

THE FALLON POST



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Flyin' Tiz Aviation Approved as Fallon's New Airport Operator; Fire Chiefs Sworn In

Story by Amber Hardin

On Tuesday, March 3, the Fallon City Council with a 3-0 vote, unanimously approved a 10-year contract with Flyin' Tiz Aviation LLC to become the fixed base operator (FBO) at Fallon Municipal Airport, ushering in a new era for the city's aviation operations.

The contract authorizes the Nevada-based company to provide FBO services similar to those previously offered by Fallon Airmotive LLC, including providing aviation fuel, maintaining staffed office space at the airport, collecting tie-down fees, and overseeing certain commercial aviation activities.

Under the agreement, Flyin' Tiz Aviation will lease and operate out of the city-owned transient aircraft hangar known as Hangar A2, or the "drum hangar." The initial term is 10 years, with the option to renew for two additional five-year terms if contractual obligations are met.

City Attorney Trent DeBraga explained that the agreement was updated from a prior FBO contract, streamlined from roughly 30 pages to 16 to reflect current standards while maintaining a similar structure and terms.

Revenue generated at the airport — including fuel-related income — will remain in the airport fund in accordance with Federal Aviation Administration requirements and longstanding city practice.



Mayor Tedford, Councilwoman Kent, Alex Haffner, Randy Sharp, Councilwoman Frost, and Councilman Harmon. Photo by Amber Hardin.

Following the vote, Flyin' Tiz Aviation owner Anthony Tisdale addressed the council to thank city officials and introduce members of his team. Tisdale said the transition has been "a heavy lift" in recent months but expressed enthusiasm for the partnership.

"We intend to do everything we can to represent the airport well moving forward," Tisdale said, adding that the company looks forward to building on the airport's existing legacy.

The council also approved the election of

officers for the Fallon Churchill Volunteer Fire Department. Jared Dooley was confirmed as Fire Chief, with Randy Sharp as First Assistant Fire Chief, Kenneth "Russ" Jonte as Second Assistant Fire Chief, and Alex Haffner as Third Assistant Fire Chief.

Sharp and Haffner were present and sworn in during the meeting. Council members described the appointments as a privilege to approve, recognizing the leadership and service of the

[Flyin' Tiz continued on page 3]

Ranchers Press Navy on Compensation as FRTC Expansion Moves Forward

By Leanna Lehman

The room at Fallon's Old Post Office was quiet at first.

Around the tables sat ranchers who have spent years grazing cattle across northern Nevada rangeland — land that is now behind the fence line of the expanded Fallon Range Training Complex.

On Feb. 11, officials from Naval Air Station Fallon and Naval Facilities Engineering Systems Command Southwest met with representatives from the Bureau of Land Management and ranchers affected by the expansion. The purpose was to discuss next steps in the grazing permitting process and ongoing compensation negotiations tied to the withdrawal of land for the B-17 and B-20 ranges.

The Navy confirmed the land withdrawal for those ranges is complete. The areas are now restricted and no longer accessible for grazing.

For the ranchers in the room, that part was already understood. The bigger question is what comes next.

The Fallon Range Training Complex expansion, authorized by Congress in the 2022 National Defense Authorization Act, transferred roughly 489,000 acres of federal land to Navy control. Thirteen grazing allotments were affected. An Environmental Impact Statement estimated permanent economic losses to Churchill County ranching operations between \$490

[Ranchers continued on page 3]

No Such Thing as a Routine Traffic Stop

By Rachel Dahl

What began as a traffic stop east of Fallon Sunday night escalated into a high-speed pursuit, gunfire, and an arrest on tribal land.

On March 1, 2026, at approximately 7:17 p.m., a Churchill County Sheriff's Office deputy attempted to conduct a traffic stop on a black passenger vehicle after observing a traffic violation. According to the Sheriff's Office, the driver failed to yield, and a pursuit was initiated.

Deputies reported the vehicle reached speeds exceeding 100 miles per hour, at times traveling left of center and through residential areas.

The pursuit was ultimately discontinued due to public safety concerns, as the driver's actions were described as reckless.

The vehicle was located later abandoned on the Fallon Paiute Shoshone Reservation.



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

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FROM THE PUBLISHER

Captain's Log:
Growth Spurt

By Rachel Dahl

When I was younger, there were times when I grew so fast that my pants went from touching the floor to up around my calves in what felt like a matter of months. My bones would ache, and my line of sight would adjust slightly higher on the horizon, and my mom would say I was going through a “growth spurt.”

This morning has me pretty quiet. My bones don't ache, but my sight is adjusting metaphorically, and I'm tearing through all the emotions – humble and excited, nervous and grateful.

We recently had the opportunity to acquire the Winnemucca Publishing properties, including the Great Basin Sun and the Nevada Rancher.

A few years ago, a guy named Peter Bernhard, a newspaper publisher from Seattle, Pacific Publishing, bought a bunch of Nevada newspapers, including the Nevada Appeal, the Lahontan Valley News, and several others, including the Winnemucca Publishing papers. He later combined the Lovelock Review Miner, the Humboldt Sun, and the Battle Mountain Bugle into one paper – the Great Basin Sun.

Today I will travel to Winnemucca to meet our new team there.

Our hope is to bring back the local papers – because we established The Pershing Post last year, we'll do that old historical thing newspapers have done for years: combine the mastheads somehow. The Pershing Post/Lovelock Review Miner.

Not unlike the Lahontan Valley News/Eagle Standard. We will also bring back the Humboldt Sun, so Winnemucca will have its own newspaper, and then we will reestablish the Battle Mountain Bugle, so Lander County has its own paper.

Against all the odds, this works when the local community believes in what we're doing, like our Fallon family has. The number of volunteers, cheerleaders, and subscribers has been the backbone of our success over the last seven years. It took a while in Lovelock to catch on, but the past few months have been so gratifying as the local community has embraced the paper and reached out in so many ways to make it work.

We've spoken conceptually to people in Winnemucca and Battle Mountain – quite a bit of “what if” –ing, and it feels like from all I'm hearing that we'll be able to build a little community momentum in each of these places and if the stars align (oh yeah, they did that on the 28th, the planets did anyway) be up and running across Rural Nevada in the next couple of weeks.

So, while I sit here this morning, again wiping water off this keyboard and trying to figure out how to say, “Keeping you Bugled,” we'll always be right here...

...Keeping you Posted.

Rach

[Traffic Stop continued from page 1]

According to law enforcement, as heard over the police scanner during the pursuit, deputies broadcast over the radio that shots had been fired. Neighbors on the reservation also reported hearing gunfire.

With assistance from the Fallon Paiute Shoshone Police Department and a Churchill County Sheriff's Office K-9 unit, deputies began tracking the suspect in the area where the vehicle was abandoned.

The suspect, identified as David Christy, was located hiding and taken into custody.

Following the arrest, deputies searched the vehicle. According to the broadcast over the scanner, drug paraphernalia was found on the driver's side floorboard. A controlled substance was located in the center console. Deputies also located a .22 caliber Ruger firearm inside the vehicle with an obliterated serial number.

After running Christy's criminal history, deputies confirmed he is a convicted felon and not legally permitted to possess firearms. A second firearm was also located.

Christy was booked on multiple charges, including:

- Driving under the influence
- Felon in possession of two firearms
- Altering or obliterating the serial number of a firearm
- Possession of a Schedule I or II controlled substance under 14 grams
- Possession of drug paraphernalia
- Carrying a concealed weapon
- Evading or eluding a law enforcement officer
- Resisting a public officer
- Reckless driving with disregard for safety
- Driving left of center
- Failure to obey a stop sign
- Driving with a canceled, revoked, or suspended license
- Parole and probation violation

The Churchill County Sheriff's Office stated that no other outstanding suspects are believed to be in the community.

The Sheriff's Office also thanked the Fallon Paiute Shoshone Police Department and Fallon Police Department for their assistance in taking the suspect into custody.



PETS OF THE WEEK

Akita, Husky Mix, Available for Adoption

Akita, an 8-year-old Husky mix and one of our longest-standing residents, is seeking a forever home. Known for her playful personality and “strategic dramaticism,” Akita excels as Head of Public Relations and home alarm systems — audio only. She is a world-class guard dog, intimidating intruders with her signature monologue, and follows the “all bark, no bite” protocol. Her aim is not to catch a burglar but to loudly judge them until they leave.

Akita is also a certified “nanny dog,” devoted to children and happy to share snacks or serve as a fluffy pillow. Anyone interested in adopting Akita or learning more can contact the shelter for further details.



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



Meet Sable

A striking sable-brown tabby with stripes to match her sweet, melodic voice. Sable is a talkative companion, ready to chat about her day, her dreams, or why it's the perfect moment for a round of pets. She loves to curl up in her favorite beds, looking every bit the tiny queen presiding over her soft, cozy throne. Sable melts into pure happiness when you offer gentle affection, rewarding you with purrs and soft nuzzles. She's the ideal blend of playful chatter and serene comfort, always eager to brighten your day with her warm presence. Prospective adopters who can provide a loving environment for Sable are encouraged to inquire.

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

[Flyin' Tiz continued from page 1]



Anthony Tisdale of Flyin' Tiz Aviation. Photo courtesy of Rochelle Tisdale.

department's officers. Following the oath of office, the newly sworn-in chiefs posed for photographs with members of the City Council, and family members were invited to join them at the front of the chambers to commemorate the occasion.

In other business, Grace Laca, captain of the Oasis girls basketball team, thanked the City of Fallon during public comment for its support during the team's historic season. Laca expressed appreciation for the use of the city-county gym for practices and games, as well as the police-escorted send-off ahead of the team's state appearance. Council members congratulated the team on its successful season.

The council approved a mobile food vendor license for Brisa Somal — owner of the local bar and grill, The Boozy Lion — operating under Nevada West Group LLC, doing business as Tacos and Burgers Company.

The Fallon Police Department presented its January report, noting 663 calls for service, 41 arrests, and continued community engagement

efforts, including volunteer hours and public outreach events.

During public comment, Emma White, Youth Suicide Prevention Coordinator with the Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health, provided an update on ongoing behavioral health and suicide prevention efforts in Churchill County.

White highlighted progress made since the completion of a local behavioral health and suicide prevention plan in late 2024, including the launch of the "Unite Us" referral platform, which connects residents to vetted local services such as mental health support, food assistance, and housing resources.

White noted further that Churchill County has been at the forefront of several youth-focused prevention initiatives statewide, with continued training and community engagement efforts planned for 2026.

The meeting concluded following public comment and routine agenda items.

[Ranchers continued from page 1]

million and \$683 million over time. The report also stated that while individual ranches would see significant impacts, the broader county economy would not.

Jack Payne, owner of Clan Alpin Ranch near the B-17 range, said Navy's projected 100-year loss calculations don't match the realities of how ranches operate or how they are financed.

"Our bank doesn't want paid off in 100 years," Payne said. "Our bank wants paid off now. I got my loan through SBA and bought the ranch. You're going to take a big chunk of it and put me out of business. I'm just going to tell my bank, 'Hey, I guess I invested this money. I'll pay you in 100 years.' I mean, this is ridiculous."

The Navy has structured compensation discussions around projected long-term grazing losses. Improvements such as wells, pipelines, corrals, and fencing may be compensated separately if

privately owned. In areas where private land has been acquired, federal appraisal standards apply.

But Payne questioned whether anyone can realistically quantify a century of loss in an industry that runs on weather, markets, and generational succession.

Justin Snow, another rancher affected by the withdrawal, said his earlier compensation based on projected losses was minimal. He also said he did not sign newly issued BLM grazing permits for the redefined allotments because he felt the language could be interpreted as acceptance of the Navy's offer.

"I felt trapped," Snow said.

Several ranchers echoed that concern, asking whether signing a new BLM permit, which reflects reduced Animal Unit Months under the revised allotments, could later be used against them in compensation negotiations.

NAS Fallon Commanding Officer Capt. Mike Haymon said the two processes are separate.

"We've made it very clear that the signature of a permit is completely and totally independent and is not an acceptance of the offer," Haymon said.



Clan Alpine Ranch grazing cattle. Photo by Jack Payne.

After discussion, BLM officials agreed to amend the permit language to explicitly state that signing does not affect compensation agreements. Payne and other ranchers indicated that clarification would make ranchers more comfortable moving forward.

Even with that adjustment, frustration remained.

To complete valuations, the Navy has contracted a Reno-based consultant and is requesting extensive financial documentation from each operation — tax returns, payroll records, asset lists, loan information, and grazing records. Snow said he declined to provide the full list out of concern for how his private financial information could be used.

The Navy indicated that incomplete documentation could affect the determination of valuations.

Ranchers also questioned the lack of replacement grazing. Payne said he spent years looking for alternative allotments and was told none were available.

"We spent three or four years in this deal looking for a replacement," Payne said. "The BLM said there were no vacant allotments."

Without replacement ground, the losses cannot simply be absorbed elsewhere. Operations that span hundreds of thousands of acres rely on coordinated grazing patterns, water infrastructure, and long-standing permitting structures.

"There's nobody in here who doesn't support the Navy," said rancher Chuck Kendricks.

"But it's getting down to almost ridiculousness." Haymon acknowledged the strain and said lessons had been learned from earlier land transfers.

"This is a unique situation," Haymon said. "We want to work with each one of you to make sure this process is specified to your circumstances. We really need your help to determine what the value is."

Still, for ranchers like Payne, the concern is that access has been lost while negotiations continue.

"The rancher has the right to run cattle there," Payne said. "You're just rolling on and leaving us behind. We're going to get into a court of law five years down the road, and a judge is going to say, 'Well, you agreed to this.'"

ORGANIZATION OF THE WEEK

Commission Hears from Life Center and CART During Budget Hearings

By Sydney Trainor & Leanna Lehman

During the Feb. 19 County Commissioner budget hearings, Social Services Director Shannon Ernst provided updates and budget needs for CART – Churchill Area Regional Transport, which operates under Social Services, and for the William N. Pennington Life Center.

CART provides public transportation services throughout Churchill County and includes rides to medical appointments, employment, senior services, and other essential destinations.

Previously operating as a non-profit organization with its own governing board, CART was brought under the umbrella of Churchill County Social Services and combined with Aging & Disability Services last October. At the time of the transition, the estimated cost to the county was around \$394,000.

The program is funded through a mix of local revenue and grants, including state and federal transportation funding streams. CART vehicles operate on scheduled routes and demand-response service, particularly serving seniors, individuals with disabilities, and residents without reliable personal transportation. CART also plays a role in emergency response and community coordination during major events.

Social Services is budgeting for a new CART vehicle this fiscal year. Commissioners raised questions about why vehicle repairs were included in the CART budget and whether maintenance is handled by the county's fleet department. Ernst explained that while most CART expenses are covered by grants, a required local match must still be shown, including a portion of vehicle re-

pairs, to meet grant compliance requirements.

Ernst also gave a brief update on the Pennington Life Center, often referred to as the Senior Center, which operates under the direction of Social Services. The Life Center provides assistance and resources to residents of Churchill County, primarily senior citizens.

Located at 952 S. Maine Street in Fallon, the building opened in June 2017 as a multi-generational facility. Churchill County, the City of Fallon, and the Coalition for Senior Citizens Board all contribute resources to help ensure the facility's continued operation.

The Life Center offers a homemaking service that includes light housekeeping, medication pickup, rides to medical appointments, and household chores for those who cannot complete these tasks themselves. Meals on Wheels is a key function of the Life Center and provides a hot daily meal for homebound residents aged 60 and older on a pay-as-you-can fee schedule. Additionally, the center offers weekday lunches, a telehealth room, and a beauty salon.

Activities are also a core component of the Life Center. These include fitness opportunities, crafts, games, workshops, counseling on life changes and grief and loss, bingo, and a gardening club. It also offers technology support and other programming.

During her presentation, Ernst noted that Social Services has budgeted for the last two years to upgrade the beauty salon. The upgrade, which will cost about \$24,000, will ensure the salon is properly maintained and complies with state requirements. The Life Center currently has one beautician renting space, with plans to



William N. Pennington Life Center. Photo courtesy of Churchill County.

rent a second station once upgrades are complete.

Commissioners noted that the \$24,000 request has not yet been included in the budget because it was not part of the formal wish list. To move forward, the board would need to formally add the item to the budget for approval. Ernst encouraged commissioners to do so, stating, "I'm hoping it's done this fiscal year because if they get inspected, we probably will not have a beauty shop at this point."

Together, the Life Center and CART provide services beyond those offered by traditional government offices. The Life Center focuses on senior stabilization and service coordination, while CART ensures residents can physically access those services. As commissioners continue reviewing budget priorities, both programs remain central to supporting residents throughout Churchill County.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



February Marriages

- 2/2/2026 Gaven Andrew Dooley, 29, to Toni Lynn Taylor, 31, both of Fallon
- 2/2/2026 Daniel Paul Knizner, 41, to Shatara Monique Spotts, 37, both of Fernley
- 2/3/2026 Alec Carl Lecker, 19, to Sydney Marie Hilliard, 19, both of Fallon
- 2/4/2026 Rachel Ann Jak, 23, to Logan Douglas Chorney, 28, both of Fallon
- 2/5/2026 Heidi Julia Anderson, 40, to Zachariah Lee Merritt, 43, both of Fallon
- 2/6/2026 Cora Anne Heiser, 31, to Vanessa Joan Badilla, 36, both of Fallon
- 2/9/2026 Fernando Fierro Echeverria, 24, of Las Vegas to Laura Daniela Stark, 26, of Fallon
- 2/13/2026 Emily Margaret Hone, 26, to Chandler Jordan Eddie, 27, both of Phoenix, Arizona
- 2/13/2026 Octavia Calandra Merritt, 47, to Kevin John Carey, 52, both of Fallon
- 2/18/2026 Jonathan Gregory Walsh, 29, to Chelsea Dawn Rodgers, 22, both of Fallon
- 2/20/2026 Christian James Orozco, 30, to Kaitlyn Taylor Wilson, 28, both of Fallon
- 2/23/2026 Roxane Marie Mondhink, 47, to Corey Jason Cluckey, 53, both of Fallon
- 2/23/2026 Brian Paul Clark, 34, to Rebecca Gayle Lucchesi, 34, both of Fallon
- 2/24/2026 Yamillen Castillo, 26, to Dillan Shane Dyer, 30, both of Fallon
- 2/27/2026 Aketzali Guadalupe Sanchez Lopez, 28, to Jose Carlos Chavez Aguirre, 23, both of Fallon
- 2/27/2026 Sierra Lynn Mesloh, 20, to Joshua Adam Foote, 23, both of Fallon

Fallon Golf Course Hosts St. Patrick's Day Tournament

By Sydney Trainor

Golfers of all skill levels are invited to participate in the St. Patrick's Day Golf Tournament at Fallon Golf Course on Sunday, March 15, where the course will host a special nine-hole, two-person scramble starting at 10 a.m.

The tournament, open to both members and non-members, will feature a shotgun start and include gross and net payouts, calculated using the average of each team's combined handicap. Organizers have added an extra element of excitement with a "special contest" offering a pot-of-gold prize to lucky participants.

Entry fees are set at \$50 for members and \$85 for non-members, which covers a traditional Irish lunch of corned beef and cabbage and lamb stew, served around 12:30 p.m. For those who would like to join just for the meal, a lunch-only option is available for \$25.

Golfers interested in joining can sign up now by adding their names to the registration sheet posted inside the clubhouse.



Golfers, prepare your clubs for the St. Patrick's Day Tournament at Fallon Golf Course. Photo courtesy of the Fallon Golf Course.

Fallon Theatre Adds 125 New Seats

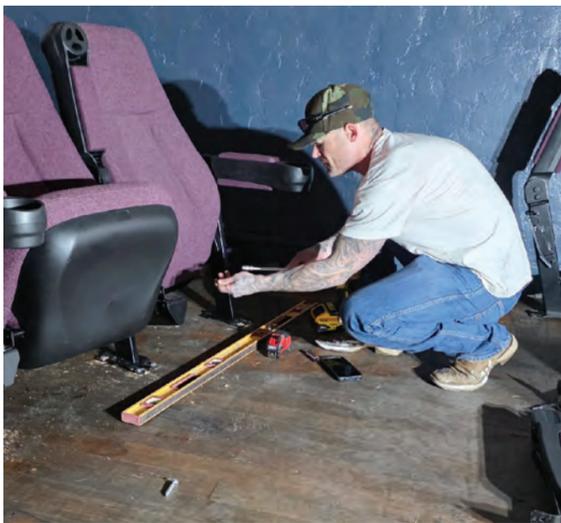
Story and photo by Nancy Chapman

The Fallon Theatre has unveiled a significant upgrade, marking its first major seating renovation in over a decade. A total of 125 new seats, installed by The Handy Man Inc., are now ready for audiences attending this weekend's showings of "Ratatouille" and "National Treasure." The completion of this project signals a fresh chapter for the beloved local landmark.

The installation process was a community effort, with volunteers stepping up to remove the old seats before professionals took over. Employees Rhys Pasalich and Tyler Ethridge from The Handy Man Inc. meticulously installed the new-to-the-Fallon Theatre seats, ensuring every detail was addressed in preparation for the upcoming movies.

This facelift reflects the community's ongoing commitment to maintaining and improving the historic venue. The updated seats not only enhance comfort for moviegoers but also contribute to the theatre's continued appeal as a community gathering spot.

The Fallon Theatre, known for hosting a variety of films and events, remains an integral part of local culture. The recent improvements highlight the collaborative spirit between local businesses and volunteers. By investing in updated amenities, the theatre aims to attract new patrons while providing longtime supporters with a refreshed experience.



Tyler Ethridge of The Handy Man Inc. installs new seats at the Fallon Theatre as part of the venue's recent renovation.

CCSD to Host Autism Expert for Parent Meeting

By Sydney Trainor

The Churchill County School District (CCSD) will host a districtwide parent meeting featuring nationally recognized autism expert Dr. James Ball at the District Office, 690 S. Maine St., on March 5 from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Dr. Ball, an author and award-winning speaker with more than 35 years of experience working with children and adults on the autism spectrum, will present on "Behaviors in the Home." The session aims to provide parents with practical strategies to support students at home and in the classroom.

Spanish interpretation will be available for attendees, according to the district. Organizers encourage parents to take advantage of this opportunity to learn, connect, and support students.

Those interested in attending are asked to RSVP by calling 775-423-5187 or by emailing parsonsc@churchillcsd.com or urquharts@churchillcsd.com.

SENIOR CENTER MENU

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

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

<p>Monday, March 9 Swiss Steak W/Tomato Sauce Brown Rice Pilaf Layered Salad Bran Muffin Mixed Berries</p>	<p>Tuesday, March 10 Rigatoni & Meatballs Zucchini Colorful Salad WW Bread Orange Mango Cup</p>	<p>Wednesday, March 11 BLT WW Bread LS Tomato Soup Mixed Green Salad Strawberry Short Cake</p>	<p>Thursday, March 12 Herb Baked Chicken Mashed Sweet Potatoes Vegetable Medley WW Bread Spiced Apple Sauce</p>	<p>Friday, March 13 Beer Battered Fish Seasoned Brown Rice Normandy Veg Blend WW Roll Cottage Cheese & Mixed Fruit</p>
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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.

<p>Monday, March 9 Pizza Night Salad & Dessert</p>	<p>Thursday, March 12 Turkey & Gravy Potatoes & Veggies</p>	<p>Monday, March 16 Meatloaf Potatoes & Veggies</p>	<p>Thursday, March 19 Cheesy Potato Soup Bread & Salad</p>	<p>Volunteer groups needed to help serve once per month, 3 p.m. until 6:30 p.m. Call for information.</p>
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OBITUARIES

SANDRA IRENE SEPSEY-WHITELEY (HANCOCK)
September 1, 1944 – February 8, 2026

Sandy passed away at home in Fallon, Nevada, after a 9-year-long battle with small-cell lung cancer. She was 81. Sandy was a beacon of light, joy, and love for her family and everyone who knew her. She was born in Springfield, Illinois, to parents Robert and Avo Hancock. As a child, she spent time in Germany, where her father, a US Army Air Corps captain, participated in the Berlin Airlift Operations. When her father was assigned to March Air Force Base (AFB), the family settled in Riverside, California, where she grew up and attended local schools. She graduated from Riverside Poly High School in 1962. Shortly thereafter, she began a family with her then-husband, Walter McAlister. They had three children, Kristine, Robert, and Karen. Later, Sandy became a single mother raising her family alone until she remarried Franklyn Sepsey in 1988.



Sandy was a strong, independent woman. After moving to Independence, California, she worked in local stores until she was offered a job with the county's school bookmobile library. Demonstrating a strong work ethic, she was offered a trainee position at the Inyo County Auditor's Office. She excelled, advancing to management positions over the next 27 years until she retired with 30 years of service in 1997. Her husband, Franklyn Sepsey, passed away in 2001.

In 2005, she met Larry Whiteley on a dating app, found they had many common interests, and grew up just 10 miles apart. They were an instant love match, and she moved to Fallon, Nevada, shortly thereafter. They

married in 2013 and both considered each other the best thing they ever found on the internet.

A loving, caring person, she was deeply devoted to her family and often expressed her love for her husband and family members. While in Fallon, she was a volunteer at the Banner Churchill Hospital Auxiliary for 13 years, logging 4,000 volunteer hours.

She is survived by her husband Larry Whiteley, her daughters Kristine Sherritt (Scott), Karen Roberts (TJ) and son Robert McAlister (Faith); grandchildren Jaqueline (Jon), Courtney (Sergei), Eli, Haley, Samuel, Polly (Dylan), Mark Dale (Nichole), Michael, Paige, and Andrew (Savannah); great-grandchildren Gabriel, Lulubelle, Isaak, Birdie Rose, and Autumn; her sisters Carol (Jim), Patricia (Scott), Kathy (Chris) and a brother Larry (Ayda).

She was preceded in death by her parents, her brother Robert Hancock (Mary Jane), her grandson Christopher Roberts, great-grandson Brixton Christopher, and her husbands Franklyn Sepsey and Walter McAlister.

Sandy will be buried in Independence, California, on February 28, 2026. A celebration of life reception will follow at the Pioneer Memorial Methodist Church.

A celebration of life is planned for March 7 at 1 p.m. at the First Southern Baptist Church, 900 S. Taylor St., Fallon, Nevada, for friends and family in the local area.

In lieu of flowers, please consider donating to the Children's Hospital of Los Angeles or the Banner Churchill Hospital Auxiliary Scholarship Fund, P.O. Box 1707, Fallon, Nevada, 89407.

WNC Nursing Students Meet Employers, Explore Careers at Job Fair

Staff Report

Western Nevada College (WNC) hosted its annual Nursing Job Fair on Tues, Feb. 24, at the Bristlecone Building on the Carson City campus, connecting nursing students with major employers, universities, and support services to explore career pathways and continued education options.

Participating employers included Carson Tahoe Regional Medical Center, Carson Valley Health, CenterWell Home Health, Sierra Basin Post Acute Care, and the Nevada Nurses Association. In addition to employment opportunities, university representatives from the Orvis School of Nursing at the University of Nevada, Reno; Western Governors University; Chamberlain University; Walden University; American Sentinel College of Nursing and Health Sciences; Post University; and the University of Phoenix discussed BSN pathways and advanced degrees.

WNC offers several nursing degrees to meet diverse career goals. The primary program is the Associate of Applied Science in Nursing (AAS), which prepares students to become registered nurses (RNs). In addition to the AAS degree, WNC provides a Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) program for those seeking entry-level positions in healthcare. Students can also pursue prerequisite coursework at WNC to transfer toward a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) at partner universities.

"Attending the Nursing Job Fair gave me the chance to connect with employers and learn about career options I hadn't considered before," said WNC student Jamie Martinez. "It was inspiring to see how many opportunities are



Western Nevada College nursing students connect with employers during the annual Nursing Job Fair.

available and to feel supported as I take the next steps in my nursing career."

Students also received information from the WNC Financial Aid Office and WNC Foundation staff on scholarships and financial support. For many, the event opened doors to career options they hadn't previously considered, including apprenticeship-style roles and early employment while pursuing their Associate of Science in Nursing degree. Industry partners have been known to offer positions on the spot or invite students to work as certified nursing assistants until graduation, demonstrating a strong demand for WNC-trained healthcare professionals.

"Our nursing program takes great pride in preparing compassionate, highly skilled nurses who are ready to serve the healthcare needs of

Northern Nevada," Dr. Audrey Auer, WNC Director of Nursing and Allied Health, said. "Events like our Job Fair highlight not only the strong demand for our graduates, but also our commitment to educating professionals who will provide quality care and make a meaningful difference in the communities they call home."

The annual fair underscores Western Nevada College's commitment to supporting students beyond the classroom, connecting them with career pathways, advanced education, and community engagement to strengthen the region's healthcare workforce.

For more information about WNC's Nursing program, visit wnc.edu/nursing, call 775-445-4425, or email nursing.alliedhealth@wnc.edu.

FALLON COMMUNITY CALENDAR

[T]HERE Gallery Exhibit by Patrick Kikut

Churchill Arts Council
151 E. Park St.
Jan. 23 – Apr. 5, Wednesdays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and Fridays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Parent Meeting with Dr. James Ball

Churchill County School District
690 S. Maine St.
March 5, from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Author Reception: Shaun Griffin

Churchill Arts Council
151 E. Park St.
March 6 at 5 p.m.

Public Meeting to Discuss Updates on Greenlink North

Center for Biological Diversity
The Lucky Spur Saloon, Kingston, Nev.
March 6 at 6:30 p.m.

Walk for Women

Fallon Soroptimist
525 N. Maine St.
March 7 at 10 a.m.

Heritage of the West

Fallon Theatre
71 S. Maine St.
March 7 at 3 p.m.

Potato Bash

Fallon Elks Lodge 2239
93 W. Center St.
Mar. 7, Bar Opens at 4:30 p.m.
Dinner from 5:30 to 7 p.m.

USA Youth State Wrestling

Rafter 3C Event Complex
325 Sheckler Rd.
March 7-8

Oasis Film Festival

Fallon Theatre
71 S. Maine St.
March 8 at 10 a.m.

Bad Art: Diorama

Churchill County Library
553 S. Maine St.
March 9 at 2:30 p.m.

Numa Elementary School Blood Drive

Bloodmobile at Numa
601 Discovery Dr.
March 11, from 7:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

CEDA St. Patrick's Day 5K

Fallon City Hall Courtyard
55 W. Williams Ave.
March 14 at 9 a.m.

Film Festival and Hors d'oeuvres Extravaganza

American Association of University Women
Fallon Theatre, 71 S. Maine St.
March 14, Hors d'oeuvres at 12 p.m.,
Movie at 1 p.m.

Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner

Knights of Columbus
St. Patrick's Parish Hall, 850 W. 4th St.
March 14, 6 p.m.

Donkey Basketball

CCHS Gym
1 Greenwave Cir.
March 23 at 6:30 p.m.

The Art of Storytelling

Spring Lecture Series
Churchill County Museum
1050 S. Maine St.
March 24 and 31, April 7 and 14 at 6 p.m.

The Addams Family Musical

Churchill County High School
1 Greenwave Cir.
March 27 at 7 p.m.,
March 28 at 1 p.m., and 7 p.m.

Super Smash Bros. Tournament

Churchill County Library
553 S. Maine St.
March 28 at 11 a.m.

Honoring National Vietnam War Day Event

Fallon City Hall Courtyard
55 W. Williams Ave.
March 29 at 1 p.m.

Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser

Fraternal Order of Eagles – Fallon Aerie #1447
7977 Reno Hwy.
Apr. 4, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Car Show

Soroptimist International of Fallon
100 Campus Way
Apr. 11, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.



A huge thank you to Jackie and Kirk Ferris for sponsoring our community calendar! Contact Jackie Ferris 775-527-5785 and Kirk Ferris 775-297-1168.

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

COMMUNITY

Girl Scout Cookies Debut New Flavor

By Nancy Chapman

Girl Scout cookie sales, a longstanding fundraising tradition, are gearing up for another successful season with the introduction of a new flavor, Exploremores, inspired by rocky road. The popular annual event features more than 10 varieties, including classics like Thin Mints, Adventurefuls, and Do-Si-dos, and now includes gluten-free and vegan options to meet growing demand.

Girl Scout Cookie booths will be set up at the Fallon Walmart on the afternoons of Friday through Sunday, March 6-8, and again from Friday through Sunday, March 13-15.

The Girl Scout Cookie program began in 1917, when the Mistletoe Troop in Muskogee, Oklahoma, baked cookies to raise funds for troop activities. Cookies were originally sold for 25 to 30 cents per dozen in the local high school cafeteria, with mothers volunteering to help with baking. The movement expanded in 1922 when American Girl magazine published the first official "Girl Scout Cookie" recipe, enabling more troops to participate.

By 1936, the program's popularity led to the involvement of licensed bakers to keep up with nationwide demand.

Today, Girl Scout cookies are sold throughout the United States, providing opportunities for girls to learn business skills, develop leadership, and support their communities. Cookie sales not only help fund troop activities and community service projects but also encourage teamwork, goal-setting, and financial literacy among participants. This annual tradition has become a cherished part of American culture, connecting generations and fostering a spirit of entrepreneurship and giving back.



Photo courtesy of Sara Beebe Wolken.

Churchill FFA Marks National FFA Week With Spirit and Community Events



FFA members from L-R: Alex Bacallo, Jackson Barbee, Kari Bailey, Ava Bunyard, Bailey Prinz, and Allie Fait. Photo courtesy of Churchill FFA.

Future Farmers of America (FFA) members wrapped up a full week of activities March 2-6, celebrating National FFA Week with dress-up days, lunchtime competitions, and a few laughs along the way. Students showed their blue and gold spirit Monday with stick horse barrel racing, followed by "Anything But a Backpack" and dummy roping Tuesday, Italian soda sales Wednesday, "Country vs. Country Club" Thursday, and Farmers Day Off (pajama day) Friday, which included a petting zoo and the annual Kiss the Cow contest. In addition to the fun, members competed at Winter Leadership Training (WLT), where Paige Frey placed in the top four in Creed Speaking and Cody Frey earned a top four finish in Prepared Public Speaking. Advisors said the week was about more than dress-up themes—it was a chance for students to build confidence, sharpen leadership skills, and celebrate the agricultural roots that continue to shape this community.

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Riggin Stonebarger wins semi-final round at Lions Club Student Speaker contest. Photo Courtesy of Lions Club.

Churchill County High School senior Riggin Stonebarger celebrates after winning the Nevada Lions Club Student Speaker contest semi-final held on Saturday, Feb. 28, 2026, in Winnemucca, Nevada. Stonebarger earned a \$1,250 award and will advance to the state finals in Yerington, Nevada, in May, where the northern and southern winners will compete for a \$5,000 prize.

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BUSINESS

Laundry Solutions Opens Doors with Ribbon Cutting Celebration



Vicki Jones and daughter, Shalis Mayhue, with family, friends, and Chamber ambassadors at ribbon cutting.

Story and photo by Rachel Dahl

Fallon has a new option for tackling laundry — whether it’s one load or thirty.

Laundry Solutions, LLC officially celebrated its grand opening Saturday, Feb. 28, with a ribbon cutting hosted by the Fallon Chamber of Commerce. Chamber ambassadors and Executive Director Lucy Carnahan joined owners Vicki Jones and her daughter, Shalis Mayhue, along with friends and family, to mark the opening of the new business at 116 Freepoint Circle.

The mother-daughter team said their mission

is simple: make laundry easy.

Laundry Solutions is open daily from 6 a.m. to 9 p.m. and offers both self-service machines and full wash, dry, and fold service. The facility includes 33 washers and 18 dryers, with all but six of the washers completely rebuilt.

For customers short on time, the business offers a 24-hour turnaround on drop-off laundry service. An attendant is on-site at all times, and stain treatment is available as part of the wash-and-fold option.

The grand opening event included a ribbon cutting at 1 p.m., followed by a free lunch from

noon to 2 p.m. Guests enjoyed hot dogs, chips, and drinks while touring the clean, bright space and learning about available services.

Jones and Mayhue said they designed the laundromat to be welcoming and family-friendly, with ample indoor seating and a comfortable atmosphere.

“When there’s a big job to launder, Laundry Solutions is the place to stop — no matter the load size,” they said.

Laundry Solutions can be reached at 775-867-8797 or online at laundrysolutions-llc.com.



February Churchill County New Business Licenses

Fallon Auto Mall LLC

Kari Maffi
Used Auto Sales
2525 Reno Hwy.

Sater Electric LLC

Shaun Sater
Electric Contractor C-2
9732 State Route 339

Gurr Brothers Construction of Nevada LLC

General Contractor
728 Spice Island

Silver State Energy

Aaron Jones
Silver State Energy
10450 Sutters Mill Lane

Myofunctional Wellness Center

Ember Henning
Orfacial Myofunctional Therapy
2525 Reno Hwy.

Centennial Materials Company dba Cinderlite Trucking

1665 S. Sutro Terrace

Justified Layouts LLC

Justin Sweeney
Technical Data Provider and Digital Modeling
5435 Vanessa Drive

Silver State Cheer & Dance Studio

Tori Ausano
Personal training classes
4585 Beacon Way

Thunder-Electric LLC

Richard Pittman
Electrical Contractor C-2
4 Camelot Acres Lane



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875 W. Williams Ave.
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LOCAL GOVERNMENT

School District Names Metz as Transportation Supervisor

By Leanna Lehman

The Churchill County School District Board of Trustees approved an employment contract on Feb. 17 during their regular meeting, confirming the hiring of Austin Metz as transportation supervisor, a role he says is deeply personal.

“I have been a third-generation school bus driver in the Churchill County School District,” Metz told trustees. “The Transportation Department quite literally raised me from the time I was a few weeks old up until I got my own driver’s license and started driving myself to school.”

Metz described his background as uniquely rooted in Fallon but shaped by experience beyond the valley. For several years, he worked for the Walt Disney Company, where he served as a trainer and, as he described it, a “working lead,” similar to a shift manager.

“With that, there was a heavy focus on safety as well as balancing, courtesy, and efficiency. But never losing sight of that safety number— one key,” Metz said. “And those are things that I carry with me. To this day, carried as a bus driver. And would carry into this new role.”

Safety, he said, will remain the department’s top priority.

Metz acknowledged that the transportation department has faced challenges in recent years, particularly during and after the COVID-19 pandemic.

“I do believe the number one thing we need to work on is definitely reestablishing the communication and faith from our community and our stakeholders,” he said. “I do believe there’s been a lot of strain due to staffing shortages. And difficulty getting everybody on a bus, and those are things I seek to... repair and work on.”

He said finding and retaining qualified staff will be key areas of focus. “I look forward to being able to work with our HR department on recruiting. As well as working with our current staff and drivers. And trainer,” Metz said.

“On retention programs and seeing how we can better the department for not only our stakeholders but for our staff. And see what would make it a better place. What we would be able to attract other potential drivers. So that we can continue to transport our future – into the future.”

Metz said strengthening relationships with families and ensuring consistent communication will help rebuild confidence in the department while improving daily operations for students and drivers alike.

In other matters, School District Comptroller Amanda Hammond reported that the fiscal year 2026-2027 budgeting process is underway. The tentative budget is scheduled for presentation at the March 31 special board meeting.

Keith Lewis, along with Dr. David Jensen of ModerneducateHR,



Austin Metz. Photo courtesy of Austin Metz.

provided guidance on the upcoming superintendent hiring process. They presented results from a community stakeholder survey regarding the qualities most desired in a superintendent and reported that the district had received 13 applications for the position. Trustees will interview top candidates in a public meeting on March 26 at 1 p.m.

Current district enrollment stands at 3,069 students as of Feb. 1.

Visit us online for the results of the community superintendent survey or check out the Feb. 27 edition of The Fallon Post.



CHURCHILL COUNTY REPUBLICAN CENTRAL COMMITTEE

CALL TO CONVENTION Saturday, March 21, 2026

Rafter 3C Events Complex in Fallon

Notice is hereby given that the county convention of the Churchill County Republican Party for Churchill County will begin at 9 a.m. on Saturday, March 21, 2026, at Rafter 3C Events Complex in Fallon. You must be a registered Republican to attend.

Precinct meetings will begin at 9 a.m., followed by a lunch break. The county convention will take place in the afternoon, with activities expected to wrap up by about 4 p.m.

All Republicans are encouraged to attend and participate in the precinct meetings and convention. For more information, contact local party organizers. Please RSVP to the Churchill County Republican Central Committee (CCRCC) at ccrepublicancc@gmail.com. Please, we need to know how many patriots to expect.

To verify your election precinct, party affiliation and voting status please visit: www.nvsos.gov/votersearch.

This communication was paid for by the Churchill County Republican Central Committee, P.O. PMB 364 2040 Reno Highway, Fallon NV, 89406-2772.

Leslie Beach, Chair 775-426-8152 | ccrepublicancc@gmail.com | churchillrepublicans.com



Library Board Updates

By Sydney Trainor

On Feb. 26, the library board of trustees met at 3 p.m. to discuss upcoming events, trustee training, facilities updates, and financial reports.

During public comment, Wade Carner introduced Cecilia Blue as the new Deputy District Attorney, who will assist the library board. Board members were also reminded to contact the Clerk’s Office rather than Mr. Hong for revisions of minutes prior to meetings, GoTo meeting links, and administrative facilitation. In addition, corrections were made to the January minutes regarding the chair election and training goals.

A “Meet the Director” event was scheduled for April 16 at 6 p.m., with board members encouraged to attend to show their support. A volunteer reception was scheduled for March 12 at 6:15 p.m. to recognize and thank library volunteers for their service.

Board members shared positive feedback on the March programming schedule, big print western books, and the recent author talk with Jessica Rowe. Members also discussed training module 2, which focused on trustee responsibilities, advocacy, and policy development. Trustees raised questions about board authority under state statute, leadership roles, and future policy considerations, including a potential interlibrary loan policy to be discussed at a later meeting.

The library director’s report included updates on facilities and operations, budget, staff training, and March programming highlights.

Periodicals and hold shelves were relocated to improve flow, and a “teen alcove” was created featuring a gaming station and computers. A designated quiet adult seating area was also created.

Library Director John Hong reported positive feedback on a part-time circulation clerk request, meeting room renovation, and pavilion improvements from the Feb. 20 budget hearing with county commissioners. The budget will be finalized in March.

Additionally, board members approved the January 2026 monthly budget report, including the library gift fund report. Regarding the gift fund, members raised questions about how funds could be better utilized and why funds are not added annually.

Hong explained that funds are not currently accruing interest and have largely remained unused, but could be allocated to resources such as the Hoopla database. He said he would consult with the county comptroller to determine whether additional funds should be added and how the existing balance could be used more effectively.

After discussions and no further public comment, the meeting was adjourned. The next library board meeting will take place on March 26 at 3 p.m.

A volunteer reception was scheduled for March 12 at 6:15 p.m. to recognize and thank library volunteers for their service.

COURT

Tenth Judicial District Court

The Tenth Judicial District Court convened Tuesday, Feb. 24, with Judge Thomas Stockard presiding.

By Teresa Moon

James Nigg pleaded guilty to Attempt to Commit Manufacture, Importation, Possession, or Use of a Deadly Weapon or a Silencer. The offense is a wobbler, meaning it may be sentenced as either a Category D felony, punishable by 1–4 years in prison and a fine up to \$5,000, or as a gross misdemeanor, punishable by up to 364 days in jail and a fine up to \$2,000. Judge Stockard ordered a Pre-Sentence Investigation (PSI) and set sentencing for May 5.

Charles Bowie Jr. did not appear for his scheduled status hearing regarding a Court Services violation. Wendy Bullock with Court Services reported they had not seen Bowie since Feb. 3 and that he previously violated by testing positive for alcohol. Defense Attorney Jeffrey Weed told the court he was surprised Bowie “just kind of fell off the map.” Judge Stockard issued a \$2,500 cash-only arrest warrant.

Cecil Mark Riggs Jr., in custody, appeared for sentencing and disposition. On Dec. 16, Riggs pleaded guilty under special conditions to Category B Felony of Assault with a Deadly Weapon and to a Non-Technical Sentencing Violation. Defense Attorney Charles Woodman requested a two-week continuance, which Judge Stockard granted. The case was continued to March 10.

Courtney Elizabeth Clark, in custody, pleaded guilty to Principal to Grand Larceny of Personal Goods or Property valued at more than \$1,200 but less than \$5,000, a Category D felony punishable by 1–4 years in prison and a fine up to \$5,000. Churchill County Public Defender Jacob Sommer stated that in December 2023, his client assisted others in taking property that did not belong to them. Judge Stockard accepted the joint recommendation for 24 months of probation, ordered a PSI, and set sentencing for May 5. The court continued sentencing to allow Clark to make payments toward \$2,900 in restitution. Judge Stockard also granted Clark release on her own recognizance under Court Services supervision.

Debra Marie Davis, in custody, appeared for sentencing on the wobbler charge of Attempted Embezzlement of a value of \$1,200 or more but less than \$5,000. Wendy Bullock with Court Services reported that Davis failed to appear for testing on Feb. 11 and tested positive when she appeared in court Feb. 20. Senior Deputy District Attorney Chelsea Sanford requested that the charge be sentenced as a felony and asked that Davis be placed on probation with the condition that she enter and complete the Western Regional Drug Court Program. Sanford stated the victim wants the defendant to receive help for her drug addiction.

Sanford told the court that Davis had been working on a ranch assisting an elderly woman who later died. The heirs allowed Davis to remain on the property for a limited time and permitted her to use the deceased woman’s vehicle. When she left the property, Davis took the vehicle with her. Law enforcement later stopped the vehicle and found Davis in possession of drug paraphernalia. Sanford noted Davis previously received probation with Drug Court, but did not complete the program. She stated this was Davis’s opportunity to “put her efforts where she’s saying she wants;



rehabilitation, or not.”

Churchill County Public Defender Jacob Sommer asked the court to sentence the charge as a gross misdemeanor with Drug Court as a condition of probation. Sommer said his client’s “behavior over the last couple of weeks has been inexcusable, but is explainable in the sense that it is exactly the kind of behavior that we would see from an addict.”

Davis apologized and told the court she hopes “that you can see in your heart to give me a chance.”

Judge Stockard sentenced the charge as a Category E felony and granted probation on a suspended 19–48-month prison sentence. He ordered Davis to obtain and follow the recommendations of a substance abuse evaluation and to enter and complete Drug Court.

Jose Carlos Trujillo, in custody, appeared for sentencing on Possession of a Controlled Substance, Low Level, and Fraudulent Use of a Credit Card or a Debit Card. Trujillo pleaded guilty to both charges in November 2023.

At the court’s request, Deputy District Attorney Priscilla Baker summarized the procedural history since November 2023, including multiple continuances. Baker cited Trujillo’s criminal history, which includes 15 convictions, three felonies, two gross misdemeanors, and eight incarcerations. She stated his history began in 2013 with convictions for stealing a vehicle and destroying property, followed by additional offenses including burglary, drug possession, resisting arrest, fraudulent use of a credit card, and multiple failures to appear.

Baker told the court, “This defendant, in his letter, indicates he strives to do the best he can, to hold himself to a higher standard, and that he promises that he will put his words into action. However, his actions thus far show that this court shouldn’t grant him probation.” She said the victim asked this court to please have Trujillo serve time for his crime. The state requested 24–60 months on Count I and 19–48 consecutive months on Count II.

Churchill County Public Defender Jacob Sommer said, “Jose is going to be the first to tell you that his history and behavior, previous to this case and after it, he’s made a mess of a lot of things. And there’s no excuse for it.” Sommer stated that sometimes individuals “suddenly start to get it” and that “that may be the case here.” He noted Trujillo completed the New Frontier program, paid \$555 in restitution, and has engaged in available resources while in custody. Sommer asked the court to follow the state’s recommended lengths of sentence but suspend them and place Trujillo on probation.

Trujillo told the court he is a drug addict and previously did not want to change. He said he completed the New Frontier program with intensity and that it changed his outlook. “Your Honor, you truly don’t know how you changed the trajectory of my life. And I truly hope you can forgive me for my actions,” Trujillo said.

Judge Stockard sentenced Trujillo to 19–60 months on Count I and 19–48 months on Count II, to run consecutively, for an aggregate sentence of 38–108 months in the Nevada State Prison. Trujillo was remanded to the custody of the Churchill County Sheriff for imposition of sentence.

Justice Court Feb. 12 and 26

By Leanna Lehman

New River Township Justice Court in Fallon convened on Thursday, Feb. 12 and Feb. 26, with Judge Benjamin Trotter presiding. Matters from the Feb. 19 calendar were printed in the Feb. 27 edition of *The Fallon Post*.

Justin Matheus appeared in custody via Zoom and was arraigned on a charge from a Feb. 19 arrest for domestic battery by strangulation. The court appointed the Churchill County Public Defender’s Office, as Matheus is already represented in other pending cases. Counsel waived formal reading of the charges. Judge Trotter set all of Matheus’s cases for status on March 5, 2026, at 10 a.m., if he remains in custody.

Jonathon Keller appeared and entered a guilty plea to possession and use of drug paraphernalia, a misdemeanor. Before sentencing was finalized, counsel clarified that the paraphernalia charge was part of another felony case. The court rescinded the plea and sentence on the misdemeanor and waived the entire case up to District Court.

In a separate case, Keller pleaded guilty to failure to appear, a misdemeanor. Judge Trotter sentenced him to 30 days in the Churchill County Jail, suspended for two years, with the condition that he have no further failures to appear or failures to comply in Churchill County during that period.

The court also addressed an outstanding \$35 domestic violence fee from a 2024 case. Judge Trotter gave Keller 60 days to pay the balance in full, anticipating his release within approximately 30 days.

FEB 12, 2026 DOCKET

Ochoa Santillanes appeared for a status hearing. The court continued the matter to March 12.

Joshua Fernandez did not appear for a sentencing hearing. At the state’s request, the court issued a bench warrant.

Daniella Rafael Tamayo pleaded guilty to DUI first offense, a misdemeanor, and was sentenced to 30 days in jail with 28 days suspended for a period of three years. The court ordered the two days in jail to be served immediately. The court imposed a \$585 fine plus a \$340 assessment, for a total of \$925. The court ordered her to complete DUI school and a victim impact panel.

Nicole Trauth pleaded guilty to DUI first offense, a misdemeanor, and was sentenced to 48 hours in jail. The court credited two days for time served. The court imposed a \$585 fine plus a \$340 assessment, for a total of \$925, and ordered her to complete DUI school and a victim impact panel.

Michael Armstrong pleaded guilty to DUI first offense, a misdemeanor, and was sentenced to 48 hours in jail. The court credited two days’ time served. The court imposed a \$585 fine plus a \$340 assessment, for a total



New River Township Justice Court building. Photo by Leanna Lehman.

of \$925, and ordered him to complete DUI school and a victim impact panel.

Nelson Williams pleaded guilty to driving on a revoked license, a misdemeanor, and failure to appear, a misdemeanor. The court imposed 30 days in jail on the driving on a revoked license charge, but allowed him to complete 60 days of house arrest in lieu of jail time, with 75 days to complete the house arrest. The court imposed a \$500 fine plus a \$140 assessment, for a total of \$640, and credited \$150 for time served, leaving a \$490 balance. On the failure to appear charge, the court imposed 15 days in jail, suspended for a period of two years, on the conditions that he have no further failures to appear, no further driving without a valid license, insurance, or registration, and that he pay the fine in full within 12 months.

EDUCATION

CCSD Cool School News

Compiled by Kaitlin Ritchie with photos courtesy of CCSD.



CCHS students engage in a team-building exercise, learning how to follow instructions, accept feedback, and communicate effectively.

CCHS

This last month, students have been developing employability skills, the habits and behaviors that prepare them for trades, college, careers, and life. In classrooms across the school, students have been practicing teamwork, taking direction and feedback, communicating ideas clearly and respectfully, problem-solving together, and demonstrating professionalism and responsibility. "Every day, our students are building a foundation that will carry them far beyond graduation," Vice Principal Reema Pulsifer said. Employers consistently emphasize the importance of individuals who can collaborate, listen, lead, and adapt, and CCHS classrooms provide hands-on opportunities to develop these skills through group projects, discussions, and real-world activities. This commitment to academic and life skills is at the heart of the Greenwave Experience, helping students become strong learners, teammates, and community members.



CCMS staff members celebrate their victory after defeating students in the annual staff vs. students volleyball game.

CCMS

The annual volleyball game between staff and students took place on Feb. 19 and is a time-honored tradition that both students and staff look forward to each year. The staff team emerged victorious, demonstrating sharp reflexes and strong teamwork. The seventh and eighth-grade girls were outstanding, living up to their reputation as the Sagebrush Champions. They served consistently, kept the ball in play during long rallies, and competed hard for every point. Students displayed skill and sportsmanship, making the match competitive and engaging for all in attendance. "Thank you to everyone who packed the stands in the new gym to cheer them on. This is what school spirit is all about," said Principal Deana Porretta.

NUMA

Fifth-grade Student Council students are hard at work planning a meaningful and inspiring Week of Hope activity for the entire school community. As part of the celebration, students will create their own individual "Tree of Hope," reflecting on their personal "roots and shoots." Their roots represent the positive people, experiences, skills, interests, and activities that build confidence and provide stability. Their shoots symbolize their goals, dreams, achievements, and continued learning, inspiring hope for the future. To help guide the project, Numa EL specialists Vanessa Burch-Urquhart and Alex Reeves created sample trees for students to use as inspiration. Once each student completes their unique tree, the school will come together to create a large Numa Tree of Hope that will be displayed proudly for the entire school community to see. It will be a powerful reminder that while every student's story is unique, together they form something strong, grounded, and full of hope.



Fifth-grade student council members pose with two "Trees of Hope" they crafted for Week of Hope.

E.C. BEST

Students in Lisa Christy's class have been busy this month completing assessments in listening, reading, writing, and speaking. Second and third-graders worked diligently on these challenging tests, demonstrating focus and perseverance throughout the process. Upon completion, students were recognized for their efforts with a small treat and prize, celebrating their hard work. "I am so proud of my students and the dedication they showed during testing," Christy said.

LAHONTAN

Last week was a busy one for Traci Ledesma's kindergarten class, full of learning, creativity, and fun activities. The students finished their unit on George Washington and Abraham Lincoln by writing about why they would love to be President. They also attended a dental assembly on Monday and spent the week exploring ways to take care of their teeth. They used toothbrushes to clean their whiteboards and sorted pictures of foods and habits that are good or bad for their teeth. "This class will have the best smiles around," Ledesma said.



Kindergarten students in Traci Ledesma's class pose in front of their "Good for My Teeth, Bad for My Teeth" picture sort during a lesson on dental health at Lahontan Elementary School.

Veritas Preparatory School
Classical and Christian

Spirit Day Brings Warmth, Fellowship, and School Pride

By Gretchen Felte with photo courtesy of Veritas.

Veritas Preparatory School students were treated to a joyful and heartwarming Spirit Day last Friday, as the campus filled with laughter, bright balloons, steaming mugs of cocoa, and the cheerful sight of students bundled in their brand-new personalized scarves.

The special event, organized by the school's Unite Parent Group, was designed to celebrate school spirit while fostering community and connection among students, parents, and staff. From start to finish, the day reflected the strong sense of fellowship that defines life at Veritas.

One of the highlights of the celebration was hot chocolate prepared and served by dedicated parent volunteers. Carefully crafted and topped with marshmallows and sprinkles, the cocoa station quickly became a favorite gathering spot as students enjoyed the sweet treat during morning recess.

Parents worked together to prepare and serve the drinks, demonstrating once again the active role families play in enriching the student experience at Veritas.

Adding to the excitement, every student received a personalized scarf, creating a visible symbol of unity across grade levels. As students proudly wore their scarves, the campus transformed into a colorful display of school pride.

The Unite Parent Group led the event's coordination, arranging festive balloons, organizing supplies, and spending time outdoors with students. Their efforts created an atmosphere of celebration that extended beyond a typical school day.

While Spirit Day was filled with fun and treats, it also reinforced an important aspect of the Veritas mission: cultivating joy, fellowship, and shared purpose. Moments like these help build lasting memories and deepen the bonds that connect students, families, and staff.



Veritas Preparatory School students sip hot chocolate, served by parent volunteers, while celebrating Spirit Day.

EDUCATION

Bighorn Bulletin

By Angela Viera, with photos courtesy of Oasis Academy.

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT: KAYDEN WHITE

For Oasis Academy senior, Kayden White, graduation marks the beginning of a journey defined by service, leadership, and continued growth.

“After graduation, I will be leaving for job training with the Army National Guard,” he said.

White plans to complete his training with the Army National Guard and return in time to deploy with his unit for about a year.

“After fulfilling my military commitment, I intend to continue my education by earning my bachelor’s degree at the University of Nevada, Reno, or completing it through online courses,” he added.

In addition to earning his high school diploma, he will also graduate with his Associate of Arts degree from Western Nevada College.

White began attending Oasis in Kindergarten. One of his favorite high school memories was the trip to Indianapolis to compete at the FFA National Convention.

“One of my favorite memories at Oasis Academy was traveling to Indianapolis to compete at the FFA National Convention,” he said. “It was an unforgettable experience that allowed me to represent my school and create lasting memories.”

When reflecting on his overall experience, he shared how supported he has felt throughout his time.

“My time at Oasis Academy has been incredible. From the moment I started, I always felt supported. I never felt like I couldn’t ask for help — teachers and staff were always willing to step in when needed,” White said.

“The school community truly pushes each other to grow and succeed. Overall, Oasis is a school that genuinely wants its students to succeed and will do everything possible to help them reach their goals,” he added.

He is especially grateful to the teachers who made a lasting impact on him.

“First, Ms. Jackie Bogdanowicz, for always being understanding, energetic, and making class enjoyable,” he started. “Next, Mr. Evan Brandt for explaining things in the clearest way possible and for his honesty, which made learning both effective and entertaining.”

Finally, he’d like to recognize Counselor Andy Lenon.

“Mr. Lenon not only taught me in a college class but also supported students as a counselor. He always was available to listen and help, no matter what,” White said.

Mr. Brandt also taught his favorite classes.

“My favorite classes during high school were math in my freshman and sophomore years. While math isn’t everyone’s favorite subject, Mr. Brandt made it both hilarious and easy to understand, which made the experience memorable,” he said.

During his time at Oasis Academy College High School, he was highly involved in campus life, participating in wrestling, lacrosse, cross country, baseball, basketball, Student Council, and FFA. White was named NIAA 2A Northern League Honorable Mention in baseball for the 2024 and 2025 seasons.

White has also excelled in the classroom. He was named to the NIAA All-State Academic team in 2023 for basketball and baseball.

For future students, he offers thoughtful advice inspired by Kung Fu Panda’s Master Oogway:

“Yesterday is history, tomorrow is a mystery, but today is a gift — that’s why it’s called the present,” he quoted. “Also, live in the moment. Don’t stress too much about things you can’t control. Focus on today, work hard, and enjoy the journey.”

PAPER, PERIMETER, AND PROBLEM-SOLVING

Fourth graders at Oasis Academy recently turned their classroom floor into a hands-on math lab, bringing geometry to life in an unexpected way.

Large shapes were taped onto the floor — rectangles, polygons, and even an L-shaped figure — and students received stacks of letter-sized paper with a simple task: measuring the area and perimeter of each shape using only the sheets of paper as their measuring tools.

Working in small groups and rotating through each shape, students carefully placed the paper inside the outlines to cover the space without overlapping. As they counted the sheets, they developed a concrete understanding of area as the amount of space inside a figure.

The lesson then moved on to perimeter. Students lined the sheets along the taped borders, discovering that even if two shapes have similar areas, their perimeters could be quite different. The activity sparked curiosity and teamwork, with students adjusting, recounting, and refining their strategies.

“Students always enjoy using tools to explore their learning, rather than just plugging numbers into a formula on a workbook page or computer screen,”



From left, Elias Robb, Deimmy Mendoza, Harlow McClanahan, Victoria Sanchez, Jaleesa Soriano, Johnathan Delatorre, and Brielle Davis. Owen Grady is pictured facing away.



Oasis Academy senior, Kayden White.

said Rebecca Farley, fourth-grade teacher. “When they’re on the floor discussing the concept and strategizing together, that’s real mathematical thinking happening.”

“Those are the light-bulb moments — the reason we teach. The excitement, teamwork, and thoughtful conversations showed me that the learning truly stuck,” she said.

SECOND GRADERS RESEARCH AMERICA’S LANDMARKS

Second graders at Oasis Academy recently learned about research, history, and further developed their writing skills through their U.S. landmarks projects.

Over the past few weeks, students selected a landmark to research and learned about its location, creator, and historical importance. Projects included the Statue of Liberty, the Space Needle, and Mount Rushmore, among many others.

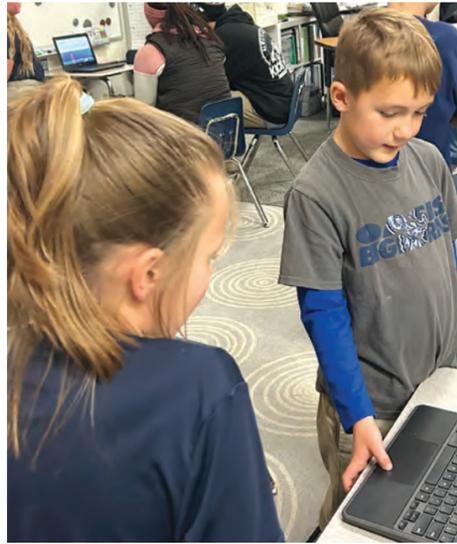
Using Google Slides, students presented their findings to classmates and families. They explained that the Statue of Liberty, a gift from France designed by Frédéric Auguste Bartholdi, welcomes visitors and symbolizes freedom.

Presenters of the Space Needle highlighted its construction for the 1962 World’s Fair and its role as an iconic Seattle landmark. Students who researched Mount Rushmore described

Gutzon Borglum’s monumental sculpture honoring four U.S. presidents and its significance in American history.

Reflecting on the assignment’s broader impact, teachers emphasized the lasting skills students gained throughout the process.

“This project emphasized more than just facts,” Teacher Gabriella Hockenberry-Grimes said. “Students learned how to research, take notes, take pride in their work, and speak confidently in front of an audience.”



River Edwards, left, and Dilila Burwell.

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SPORTS

Lady Greenwave Sweeps Saturday Doubleheader

Staff Report

Churchill County High School's girls' varsity softball team delivered an impressive performance on Saturday, sweeping a home doubleheader in Fallon. The Lady Greenwave dominated South Tahoe with decisive wins of 16-1 and 21-2.

In the first game, Lady Greenwave set the tone early by scoring five runs in the opening inning, fueled by key hits. Their offensive momentum continued in the second inning, highlighted by a nine-run outburst that put the game firmly in their control. The team added two more runs in the third inning, cementing their victory in the opener.

Complementing their strong offensive showing, Lady Greenwave played solid defense throughout the first game. The team committed no errors, demonstrating a well-rounded effort



Angelina Fillmore at bat with Kalaya Downs in the background.



Kanani Mauga winding up at the plate against South Tahoe. Photos courtesy of Carrie Sheldon-Davis.



Zoey Sheldon-Davis fielding.

that contributed to their decisive win.

In the second game, the Lady Greenwave continued their offensive dominance with an explosive start, scoring 12 runs in the first inning. Their momentum carried into the bottom of the second, where they tallied nine additional runs on eight hits, showcasing their consistent power at the plate.

Defensively, Lady Greenwave played a flawless second game, handling every opportunity cleanly and finishing the contest without committing a single error.

With these two impressive victories, Fallon has built early momentum as league play gets underway. The Lady Greenwave's dominant performances not only reinforce their strong start to the season but also strengthen their position as a serious contender for postseason action.

Looking ahead, Lady Greenwave will have the opportunity to continue its winning streak when they host the Truckee Wolverines at home on March 3.

The team added two more runs in the third inning, cementing their victory in the opener.

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Oasis Academy Fourth at Stampede; Six Champions Crowned



Stetson Starr of Oasis Academy celebrates after winning his weight class at the Tah Neva Stampede wrestling tournament at Rafter 3C Arena on Friday, Feb. 27. Photo courtesy of Evan Brandt.

Staff Report

The Oasis Academy Middle School wrestling team placed fourth overall out of 12 teams at the Tah Neva Stampede, held Friday, Feb. 27, at Rafter 3C Arena.

Six wrestlers captured individual championships for the Bighorns: Preston Gurr, Kypton Maynez, Zayden Maynez, Connor Tolman, Stetson Starr, and Emily Varain.

Oasis also had a strong showing from its runners-up. Liam Abe, Baylee Aust, Zaidan Martin, Zavier Martin, Bradley Smith, Weston Starr, Liliana Freeman, and Kaidan Ybarra each earned second-place medals.

Rounding out the podium finishes, Beau Kniestedt and Cole Wood both took third place in their respective weight classes.

SPORTS

Greenwave Youth Wrestling Club Earns Historic Second Place at Regional Tournament



Greenwave Youth Wrestling Club morning finalists in the 6U, 8U, and 10U divisions gather for a group photo during the regional tournament at Rafter 3C Arena in Fallon. Photos courtesy of Greenwave Youth Wrestling Club.



Greenwave Youth Wrestling Club morning finalists in the 6U, 8U, and 10U divisions gather for a group photo during the regional tournament at Rafter 3C Arena in Fallon.

Staff Report

The Greenwave Youth Wrestling Club (GYWC) clinched its best-ever finish at the regional wrestling tournament Saturday, Feb. 28, placing second among 39 teams at Rafter 3C Arena.

Fielding the largest squad in the competition with 54 wrestlers, GYWC accumulated 430.5 points, trailing only Nevada Elite's 451 points. Only the top 20 wrestlers from each club counted toward the final score in the event, which drew 609 athletes from across the region.

GYWC led for much of the tournament, displaying depth and talent before Nevada Elite surged in the closing matches to secure first place. The runner-up finish marks GYWC's first time reaching the regional podium as a team.

"GYWC has never placed at regionals as a team," head coach Jordan Mize said. "This is a huge step forward for the club as we continue to build athletes, wrestlers, and good humans. This year has been filled with several firsts for our club, and we want to keep that trend going. We will continue to work hard this week as we prepare to carry this momentum into the USA Nevada Wrestling State Tournament this weekend, March 7, at the 3C Arena."

Sixteen GYWC wrestlers advanced to the finals, with 10 capturing regional championships. First-place finishers were Georgio O'Donnell, Daxton Ritchie, Colt Johnson, Hunter Romero, Axel Odle, Bennet Persyn, Giavanna O'Donnell, Emily Harmon, Madelyn Johnson, and Anna Lewis.

Second-place finishers included Alexia Macias,

Brody Middleton, Anakin Ross, Lyncoln Salazar, Cole Pierce, Constance Wathen, Adelynn Munoz, and Joeslyn McFadden. Third-place honors went to Chad Munoz, Elijah Harmon, Davinie Ross, and Harper Ritchie, while Noah Nugent, Mya Carter, Tripp Prinz, Joseph Benitez, Bryan Odle, Joveneti Ugalde, and Ayden Harrison finished fourth.

The club continues to grow, with an emphasis on developing not just athletes, but teamwork, discipline, and sportsmanship, according to club officials.

For more information on off-season training, visit fallonyouthwrestling.org, stop by the gym at 150 Industrial Way in Fallon, Monday through Thursday at 5 p.m., email greenwavewrestling-club@gmail.com, or call 775-217-3151.

CCHS Track Team Shines at Fernley Sticker Meet

Staff Report

The Churchill County High School Greenwave varsity track teams delivered an impressive performance at the Fernley Sticker Meet on Saturday, February 28, in Fernley, Nevada, with several athletes capturing first-place finishes and podium spots across multiple events.

Leading the charge, Bransyn Wright swept the 100 and 200-meter dash finals, clocking 11.55 and 23.30 seconds, respectively. The boys' varsity 4x100-meter relay team—Nathaniel Boanchi, Wright, Wyatt Dixon, and Braydon Coldwell—also claimed first place, further highlighting the Greenwave's standout showing.

Other notable results included Boyd Phipps, who finished third in the 400-meter dash finals with a time of 56.93 seconds. Leo Arcoraci and William James Lofthouse came in fifth and sixth in the 800-meter run finals, while Arcoraci took third in the 1600-meter run and Jarret Ugalde Torres earned third in the 3200-meter run finals.

Field events saw strong performances from Dequan Wallace, who placed second in the boys' high jump finals with a five foot, six inch leap and sixth in the long jump with a 16 foot, 11 inch jump. Jaeshon Pearson secured second in the triple jump, with Keyon Wilson taking fourth. Lofthouse and Tejae Edie finished third and fourth in the pole vault finals. Jason Lewis rounded out the boys' field events with a sixth-place finish in the shot put.

On the girls' side, Keily Ugalde placed sixth in the 400-meter dash finals. Casandra Hooper finished fifth in the girls' varsity 800-meter run finals. In the girls' varsity 1600-meter run finals, Aubrey Strickland and Casandra Hooper took fifth and sixth place, respectively. Hooper and Strickland also earned third and fourth place in the girls' varsity 3200-meter run finals.

The girls' varsity 4x100-meter relay team—Lillian Souza, Maliyah Saili, Alexa Hessey, and Alcantar—took second place. Saili also placed fifth in the long jump finals. In the discus finals, Katelyn Glinka, Alexianna Gomes-Malama, and Anaya Barber finished fourth through sixth, respectively, with Glinka earning second in the shot put finals.

The Greenwave's robust showing at Fernley signals a strong start to their track and field season, with both boys' and girls' teams demonstrating depth and talent across sprints, distance, relays, and field events.

Fallon Outlaws Make Strong Showing at Rumble in Reno



Kaidan Ybarra named Outstanding Wrestler for his performance.



Tyrese Bliss, gold medalist, left, with teammate Hudson Brandt. Photos courtesy of Evan Brandt.

Staff Report

The Fallon Outlaws Wrestling Club delivered a standout performance at the Rocky Mountain Nationals: Rumble in Reno, held Feb. 21 at the Reno-Sparks Livestock Events Center. Several club members earned top honors in one of the region's toughest youth wrestling tournaments.

Coach Evan Brandt said the event provided valuable experience ahead of state competition, praising his athletes for their resilience and sportsmanship. "It was a tough tournament, but we are lucky to have an event like this locally to help prepare for state. The competition was excellent, and our kids wrestled tough and represented our club well," Brandt said.

Kaidan was named Outstanding Wrestler for his performance, while Tyrese brought home a gold medal. Lucas and Clay each earned fifth-place finishes, and Chael claimed a silver medal. Easton secured both a silver and a bronze, while Baylee finished fifth and Remi added a bronze to the club's tally.

Additional placers included Finn (two fourth-place finishes), Emmett (fourth), Landon (fourth), Liam (fourth), Kayden (fifth), Mickey (fifth), Patricia (two sixth-place finishes), Anthony (sixth), Cole (sixth), and Lyncoln (sixth).

The Fallon Outlaws Wrestling Club continues its season with an eye on state competition, building on the momentum from Rumble in Reno and the experience gained against top regional athletes.

Several club members earned top honors in one of the region's toughest youth wrestling tournaments.

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COLUMNS

What's Cooking in Kelli's Kitchen Caesar Salad Beef Carpaccio

By Erik Jimenez, in for Kelli Kelly

Too often, many fine dining restaurants have been charging outrageous prices for relatively simple meals. For this week's recipe, I'm striving to show home cooks how easy it is to prepare Michelin-star dishes without leaving the house.

There is no dish more luxurious than a steakhouse-style beef carpaccio. Even though raw beef can be intimidating to some, if you use high-quality beef tenderloin, you can experience a fine-dining classic within minutes at home.

Traditionally, beef carpaccio is pounded very thinly and topped with anchovies, garlic aioli, and shreds of Parmesan cheese. Since all of these ingredients are the main components of a classic Caesar salad, we are simplifying the process here to combine them into an emulsion to top the beef.

To prevent foodborne illness, I highly recommend using the highest-quality beef available for this recipe. For people in Churchill County, Momma's Meat Company serves some of the highest quality beef available.

By using a tortilla press, we will easily press the beef until it is paper-thin for a perfect date night appetizer. Once the beef is pressed, dress it with the homemade Caesar dressing, capers, fresh tomatoes, lemon juice, and flaky salt.

Not only is this dish stunning in terms of presentation, but it's also absolutely delicious. I hope you enjoy.

Ingredients

- 6 oz. of high-quality filet mignon
- 1 Garlic clove
- 1 Egg yolk
- 2 Oil-packed anchovies
- 1/2 cup Grated parmesan cheese
- 1/4 tsp. Kosher salt
- 1/4 tsp. Black pepper
- 2 tbsp. Lemon juice
- 1/3 cup Vegetable oil



- 2 tbsp. Water
- 1 cup Arugula
- 1 tbsp. Extra-virgin olive oil
- 3 oz. Cherry tomatoes, cut into quarters
- 2 tbsp. Capers
- Flake salt to taste

DIRECTIONS

1. Make the Caesar dressing. Combine garlic clove, anchovies, parmesan, kosher salt, black pepper, and lemon juice, and egg yolk in a food processor. Pulse until incorporated.
2. While running the food processor, stream vegetable oil into the machine until the Caesar is well emulsified. Mix 1-2 tbsp. of water into the mixture until it is thin enough to move to a squeeze bottle.

3. Transfer Caesar dressing to a squeeze bottle.
4. Toss arugula with 1 tbsp. of extra virgin olive oil and kosher salt to taste. Set aside.
5. While cold, slice thick pieces of the filet with the grain. Using a tortilla press and two pieces of parchment paper, press the sliced filet slices until paper thin.
6. Remove the filet slices and transfer to the serving plate. Gradually layer capers on top of the beef. Place cut cherry tomatoes over the beef mixture.
7. Using a squeeze bottle drizzle some of the Caesar dressing on top of the beef.
8. Top beef with dressed arugula and sprinkle with flaky salt to taste.

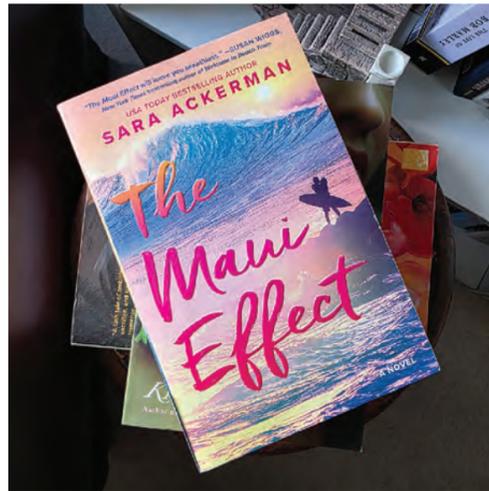
Allison's Book Report: "The Maui Effect" By Sara Ackerman

By Allison Diegel

If you've been following along, I have been working my way through the stack of books that I brought home from my trip to Hawaii in January, and this week's pick, *The Maui Effect* by Sara Ackerman, is a real pick-me-up while we wait for spring to finally show up here at home.

This book is more than just a typical beach read; it is a soulful exploration of the magnetic pull of home and the way old secrets have a habit of washing up on shore just when you least expect them. 'Iwa Young is a dedicated field biologist who finds her sanctuary in the lush, remote rainforests of Maui. 'Iwa is a woman deeply defined by her connection to the land, spending her days tracking endangered species and her nights singing at her father's restaurant. Her peaceful, purposeful existence is suddenly threatened when a developer arrives with plans to build a massive "eco-resort" right in the heart of the forest she has spent her life protecting.

'Iwa is prepared to throw every ounce of her energy into stopping the project, but her focus is unexpectedly tested by the arrival of Dane Parsons - a world-class big-wave surfer from California, a man whose life is dictated by the



pulse of the ocean and the pursuit of the next massive swell. For 'Iwa, Dane represents everything she tries to avoid; she even has a self-imposed rule at the very top of her list: never date a surfer. However, Dane is captivated by 'Iwa from the moment he hears her sing, and he eventually earns a place in her world by offering his help to save her beloved forest. Their

burgeoning relationship creates a fascinating contrast between the stillness of the mountains and the sea's raw, thunderous power.

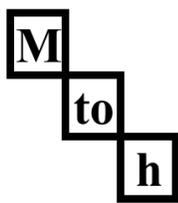
As the narrative unfolds, the story moves beyond the shores of Hawaii, taking the reader on a global journey to iconic surfing spots like Mavericks in California and the massive breaks in Portugal. Ackerman expertly balances the blossoming romance with the intense reality of professional surfing and the high stakes of environmental activism. The book doesn't shy away from heavy themes, either, touching on the physical and emotional toll of extreme sports and the grief that both 'Iwa and Dane carry from the loss of their mothers. Ultimately, *The Maui Effect* is a love letter to the natural world and a story about two people from vastly different worlds finding common ground.

Grab this book this week and be transported to a sunny island – and don't forget to pop over to my Instagram @allison.the.reader for more book recommendations!

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

Crossword

By Peanut

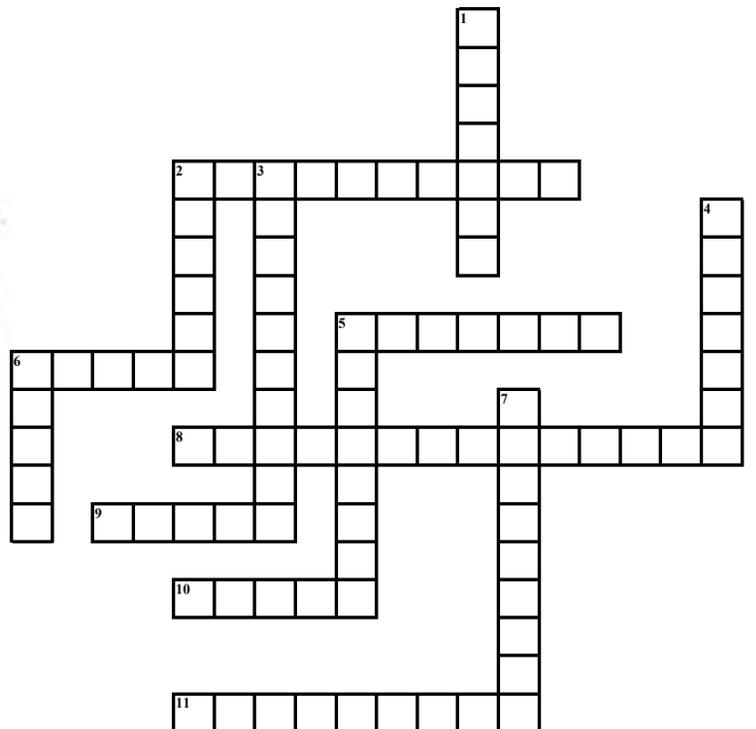


Across

2. Early copy machine
5. Savior
6. Joy
8. Heart movements reader
9. Resin with frankincense
10. Troop parade
11. More than hundredth

Down

1. Sow's fav spa treatment
2. Bucks, dinero
3. Brit slicker
4. King, butterfly
5. Dolmen, menhir
6. Crunch
7. Scope, Listerine



[Crossword answers found on page 16]

COLUMNS

Postcards: A Maine Street Memory

By Michon Mackedon

I am reading through some previous editions of “In Focus,” as the Churchill County Museum prepares to launch another edition this coming summer. I have found that if I set aside a piece of literature, news, or history and return to it later, I read it with new perspectives and fresh eyes. Such was the case when I reread a delightful memoir about growing up on Fallon’s Maine Street in the 1930s and 1940s (“In Focus,” Volume 10, 1996-97). The author is Mary Nevada (Walker) Lambert, and the title of the article is “Maine Street Brat.” She gives us views of the alleys, back streets, and behind-the-scenes characters that give life and color to history.

Lambert: “I was raised, with my sister, Evelyn (Keller Locke) and my brother, Bob, in our mother’s photo studio [her mother was Mary Walker Foster] on Maine Street, Fallon. [The studio was a couple of doors north of the Fallon Theatre.]

...One thing different about living on Maine Street was our unique play area, not the usual front and back yard of the average child. We had the back alley and the roofs of adjoining businesses—all perfect for imaginary adventures. We spent hours of fun with the scraps of paper from the neighboring newspaper office [located in the first block of East Williams Avenue on the south side...a large brick building still standing.] The paper was used as play money, plane tickets or boat tickets for journeys into exotic imaginary lands, such as darkest Africa or the Far East.

...The garbage of the variety store (Sprouse-Reitz) [on the southeast corner of Maine Street and Center Street] offered all kinds of adventures when we found broken dolls, dishes, doll furniture, colored yarns, ribbons, material, jewelry, etc. One time the store manager told our mother that he had one doll and one doll crib left in stock and he put them in the garbage for the girls.

...At that time there were a lot of homeless men, hobos, who made the rounds of all the alleys looking through the garbage. I don’t remember having any fear of them. The common remark concerning them was, ‘They lost everything they had in the crash,’ meaning the Wall Street Crash in 1929. Who knows if it was

true or not. Nearly all the remarks I heard concerning them were compassionate. One never went to the hobo town along the railroad tracks, but I never knew of any being cruel to those homeless men. A lot of the men were always accompanied by one or more dogs. They were a common sight to see us playing in the alleys. We knew several of the dogs by name, and visited with the men as they made their rounds. One of the dogs that we called ‘Whiskers’ showed up at our door for years.

...Fallon, like many other rural Nevada communities, had a red light district [approximately North Taylor and B Street area], which advertised houses of prostitution. Before the “girls” could get their business licenses to work they had to have their picture taken for a file at the Sheriff’s Office. When they came to Mother’s studio, they were usually accompanied by the madam of the house. Once when they came, Mother had been making dresses for my sister and me. The sewing machine was open and material was out on the sewing table. When the madam saw the work in progress she commented to mother that she had a lot of dress material and she would like to give to Mother to make dresses for us children. Not wanting to be rude, Mother accepted her kind offer, although she wondered if the material would be appropriate for little girls’ dresses. When the material arrived it was new yardage with designs for children. Mother accepted it for what it was, a gesture from one working woman to help another hard working woman.

...Life on Maine Street was interesting and good.”

I have room to bring you only a few excerpts here. In any case, the first time I read Lambert’s memoir, I read it as her adventure story, complete with a historical view of Maine Street and its businesses. This time, I relished it for its examples of neighborliness, sincerity, kindness, and compassion, which I hope are still part of our story today.

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.

Movies & More

By Kelli Perez



Movie “Black Beauty” (1994).

The arrival of spring has brought sunshine and energy to the community, and March is already shaping up to be a busy month at the Fallon Theatre. As the calendar fills up, organizers hope patrons will join them for an evening or two—the doors are open, and there’s always a seat waiting.

This weekend, the theatre offers two distinct films. On Friday and Saturday at 6 p.m., audiences can watch “Black Beauty” (1994). The G-rated film tells the beloved story of a horse’s life from his perspective, chronicling his journey through joy and hardship. The movie runs for 1 hour, 28 minutes.

For those seeking something different, “McLintock!” (1963) screens at 7 p.m. both evenings. This Western comedy stars John Wayne as George Washington McIntock, a cattle baron navigating family drama and political intrigue. Rated PG, the film runs 2 hours, 7 minutes, and is known for its lively humor and cast.

Preparations are nearly complete for the Heritage of the West event, scheduled for Saturday afternoon. Volunteers have been working behind the scenes to ensure a lively showcase. The program will feature performers, storytellers, and special guests celebrating the music, history, and traditions that have

shaped the region. The celebration wraps up with a free Lincoln Highway Band concert at 4:30 p.m.

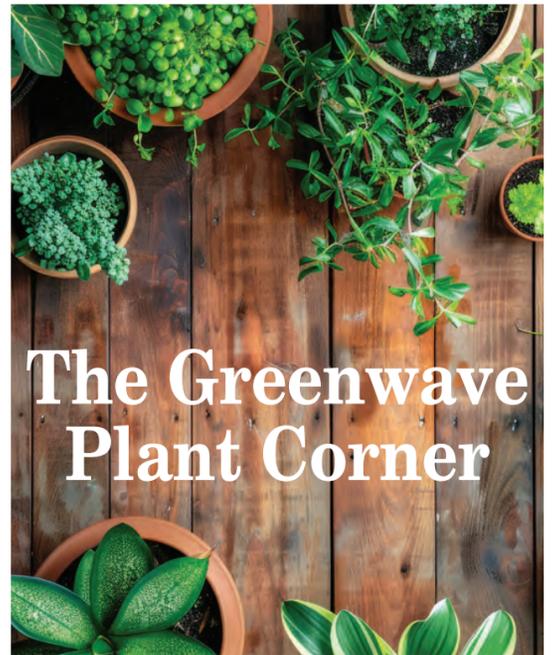
On Sunday, March 8, the theatre will host the inaugural Oasis Film Festival with the theme “America 250.” The festival invites filmmakers to submit short films—PG-rated and no longer than 15 minutes. Every entry will be screened, and the event concludes with an awards ceremony at 5 p.m., recognizing Best Picture, Best Acting, and Best Storyline. The festival is open to filmmakers and film lovers, providing a platform for local storytelling.

Behind the scenes, new laser projectors have been installed, delivering improved image quality with sharper detail and vibrant colors. Also, new seating has been completed in the lower theatre, and further upgrades are planned for the upper theatre later this year. These improvements aim to provide a more comfortable and welcoming environment, thanks to dedicated volunteers.

Looking ahead, the Toiyabe Chamber Music Society returns with the Loneliest Road Chamber Music Project on Saturday, May 16, at 7 p.m. The event features the Berkeley String Quartet from Berkeley, California, performing Schubert’s “Death and the Maiden,” a new work by Daniel Darnesin Flanagan, and a Beethoven quartet, all with projected images. Admission is by donation, and children are welcome.

Summer brings Ventura Highway – The Music of America to the Fallon Theatre on Saturday, July 18, at 8 p.m. This tribute show celebrates the sound and harmonies of America, promising a fun and nostalgic evening. Tickets are \$10.

The Fallon Theatre team remains committed to offering free movie screenings whenever possible, ensuring the community can enjoy a night out together. The concession stand will be stocked with treats like popcorn and candy. For rentals or marquee messages, call 775-423-6210 or email thefallontheatre@gmail.com.



Story and photo by Isabel Linares

Hello. My name is Isabel Linares, and I am a senior in Advanced Plants at Churchill County High School. Growing in plant systems has helped me find my next steps. I am going to Brigham Young University, Idaho, in the fall to major in horticulture. After that, I plan on becoming a florist. I have always had a love for flowers, but I hadn’t ever thought about it as a career. I took a career quiz that gave job recommendations that would work with my personality, and “florist” came up. The more I thought about it, the more perfect and exciting that sounded to me. I decided to sign up for the amazing plant systems class and immediately fell in love with all things horticulture. Planting seeds that sprouted, grew, and eventually blossomed made me so happy. I hope to share that feeling with future customers when I am a florist.

I am so proud of my little seedlings and look forward to seeing their growth every time I enter the greenhouses. My top favorites to grow are, of course, flowers. Currently, I have some exceptionally beautiful purple Chinese houses (*Collinsia heterophylla*) that are blossoming, which I grew from seed. Although they are called Chinese houses, they are actually an annual wildflower that is native to California. The common name comes from the flower’s whorled shape, which is said to resemble tiny pagodas. I have many other flowers growing from seed, such as carnations, hollyhocks, primroses, and more. I also love growing herbs because I get to learn about them firsthand and their uses (hello, future bouquets). At my table in the greenhouse, I also have thriving rosemary and thyme.



I have had struggles getting rosemary to germinate in the past. The key is being patient. I now love challenging plants. According to Mrs. Sammons, rosemary can be a tricky seed to start, so I am especially proud of these seedlings. Last year, when I was part of Plant Systems 1, I had some dill that grew to two to three feet. I didn’t know how tall dill could get, so I was very shocked by its height.

Recently, I had the fun opportunity to study with a master florist (and Plant Systems adopted mom). Kim Urso from Yellow Petal Flower Farm invited students from plant systems and the FFA floriculture team to help her decorate 60 tables at the Rafter 3C for the recent Joe Nichols concert. I loved the opportunity to work as a team and decorate on such a large scale. We also made our community a little extra beautiful.

Because I plan to major in horticulture, this class has given me an amazing head start. I have learned that growing plants takes time and work. I have learned so many terms I wouldn’t have known before. I can also identify a wide range of plants, including trees, when I am in nature. And I have a much better understanding of what a specific plant needs to survive, because no two species are the same. Each plant is special in its own way, and plant systems is a wonderful way to learn it!

LEGAL NOTICES

Case No.: CVFT2026-0016

**IN THE FALLON TRIBAL COURT
IN AND FOR THE FALLON PAIUTE-SHOSHONE TRIBE**

**In the Matter of the Application of:
JAYLEN MANNING
(PARENT'S NAME(S))**

**For Change of Name
of the Minor Child:
Jazlynn Rose Lopez (Child's Name)**

**NOTICE OF PETITION
FOR LEGAL NAME CHANGE
OF MINOR CHILD**

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that any person objecting to the changing of Petitioner's name as noted above shall file written objection with the above-entitled Court within 10 days after the date of the last publication of this Notice.

Jazlynn Rose Lopez
(first) (middle) (last)

to (requested new name):

Jazlynn Rose Manning
(first) (middle) (last)

DATED: March 2, 2026
Printed Name: Jaylen Manning

Published in
The Fallon Post
March 6, 2026
Ad #6438

**NOTICE OF CHANGE
OF TIME OF REGULARLY
SCHEDULED COUNTY
COMMISSION MEETINGS**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to NRS 244.085, the Churchill County Commissioners have changed the TIME of their second meeting, which occurs on the third Wednesday of every month, from 1:15 p.m. to 8:15 a.m., effective with the meeting on March 18, 2026.

Pamela D. Moore
Deputy Clerk to the Board

Published in
The Fallon Post
Feb. 27, Mar. 6, and 13, 2026
Ad #6433

**MEETINGS
February 26 – March 19, 2026**

Board of County Commissioners
Meets the first Thursday and third Wednesday of each month
155 N. Taylor Street
Next Meeting: March 18 at 8:15 a.m.

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

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

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

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



CROSSWORD ANSWERS

Crossword found on page 14

MACKINTOSH	MOOLAH
MARCH	MOUTHWASH
MEGALITH	MUDBATH
MESSIAH	MUNCH
MILLIONTH	MYOCARDIO-
MIMEOGRAPH	GRAPH
MIRTH	MYRRH
MONARCH	



WATER LEVELS

Measurements Taken March 2, at 9 a.m.

Lahontan Reservoir	197,500 af
Carson River Below Lahontan	3.22 cfs
Truckee Canal at Wadsworth	0.00 cfs
Truckee Canal at Hazen	66.1 cfs
Carson River at Ft. Churchill	1,420 cfs

April 2, 2024	April 2, 2023	April 2, 2022
253,185 acre feet	131,440 acre feet	108,476 acre feet

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

Prepared Meals

William Pennington Life Center
Monday through Friday (hot lunch),
11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
952 S. Maine St.
Free over 60

Fallon NAZ
Wednesdays (dinner), 5 to 6 p.m.
1520 Grimes St.

Wolf Center (Fallon Daily Bread)
Mondays and Thursdays (dinner), 5 to 6 p.m.
457 Esmeralda St.

Back Porch next to Wolf Center
Wednesdays and Saturdays (sack lunches)
10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
280 E. Stillwater Ave.

Oasis Community Church
Tuesdays (breakfast), 7 to 8:30 a.m.
1520 S. Maine St.

Christian Life Center
Thursdays (dinner), 5 to 6 p.m.
1435 Kaiser St.

Food and Commodity Pantries

Epworth Community Food Pantry
Mondays, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
457 Esmeralda St.

FBNN Mobile Harvest Produce
Second Thursdays, 9 to 10:30 a.m.
William Pennington Life Center, 952 S. Maine St.

New Frontier Food Pantry
Mondays, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
1490 Grimes St.

Commodities, William Pennington Life Center
Fourth Thursdays, 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
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Thursdays, 9:30 to 11 a.m.
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290 W. Williams Ave.
Lobby of Churchill County Sheriff's Office,
180 W. A St.
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457 Esmeralda St.
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Commodities, New Frontier Food Pantry
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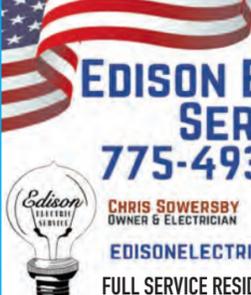
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