this unit and challenged students to eat 5 feet of fruit roll-up without using their hands," Bailey said.

E.C. BEST



ECB students researching American states on their Chromebooks.

Students in Grayling Thomas' class researched U.S. states for upcoming presentations. Using their Chromebooks, they gathered information to create detailed reports. Once their research is complete, students will build presentation boards, write reports, and share their findings with the class, strengthening research, writing, and public speaking skills along the way.

LAHONTAN



LES students with rain sticks made with music teacher Heather Sorenson.

Students in Julieann Chappell's class created rain sticks during music with their teacher, Heather Sorenson. While building these traditional instruments, students learned about rhythm and sound—and were excited to take them home to practice. Chappell's class looks forward to music each week. "My students get so excited and love going to music," she said.

Bighorn Bulletin

By Angela Viera with photos courtesy of Oasis Academy.



Senior Joshua Helm.

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT: JOSHUA HELM

As graduation day approaches, Josh Helm's high school journey has been marked by achievement, growth, and unforgettable memories.

This spring, Helm will graduate not only with a high school diploma but also with an associate of arts degree from Western Nevada College.

"It's an accomplishment I'm really proud of," Helm said.

In the fall, Helm will attend the University of Nevada, Reno, where he plans to pursue a degree in marketing. The program is designed to provide students with strategic insight and practical skills for the ever-evolving world of business.

Looking back, Helm says some of his most cherished memories come from time spent with friends. "One of my favorite memories from high school was our freshman bonfire because my friends are amazing to be around," he recalled. "I also loved the neon dance, where we went crazy with glow sticks, creating unforgettable moments together."

When first arriving at Oasis, Helm was uncertain what to expect, but the experience exceeded his expectations. "I wasn't expecting many opportunities, but that has been far from the truth," he said.

Helm participated in extracurricular activities, including JV basketball and Honors Society, both of which helped him build leadership skills and foster personal growth. "I have had so many amazing experiences here at Oasis, meeting great people, including staff and fellow students, who have all played a huge role in my journey," the senior said.

Helm credited several teachers for their influence, including Mr. Evan Brandt and Mrs. Joelle Olson, who inspired his passion for business and math, and Mr. Andy Lenon, whose encouragement left a lasting impact.

As his time at Oasis comes to a close, Helm looks ahead with optimism and gratitude.

"I'm truly grateful for all the incredible opportunities this school has provided me, and I can't wait to see what the future holds as I start my journey in marketing," he said.

SIXTH GRADERS TACKLE STATISTICS

Sixth-grade students are stepping into the world of statistics by conducting their own statistical question projects. Working in partners, they are learning to formulate questions, collect data, and analyze results, helping them build foundational skills in mathematics and critical thinking.

At the heart of the project is crafting a statistical question—one that anticipates

variability in the data and requires collection to answer. Questions like "How fast can you eat half of a lemon," taking an IQ test, or "How many marshmallows can you fit into your mouth in a certain amount of time?" all expect different answers from different people.

"One of the things I am learning from the project is how much of a difference there is between people," Antonio Garcia said. "The results really vary person to person."

"My favorite part is conducting the experiments and watching other people do

a question or a project," he added. Students will finalize their results and submit their projects in the coming weeks.



Pearl Ansotegui and Ellie Davis.

SPORTS ROUND UP

Former CCHS Football Players McCormick and Dooley Sign NFL Deals

By Robert Perea

Churchill County High School graduates Ben Dooley and Tommy McCormick each signed deals with NFL teams as undrafted free agents following the NFL draft with Dooley signing with the Los Angeles Rams, and McCormick with the New York Giants.

Dooley, a 6-foot-5, 320-pound offensive lineman, played five seasons at Boise State after redshirting as a freshman in 2019. In his final season last fall, Dooley was named College Football Network Third Team All-America, First Team All-Mountain West, and Academic All-Mountain West. He started all 14 games at left guard, anchoring a unit that paved the way for a school-record 3,365 rushing yards. Boise State finished the season ranked in the nation's top 10 in rushing (240.4 yards per game), total yards (466.0 yards per game), scoring (37.3 points per game), third-down conversions (49.5%), and first downs (328).



Tommy McCormick breaks up a pass during a game against Portland St. Photo Courtesy University of Idaho Athletics.

Individually, Dooley allowed just one sack in 428 opportunities and was Boise State's top-rated pass blocker in five games, including the MW Championship win over No. 20 UNLV (Dec. 6) and the Fiesta Bowl against Penn State (Dec. 31). He was also

the team's highest-graded run-blocking offensive lineman in four games and played every offensive snap in nine of Boise State's 14 games.

McCormick, a 6-foot-1, 210-pound defensive back, played in all of his team's 14 games and led the Vandals with three interceptions. He was second in tackles with 108 for one of the best defensive units in the Big Sky Conference. He was named to the First Team All-Big Sky defense, a First Team Football Championship Subdivision All-American by the American Football Coaches Association, and a Second Team All-American by FCS Football Central. He was also awarded the Football Championship Subdivision Athletic Directors Association 24th Annual Scholar-Athlete of the Year award.



How to Register (Online Only)

General Information > Kindergarten

"Register for Kindergarten" on the homepage. Or you can go to Families & Students >

Visit churchillcsd.com and click

Registration for 25–26. Select

Required Documents • Birth certificate

Immunization records

Proof of address

in the cafeteria

• Parent/guardian photo ID

Kindergarten Info Night and Tour

May 1 | Lahontan Elementary School • Registration and tour from 5:30-7 p.m.

• Info sessions at 5:45 and 6:30 p.m.

• Free meal by Chartwells from 5:45-6:45 p.m.

Ben Dooley blocks during a game against Colorado St. Photo Courtesy of Boise State University Athletics.

Dooley allowed just one sack in 428 opportunities and was **Boise State's top-rated pass** blocker in five games

CCSD Pre-K and Kindergarten Registration Now Open

Pre-K at Northside Early Learning Center Applications are open for the 3- and 4-vear-old programs at Northside Early Learning Center. Children must be age 3 or 4 on or before Aug. 1, 2025, and not age-eligible for kindergarten (per AB65).

How to Apply:

Scan the QR code or visit churchillcsd.com, call 775-423-3463, or stop by Northside ELC at 340 Venturacci Lane. Eligibility based on income; students above the threshold may be placed on a waitlist.

Kindergarten Registration

Children must be 5 years old on or before Aug. 1, 2025 (per AB65). Students currently enrolled in Northside's Pre-K program will automatically enroll in kindergarten.

QUESTIONS?

Pre-K: 775-423-3463 Kindergarten: 775-423-5184 or registration@churchillcsd.com

Pre-K scan to register

Kindergarten scan to register



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COLUMNS

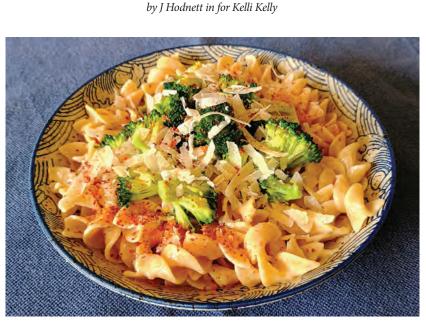
What's Cooking in Kelli's Kitchen: Cobanero, Your New Favorite Chili Pepper

Even though I am always on the lookout for new chili peppers to try, and usually have at least 10 different pods, flakes, and powders in my spice drawer, I'd never heard of Cobanero chilis until they were selected for the library's Spice Club. Cobanero chilis are only grown around Cobán in Alta Verapaz, Guatemala, and though they are one of the oldest domesticated chilis, they haven't been

widely available outside the region until relatively recently. If you would like to try these chili flakes for yourself, stop by the Churchill County Library in May.

Chilis are easy to love because there really is something for everyone in the capsicum family. Not only is there a range of flavors and heat, the peppers can be completely different depending on whether they are green, ripened, or dried. I am usually not a fan of green peppers but like most ripened peppers. So, no jalapeños for me, but I love chipotles, which are the same pepper allowed to ripen and then dried.

Since I like to try so many new chilis, I have a couple of recipes that provide the perfect backdrop for a wide variety of heat and flavor. When I added the Cobanero chili flakes to my favorite pasta recipe (below), I thought the taste was a sweet heat, and they definitely imparted a more fruity, smoky depth of flavor compared to the plainer heat of regular chili flakes. The degree of spiciness was similar, but the Cobanero's heat seemed to dissipate more quickly and not build up like some spiciness can.



You can substitute pretty much any pasta, veggies, and cheese in this recipe, and it's a great way to test new flavors to see what you like.

Buttery Egg Noodles

(Adapted from Kids Cook Everything) Makes 2 servings Ingredients:

8 oz.	Egg noodles
2-4 tbsp.	Butter
2 cups	Broccoli florets (or
	vegetable of your choice)
2–3 oz.	Fresh asiago cheese (or
	cheese of your choice)
1/4 - 1/2 tsp.	Chili flakes

DIRECTIONS:

Boil pasta until it's the consistency you want. I boil the broccoli and pasta together, but you can also steam the veggies in the microwave.

Drain pasta, reserving 1 cup of pasta water, and return pasta to pot. Add butter, cheese, chili flakes, and boiled or steamed veggies. If you have spinach or tender veggies you want to stay crisp, you can add them now. Add pasta water if it seems too dry.

Since I love sweet, salty, and spicy flavors together, I was also eager to try Cobanero chili flakes on my pizza. Some people will argue that pineapple does not belong on pizza, but those people are missing out—especially with these chili flakes. Again, you can add any toppings and mix and match cheeses to your liking.

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

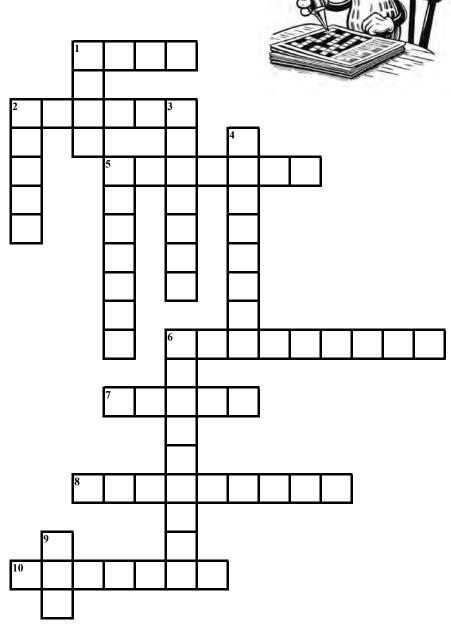


Allison's Book Report *"It's Getting Hot in Here"*

by Jane Costello

You all know I love a rom-com – but as a woman of a certain age, it is often hard to relate to a neverending supply of stories





Across

- 1. Irish county
- 2. Rowdy disorder
- 5. Mercedes model
- 6. Austrian city
- 7. City leader
- 8. Condiment
- 10. Dobie Gillis' pal

Down

- 1. Pyramid builders
- 2. Possibly
- 3. Place to dance
- 4. Andy's hometown
- 5. Area of London
- 6. 17th century ship
- 9. Fifth month

about young women, usually in their late 20s. Don't get me wrong – I love all things Emily Henry or Abby Jimenez, but I admit that it is very refreshing to finally read about middleaged women out there living their best lives. If you

feel the same, this week's book is perfect for you! "It's Getting Hot in Here" by Jane Costello is warm, funny, super relatable – with a dash of spice – that you're sure to love.

Meet Lisa Darling, a woman who's juggling about a million things at once and doing it with the kind of chaotic energy that many of us can probably relate to. She's a successful TV exec and a two-time divorcée navigating the joys of raising a teenager and a grade-schooler. On top of all that, she's a rock for her best friend who's going through breast cancer treatment, and she's kneedeep in the school PTA and all of its drama. Basically, her to-do list is longer than a CVS receipt, and "me time" is a mythical creature she's only heard whispers of. Oh, and did I mention she's also experiencing the delightful rollercoaster of perimenopause? Yeah, she's got a lot on her plate.

Just when Lisa thinks she's got a handle on the hormonal hot flashes, in walks Zach Russo, a hotshot from LA who's temporarily filling in for her best friend's job. Suddenly, Lisa's feeling a different kind of heat, and it's definitely making her a little flustered. She tries to chalk it up to needing a tweak in her hormone replacement therapy, but let's be real, there's something more sizzling going on. Things take a turn for the seriously spicy (and maybe a little unwise) when Lisa finds herself in a compromising situation with Zach. As the attraction intensifies and things start to get complicated, Lisa's forced to confront feelings she thought were long buried. This whole unexpected connection makes her take a good, hard look at her life. Is she always putting everyone else first? Is she finally ready to prioritize her own desires and happiness?

"It's Getting Hot in Here" is a fantastic story about the messy reality of midlife, the importance of female friendships, and the sometimes scary but ultimately liberating journey of rediscovering yourself. Full of laugh-out-loud humor and relatable moments for anyone who's ever felt like they're juggling too many balls in the air, readers will love following Lisa while she figures out if she's ready to choose herself amidst the beautiful chaos of her life.

I know you will enjoy this pick – don't forget to pop over to my Instagram @allison.the.reader for fun recommendations and book talk!

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

LEGAL NOTICES

<u>CITY OF FALLON</u> <u>RATTLESNAKE HILL WATER TANK DEMO AND SITE</u> <u>PREPARATION PROJECT PWP NO. CH-2025-077</u> <u>FALLON, NV</u> ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Separate sealed Bids for the construction of the Rattlesnake Hill Water Tank Demo and Site Preparation Project will be received by the City of Fallon, the Owner, at their administrative office located at 55 W. Williams Ave., Fallon, Nevada 89406 until 3:00 p.m., local time, on Tuesday, May 20, 2025, at which time the Bids received will be publicly opened and read aloud.

The Work consists of performing or providing all labor, services, and documentation necessary to produce such construction and furnishing, installing, and incorporating all materials and equipment into such construction, all as required by the Contract Documents.

The Work generally includes, but is not limited to: demolition, partial backfill, and capping of two partially buried concrete water storage tanks including removal of approximately 2,200 cy of concrete, rebar, wire mesh, roof decks, column walls, foundation, piping and appurtenances; demolition of approximately $1068\pm$ LF of chain-link fencing; demolition and removal of approximately 43 LF of 14-inch diameter transite water line; Abandonment in place of 14-inch diameter transite waterline; construction of temporary and permanent access roads; installation of $112\pm$ LF of chain-link fencing; the construction of a finished tank pad for a future tank steel storage tank; and miscellaneous site improvements.

The Work will be substantially completed on or before AUGUST 30, 2025, and completed and ready for final payment in accordance with the Contract Documents on or before SEPTEMBER 10, 2025.

The engineer's opinion of probable cost estimate for the Project is approximately \$1.5 Million dollars.

Bids will be received for a single prime Contract. Bids shall be on a lump sum and unit price basis as indicated in the Bid Form.

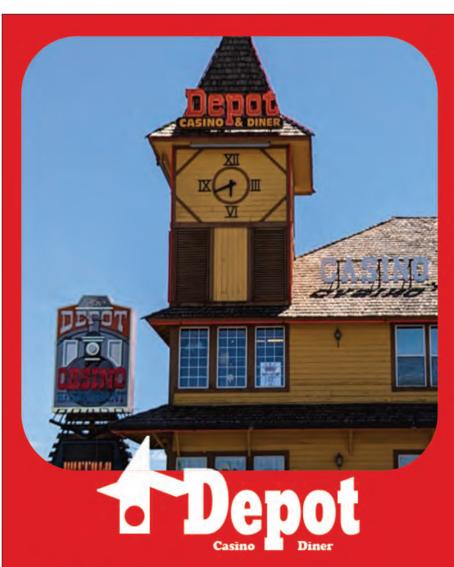
Electronic copies of the Bidding Documents may be examined and obtained online by visiting the digital plan room located at www.lumosinc.com/planroom. Electronic copies of the Bidding Documents will become available at 10:00 AM local time on Friday, April 18, 2025.

A pre-bid conference will be held at 3:00 p.m. local time on Wednesday, April 30, 2025, at the project location located at 2012 Airport Road, Fallon, Nevada 89406. Attendance at the pre-bid conference is MANDATORY.

Bid security shall be furnished in accordance with Section 00200, Instructions to Bidders. Each Bid must be submitted on the prescribed form (separate Bid package) and accompanied by a certified check or Bid Bond in accordance with the Instructions to Bidders. Successful Bidders will be required to furnish both a Payment Bond and Performance Bond in the full amount of the contact price.

This proposal to the Owner is irrevocable for a period of 90 days after the date of the bid opening. The Owner reserves the right to reject any and all bids. The Owner reserves the right to waive informalities, non-conformities, and irregularities. Omission or improper completion of any or all the required bidding documents may be considered as a reason for rejection of the Bid.

This is a Federal-aid contract and the requirements for such shall apply. On a









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Federal-aid contract, any Contractor otherwise qualified by the State of Nevada to perform such work is not required to be licensed nor to submit application for license in advance of submitting a bid or having such bid considered. This does not constitute a waiver of the State's right under its license laws to require a Contractor, determined to be a successful bidder, to be licensed to do business in the State of Nevada with a Class A prior to award of the contract.

The Contractor will be required to comply with the labor and wage requirements in accordance with the provisions of the Davis-Bacon, Nevada Prevailing Wages (NRS 338) and Related Acts.

The Owner is an equal opportunity provider and employer and the Environmental Protection Act (EPA)'s Disadvantages Business Enterprise (DBE) Program applies to the Project. The Owner has a DBE Goal of 4.03% in compliance with 49 CRF Part 26 Program. The goal is not a contractual obligation, however DBE participation is encouraged. The Contractor is directed to provide their Intent for DBE Participation prior to the award of the contract.

Bidders are to base their bids on the Project funding being provided in whole or in part by the EPA. Build America, Buy America (BABA) and American Iron and Steel (AIS) requirements apply to the Project.

Owner: City of Fallon By: Brian Byrd Title: Public Works Director Date: April 18, 2025

Published in *The Fallon Post* April 25, May 2, 9 and 16, 2025 Ad #6314



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Unit # 88 Reyna Rios Contents: General Household

Published in *The Fallon Post* May 2, 2025 Ad #6315

CROSSWC Crossword	PRD ANSW found on page 12	-	C a
MAYBERRY	MAYHEM	MAYOR	POR A
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COLUMNS

PostCards Hazen's Heyday

By Michon Mackedon

Jim Curran sent me an informative article published in the Third Biennial Report of the Nevada Historical Society 1911-1912. The article was originally a University of Nevada thesis, written by Vera E. Harch, Cora M. Cleator and Florence L. Bray. They divided into categories the names of geological

features and settlements found in several Nevada Counties, including Churchill. The category that caught my eye was "Names Derived from Association in Time with Some Noted Man." Three place names in Churchill County fit that category: Churchill County itself, named for Sylvester Churchill, soldier and Mexican war hero; Grant's Peak, named for soldier, Civil War hero, and U.S. President, Ulysses S. Grant; and Hazen, named for William Babcock Hazen, soldier and Civil War hero. All of the "noted men" reflect Nevada's identity as a new western state, born of the Civil War and the Indian Wars and steeped in the mythology of calvary, military strategy and battle. After all, Nevada is the Battle Born State.

While most of us recognize the Churchill and Grant allusions, not all of us know about the man for whom Hazen, Nevada was named-- William Babcock Hazen. Born in Vermont in 1830 and raised in Ohio, he had a suitably distinguished academic record to gain admission to the United States Military Academy, graduating in 1853. Before the beginning of the Civil War, he fought on the frontier in the Pacific Northwest and Texas, but after the war began, he was awarded a series of commands and helped achieve victories at Shiloh, Chattanooga, and in battles fought during Sherman's March to the Sea. After the war concluded, he rose to the rank of Brigadier General and married Mildred McClean, daughter of the owner of The Wahington Post, Washington McLean. (After Hazen's death, his widow married the acclaimed Admiral George Dewey.)

History recognizes Hazen's talents but also reminds us of a darker side. Author Ambrose Bierce described Hazen as "the best-hated man" of the Civil War. In his 30-year military career, Hazen, according to the Warfare History Network, "managed to quarrel



the United States. He was reprimanded, court-martialed, and removed several times from command...." His adversaries included Secretary of War, Robert Lincoln (Abraham Lincoln's son), General Sherman, General Custer, and, as noted, President Grant. Hazen died in Wahington, D.C. in 1887. The New York Times, in an obituary, called him "aggressive and disputatious" (Wikipedia, "William Babcock Hazen").

I do not specifically know why the early town of Hazen was given William Hazen's name, but it is true that the town followed

an unfortunate trajectory of rise and fall, peace and turmoil, success and failure, as had its namesake. It was founded in 1903 as a station along the Southern Pacific Railroad and served as a camp for workers engaged in constructing Derby Dam, the Truckee Canal, and Lahontan Dam. It began as a tent city, but a wild onefor a few years, the most notorious settlement on the map of Nevada. It bragged of bars and brothels, whiskey and women. In February 1905, it was the scene of a mob hanging of a notorious Derby thug named Red Wood. Nevertheless, Hazen briefly prospered—in grand style given its isolated desert setting. It featured a deport and a roundhouse. Its main street, Nevada Street, faced the tracks, to the east and north of the present remains of the Hazen Store. At various times it was lined with the Nevada Inn, the Merchants' Hotel, the Denver Club, the Hazen Lumber Company, Shorty's Bar, the Keller Hotel, the Station Restaurant, Johnsten's Restaurant, a post office, and a jail. Two newspapers, the Hazen Harvest and the Hazen Sampler, each briefly survived to print the Hazen news.

The largest blow to Hazen was delivered by fire in August 1908, when most of the buildings named above, except the depot and roundhouse, burned to the ground. Even so. the town struggled to rebuild. The November 26, 1908, just three months following the fire, the Fallon Standard announced that "Messrs. Coffin and Gruber of Hazen are having erected at Hazen one of the finest hotels in the State." Named the Palace Hotel, it touted 30 steamheated rooms, a ladies' parlor and a gentlemen's smoking room. A wooden schoolhouse was built in 1914. Despite the comeback efforts, a further blow to Hazen was the completion of Lahontan Dam in 1915, eliminating the need for accommodations for itinerant laborers and their families. In 1944, Highway 50 (originally the Lincoln Highway), was rerouted, bypassing Nevada Street, which, off the beaten path, gave way to the desert dust.

Please send your stories and thoughts to mackedon@phonewave.net. Photo courtesy of Churchill County Museum.

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

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The Week of May 2, 2025

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