

THE FALLON POST



Outstanding Customer Service, Food and or Beverage Business. Pictured from left, Annessa Rogers, Skylor Faria, Steve Faria, Shelly Gallagher, Dusty Thacker, Karen Campbell, Jenn Slatter, and Kelsey Sandberg.

Chamber of Commerce Awards Gala: And the Winner is...

Story and photos by Leanna Lehman

The Fallon Chamber of Commerce celebrated local businesses during its annual Chamber of Commerce awards gala on Friday evening, Feb. 6. The Fallon Convention Center, bedecked in red, white, and blue, showcased the evening’s theme “America 250, Celebrating Community & Commerce.”

The sold-out fundraising event recognizes Fallon’s business community and its ongoing efforts to build and sustain a thriving local economy. The evening opened with the Presentation of the Flags by Naval Air Station Fallon, followed by a moving rendition of the National Anthem sung by HM2 Paighton Scott. Dinner was catered by Cory Norwalk of 3C Catering, with Topsy Tumbleweed donating bartenders’ time for the event bar.

Auctioneers Zip Upham and Mel Glover kept the crowd engaged throughout the evening, while Chamber of Commerce Director Lucy Carnahan and Chamber President Cynthia McGarrah served as masters of ceremonies, doing their best to keep Upham and Glover on task. With plenty of laughter and well-earned recognition, the evening was, by all accounts, a resounding success.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE NOMINEES AND WINNERS

Outstanding Customer Service, Food and or Beverage Business: Nominations went to Wild Horse Café, Woody’s Burger Shack, and Bayou Bites, with the award going to Wild Horse Café.

Outstanding Customer Service, Retail Business: Nominations went to Kent’s Supply Center, Cranberry Cottage, Big Mike’s Guns and Ammo, with the award going to Kent’s Supply. Owner Karla Kent.

Outstanding Customer Service, Services and/or Repair Business: Nominations went to Patriot Junk Removal, Silver State Collision, and Les Schwab, with the award going to Les Schwab.

Outstanding Health and/or Beauty Services Business: Nominations went to PAM Specialty Hospital, Banner Churchill Community Hospital, and Skin Cancer & Dermatology, with the award going to Banner Churchill Community Hospital.

Outstanding Business/Professional Services: Nominations went to Stevie Desomber Law, Sierra Nevada Properties, and Berney Realty, with the award going to Sierra Nevada Properties.

Outstanding Local Non-Profit Organization: Nominations went to Domestic Violence Intervention, Marine Corps League/Toys for Tots, and Rotary Club of Fallon, with the award going to Marine Corps League/Toys for Tots. Libby and Gregory Harter.

Outstanding Business Innovations: Nominations went to The Venue – Troy’s Double Shot Bar & Catering, Fallon Home Decor & More, and Woody’s Burger Shack, with the award going to Woody’s Burger Shack.

[Chamber Awards continued on page 7]

Strong Numbers, Real Pressure in Regional Economy

By Rachel Dahl

Northern Nevada’s economy is still growing, but the overall environment is getting more complicated for families, employers, and local governments. That was the message from last week’s State of the Economy presentation hosted by the Economic Development Authority of Western Nevada (EDAWN) in Reno.

Brian Gordon, economist from Applied Analysis, opened with what he called the “Twitter version” of the regional outlook: population growth is recalibrating, consumer spending hasn’t collapsed but is under strain, employers are struggling to find skilled workers, housing and land remain tight, and construction is shifting toward digital infrastructure like data centers.

Behind that summary is a sharp disconnect between the data and how people feel. On paper, the national economy is strong. Gross domestic product and corporate profits are at or near record highs, and stock indexes have been breaking new ground. But consumer sentiment is near historic lows, worse than during several past crises, including the early 1990s recession and the dot-com bust. People report feeling worse about the economy today than they did during the Great Recession, even though the objective numbers are better.

Population and demographics are at the center of the shift. The birth rate has fallen significantly from mid-20th-century levels, household sizes have shrunk by roughly 30 percent, and America is aging. In Nevada, those trends are magnified by migration patterns. United Van Lines data presented at the meeting showed Nevada was among the top inbound states in 2025, but nearly 39 percent of new arrivals are 65 or older. Family, retirement, and jobs are the leading reasons for moving to the state. That mix creates opportunities, especially in healthcare and services, but also puts pressure on systems that support seniors and on workers who are expected to staff them.

Workforce issues are now more about skills than headcount. Nationally, more than two-thirds of employers in major sectors report talent shortages, with particularly high gaps in energy and utilities, transportation and logistics, information technology, and industrial and materials jobs. Even though some big-name firms have announced layoffs, Nevada’s unemployment rate is roughly back to where it was before the pandemic. Older workers are staying on the job longer, new graduates are having a harder time landing that first job, and many employers are still trying to align the skills they need with the people they can find.

Local educators and training programs are trying to close that gap. The presentation highlighted efforts at Truckee Meadows Community College, the University of Nevada, Reno, and area nursing and healthcare programs to push more students into high-demand fields, along with partnerships that tie training directly to companies like Tesla. Skilled trades remain a bright spot, with demand for electricians, plumbers, and other hands-on occupations outpacing the broader economy and considered relatively resistant to automation.

For households, the squeeze is showing up in the monthly budget. Compared to 1960, today’s typical family lives in a larger home, owns more vehicles, eats out more often, and pays for a raft of digital subscriptions. At the same time, savings rates have fallen to

[Strong Numbers continued on page 2]



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FROM THE PUBLISHER

Captain’s Log: *Rugby Anyone?*

By Rachel Dahl

Best weekend ever! All my kids and their spices and spouses and the little grandson were home this weekend. For the first time in five years, we were all in the same place at the same time to hang out, cook together, eat taco salad, and just generally enjoy each other. What a joy for this mom's heart.

It wasn’t just a random visit, though, we did have serious business to attend to – Sloaniebelle’s baby showers (yes, plural, if you know Sloan you understand), but by a strange coincidence, Finn’s rugby team also had a game in Reno on Saturday. Friday night had all the kids suffering a little Fear of Missing Out (FOMO), since Finn and I had planned to sneak away quietly and run up to Reno for the game, then sneak back in time for the 2 p.m. shower. But then Trev and Jess wanted to go, and then somehow Trev was going to play – the team only had 13 players for a game of 15s.

My kids are very inclusive, so of course the invitation was extended to Jess to fill the last spot on the Life West, D3 men’s rugby team that would be playing against the Reno Zephyrs, both teams full of players who had been moving up and down the ranks of the USA men’s rugby league, vying for a position on the national team.

Initially, Jess, who is 44, gracefully declined, but Trev, who is 32, employed a little good-natured ribbing, and Finn, who is 35, got very encouraging. Finn is a player/coach of the team and, in coordination with the Life West head coach, thought playing with two out-of-shape, retired athletes (Jess was on the UNLV Rodeo team back in the day, so he’s no slouch) was better than fielding 13 players in a game of 15s.

But honestly, Jess and Trev drive truck. In fact, there was some mention of the “truckdriver bods” as they were all huddled around the laptop signing up for the team and then shopping the Scheel’s website for rugby cleats.

Trev mentioned that the last time he had cleats on was football at Butte College, 10 years ago, and Jess said he wore a pair of cleats last month on the Elko golf course. Neither had ever been on a rugby field.

As the mom, witnessing this foolishness, I was torn between the fun of it, the nostalgia to be back hauling my kids around, sitting on bleachers and watching them play the games they absolutely loved, and the fear of the reality of time and gravity and lack of inertia and the niggling thought that if things went badly we may be sitting in the emergency room at Renown instead of being on time to Sloan’s shower – and THEN there would be hell-to-pay.

After a quick coaching session Friday night before bed, we headed to the field Saturday morning. I was nervous someone would get hurt. Jess’s boys were nervous that their dad would make a fool of himself. Trev was nervous; he wouldn’t know what to do. Finn was absolutely nervous, but so excited to finally, after all these years, get to play on the same team with Trev.

Within the first ten minutes of the game, all three of these kids had tackled opponents straight to the ground; Jess had a black eye; Trev had carried the ball; and the Life West team was winning in points. What happened for the rest of the 30 minutes of the first half and then the 40 minutes of the second half was a blur of relief and absolute fun. Skills transferred, the truck drivers learned the flow of the game and when they could hang back and breathe, and the whole thing ended with a 59 – 26 victory.

And some sore, sore, old men who just provided a ton of fun for the rest of the weekend. Thank goodness Finn and Kate are chiropractors is all any of us could say.

So, while I wave goodbye as they all head back to their respective homes and hot bathtubs, I’ll always be right here...

...Keeping you Posted.

—Rach

[Strong Numbers continued from page 1]

around 4 percent, while consumer debt has almost doubled over the past two decades. A significant share of adults say they could not cover a \$1,000 emergency without borrowing. A separate SmartAsset study cited in the presentation estimated that a Nevada family of four would need about \$238,500 in annual income to feel they are living comfortably, far above the state’s current median household income.

Housing is where all those pressures collide. Mortgage data showed a “lock-in” effect: roughly one in five Nevada mortgages carries an interest rate below 3 percent, while another fifth are above 6 percent. Many owners with ultra-low rates are reluctant to move, limiting inventory for buyers. First-time homebuyers now make up only about 21 percent of sales, and their median age has climbed to around 40. New construction is constrained by rising material and labor costs and by the reality that much of the land surrounding the Truckee Meadows is either federally owned or difficult to build on. Regional planners estimate the area will need roughly 15,000 additional homes over the next decade; current affordable housing projects will add units by the hundreds, not the thousands.

On the investment side, the picture is more upbeat. Business capital expenditures nationally are at or near all-time highs, particularly in manufac-

turing, business equipment, and data infrastructure. Northern Nevada has benefited from those trends with continued growth in advanced manufacturing, logistics, and especially data centers. Large-scale projects, many tied to artificial intelligence and cloud computing, are reshaping the construction market toward digital infrastructure rather than traditional office space.

EDAWN leaders used the event to report on their own role in that landscape. Taylor Adams, President and CEO, reported that over the past year, EDAWN worked with hundreds of qualified leads and site visits, helping land new and expanding companies that collectively represent hundreds of projected jobs and hundreds of millions of dollars in capital investment. He also emphasized a growing focus on retaining and expanding existing businesses and on entrepreneurship as a long-term economic strategy.

Nevada was recently named a founding state in the national “America the Entrepreneurial” initiative, which aims to reduce barriers to starting and growing businesses.

The overall message from the State of the Economy was neither doom nor cheerleading, but a check in complexity. The challenge for policymakers, employers, and communities will be turning today’s investment and population trends into a future that feels as strong on the ground as it looks on the charts.

PETS OF THE WEEK

Available for Adoption

Meet Domino, a 3-year-old, energetic, and affectionate dog available for adoption. Domino stands out for his intelligence—he’s already mastered basic commands such as sit, stay, off, and no, and responds well to structure and routine. He is neutered, microchipped, up to date on rabies, and fully house-trained. Domino thrives in active households and will do best with an adopter who enjoys engaging in daily activities. He’s known for being smart, eager to learn, well-mannered, and deeply affectionate—everyone who meets him falls in love with his sweet nature. He gets along well with other dogs and has lived with multiple canine companions. Domino loves attention and companionship, and he’s polite enough to sleep at the foot of your bed without taking over. A key placement note: Domino is not suitable for homes with cats, as he cannot resist chasing them. He’s looking for an adopter who can match his enthusiasm for life and provide the love and structure he deserves. Give Domino a chance to thrive in a home where he can be your loyal, loving companion.

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



Meet Mufasa

Meet Mufasa, a resilient black cat looking for a forever home. Fixed, fully vaccinated, and microchipped, Mufasa stands out not only for his sleek coat but also for his unforgettable personality. Rescued in a weakened and thin state, he now thrives on frequent wet food meals and the promise of gentle, patient care.

Shelter staff say Mufasa prefers calm environments and values respectful affection, seeking a human willing to earn his loyalty over time. While he may be reserved at first, those who invest in building trust will find Mufasa to be a deeply rewarding companion. His journey from hardship to health highlights his strength and capacity to blossom with understanding and compassion. Anyone interested in adopting Mufasa is encouraged to contact their local shelter. This resilient feline is ready to rule a loving home and enrich the life of a patient adopter.

Questions? Call 775-217-4745

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

FEATURES

A Day in the Navy

By Lori Kaiser

On Monday, February 9, Churchill County High School students participated in the “Strike Group” STEM event, which transformed the school parking lot into an immersive, hands-on, mobile experience. The event was designed to introduce students to science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) pathways and offer a glimpse into potential Navy careers. Coordinators described the event as “A Day in the Navy,” emphasizing a focus on guiding students toward STEM fields through engaging activities.

Before participating in the activities, students were required to register and receive dog tags. These dog tags served as activation devices for the STEM activities, marking the beginning of their immersive Navy experience. After completing each station, students were awarded commemorative patches recognizing their efforts and achievements throughout the event.

Students were given the opportunity to attempt physical challenges similar to those undertaken by Navy SEALs, the Navy’s elite special operations force. Physical training activities included pushups, tricep dips, and rope pulls, all completed against the clock as part of the Train Challenge. Successful completion of each activity earned participants points, which were tracked on a top-ten leaderboard. One of the highest scores recorded was 214 from Wyatt Dixon, with teacher Billy Thompson close behind at 213 points, and Carson Melendy with a 199.

Many students repeatedly attempted the Train Challenge to boost their scores. Dacoma Miner, for example, returned seven times to improve his high score, finding tricep dips particularly challenging but showed unrelenting persistence.

Another highlight of the event was a station featuring a replica BUD/S Log. Here, students could read about the rigorous SEAL training and take photos with the log. BUD/S stands for Basic Underwater Demolition/SEAL Training, a renowned training program recognized as one of the most demanding in the U.S. military. During BUD/S, Navy SEAL candidates are required to



Dacoma Miner takes on the Train Challenge multiple times, testing his Navy SEAL mettle.



Claire Hahn flashes a smile before taking on her duties as a submarine weapons specialist. Staff Photos.

work in teams and carry 180–200-pound logs during intense exercises designed to test their core strength, physical endurance, and mental toughness.

This BUD/S log station proved valuable to students by providing informative content and serving as a photography setting.

The SEEK Challenge gave students more than just physical training, it allowed them to explore the interior of a Navy submarine. Groups of four worked together to reach Camp Sea Dragon, a deep-sea location. Each team included a pilot, a navigator, a weapons system specialist, and a nuclear engineer.

In the SEEK Challenge, the navigator relayed coordinates and compass data to the pilot, who steered the sub. The weapons specialist checked the route for potential obstacles or unidentified targets, such as whales or an enemy ship, which might appear. The nuclear engineer maintained suitable conditions for the weapon system and communicated updates to the navigator, who then informed the pilot. Adjustments would then be made by all, and so it continued.

High school students Michael Liston (navigator), Magui Basurto (pilot), Claire Hahn (weapons specialist), and Mariel Jamela (nuclear engineer), all scored above 70 percent on The SEEK Challenge. Michael achieved 93 percent,

Magui 91 percent, and Magui especially enjoyed the challenge of piloting her ship and reaching Camp Sea Dragon.

Five students used Meta Quest 3 headsets to practice Navy flight deck tasks at the All Hands station, including piloting aircraft and handling Aviation Boatswain’s Mate duties such as launching and refueling operations.

This immersive training allowed participants to experience realistic scenarios on a virtual flight deck, helping them build confidence and skills in complex environments without the risks of actual live operations. The Meta Quest 3 virtual reality headsets delivered high-definition visuals and responsive controls, allowing students to learn proper procedures for aircraft guidance, fuel management, and teamwork. By simulating various challenges and emergencies, the program also prepared trainees for unpredictable situations they may encounter on real flight decks.

Finally, there was a pull-up station complete with leader board and a recruiting booth.

Superintendent Derild Parsons was on hand to witness the “Strike Group” and said, “This event is awesome, especially for a military-enriched community like Fallon, Nevada. Not every student comes to school for regular classroom subjects. They come for real-life experiences that offer an alternative career pathway besides college.”

Keystone Agricultural Society Grows Community in Fallon

Staff Report

In a region where agricultural heritage runs deep, a young nonprofit is sowing new seeds of community involvement and youth development. The Keystone Agricultural Society, based in Nevada, is inviting local residents to join Battleborn Keystones, its Fallon/Churchill County chapter, for a year of free membership and hands-on learning opportunities.

Founded with a mission to foster self-growth, leadership, and sustainable agriculture, the Keystone Agricultural Society offers interactive programs designed to enrich families and individuals. The organization focuses on



youth and family development, providing a safe environment for members to discover their talents, develop new skills, and participate in community service. “We give members the opportunity for personal growth through programs designed to discover and develop their talents, learn new skills, grow in communication and leadership abilities, participate in community service, and cultivate a greater understanding of the value of agriculture in our lives,” the group said in a statement.

Battleborn Keystones is opening its doors to new members with a special offer: membership for 2026 is free, and fees won’t be due until January 2027. The first tie for youth showing livestock is also complimentary. When dues resume, families pay \$40 per year, while individuals pay \$20. Membership runs on a calendar year and is prorated quarterly, making participation accessible for all.

The organization currently hosts several unique groups and programs, including Goats, Reptiles, Legos, Youth Leadership, and the Nuestra Herencia Dance Group. Members with experience are encouraged to lead new groups as interests emerge, ensuring the program lineup evolves alongside the community’s needs.

“While you have options as to where to settle you or your family, we sincerely hope you will choose Battleborn Keystones as your home for agricultural enrichment,” the society said.

For more information or to join, contact Dave Emmons at battlebornkeystones@gmail.com or call 775-426-8673.

The Keystone Agricultural Society’s efforts reflect a broader movement to strengthen rural communities, offering opportunities for personal growth and a deeper connection to Nevada’s agricultural roots.

AMERICA 250

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Amodei Announces Retirement From Congress

By Sydney Trainor

U.S. Rep. Mark Amodei announced Thursday that he will retire at the conclusion of his current term, bringing an end to more than 15 years of service representing Nevada in Washington, D.C. In a statement released Feb. 6, Amodei said serving Nevadans had been “the honor of my lifetime,” and thanked constituents for the opportunity to represent the state at the federal level. “Every achievement worth doing began with listening to Nevadans and fighting for our values,” Amodei said in the statement. He added that his work in Congress focused on problem-solving and ensuring Nevada maintained “a strong voice in the federal policy and oversight processes.”

Amodei said he plans to complete his current term before stepping away from office, noting that he believes “it is the right time for Nevada and me to pass the torch.” Amodei has represented Nevada in Congress since 2011 and previously served in state and local government roles. His retirement will open the seat ahead of the 2026 election cycle, setting the stage for new candidates to seek the office. City of Fallon Mayor Ken Tedford said the announcement was a complete shock. “I think it is a shame to lose a man of Mark’s caliber who was always looking out for the rural counties. He was a friend of the City of Fallon and did many great things for our citizens and us. I will miss him helping us. He has been a great friend and will remain one.”



U.S. Rep. Mark Amodei.

Lombardo, Amodei to Headline Lincoln Day Dinner Feb. 14



Staff Report

Churchill County Republicans will mark Valentine’s Day by celebrating both their sweethearts and their support of the Nevada Republican Party at the annual Lincoln Day Dinner, hosted by the Churchill County Republican Central Committee. The fundraising dinner takes place Feb. 14 at the Fallon Convention Center, with doors opening at 5:30 p.m. for cocktails, followed by dinner at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are \$75 for a single ticket, \$145 per couple, or \$700 for a table of eight. Special guests scheduled to attend include Nevada Governor Joe Lombardo, U.S. Rep. Mark Amodei, R-Nev., State Sen. Robin Titus, R-Nev., Nevada Republican Party Chair Michael McDonald, Fallon Mayor Ken Tedford, and other local elected officials.

In addition to speeches and the opportunity to meet local and state leaders, the evening will include both silent and live auctions, a bucket drop, and prize drawings. Dinner options include tri-tip or chicken. Attendees are asked to email their meal selection or direct questions about the event to ccrepublicancc@gmail.com. Additional information is available by calling 775-426-8152.

The fundraising dinner takes place Feb. 14 at the Fallon Convention Center, with doors opening at 5:30 p.m. for cocktails, followed by dinner at 6:30 p.m.



January 2026 Marriages

- 1/5/2026 Ashley Waiyi Li, 25, to Dillon Russell Coy, 25, both of Fallon
- 1/6/2026 Mikhaila May Silvas, 22, to Timothy Nathen Rogge, 24, both of Fallon
- 1/8/2026 Kimberly June Morris, 47, to Jeremy Patrick Robinson, 37, both of Fallon
- 1/12/2026 Emilia Teresa Huerta, 47, to Marc Ray Scott Menzel, 49, both of Fallon
- 1/15/2026 Juliauna Elizabeth Purcell, 25, to Andrew James Reynolds, 29, both of Fallon
- 1/16/2026 Rachel Rojo Paredes, 23, to Henry Rumbarger Trautwein, 26, both of Fallon
- 1/20/2026 Julia Katherine Runninghawk Bales, 36, to Steven William Mosier II, 40, both of Fallon
- 1/20/2026 Annaleyah Nevaeh Brady Davis, 19, to Cole Chance Wright, 20, both of Fallon
- 1/20/2026 Lillyan Rene Wilcox, 21, to Braxton Lee Leal, 21, both of Fallon
- 1/21/2026 Sarah Chadwick Ewalt, 42, to William Russell Boston, 52, both of Fallon
- 1/23/2026 Rio Rae Jones, 29, to Marshall Amos Sumner, 36, both of Fallon
- 1/23/2026 Theresa May Hardy, 34, to Austin Ryan George, 35, both of Fallon
- 1/27/2026 Samantha Rayanne Woods, 25, to Michael Lorin Villani, 27, both of Fallon
- 1/28/2026 Amanda Paige Romain, 24, to Kyle Austin Heimbruch, 25, both of Fallon

January Births

at Banner Hospital

Lucas Bradley Ebbing
born January 1
to Alyssa Ann Smith
and Ashton Bradley Ebbing
weighing 7 lbs., seven oz.
measuring 20.75 inches.

Melody Joy Ingrid Sexten
born January 2
to Samuel and Sarah Sexten
weighing 6 lbs., six oz.
measuring 19 inches.

Congratulations!

Let us add your newborn to our birth announcements, no matter where they were born, or contact us for a special birth announcement with a photo. We would love to share the great news!

SENIOR CENTER MENU

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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, February 16 – Closed for President’s Day –	Tuesday, February 17 Spaghetti & Meat Sauce Zucchini Colorful Salad WW Bread Orange-Mango Cup	Wednesday, February 18 Chicken Piccata Rice Pilaf Mixed Vegetables WW Bread Tropical Fruit	Thursday, February 19 Turkey Chili w/White Beans Rye Bread Layered Salad Chocolate Chip Cookie	Friday, February 20 Beer Battered Fish Coleslaw Tater Tots WW Roll Blueberry Cobbler
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FALLON DAILY BREAD

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

Monday, February 16 Baked Chicken Mashed Potatoes & Veggies	Thursday, February 19 Pancakes & Eggs Sausage or Bacon	Monday, February 23 Spaghetti Salad & Bread	Thursday, February 26 Lemon Fish Rice & Vegetables	Volunteer groups needed to help serve once per month, 3 p.m. until 6:30 p.m. Call for information.
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OBITUARIES

Oasis Film Festival: America 250

By Sydney Trainor

The Fallon Theatre will present its first-ever Oasis Film Festival on March 8, 2026. Youth aged 12-25 from all of Nevada are welcome and encouraged to participate. The theme for this year’s festival is “America 250.” Films must be PG-rated, no longer than 15 minutes, and contain the theme. Only one entry per person is allowed, and submissions are due March 2. Films must be on one USB thumb drive and one DVD. These can be delivered or mailed to the Fallon Theatre.

All submitted films will be screened on Mar. 8 throughout the day in the lower theatre. The screenings are free, and the public is encouraged to attend.

The awards ceremony will follow the screenings at 5 p.m. and is also free to the public. Participants will be able to walk the “red carpet” at 4:30 p.m., before the awards begin. Three awards will be given in each age group: best acting, best storyline, and best picture. Age groups are 12-14, 15-18,

19-21, and 22-25, and each winner will receive a trophy.

The festival also includes a workshop series. A production workshop will run from 10 a.m. to noon, led by award-winning producer Robin Adair. During this workshop, participants will “Learn the fundamentals of film production from concept to execution.” It is designed for filmmakers, content creators, and anyone else interested in the behind-the-scenes process of bringing a story to life. This workshop costs \$25 per participant.

An acting workshop will be held from 1 to 3 p.m. the same day. It will be instructed by Tracy Britton, who is known for her work as the director of Baywatch. This workshop is designed for both actors and directors. Actors will practice different performance techniques, on-camera presence, and industry insight. Directors will gain tools for effectively working with and directing actors to deliver stronger, more authentic performances on set. This workshop also costs \$25 per participant.

DIANE KAY HOGAN

December 27, 1945 – February 4, 2026

Diane Kay Hogan, 80, of Fallon, Nevada, died peacefully at home on Feb. 4, 2026.

She was born in Watertown, South Dakota, on December 27, 1945, to Howard and Anne Hansen and grew up with her brother, Larry, in Hayti, South Dakota. She was an accountant by trade, but more importantly, a beloved wife, mother, grandmother, sister, aunt, friend, and follower of Jesus.

Diane was preceded in death by her parents and is survived by her husband, Mark Hogan; daughter, Lisa Taylor; grandsons, David, Philip, and Joshua; and brother, Larry Hansen.

Diane’s memorial service will be at Parkside Bible Fellowship in Fallon on Feb.21 at 11 a.m.

In lieu of flowers, donations to the Parkside Bible Fellowship would be greatly appreciated.



Nevada Boys State Applications Open Now

By Sydney Trainor

The 79th session of Nevada Boys State will take place June 12-19 at the University of Nevada, Reno. Nevada Boys State is a week-long leadership and civic engagement program of the American Legion, where participants learn and live on campus. The program is designed for high school juniors who are interested in learning more about leadership, government, and civic responsibility.

Throughout the week, students will develop skills in public speaking, policy analysis, and negotiation through participating in simulations, debates, and discussions. The program is designed to provide students with direct,

hands-on participation in the democratic process. Students will develop an understanding of public services, citizenship, and democratic governance throughout the program.

The Nevada Boys State experience includes a variety of learning opportunities. Workshops will be led by state and local leaders, and mock government simulations will allow students to experience the legislative, executive, and judicial branches in action. Students will also have the opportunity to run for various offices, from city council to governor.

This program also offers various scholarship opportunities, including the Samsung Scholarship, the Romaine Roethel Scholarship, and the American Legion Oratorical Contest Scholarship.

Scholarship amounts up to \$10,000 may be awarded to recipients.

According to the Nevada Boys State 2026 recruitment packet, “Alumni of Boys State programs have gone on to succeed in law, public service, education, business, and other professional fields.” Applications are available now on the Nevada Boys State website. Any high school junior boys in Nevada with an interest in government or leadership are encouraged to apply, and all accepted students must pay a \$200 program fee in order to attend.

For more information, contact the Head of Admissions at Dillon@nevadaboysstate.org or the Head of Programming at Travis@nevadaboysstate.org.

MEETINGS

February 5 – March 19, 2026

Board of County Commissioners
Meets the first Thursday and third Wednesday of each month
155 N. Taylor Street
Next Meeting: Feb. 18 at 1:15 p.m.

Library Board of Trustees
Meets the third Thursday of each month at 3 p.m.
155 N. Taylor Street
Next Meeting: Feb. 26 at 3 p.m.

CC Communications
Meets the first Thursday of each month at 11 a.m.
155 N. Taylor Street
Next Meeting: March 5 at 11 a.m.

Churchill County School Board
690 S. Maine Street
Next Meeting: Feb. 17, at 5:30 p.m.

Central NV Health District
155 N Taylor Street
Next meeting: March 19 at 1:30 p.m.

WATER LEVELS

Measurements Taken February 9, at 8:30 a.m.

Lahontan Reservoir	162,300 af
Carson River Below Lahontan	5.82 cfs
Truckee Canal at Wadsworth	462 cfs
Truckee Canal at Hazen	445 cfs
Carson River at Ft. Churchill	321 cfs

February 9, 2024	February 9, 2023	February 9, 2022
236,929 acre feet	113,028 acre feet	90,966 acre feet

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

FALLON COMMUNITY CALENDAR

[T]HERE Gallery Exhibit by Patrick Kikut
Churchill Arts Council
151 E. Park St.
Jan. 23 – Apr. 5, Wednesdays 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.
and Fridays 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Twisted Branch & Wild Horse Café
Valentine’s Dinner
The Twisted Branch
111 S Taylor St.
Feb. 14, 5-8 p.m.

Applied AI Series
Churchill County Library
553 S. Maine St.
Feb. 17 at 6:30 p.m.

CCHS Grad Night Blingo Fundraiser
William N. Pennington Life Center
952 S. Maine St.
Feb. 27 at 5 p.m.

Great Basin Bull Sale
Rafter 3C Arena
325 Sheckler Rd.
Feb. 12 – 15

Valentine’s Dinner
Fallon Golf Course
2655 Country Club Dr.
Feb. 14 from 5-8 p.m.

February Chamber Luncheon
Fallon Youth Club
324 Pennington Circle
Feb. 19 at 11:30 a.m.

SWA Wrestling Tournament
3C Event Complex
227 Sheckler Rd.
Feb. 28 – Mar. 1

Joe Nichols
Rafter 3C Arena
325 Sheckler Rd.
Feb. 12 from 5-9 p.m.

Lincoln Day Dinner
Churchill County Republican Central Committee
Fallon Convention Center
Feb. 14 at 5:30 p.m. for Social Hour
and 6:30 p.m. for Dinner

Crafting for Adults
Churchill County Library
553 S. Maine St.
Feb. 19 and 21 at 4 p.m.

Public Meeting
To Discuss Updates on Greenlink North
Center for Biological Diversity
The Lucky Spur Saloon, Kingston, NV
Mar. 6 at 6:30 p.m.

Val’s Night Scholarship Fundraiser
Churchill Arts Council
151 E. Park St.
Feb. 13, 5-9 p.m.

CCHS Blood Drive
CCHS Library
1 Greenwave Circle
Feb. 17, 8 a.m. – 2:15 p.m.

Author Talk: Jessica Rowe
Churchill County Library
553 S. Maine St.
Feb. 24 at 6 p.m.

STABLE pro

Thank you to Stable Pro for sponsoring this week’s calendar.

Contact Sadie at 775-423-4545 to sponsor the weekly calendar.

COMMUNITY

Academic Calendars Approved by CCSD

Year	Month	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Special Calendar Days	
2026	August	3	4	5	6	7	New CCSD Licensed Report - 8/17	
		10	11	12	13	14	Licensed PD - 8/18-8/20	
		17	18	19	20	21	Licensed Work Day - 8/21	
		24	25	26	27	28*	First Day of School - 8/24 (1st-12th Grade)	
		31					First Day of School PreK & Kindergarten - 8/31	
	September		1	2	3	4*		
		7	8	9	10	11*	Labor Day - 9/7	
		14	15	16	17	18		
		21	22	23	24	25*		
		28	29	30				
	October				1	2	Licensed PD - 10/2	
		5	6	7	8	9*		
		12	13	14	15	16		
		19	20	21	22	23*	PT Conf PM - 10/23 End of Q1 - 10/23	
		26	27	28	29	30	Nevada Day - 10/30	
	November	2	3	4	5	6*	PT Conf PM - 11/6	
		9	10	11	12	13	Veterans Day - 11/11	
		16	17	18	19	20*		
		23	24	25	26	27	Thanksgiving - 11/23 - 11/27	
		30						
	December		1	2	3	4*		
		7	8	9	10	11		
		14	15	16	17	18*		
		21	22	23	24	25	Winter Break 12/21-1/1	
		28	29	30	31			
2027	January					1		
		4	5	6	7	8*	Licensed PD Day - 1/4	
		11	12	13	14	15	End of S1 - 1/14 Licensed Work Day - 1/15	
		18	19	20	21	22*	Martin Luther King Jr. Day - 1/18	
		25	26	27	28	29		
	February	1	2	3	4	5*		
		8	9	10	11	12		
		15	16	17	18	19*	Presidents' Day - 2/15	
		22	23	24	25	26		
	March	1	2	3	4	5*	PT Conf PM - 3/5	
		8	9	10	11	12	Licensed PD Day - 3/12	
		15	16	17	18	19*	PT Conf PM - 3/19	
		22	23	24	25	26	End of Q3 - 3/25	
		29	30	31			Easter is March 28th	
	April				1	2	Spring Break - 3/29-4/2	
		5	6	7	8	9*		
		12	13	14	15	16		
		19	20	21	22	23*		
		26	27	28	29	30		
	May	3	4	5	6	7*		
		10	11	12	13	14		
		17	18	19	20	21*		
		24	25	26	27	28*		
		31					Memorial Day - 5/31	
	June		1	2	3	4*	Last Day of School - 6/4 End of S2 - 6/4	
		8	9	10	11	12		
		15	16	17	18	19		
		22	23	24	25	26		
	School Begins/Ends		Work Day		Holidays—NO SCHOOL		New Teacher Work Day	
	Professional Development				Contingency Days		No School Student & Staff	
End of Semester/Quarter				Parent Conference Days				

*ChurchillCSD School Board Approved (Pending State Approval).

By Sydney Trainor

The Churchill County School District Board of Trustees approved academic calendars for the 2026–27 and 2027–28 school years, giving families time to plan ahead.

The 2026–27 calendar has received board approval and is pending final approval from the state. The 2027–28 calendar has also been approved by the board and will be submitted for state review next year.

District officials noted that both calendars remain subject to state approval and could be adjusted if changes are required. Updated information will be shared if revisions are made.

The approved calendars are available on the district’s website.

Movies & More

By Kelli Perez

Thank you to everyone who came out for our Valentine’s 5K fundraiser and filled the theatre with laughter during our Galentine’s Shows with The Domesticated Man Band. We’re grateful for your support and for this incredible community.

This Thursday, Feb. 12 at 7 p.m., we’re kicking off the weekend early with a live acoustic rock show by Kat & Dave: The Acoustic Rock Experience. With more than seven years performing together, Kat and Dave bring polished musicianship and chemistry, having toured with a Pink Floyd tribute and headlined venues. Performing as an acoustic duo, they deliver classic rock favorites reimagined—spotlighting Kat’s vocals and Dave’s guitar work. Admission is \$10.

This weekend, join us for two fun movie nights. At 6 p.m. Friday and Saturday, we’ll screen “Gnomeo & Juliet” (2011), a family-friendly animated twist on Shakespeare’s tale, rated G, running 1 hour 24 minutes. Then at 7 p.m., catch “The Bridges of Madison County” (1995), a romantic drama about a brief but powerful connection between an Iowa housewife and a photographer. Rated PG-13, it runs 2 hours 15 minutes.

Next week, the Fallon Theatre welcomes back the Coalition for Senior Citizens for their Third Friday Senior Matinee—Friday at 1 p.m., featuring “Spies Like Us.” All seniors get a free small popcorn and drink.

Behind the scenes, our seat upgrade project is progressing well thanks to dedicated volunteers. New seating from Mesquite, featuring cup holders and swivel arms, is being installed to add comfort to every movie night and event.

Looking ahead, we’re preparing for a regional celebration. On Saturday, March 7, 2026, Fallon Theatre will host “Heritage of the West,” a free event honoring our community’s songs, stories, and traditions. We invite performers, historians, poets, and storytellers to join us. Interested participants can email huck_salt@yahoo.com or call 775-423-2055 or 775-217-4142. The day will end with a free 7 p.m. concert by The Lincoln Highway Band.

We’re also excited to announce the Inaugural Oasis Film Festival: “An Oasis for Storytellers.” Filmmakers of all levels are invited to submit PG-rated short films (max 15 minutes) inspired by the theme “America 250.” Submissions are due by March 2, with an entry fee of \$20. The festival will be held Sunday, March 8, with screenings and an awards ceremony at 5 p.m. recognizing Best Picture, Best Acting, and Best Storyline. Film production and acting workshops will be offered on March 8 for \$25 per participant.

The Fallon Theatre continues to offer free movie screenings whenever possible. Our concession stand features classic treats, and the theatre is available to rent for celebrations or messages on the marquee. For info, call 775-423-6210 or email thefallontheatre@gmail.com.

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BUSINESS



Outstanding Customer Service, Services and or Repair - Les Schwab. From left, Walker Jensen, Manager Adam Gregory, Jeff Champneys, and Steven Eisele.



Outstanding Health or Beauty Services Business-Banner Hospital. From left, Dan Stasik, PA-C, Samantha Stasik, Dr. Zames Zubernis, Ada Upham, Alicia Oliveira, Brad Oliveira, County Commissioner Eric Blakey, Dr. Stuart Richardson, and Banner Executive Director Rob Carnahan.



Outstanding Local Non-Profit Organization Marine Corps League, Toys for Tots. Libby and Gregory Harter.



Outstanding Business Innovations - Woody's Burger Shack. Don and Tasha Mau, with thanks to William Hamilton (not pictured).



Best New Business Start-Up Silver Sage Collision. From left, Jorge Navarro, John and Stephanie Wimberly, Mark Frechette, Mauricio Navarro, Dale, Kira, and Nicole Streeter.



Chamber Board Members. Back row from left: Directors Michael Hardesty and Ava Case, Executive Director Lucy L. Camahan, Directors Merlene Ward and Shania Brown. Front row: Treasurer Valerie Johnston, Secretary Michelle Gabiola-Rogers, Vice President Angela Guthrie, and President Cynthia McGarrah. Photo by Stephanie Winder.

[Chamber Awards continued from page 1]

Best New Business Start-Up: Nominations went to The Venue (Troy's Double Shot Bar & Catering), Silver Sage Collision, and Bayou Bites, with the award going to Silver Sage Collision.

Outstanding Homebased Business: Nominations went to Tippy Tumbleweed Mobile Bar, Squish's Pressure Washing, and Patriot Junk Removal, with the award going to Patriot Junk Removal. Patrick and Tess Holcomb.

Outstanding Beautification Project of the Year: Nominations went to Laura Mills Park - Fitness and to Oasis Academy High School, with the award going to Oasis Academy High School. Rochelle Tisdale and Hunter Drost.

Outstanding Helping Heart Award: Nominations went to American Legion, Rotary Club of Fallon, and Fallon Ford-Toyota, with the award going to Fallon Ford-Toyota. Ember and Chris Henning.

Best Place to Work: Nominations went to CC Communications, Banner Churchill Community Hospital, and Louie's ACE Home Center, with the award going to Louie's ACE Home Center. Owner, Ed Louie.

Outstanding Customer Service, Small Business: Nominations went to My Gypsy Soul, The Twisted Branch, and Maine St. Cigar Company, with the award going to The Twisted Branch/Megan Dolan.

Recognized Ag Leader(s) of the Year: Nominations went to Frey Ranch/Colby Frey, Hoof Beat Gates & Corrals, and Lattin Farms, with the award going to Frey Ranch/Colby Frey.

Businessperson of the Year: Nominations went to Mark Frechette of Silver Sage Collision, Adam Gregory of Les Schwab, and Shelbe Seay of Mamma's Meats, with the award going to Shelbe Seay.

Congratulations to all winners and nominees. Fallon appreciates your contributions to the community. For more photos, visit our Facebook page or visit thefallonpost.org.

CEDA Breakfast Feb. 25 with CPA, John Breaux

Staff Report

The Churchill Economic Development Authority (CEDA) will host its first Business Council breakfast of the year Feb. 25, featuring small business certified public accountant John Breaux.

Breaux brings more than 30 years of experience serving the business community. He specializes in manufacturing, transportation, and consulting for both small and large businesses, along with extensive work in nonprofit accounting and regulatory compliance.

His professional background includes business analysis and forecasting, manufacturing cost accounting, and tax preparation and planning for corporations, nonprofits, partnerships, small businesses, and high-net-worth individuals. Breaux is a certified management accountant, certified financial manager, and enrolled agent, and is president of Breaux Group Accounting in Minden.

CEDA breakfasts aim to bring together local business leaders, entrepreneurs, and community partners to share information, provide education, and strengthen Churchill County's business climate. Established in 1985 through an inter-local agreement between Churchill County and the City of Fallon, CEDA provides direct client services in business development and serves as a coordinating agency working with federal, state, and local government entities, community organizations, and private partners to help expand existing businesses and support local entrepreneurship.

The meeting begins at 7 a.m. at Stockman's Steakhouse and is open to members of the local business community. Those planning to attend are asked to RSVP to Taylor Metz at t.metz@cedaattracts.com by Feb. 20.



John Breaux.



Churchill County January New Business Licenses

FLX Properties, LLC
Marlene Faucette
Rental Management
2835Country Club Drive

Benchmark Ranch
Shalena Hoisington
Horse Boarding
425 Bench Road

CM Home Improvement LLC
Construction
1640 Drumm Lane

Tracey Roofing
Roofing Construction
18502 Silverbell Court

WE ARE HIRING!

District Attorney

Pershing County proposes to select and hire an attorney to fill the position of the vacant unexpired term of the District Attorney to provide legal representation for Pershing County both **civil and criminal pursuant to NRS 252.060 and NRS 245.170**. The appointment may be as a permanent appointment for the remainder of the unexpired term ending December 31, 2026.

Applicants must meet the following qualifications:

1. Must be admitted to practice law in the State of Nevada and be an active member in good standing of the State Bar of Nevada.
2. Must have attained the age of 21 years on the date he/she would take office.
3. Is a qualified elector of the State of Nevada.
4. Must not have been convicted of a felony or any offense involving moral turpitude, regardless of whether or not civil rights have been restored.
5. Civil and Criminal experience is desired.

Submittal of Qualifications:

Must be submitted to Pershing County Clerk, 398 Main Street, P. O. Box 820, Lovelock, Nevada 89419. The qualifications shall be placed in a sealed envelope marked clearly, "Response to RFQ for Pershing County District Attorney". Provide one copy. Position will remain open until filled.



Contact: Lacey Donaldson, Clerk-Treasurer for Pershing County
P.O. Box 820 Lovelock, Nevada 89419 | (775) 273-2208
ldonaldson@pershingcountynv.gov

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Commissioners Meeting Updates



Commissioners Eric Blakey, Myles Getto, and Matt Hyde at dais during a public meeting. Photo courtesy of Churchill County.

By Sydney Trainor

The Churchill County Board of Commissioners met on Feb. 5, where they approved land use applications, ratified agreements, and approved funding requests. Commissioners also changed the meeting times on the third Wednesday of each month from 1:15 p.m. to 8:15 a.m.

Commissioners approved a parcel map application filed to divide a 40.45-acre property at 3434 Crest Place into two separate lots. The request was made to separate two existing residences on the property. Both parcels will continue to use on-site wells, septic systems, and access from Crest Place.

The board also discussed a merger and resubdivision parcel map application filed by Fernley Business Park LLC. The proposal would merge two existing parcels, then re-divide the combined property into four parcels of varying sizes. This project was approved in 2023 but expired due to delays in obtaining the required signatures. The Board of County Commissioners approved the application.

Commissioners ratified an agreement between the State of Nevada and Churchill County Social

Services to provide \$87,200.67 for congregate meal services at the Life Center. The board ratified another agreement between the State of Nevada and Churchill County Social Services in the amount of \$220,491.40 to support the Meals on Wheels program.

Commissioners also discussed an agreement between the Nevada Department of Human Services and Churchill County Social Services to establish updated guidelines in accordance with the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. Shannon Ernst explained that new federal guidelines are first issued to the state and then passed on to counties as sub-recipients. During public comment, Jeff Nell spoke in opposition to the agreement, saying that these changes are not needed. After discussion, the board voted to approve the ratification.

The Board of County Commissioners received notice of a \$297,577 Indigent Accident Fund disbursement from the Nevada Association of Counties. Shannon Ernst explained that the funds will be used to offset the county’s Medicaid match and free up local money for other indigent services. No formal action was taken.

Commissioners approved using opioid

settlement funds to purchase a vehicle for the Juvenile Probation Department, increasing the total allocation to \$64,853. Juvenile Probation Director Lalo Otuaifi noted that the vehicle is needed to support outreach programs and safely transport equipment and trailers. The board approved the fund transfer and authorized the purchase.

The board also approved \$1,307 in funding for the Fallon Animal Welfare Group and waived the \$500 rental fee for use of the Pennington Life Center. The fee waiver will allow the group to hold a larger fundraising event in 2026.

The Board of County Commissioners approved the advanced step placement of Cecilia Blue to fill a vacant Deputy District Attorney I, Civil position at Grade 71, Step 12. District Attorney Art Mallory explained that the placement reflects Blue’s 38 years of legal experience and ongoing recruitment challenges, and that the position is already funded in the county budget. The board approved the appointment following a discussion about salary structure and retention.

The next meeting will take place on Wednesday, Feb. 18, at 8:15 a.m.

CNHD Health Education & Support

Staff Report

The Central Nevada Health District (CNHD) is providing a range of health education and support services to help community members address common health concerns and enhance overall wellness. The Resource Liaison Program offers guidance on bed bug prevention, tuberculosis education, lead poisoning prevention, rabies reporting, emergency preparedness, chronic disease management, and vaccine information for uninsured and underinsured populations.

Residents seeking assistance are encouraged to contact CNHD or visit the Resource Liaison Program webpage for additional information and support. The program aims to connect individuals and families with resources, educational materials, and expert advice on various public health issues.

Topics covered include self-remediation for bed bugs, understanding both latent and active tuberculosis, preventing lead poisoning, and reporting rabies incidents. Emergency preparedness and home safety tips are also available, along with chronic disease education focused on diabetes and heart health. Vaccine program information is provided for those without adequate insurance coverage.

For more information or to request assistance, community members can visit centralnevadahd.org/central-nevada-health-district-cnhd-resource-liaison-assistance/ or email resources@centralnevadahd.org.




**TRUCKEE-CARSON
IRRIGATION DISTRICT**
FALLON, NEVADA

NOW HIRING:
Full-Time Mechanic II
(Automotive and Heavy Equipment Maintenance)


Truckee-Carson Irrigation District has an immediate opening for a Full-Time Mechanic II (Automotive and Heavy Equipment Maintenance). Salary dependent on experience. Health insurance, enrollment in NV State Retirement, vacation and sick leave. Responsibilities include diagnosing and repairing mechanical and electrical issues related to equipment and fleet. Valid Nevada driver’s license, documentation to work in the US, and ability to pass drug test required. EOE.

Applications, job description and wage scale available at www.tcid.org or 2666 Harrigan Road, Fallon, Nevada



Celebrate Valentine’s Day with Your Sweetheart at our Lincoln Day Dinner

February 14, 2026



DINNER AT THE FALLON CONVENTION CENTER

Doors open at 5:30 p.m. for cocktails - Dinner 6:30 p.m.

Tickets \$75 Single, \$145 Couple, Table for 8: \$700

Tri-tip or chicken, baked potato & vegetable, with salad and dessert.

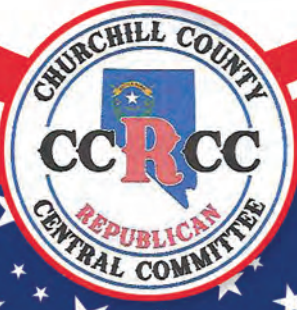
Zelle your payment to: ccrepublicancc@gmail.com

Choose tri-tip or chicken. Pick up your purchased tickets at the door.

SPECIAL GUESTS:

Governor Joe Lombardo, Congressman Mark Amodei, NVGOP Chairman Michael McDonald, Senator Robin Titus, Fallon Mayor Ken Tedford, and local politicians.

Live Auction, Silent Auction, Bucket Drop and Drawings!



PMB 364
2040 Reno Highway
Fallon NV 89406-2772
775-426-8152
ccrepublicancc@gmail.com

COURT

Tenth Judicial District Court

The Tenth Judicial District Court convened Tuesday, February 3, with Judge Thomas Stockard presiding.

By Teresa Moon

Clay Edward Erb pleaded no contest to the Category D felony of Offer, Attempt, or Commission of an Unauthorized Act Relating to a Controlled or Counterfeit Substance, punishable by 1–4 years in prison and a fine up to \$5,000.

Deputy District Attorney Priscilla Baker told the court the charge was “a legal fiction,” explaining that while the state could have proven controlled buys of methamphetamine, the charges were reduced as part of the resolution.

Judge Stockard ordered a Pre-Sentence Investigation (PSI) and set sentencing for April 7.

Joshua Michael Rechel pleaded guilty to Attempt to Possess a Controlled Substance, a wobbler offense that allows the court to sentence the charge as either a Category E felony punishable by 1-4 years in prison or a gross misdemeanor, punishable by up to 364 days in jail.

Defense attorney John Fahrendorf submitted a substance abuse evaluation, proof of completion of a victim impact panel, and documentation showing Rechel has been engaged in counseling. Fahrendorf asked the court for probation, stating that Rechel struggles with alcohol rather than drug addiction. He said the incident involved Rechel driving a friend’s vehicle that contained a small amount of mushrooms, and that he has now been sober for five months.

Rechel apologized to the court and the community for what he described as a reckless decision, stating that he did not realize how severe his alcohol addiction had become and that he takes responsibility for his actions.

Judge Stockard sentenced the charge as a gross misdemeanor, imposed a suspended 364-day jail sentence, and placed Rechel on probation.

Sean Berton Duffy appeared for sentencing on Battery Causing Substantial Bodily Harm, a Category C Felony, punishable by 1–5 years in prison, and a fine up to \$10,000.

Duffy pleaded guilty to the charge in December. Churchill County Alternate Public Defender, Wright Noel, told the court the case was appropriate for diversion, stating that Duffy encountered someone he had previously had an altercation with and believed the person was reaching for a knife, leading to a struggle in which the victim was injured. Noel said Duffy now recognizes he should have acted differently. He noted Duffy has since been engaged in treatment at New Frontier and asked the court to allow him to continue in the Western Nevada Regional Drug Court.

Duffy told Judge Stockard, “The last time we spoke you asked me if this was the correct course of action; if I believed that I was on the right path with this.” He said he believes he is on a better path and that “my reports are speaking louder than I ever could.”

Judge Stockard granted Duffy probation on a 24–60 month suspended prison sentence, placed him in the Western Regional Specialty Court program, and ordered Duffy to obtain the appropriate evaluations and follow all recommendations.

Debra Marie Davis, in custody, pleaded guilty to the wobbler charge of Attempt to Commit Embezzlement of a value of \$1,200 or more but less than \$5,000. The court can sentence the charge as a Category D Felony, punishable by 1-4 years in prison, or as a gross misdemeanor, punishable by up to 364 days in jail.

According to court records, Davis attempted to take a vehicle valued at \$3,500. Senior Deputy District Attorney Chelsea Sanford requested a two-week continuance to allow for victim notification.

Judge Stockard provisionally placed Davis in Drug Court, ordered Court Services supervision, and said that her custody status would be determined by Drug Court, and set sentencing for Feb. 26.

Rene Lucio Williams, in custody, pleaded guilty to the Category E felony of Possession of a Controlled Substance (methamphetamine), a first or second offense, punishable by 1–4 years in prison and a fine up to \$5,000. Sentencing was set for Feb. 10.

Kaza Gail Kaylor, in custody, appeared for sentencing. Kaylor previously pleaded not guilty to two Category C felony charges: Grand Larceny of Goods or Property Valued at \$5,000 or more but less than \$25,000 and Obtaining or Possessing a Credit or Debit Card Without Consent. A jury trial was scheduled to begin Jan. 28.

On Jan. 27, pursuant to plea negotiations, Kaylor pleaded guilty to an amended gross misdemeanor charge of Conspiracy to Commit Grand Larceny of Property, punishable by up to 364 days in jail and a fine of up to \$2,000.

Judge Stockard sentenced the offense as a gross misdemeanor. He granted Kaylor probation on a 180-day suspended jail sentence and ordered restitution of \$6,246.75, to be paid at \$568 per month.

Justin Shane Poindexter failed to appear for a status hearing for the second consecutive week. Judge Stockard issued a \$25,000 warrant for his arrest.

Mekyel Kenneth Tybo, in custody, appeared for sentencing on the Category B felony of Failure to Stop on the Signal of a Peace Officer, to which he pleaded guilty on Dec. 2. Tybo also admitted to a

non-technical sentencing violation of absconding from probation in an earlier methamphetamine case.

DDA Priscilla Baker reminded the court that in the prior case, Tybo was driving a vehicle with a shattered and obstructed window when law enforcement attempted a traffic stop. Tybo eluded a trooper, eventually high-centering the vehicle before fleeing on foot. After a chase, Tybo was apprehended and found in possession of 12 milliliters of methamphetamine. He was charged with Possession of a Controlled Substance and received a suspended sentence of 12–36 months in prison.

Baker said Tybo never checked in with probation, failed to obtain employment, did not report his residence, did not pay probation fees, and absconded. “Four months later, we have the new case.”

In the new offense, a deputy attempted to stop Tybo for a headlight violation. Tybo again eluded law enforcement, driving recklessly through town and residential neighborhoods before fleeing on foot. Baker said he was hiding under a vehicle, fled again, and was ultimately detained after resisting arrest. During the struggle, a deputy sustained injuries, and Tybo was found in possession of 5.8 grams of methamphetamine. Baker also noted that another vehicle was involved in an accident during the pursuit.

Baker acknowledged Tybo’s long history of substance abuse and said he reported having a future bed date in treatment, but argued that Tybo had been given multiple opportunities. “He places law enforcement and our community at risk,” Baker said, asking for a sentence of 28–72 months in prison on the felony charge, to run consecutive to the prior case, and for probation to be revoked with the underlying sentence imposed.

Defense attorney Charles Woodman acknowledged Tybo’s criminal history but noted it was largely drug-related and that he did not have an extensive felony record.

Woodman told the court Tybo grew up with a drug-addicted mother who was frequently incarcerated. He described Tybo as “an incredibly sweet man,” who was worth one more chance, stating that in more than 30 years, he could not recall representing someone kinder.

Tybo told the court he was disgusted with and embarrassed by his own actions.

On the felony charge, Judge Stockard sentenced Tybo to 24–60 months in prison. He revoked Tybo’s probation in the earlier case and imposed the underlying sentence, ordering the sentences to run consecutively.

Richards Pleads Not Guilty in Sara Filiatraut Murder Case

By Leanna Lehman

Robert Matthew Richards appeared in Lyon County’s Third Judicial District Court in Yerington on Feb. 9 with his defense attorney, Kale Mackenzie Brock. Richards, who has been in custody in the Lyon County Jail since his extradition from Utah in November 2024, was arraigned on a charge of Open Murder before Judge Leon Aberasturi.

Richards, who pleaded not guilty, is charged in connection with the March 2024 death of 25-year-old Sara Filiatraut, whose disappearance was reported by her father on April 15, 2024. Investigators with the Lyon and Churchill County sheriff’s offices later found her body on May 23, 2024, in a remote desert pit about 30 miles east of Fallon.

The Washoe County Regional Medical Examiner’s Office ruled the death a homicide, believing Sara Filiatraut was killed around March 23, 2024. Before she was reported missing, Richards had been arrested on April 8 in an unrelated case, released on his own recognizance on April 10, and later admitted to investigators that he had been with Filiatraut the night of March 22, claiming she left his trailer at



Robert Richards, image courtesy of Third Judicial District Court.

the Desert Rose RV Park in Fernley.

On July 25, prosecutors concluded they had sufficient evidence and filed murder charges against Richards, leading to a multistate manhunt. Richards was extradited from Utah in November 2024, denied bail, and later evaluated and determined competent to stand trial.

Judge Aberasturi explained the penalties of Open Murder to Richards, which include life in prison, 20 years to life in prison, or a definite term of 50 years in prison with parole eligibility after 20 years.

Richards will have an opportunity to participate in a Criminal Settlement Conference before trial, should he choose. A settlement conference allows the state and the defense to present their cases to an out-of-district senior district court judge. If the matter cannot be resolved, the case will proceed to a jury trial.

Aberasturi set a status hearing for March 30.

Richards has pleaded not guilty and is presumed innocent unless proven guilty in a court of law.

Preliminary Hearing Set for Adam Miller in Murder Case

By Leanna Lehman

Adam Elijah Miller, who is charged with killing his father and attempting to kill his mother, will appear in Canal Justice Court in Fernley on March 5-6 for a preliminary hearing before Judge Lori Matheus.



Adam Miller. Photo courtesy of LCSO.

A preliminary hearing is a court proceeding used to determine whether there is sufficient evidence to proceed with a criminal case. Judge Matheus will decide whether probable cause exists to believe a crime was committed and that the defendant likely committed it. The prosecution presents basic evidence and may call witnesses, and the defense can cross-examine them, but it is not a full trial. If the judge finds probable cause, the case proceeds; if not, the charges may be dismissed.

Miller, who was 19 at the time of his arrest, led law enforcement on a 30-hour manhunt after he allegedly stabbed his parents. He is charged with Open Murder with the Use of a Deadly Weapon, a Category A Felony, which is punishable by the death penalty, life in prison, 20 years to life, or 50 years in prison with parole eligibility after 20 years.

Count I of the criminal complaint filed by the Lyon County District Attorney’s Office alleges that on or about December 18, 2024, in Fernley,

Adam Miller used a knife to stab Lance Miller in the neck, inflicting mortal injuries. Count II alleges that he stabbed Elizabeth Miller, 61, in the neck. Count III also relates to the alleged stabbing of Elizabeth Miller and charges Adam Miller with Battery with a Deadly Weapon Causing Substantial Bodily Harm to a Victim 60 Years of Age or Older, which is punishable by 2-15 years.

A separate case charges Adam Miller with Carrying a Concealed Pistol, Revolver, Firearm, or other Deadly Weapon, a Category C Felony punishable by 1-5 years, and alleges he was in possession of a .380 handgun on Nov. 21, 2024.

After an evaluation by two doctors, Adam Miller was deemed competent to stand trial. Should probable cause be determined during the March preliminary hearing, the case will be bound over to the Third Judicial District Court for Lyon County in Yerington.

Miller has pleaded not guilty and is presumed innocent unless proven guilty in a court of law.

EDUCATION

CCSD Cool School News

Compiled by Kaitlin Ritchie with photos courtesy of CCSD.



Cheek Construction donates to Churchill County Middle School's Student Pantry and Closet.



Numa Elementary School students in Vanessa Burch-Urquhart's class perform a cakewalk after learning about its history.



Lahontan Elementary School students in Elizabeth Greenwell's class beam with pride as they display their published informational texts about polar bears.

CCHS
Students in Aaron Holt’s Game Development and Jaime Sammons’ Plant Sciences classes have been collaborating on an exciting cross-curricular project. Together, they created a 3D digital rendering of proposed landscaping designs for the front of the high school. Over two weeks, Plant Sciences students visited the computer lab, where they were introduced to the basics of Unreal Engine. Using these new skills, they worked alongside Game Development students to design and visualize updated landscaping concepts for the front of the school in a fully realized 3D environment. After reviewing all submissions, the designs were narrowed down to the top finalists, and the best overall design will be selected and used as the basis for the future landscaping of the school’s front entrance.

CCMS
Churchill County Middle School recently received generous donations for its Student Pantry and Closet from Cheek Construction and CC Communications. Teacher Rebecca Hatch has been collecting items for the pantry and closet,

which provide food, clothing, and essential supplies to students in need. These resources help ensure that all students can focus on learning without worrying about basic necessities. “Our community is stronger when we look out for one another, and their support ensures our students have the resources they need to succeed,” said CCMS Principal Dr. Deana Porretta. “We are so grateful to have such dedicated local partners who step up for our students and our community.”

NUMA
Students in Vanessa Burch-Urquhart’s class explored the history of the Cakewalk. They learned how the Cakewalk originated as a way for families to raise funds to send their students to universities. After a read-aloud about the Cakewalk, students acted out the steps to show their understanding. The activity strengthened listening skills, encouraged teamwork, and helped students gain confidence in presenting a new concept.

E.C. BEST
Andrew Lister led students in a scavenger hunt to find and solve math problems hidden on sticky notes throughout the classroom. The activity focused on dividing by 100 and related fact families, with a few additional sticky notes revisiting previously taught concepts to reinforce learning. Students who found and solved all the problems correctly were rewarded with a Jolly Rancher.

LAHONTAN
Students in Elizabeth Greenwell’s class learned how to write and publish informational texts. Over several weeks, they practiced including topic sentences, supporting facts, and closing sentences, while using proper punctuation and capitalization. The class then moved on to the editing and publishing stage, creating their own Google documents, adding pictures, and typing their final informational texts about polar bears. “They did a great job of figuring out how to type their written words and add punctuation and spaces between their words on their keyboards. They all turned out awesome, and the kids were so proud of their finished work,” Greenwell said.

Veritas Preparatory School
Classical and Christian
Students Recognized for Achievement

By Gretchen Felte with photos courtesy of Veritas.

This past week, Veritas Preparatory School held its First Semester Awards Ceremony, recognizing students for their hard work, perseverance, and dedication to excellence in both academics and character. Awards presented included First and Second Quarter A and A/B Honor Roll, Spelling Bee winners from each class, and the First Semester Diligence Award. Students in each grade were recognized for earning all As during the first or second quarter - an especially challenging accomplishment given the academic rigor of the Veritas curriculum. Across both quarters, 15 students earned placement on the A Honor Roll. The A/B Honor Roll recognized students who earned no more than two Bs and the remainder As during a quarter. Eight students achieved this distinction.

QUARTER 1 – A HONOR ROLL
Kinsley Babiarz, Asher Buller, Brighton deBraga, Charlotte Garcia, James Holtmeyer, Charles Munoz, Noah Quiles, Audrey Schilling, Augustus Garcia, Dixie Jensen, Clara Ernst, Madeleine LaValley, Kian Green, Adam Mikulak

QUARTER 1 – A/B HONOR ROLL
Aaron Ernst, Trent Hallisey, Clara Shaffer, Brayden Wiberg, Mercedes Martinez, Liam Buller, Andrea Quiles, Autumn Thomas

QUARTER 2 - A HONOR ROLL
Kinsley Babiarz, Asher Buller, Brighton deBraga, Charlotte Garcia, James Holtmeyer, Charles Munoz, Noah Quiles, Audrey Schilling, Clara Ernst, Liam Buller, Kian Green, Adam Mikulak

QUARTER 2 – A/B HONOR ROLL
Aaron Ernst, Augustus Garcia, Trent Hallisey, Brayden Wiberg, Dixie Jensen, Madeleine LaValley
The ceremony also honored students who placed first through third in their respective class Spelling Bees, recognizing excellence in spelling, focus, and language mastery.
Perhaps the highlight of the ceremony was the presentation of the Diligence Award, given to one student in each grade band who demonstrated exceptional commitment, perseverance, and effort in their



Veritas students honored for earning all As in the second quarter.

academic pursuits during the first half of the school year. These students exemplified the Veritas ethos and embodied the message of Colossians 3:23. “Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men.”

DILIGENCE AWARD RECIPIENTS
Hartaj Arora – Kindergarten 4
Hailey Hallisey – Kindergarten 5
Clarity Gilbert – 1st Grade
James Holtmeyer – 2nd Grade
Luca Draper – 3rd/4th Grade
Maverick Martinez – 5th/6th Grade
Kitana Ramirez – 7th/8th Grade

Through this celebration of diligence and academic achievement, Veritas continues to nurture a culture of perseverance, excellence, and faithfulness among its students, encouraging them to pursue their work with both discipline and purpose.

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EDUCATION

Bighorn Bulletin

By Angela Viera, with photos courtesy of Oasis Academy.

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT: RYDER MCNABB

Oasis Academy senior Ryder McNabb has been at Oasis Academy since kindergarten. His connection to the school has been an important part of his development.

“Attending Oasis since kindergarten has been an incredibly positive experience and has played a major role in shaping who I am today,” he said. “I am grateful for every moment and wouldn’t change a thing.”

The 12 years at the school also brought the senior many fond memories and strong relationships.

“One of my favorite memories from my time at Oasis Academy is playing football games on the playground,” he recalled.

The senior also expressed appreciation for an educator who supported him along the way.

“I would like to thank Ms. Jackie Bogdanowicz for making a meaningful difference in my life and for making my high school experience more enjoyable,” McNabb said.

His favorite class, FFA, was taught by Ms. Bogdanowicz.

“FFA was my favorite because it was highly interactive and offered hands-on learning opportunities,” he explained.

McNabb has excelled both in the classroom and on the field. Academically, he is a member of the Oasis Academy Chapter of the National Honor Society and has been named to the Western Nevada College Dean’s List multiple semesters and has earned his FFA State degree.

For his outstanding performance on the field, he earned NIAA 2A North All-League First Team honors in baseball in both 2024 and 2025. He was also named to the NIAA All-State Second Team in baseball in 2024 and elevated to the NIAA All-State First Team in 2025. In football, he received NIAA 3A North All-League Second Team recognition in 2025 and was a starter on this year’s Churchill County High School state championship team.

When he graduates in May, he will have earned both his high school diploma and Associate of Science degree from Western Nevada College. He leaves with clear career goals in a field that he loves.

“After graduation, I plan to start my own taxidermy business, launch a hunting channel, and work toward becoming a professional guide,” he said.

McNabb has sound advice for future students.

“Never take these moments for granted and make the most of every opportunity,” he said.



Oasis Academy Senior, Ryder McNabb.

predictions about the Groundhog Day outcome. Each student cast a vote on whether the groundhog would see his shadow. The class worked together to graph their predictions, practicing math skills as they shared their guesses.

The anticipation continued as students watched to find out the groundhog’s official prediction. Although many had hoped for an early spring, the groundhog saw his shadow to predict six more weeks of winter. The news was not met with the most enthusiasm, as the students were hoping for an early spring.

STUDENTS PARTICIPATE IN SECOND ANNUAL HISTORY DAY

More than 300 community members filled Oasis Academy on Thursday, Feb. 5, for the school’s second annual National History Day Showcase, an evening that highlighted weeks of student research and inquiry, creativity, writing, and critical thinking.

The showcase featured over 150 projects created by students in fifth, seventh, and eighth grades, all centered on this year’s National History Day theme, “Revolution, Reaction, and Reform.” Students explored historical moments, movements, and individuals who instigated change, presenting well-developed historical arguments supported by in-depth research and primary sources.

Students were given the freedom to choose their own topics of personal interest and how they presented their learning, with projects taking the form of exhibits, podcasts, documentaries, posters, and websites. Each format allowed students to creatively communicate their ideas while demonstrating historical understanding and strong research skills.

Throughout the evening, visitors engaged with students as they explained their topics and the historical significance of those topics.

Select projects from the showcase will advance to the regional National History Day competition, with opportunities to continue to the state level and ultimately the national competition. Last year, Oasis Academy had four student projects advance to the national competition in Washington, D.C.

The event was coordinated by teachers Kelly Nott, Tamara McNeill, Jen Blakemore, Jessie Bourdeau, and Amber Revels, whose leadership and dedication helped guide students through



Niklaus Kirkland and Ella Hert showcase their research project during the Second Annual History Day at Oasis Academy.

the extensive research and project development process. Their efforts, along with strong family and community support, made the evening a celebration of both academic excellence and student voice.

“National History Day gives our students a chance to really dig in and think like historians,” said Kelly Nott. “They research using lots of different sources, ask big questions, and learn how to back up their ideas with evidence.”

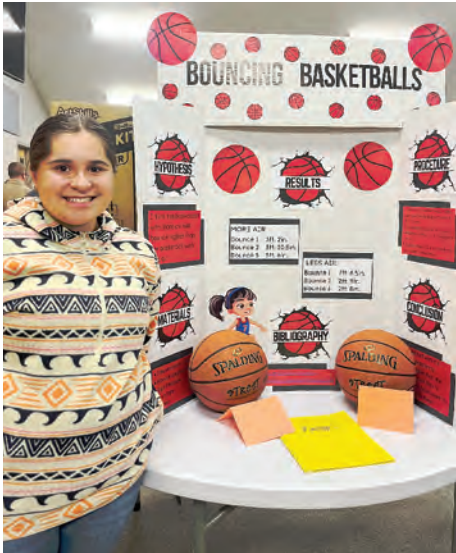
“Along the way, they build empathy for people from the past and get to tell those stories in creative ways, like documentaries or websites. I see the students thrive when they’re given choices and the freedom to explore topics they genuinely care about,” Nott closed.

Weekly Highlights at Logos Christian Academy

By Brenna Goings with photos courtesy of Logos.



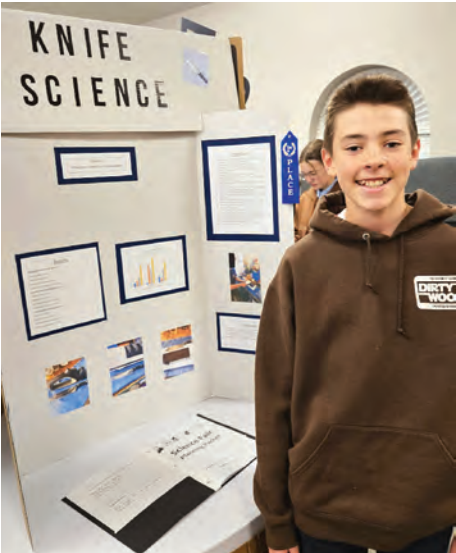
Penny Lyle, fourth grade, first place.



Kinslyn Jimenez, fifth grade, first place.



Jake Kaster, sixth grade, first place.



Andre Fisher, eighth grade, first place.

POPCORN, AIRPLANES, GOATS—OH MY, LOGOS SCIENCE FAIR SHINES

Popcorn popping, paper airplanes soaring, and even goats jumping for treats—this year’s Logos Science Fair was truly one for the books. The students proudly showcased projects that reflected weeks of hard work, creativity, and scientific thinking. From eye-catching displays to enthusiastic explanations, it was clear the students dove headfirst into their investigations.

The variety of projects kept visitors engaged at every turn. Attendees learned whether beef or wild game makes the most tender jerky, discovered which batteries last the longest, and debated which basketball bounces the highest. Other projects explored bigger ideas, such as nature versus nurture, encouraging thoughtful conversations and deeper questions. The Logos Science Fair wasn’t just about experiments—it was about learning, problem-solving, and having fun along the way. The students’ dedication and curiosity made this event a memorable

celebration of science in action. Congratulations to the Science Fair winners:

- 4TH GRADE:
First Place: Penny Lyle
(Which Battery Brand Lasts the Longest?)
Second Place: Ackley Goings
(Which Meat Makes the Most Tender Jerky, Wild Game or Beef?)
Third Place: George Bushnell
(Which Paper Airplane Flies the Farthest?)

- 5TH GRADE:
First Place: Kinslyn Jimenez
(Bouncing Basketballs)
Second Place: Eliana Christian
(Does Saltwater Boil Faster than Regular Water?)
Third Place: Micah Sydney
(How Long is the Wait to Preen?)

- 6TH GRADE:
First Place: Jake Kaster

- (Moldy Peanut Butter)
Second Place: Ellie Casey
(Nature vs. Nurture)
Third Place: Sage Ludlow
(Perfect Pancakes)

- 7TH GRADE:
First Place: Emma Slentz
(How Music Moves My Pencil)

- 8TH GRADE:
First Place: Ander Fisher
(Knife Science)

Shout-out to Mrs. Nyranda’s Jr. Kinder and Kindergarten class and their gummy project, finding out which material makes a gummy bear grow.

Also, shout-out to Mrs. Lyle’s first and second grade class for their yummy project identifying which brand of popcorn pops the best.

SPORTS

Oasis Academy Keeps Ore Cart in Rivalry Win



Oasis Academy's Benton Snow leaps to block a shot during the varsity boys' basketball rivalry game against Coral Academy.



Oasis Academy honored seven seniors during halftime of Friday's rivalry basketball game against Coral Academy. Photos by John Baker.

By Angela Viera, Oasis Academy

Oasis Academy and Coral Academy renewed their annual basketball rivalry on Friday, February 6, with the coveted Ore Cart on the line in a packed and energetic gymnasium. As tradition dictates, the winner was determined by the combined scores of the varsity girls' and varsity boys' games, setting the stage for a dramatic night of hoops.

The night also included celebrating seven Oasis Academy Seniors: Grace Laca, Dahlila Creer, Benton Snow, AlexZandar Sheldon-Davis, Austin Thibadoux, Kayden White, and Trevor Barrenchea.

The Oasis Academy varsity girls set the tone early, delivering a dominant performance and cruising to a 44-17 victory. Their strong defense and balanced scoring kept Coral Academy on its heels from the opening tip, giving Oasis a sizable advantage heading into the boys' contest.

The varsity boys' game proved to be a nail-biter. Oasis battled Coral possession for possession in a tightly contested matchup that came down to the final seconds. Coral Academy sank a buzzer-beater beyond the three basket with seconds left to secure a 48-46 win.


Even with the boys' narrow defeat, Oasis retained the Ore Cart and bragging rights for another year.

With the rivalry game behind them, the Oasis Academy girls now turn their focus to postseason play. They will advance to regionals, where they are set to face Battle Mountain on Thursday, February 12, at 2 p.m. in Yerington.

Friday night's games once again showcased the intensity and pride that define the Oasis-Coral rivalry and ensured that the Ore Cart will remain at Oasis Academy for another season.



Greenwave wrestler Braylon Byrd en route to a 120-pound title at the 3A Northern Regional tournament.



Notice:

Churchill County Board of Equalization

Notice is hereby given that the Churchill County Board of Equalization will meet on February 25, 2026, commencing at 9 a.m., and will continue, from time to time, as needed.

The meetings will be held in the Churchill County Commission Chambers, Churchill County Administration Complex, 155 N. Taylor St., Suite 145, Fallon, Nevada.

The County Board of Equalization shall conclude business on or before February 28, 2026.

Published in *The Fallon Post* February 13, and 20, 2026
Ad #6425

Byrd and Melendy Northern 3A Champs

Story and photos by John Baker

Churchill County wrestlers turned in a strong showing at the 3A Northern Regional tournament over the weekend, crowning two regional champions and sending a deep slate of qualifiers on to the state meet.

Braylon Byrd (120 pounds) and Carson Melendy (165) each captured Northern Regional titles, leading the Churchill County High School Greenwave to a fifth-place team finish in a competitive field.

Several other Greenwave wrestlers earned state berths with top-four finishes. Manuel “Manny” Barros placed fourth at 120 pounds, Trey Bradley took third at 126, Evan Garcia finished third at 138, Alijah Juarez placed fourth at 175, and Ashton McCourtney earned a fourth-place finish at 190.

Also advancing to state is girls qualifier Tommie Fitzer, who will compete alongside the boys this weekend.

With multiple podium finishes and several wrestlers narrowly missing the top four, the Greenwave program had a successful and encouraging weekend. The Churchill County qualifiers will compete at the Nevada State Wrestling Championships next weekend in Winnemucca.

SPORTS

Greenwave Teams Dominate First Round of Regionals

By Lori Kaiser

On Monday night, February 9, Churchill County High School was charged with excitement for the 3A Northern Regional basketball tournament. Both Greenwave varsity girls' and boys' basketball teams faced off against the Sparks High School Railroaders. The anticipation and energy in the gymnasium were palpable, marking a significant moment for the athletes and the enthusiastic community in attendance.

The girls played at 6 p.m., with Lady Greenwave quickly taking a 33-0 lead after the first quarter. The Railroaders struggled with steals and turnovers, and the Lady Greenwave won decisively, 64-13.

Top scorers included Karlie Simper (16), Kortnie Simper (15), Amillya Bishop (12), and Amanda Reeder (8). The fast-paced action set the tone for the evening, as Lady Greenwave dominated both offense and defense throughout the game. Their teamwork and coordination left little opportunity for the Railroaders to recover, resulting in a memorable victory for Lady Greenwave.

Between the Greenwave girls and boys varsity games, the crowd paused to celebrate a remarkable individual accomplishment. Calin Anderson was honored for reaching the 1,000-point milestone during his high school basketball career. This achievement is especially noteworthy as Anderson is only a junior, meaning he still has another season to add to his impressive record. His dedication and skill have set him apart, earning recognition from teammates, coaches, and the community during this special moment of the tournament evening.

The boys' varsity game tipped off at 8 p.m., launching an intense and fast-paced contest right from the start. Sparks High School's Railroaders entered the matchup with determination, challenging the Greenwave throughout the opening quarter. Despite the Railroaders' strong efforts, the Greenwave boys soon found their rhythm and took control of the game. Once the Greenwave established its momentum, the outcome became clear, and the



Amanda Reeder of Lady Greenwave moves the ball during Monday night's game. Photos by John Baker.

team maintained its lead until the final buzzer. With a commanding 85-56 score, the Greenwave secured a decisive victory and earned the right to advance in the playoffs.

During the boys' varsity game, Anderson delivered an outstanding performance, adding 30 points to his career total points. Anderson's offensive prowess was a key factor in the Greenwave's success. Supporting Anderson, teammates Caleb Edgmon and Wyatt Peek also made significant contributions, adding 13 and 12 points, respectively. Their combined efforts helped solidify the Greenwave's commanding lead and ultimately secure the team's victory in this crucial playoff matchup.

Both teams will travel to Wooster High School in Reno on Friday, Feb. 13, to continue their quest for a state championship at the semi-final tournament. The teams are preparing for



Barry Mitchell lays up during heart pounding Monday night game.

another challenging round as they advance in the postseason, eager to build on their recent victories and pursue the state title. With momentum from their successes against Sparks High School, both squads look forward to representing Churchill County in the next stage of the tournament.



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COLUMNS

What’s Cooking in Kelli’s Kitchen: Chicken and Dumplings

By Kelli Kelly

I wrote this missive in 2017 as a blog entry, when my first nephew was still a toddler, and I was traveling to Brooklyn to help my sister while she and her husband chased adventures across the globe. I’m sharing it again now as a small flashback. I’m currently in Brooklyn visiting that same nephew, who is now ten years old and has opinions about just about everything. Since 2017, Erin and Brian have given me a second nephew, moved into a brownstone in a different neighborhood, and got a dog... Some things change. Some things don’t.

My sister Erin is not particularly skilled in the kitchen. She tries her best, but honestly, she once burned spaghetti. Not the sauce. The noodles.

Consider that for a moment. Erin dropped dried pasta into boiling water and then left it there long enough for all the water to evaporate and the noodles to burn to a crisp. She will put something in the oven, move on to another project, and forget to come back. A kitchen timer worn around the neck would be an ideal Christmas gift.

So, I wasn’t surprised when Erin texted me to say she was “cooking something,” and it was causing her husband anxiety. What surprised me was that cooking was a metaphor. Brian’s anxiety was about becoming a father.

I enjoy visiting New York City. Erin and Brian live in a glass building in the middle of a lively Brooklyn neighborhood, within walking distance of the library, the museum, Prospect Park, and Grand Army Plaza. There are good restaurants everywhere, and a beer bar I love just around the corner. Still, I feel a bit like the country mouse visiting the city mouse. Brooklyn suits me as a place to visit, as long as I know I can retreat back to my small town afterward.

When I visit, I make it a goal to cook as many meals at home as possible. Rural Nevada dollars go further at the grocery store than at New York restaurants, and when Erin and Brian cook it is usually something simple or from a subscription box. I like to give them a change of pace.

At seventeen months old, my nephew was already remarkable. He had a growing vocabulary in two languages, showed early signs of

soccer promise, and possessed a dramatic flair that suggested a future in film. He was also an excellent judge of food quality. His enthusiasm for Tia Kelli’s chicken and dumplings was unmistakable.

The trip was a success. I wandered bookstores, visited museums, rode the subway, drank good beer, went to a fermentation festival, and got a tattoo. I cooked several dinners, breakfasts, and batches of cookies. There was only one bad night of fussiness. Erin and Brian returned from Sweden to find their child intact, if slightly pink-eyed, which I maintain is unavoidable with toddlers in dense cities.

To my sister Erin: you may struggle in the kitchen, but you cooked up some pretty incredible kids. Dinner can always be delivered.

Ingredients

With apologies to Tyler Florence

FOR STOCK

- | | |
|----------|-------------------------------|
| 1 | Chicken |
| 1 | Onion, halved |
| 2 | Bay leaves |
| 2 tbsp. | Black peppercorns |
| 1 head | Garlic, split down the middle |
| 2 each | Carrots |
| 4 stalks | Celery |

FOR SOUP

- | | |
|----------|---------------------------|
| 2 tbsp. | Butter |
| 2 tbsp. | Canola oil |
| 2 each | Carrots, peeled and diced |
| 2 each | Celery stalks, diced |
| 2 cloves | Garlic, minced |
| 1/4 cup | Flour |
| | Reserved stock |
| 1 cups | Frozen peas |
| 1 cups | Pearl onions |
| 1/4 cup | Heavy cream |

FOR DUMPLINGS

- | | |
|---------|-----------------------|
| 2 cups | Flour |
| 1 tbsp. | Baking powder |
| 1 tsp. | Salt |
| 2 each | Eggs |
| 1 cup | Buttermilk |
| 1 bunch | Green onions, chopped |



DIRECTIONS FOR STOCK

Put all ingredients in a large pot, cover with cold water and heat slowing til simmering. When chicken is cooked through, remove from heat. Strain and reserve stock, shred chicken.

DIRECTIONS FOR DUMPLINGS

Combine dry ingredients. Whisk together buttermilk and eggs. Add wet ingredients to dry and stir til combined. Stir in green onions.

DIRECTIONS FOR SAUCE

Sweat carrots and onions in melted butter and oil. Add garlic. When vegetables are soft, add flour and whisk for about 5 minutes. Add reserved stock and cook until thickened. Stir in reserved chicken, peas, pearl onions, and cream.

Working in batches as necessary, drop large spoonfuls of dumpling batter into the simmering soup. The dumplings should cover the top of the soup – but don’t crowd them too close together. They take about 15 minutes to cook through. Flip the dumplings over after about 7 minutes and let simmer until they are firm and puffy. Season to taste with salt and pepper.



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

Allison’s Book Report
“Honey” By Isabel Banta

By Allison Diegel

This week, I have a book that will take you back to a time when Britney Spears and Christina Aguilera’s faces were everywhere, and Hannah Montana was living out every girl’s pop star dreams. If you’ve ever looked at a photo of a turn-of-the-millennium pop star and wondered what was actually happening behind those tinted sunglasses, Isabel Banta’s debut novel, “Honey,” is your backstage pass. It is a glitter-dusted, deeply empathetic journey through the peak era of bubblegum pop, following the meteoric rise of Amber Young.

The story starts in the late 1990s, when Amber, a talented girl with a powerhouse voice from North Carolina, is plucked from obscurity and tossed into the global spotlight. She quickly becomes the face of a generation, complete with the signature blonde hair, midriff-baring tops, and choreographed dance breaks. But as Amber ascends to “It Girl” status, Banta peels back the curtain to show the grit beneath the glamour. This isn’t just a story about fame; it’s a story about the labor of being a product.

What makes “Honey” so addictive is how it captures the specific claustrophobia of early 2000s stardom. Amber is surrounded by a whirlwind of characters, including The Handlers (managers and executives who treat her like a high-yield investment rather than a teenager), The Paparazzi, a constant, predatory presence that turns her private mistakes into public



scandals, and, of course The Love Interests, high-profile romances that feel more like public relation (PR) stunts than genuine connections.

As the years tick by—moving from the optimism of the Y2K era into the darker, tabloid-heavy mid-2000s—we see Amber lose her grip on her own identity. She is told what to sing, how to dress, and who to date. The book brilliantly mirrors the real-life struggles of icons like Britney Spears and Christina Aguilera, making you question everything you thought you knew about the “pop princess” archetype.

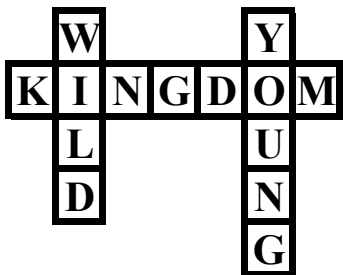
Ultimately, “Honey” is a coming-of-age story wrapped in a sequined package. It tracks Amber’s long, messy, and incredibly satisfying journey toward reclaiming her voice. She moves from being a manufactured idol to a woman demanding a seat at the table. It’s a breezy read that manages to be both a nostalgic fun-fest and a biting critique of the industry’s treatment of young women. By the final page, you’ll be rooting for Amber to find her own rhythm—both on and off the stage.

I hope you enjoy this little trip back in time this week! Don’t forget to pop over to my Instagram @allison.the.reader for more book talk and fun recommendations on what you should read this week!

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

Crossword

By Peanut

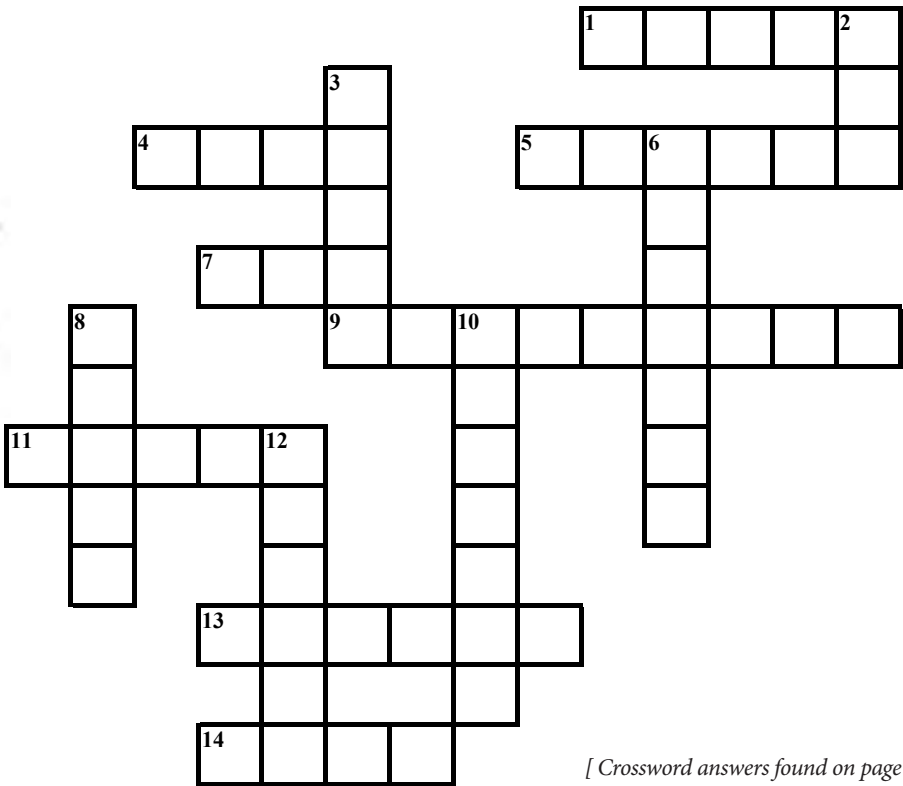


Across

- | | |
|-----|-----------|
| 1. | Penguin |
| 4. | Koala |
| 5. | Hedgehog |
| 7. | Otter |
| 9. | Crocodile |
| 11. | Platypus |
| 13. | Swan |
| 14. | Aardvark |

Down

- | | |
|-----|-------------|
| 2. | Fox |
| 3. | Grasshopper |
| 6. | Goose |
| 8. | Pigeon |
| 10. | Mosquito |
| 12. | Jellyfish |



[Crossword answers found on page 15]

LEGAL NOTICES

CITY OF FALLON, NEVADA

Request for Statement of Interest and Qualifications for Airport Planning, Engineering and Consulting Services for the Fallon Municipal Airport

The City of Fallon is formally requesting Statements of Interest and Qualifications for professional services of qualified airport consulting firms. The City of Fallon wishes to retain these services for a five (5) year period to assist the City of Fallon with the development and improvement of the Fallon Municipal Airport. The types of services may include, but not be limited to: general consulting services; preparation and administration of the necessary applications and documents for Federal Aviation Administration AIP grant funding; provide planning services as required by the City of Fallon; provide necessary services to obtain environmental clearances through the NEPA process for the proposed projects; provide engineering design and other services as required by the City of Fallon; provide construction administration, inspection, and testing services during construction projects; and attend meetings as required by the City of Fallon. The professional services may be required for, but not be limited to, the following specific projects:

- Reconstruct Taxilanes and Entrance Road
- Construction of new FBO Building
- Rehabilitate Runway, Taxiways and Aprons
- Replace PAPI's with LED, replace Windcone and Segmented Circle
- Acquire Bi-directional Tractor with Snowblower and Broom Attachment and Construct Snow Removal Equipment Storage Building
- Assistance with construction of a new FBO
- Environmental Assessment for Land Acquisition
- Land Acquisitions

A statement of your firm's interest and qualifications regarding these projects is herein solicited.

The Statement of Interest and Qualifications should include detailed information regarding the consultant's interest, qualifications, current relevant experience with the planning, design and engineering of airports and airfield improvement projects funded by FAA Airport Improvement Program (AIP) grants and resumes of key personnel. Selection criteria contained in the FAA Advisory Circular 150/5100-14, as amended, will be considered:

1. Understanding of the tasks to be performed.
2. Qualifications of the project manager and other senior personnel to be assigned to the airport projects.
3. Capability to perform all or most aspects of the airport projects and recent experience in airport projects comparable to the proposed tasks.
4. Current workload and demonstrated ability to meet schedules and deadlines.
5. Quality of projects previously undertaken and capability to complete projects without having major cost escalations or overruns.
6. Ability to furnish qualified inspectors for construction inspection if applicable.
7. Familiarity with and proximity to the airport. Indicate the office location where work will be performed. Also describe the ability to attend meetings in a timely manner and/or on short notice.
8. Experience with airport construction projects over the past three years, including award amount, engineer's estimate, cost of construction, and initial and final construction period.
9. Description of the process used for design and construction projects by the consultant.
10. A description of other services provided by the consultant to assist the airport in fulfilling the FAA grant assurances.
11. References.

Please note that this is a request for a Statement of Interest and Qualifications. A detailed cost proposal is not being requested at this time. Final project costs will be determined through negotiations with the selected firm. If project cost negotiations with the selected firm are unsuccessful, the City of Fallon reserves the right to enter into negotiations with other firm(s).

Consultant submittals shall be brief and concise, containing no more than 35 pages of material. Submittals in excess of 35 pages shall be considered to be non-responsive.

The City of Fallon assumes no obligation in the solicitation of the general statement of interest and qualifications and all costs of responding to the solicitation shall be borne by the interested consultants.

Time is of the essence; therefore, the City of Fallon will evaluate all pertinent information and will endeavor to select the firm with which it will work from those firms submitting statements. If a selection cannot be made on the basis of the qualification statements alone, the most qualified firms may be contacted for additional information and, if warranted, detailed interviews.

This assignment is subject to the provisions of Executive Order 11246 (Affirmative Action to Ensure Equal Employment Opportunity), NRS Chapters 332, 338, 623 and 625 and to the provisions of Department of Transportation Regulations 49 CFR Par 23 (Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Participation) and the following mandatory federal contract provisions:

Provision, Law / Statute

- Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title VI – Contractor Contractual Requirements. Law/Statute 49 CFR part 21
- Airport and Airway Improvement Act of 1982, Section 520. Law/Statute 49 USC § 47123
- Participation by Disadvantaged Business Enterprises. Law/Statute 49 CFR part 26
- New Restrictions on Lobbying. Law/Statute 49 CFR part 20
- Access to Records and Reports. Law/Statute 49 CFR § 18.36
- Breach of Contract Terms. Law/Statute 49 CFR § 18.36
- Rights to Invention. Law/Statute 49 CFR § 18.36
- Trade Restriction Clause. Law/Statute 49 CFR part 30
- Termination of Contract. Law/Statute 49 CFR § 18.36
- Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility and Voluntary Exclusion. Law/Statute 49 CFR part 29

Questions regarding this request and the proposed projects should be directed to Derek Zimney, P.E., City Engineer, City of Fallon, 55 West Williams Avenue, Fallon, Nevada 89406 or by email at dzimney@fallonnevada.gov or by phone at 775-423-5107. Five copies of the Statement of Interest and Qualifications and a digital copy should be submitted to the City of Fallon no later than 5:00 p.m., Wednesday February 25, 2026.

Published in
The Fallon Post
February 6, and 13, 2026
Ad #6426

CITY OF FALLON'S NOTICE OF INTENT TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT OR OTHER ARRANGEMENT FOR FIXED-BASE OPERATION SERVICES AT THE FALLON MUNICIPAL AIRPORT

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to Nevada Revised Statute 496.090, that the City of Fallon intends to enter into a contract or other arrangement with FLYINTIZ AVIATION, LLC for the provision of Fixed-Base Operator services at the Fallon Municipal Airport ("airport"), which may include, but not limited to the following:

- Granting the privilege of using or improving the airport or air navigation facility, or any portion or facility thereof, or space therein, for commercial purposes.
- Conferring the privilege of supplying goods, commodities, things, services or facilities at the airport or air navigation facility or other facilities.
- Making available services to be furnished by the City of Fallon or its agents or by other persons at the airport or air navigation facility or other facilities.

NOTICE IF FURTHER GIVEN that a regular meeting of the City Council will be held on March 3, 2026, at 9 a.m. in the City Council Chambers, 55 W. Williams Avenue, Fallon, Nevada, at which meeting any interested person may appear.

Published in
The Fallon Post
February 6, 13, 20, and 27, 2026
Ad #6430

COMMNET OF NEVADA

Commnet of Nevada LLC proposes to update the tower height of their existing 114 ft monopole with the FCC. The site is located at 5699 Austin Hwy, Fallon, NV. The existing tower is located at latitude 39-31-08.68 N and longitude 117-45-30.62 W. Interested persons may raise environmental concerns regarding the filing update of this structure by filing a Request for Environment Review with the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). The FCC strongly encourages interested parties to file Requests for Environmental Review online, and instructions for making such filings can be found at <http://www.fcc.gov/asr/environmental-request>. The proposed communications site can be identified by FCC Form 854 File Number A1376459.

Interested persons may review the application by going to www.fcc.gov/asr/applications and entering the FCC Form 854 File Number A1376459. The mailing address for interested parties that would prefer to file a Request for Environmental Review by paper copy is as follows:

FCC Request for Environmental Review, Attn: Ramon Williams, 445 12th Street SW, Washington, DC 20554

Published in
The Fallon Post
February 13, 2026
Ad #6429

CROSSWORD ANSWERS

Crossword found on page 14

CALF	KIT
CHICK	NYMPH
CYGNET	PIGLET
EPHYNA	PUGGLE
GOSLING	PUP
HATCHLING	SQUAB
JOEY	TUMBLER

NOTICE OF DECLARATION OF CANDIDACY FOR DIRECTORS TRUCKEE-CARSON IRRIGATION DISTRICT

Notice of Nominations for Directors of Truckee-Carson Irrigation District and for Elector Registration.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that commencing Thursday, February 16, 2026, and continuing through Wednesday, March 18, 2026, nominations for the office of director, within five (5) electoral districts of the Truckee-Carson Irrigation District, may be made by the filing of a declaration of candidacy and a \$25 filing fee with the Secretary. Such declarations may be given between the hours of 6 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, at the District Office, 2666 Harrigan Road, Fallon, Nevada.

The Secretary will receive nominations for the following electoral districts:

1. District Two (2) (Soda Lake Area); (Wade Workman)
2. District Four (4) (South Central Area near Fallon) *(Vacant)*
3. District Five (5) (South of Fallon); (Eric Olsen)
4. District Six (6) (East of Fallon); (Abrahm Schank)
5. District Seven (7) (Stillwater Area); (Lester deBraga)

*District 4 is currently vacant, The Board is scheduled to consider the appointment of Mike Olsen on March 10, 2026. who, if approved, will appear on the ballot at this general election. Other candidates may run for this position.

Qualifications for office include residence within the electoral district for which a nomination is being made, and ownership of land within the district to which a surface water right is appurtenant.

NOTICE IS HEREBY FURTHER GIVEN that a general election will be conducted for the offices of directors April 7, 2026, between the hours of 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. Polling place will be the District Office. In the event that there shall be no contests for office, then such election shall not be held, and the duly qualified candidates shall be deemed elected as of the date the election would otherwise have been held.

NOTICE IS HEREBY FURTHER GIVEN that the electors (voters) of the District may now register for participation in the general election. Registration may be made Monday through Thursday, between the hours of 6 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. at the District Office. If an election will be held, District Office will remain open for voter registration until 7 p.m. on March 18, 2026. Close of general voter registration will be Tuesday, March 24, 2026, at 4:30 p.m.

Published in
The Fallon Post
February 13, 2026
Ad #6432

PUBLIC NOTICE

A child was born to Meranda Bufkin in December 2023 in Fallon, Nevada and is now two (2) years old. The identity and whereabouts of the child's biological father are currently unknown.

If you believe you may be the father, or if you have any information that may assist in identifying or locating the father, please contact:

Sharlee Bufkin: 775-217-8394
Josh Bufkin: 209-968-2782

All information will be handled confidentially.

Published in
The Fallon Post
Jan. 9, 16, 23, 30, Feb. 2 and 13, 2026
Ad #6415

C O L U M N S

Postcards:
Congratulations, CCHS Class of 1926

By Michon Mackedon

Since the early 1900’s, the Fallon newspapers have devoted a good share of space and ink to the local high school students’ comings and goings—their sports victories, their academic achievements, their artistic endeavors, and, at times, their mischievous antics.

One of the most exciting stories in the spring of 1926 was the triumph of the Churchill County High School women’s basketball team.

The team launched its winning streak on January 9, 1926, defeating Lovelock 19-53. Following were January victories over Tonopah, Reno, Carson City, and, again, Lovelock. On Feb. 10, Fallon played Sparks in a home game for Fallon, with Sparks predicted to win. The CCHS high school yearbook of 1926 includes this colorful account of the game: “Sparks, accompanied by half the population of that city, visited Fallon, intending to return home covered in glory.... But Sparks met her Waterloo and returned home threatening revenge.” The “revenge game” was held on Feb. 23 in Sparks.

A special train was chartered by the members of the Fallon Rotary Club to take Fallon rooters to Sparks. The 1926 CCHS yearbook reported that “The largest crowd ever assembled in the Sparks gymnasium witnessed this exciting game. Amid cheers and applause, Fallon added another scalp to her belt.”

The state tournament was held in Reno on March 3, 4, 5, and 6. On March 3, the “Fallon Standard” carried this item: “Reno, March 3—Special to the Standard. ‘With more than twenty teams representing every part of the state in readiness for playing off the annual state high school basketball tournament starting today and concluding on Thursday and Friday, interest here is ringing at a high pitch this morning. Arrangements have been completed to house the visitors [players, teachers, coaches and followers]

in various fraternities, Lincoln Hall and Manzanita Hall [part of the University of Nevada campus] and to provide them with plenty of entertainment during their stay in Reno.’”

The games were played in the University gymnasium. The Fallon girls won every time they took to the floor.

The CCHS debate squad also captured both newspaper headlines and hard-won trophies in the spring of 1926. Led by seniors Melville Hancock and Alan Bible (then student body president; later a U.S. Senator), the debate team tackled both sides of the question of whether the Child Labor Law Amendment to the Constitution, as passed by Congress in 1924, should be ratified in Nevada. Twelve high schools and forty-four speakers competed, and the final debate came down to CCHS vs. Reno High. The “Fallon Standard” reported that the “decision was unanimous in favor of CCHS.” George McCracken, Principal of CCHS, was told by university faculty members in Reno that “the debate, as far as Fallon was concerned, was of university caliber.”

The Fallon squad also took first in extemporaneous speaking, the trophy awarded to Mary K. Morris, who dominated her competitors with a speech on the subject, “Mussolini, the Italian dictator.”

Principal McCracken boasted to the “Standard” that Lieutenant Governor Maurice Sullivan had told him at the tournament, “Miss Morris is the finest woman speaker I have ever heard.”

More is coming your way about the CCHS Class of 1926.

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

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

CITY OF FALLON
PUBLICATION
OF QUARTERLY FINANCIAL
STATEMENTS

In accordance with NRS 268.030, the City of Fallon hereby publishes notice of the following total receipts, disbursements and bills allowed and paid for the quarter covering October 1, 2025 – December 31, 2025:

Total Receipts:
\$10,752,142
Total Disbursements and Bills:
\$12,389,283

The public may view the detailed financial documents at the City Clerk’s Office, City Hall, 55 West Williams Avenue, Fallon, Nevada or online at <https://www.fallonnevada.gov/quarterly-financial-statements/>. For further information or further instructions on how to obtain the detailed financial documents, please contact the City Clerk’s Office at 775-423-5104.

The original and any duplicate or copy of each receipt, bill, invoice, check, warrant, voucher or other similar document that supports a transaction, the amount of which is shown in the financial statement published pursuant to this section is a public record that is available for inspection and copying by any person pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 239 of NRS.

/s/ KEN TEDFORD, Mayor
ATTEST
/s/MICHAEL O’NEILL, City Clerk/Treasurer

Published in
The Fallon Post
February 13, 2026
Ad #6434

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