THE FALLON POST



KEEPING YOU POSTED ON LOCAL NEWS

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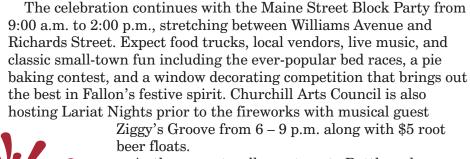
Fallon Gears Up for a "Bee-autiful" Fourth of July

Parade, Block Party, and Fireworks Celebrate Patriotism and Pollinators

Get ready to don your red, white, and blue (and maybe a few stripes and wings, too)—the City of Fallon is buzzing with excitement for this year's Fourth of July celebration!

Set for Friday, July 4, 2025, the festivities include all the fan favorites: the beloved Independence Day Parade, the lively Maine Street Block Party, and a grand finale fireworks show at dusk. This year's theme, "America the Bee-autiful," pays tribute to our local beekeepers and the vital role bees play in

The Fourth of July Parade kicks off at 10:00 a.m., following its traditional route down Williams Avenue and Maine Street, wrapping up at Oats Park. Community groups, clubs, and local families are encouraged to get creative, decorate your floats, tractors, ATVs, and horses with stars, stripes, and a touch of honeybee magic.



As the sun sets, all eyes turn to Rattlesnake

Raceway, where a spectacular fireworks show will light up the night sky, Fallon's grand salute to America's birthday.

"Fallon's Fourth of July brings people together in the best way possible with tradition, pride, and community," said Mayor Ken Tedford. "We hope everyone will come out and celebrate the unique character and spirit of our town."





Nevada's agriculture and ecosystems.

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SUBSCRIPTIONS OR ADDRESS CHANGE

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FROM THE PUBLISHER

Captain's Log

Our People

By Rachel Dahl

I had the coolest chat with one of my friends last week. We were at an event—something I've avoided like the plague for several years now, giving in to my excruciating social anxiety and cheating myself out of the gift of spending time with people I dearly love.

Walking into said event, I ran into a gal I haven't seen in forever and four days, and we were joking about how we would rather be jamming ice picks in our left eyes than going in this place to "people." We talked about how bad we hate to go out, how silly that is, and how we always have so much fun and are so glad once we go, relax, and quit being ridiculous about it.

From the edge of the room, a quick scan of the crowd helped me target a friend, and I slipped over to where she sat at a big table. Soon other friends were coming over to chat and sit, and the visiting got going full force. Another friend, fairly new to Fallon, settled in, and in our story-swapping, shared how much he was enjoying himself and how much he loved Fallon.

"I've found my people," he said, with a calm and peaceful smile and a nod of his head.

He started naming the friends he's made and how comfortable he is here. It was really quite lovely to hear how much he appreciated each of these new friends, as well as all we are—that he actually felt a part of the community and was genuinely glad to be here.

What a sweet sentiment.

And so different from a recent, cowardly anonymous Facebook post where the author



asked on a community page, "What's the worst thing about living in Fallon?"

I love that not very far into the numerous comments were several responses focused on all the good we have and are.

So, while we enjoy the terrific life we all have here in this community, we'll be eternally grateful for all of you—all our people and we'll be right here...

... Keeping you Posted.

Nevada's Sweetest Tradition Returns

Cantaloupe Festival & Country Fair Set for August 22-24

By Rachel Dahl

Get ready for three jam-packed days of family fun, fresh melons, and small-town magic, because the Cantaloupe Festival & Country Fair is back at the 3C Event Complex from August 22 to 24.



Debbie Workman with Workman Farms. Photo courtesy of CFCF.

Presented by CC Communications, the festival is one of Nevada's longest-running and most beloved traditions, bringing together agricultural pride, carnival thrills, and a community spirit that just keeps

This year's theme? Pure celebration of Fallon, of farming, and of cantaloupe, of course.

Whether you're coming for the tractor pulls or the funnel cakes, there's something for everyone across the weekend. The festival kicks off Friday at 1 p.m. and runs through Sunday at 5 p.m., with extended evening hours Friday and Saturday for the night owls.

YOU'LL FIND:

- A Kids Zone full of excitement and hands-on activities
- Local vendors and handmade goods
- Tractor and truck pulls, livestock exhibits, and farm displays
- The return of the Cutest Cowboy and Cowgirl Contest
- Live music to dance the night away And woven throughout the weekend:

cantaloupe, cantaloupe! From melon-themed treats and drinks to fresh produce from local growers, the fruit that made Fallon famous is front and center.

A new fan favorite returns this year, the Agriculture Experience, a fun and educational journey through the heart of Nevada farming. It's designed for all ages to get hands-on with the science, technology, and traditions behind our rural lifestyle. It's the perfect blend of learning and play.

CARNIVAL WRISTBANDS = UNLIMITED

The carnival is back and bigger than ever, running all three days of the festival. Unlimited ride wristbands will be available for \$40 (presale online) or \$45 at the ticket box. Wristbands are sold per day and only during select hours:

- Friday, Aug. 22: 4–10 p.m.
- Saturday, Aug. 23: 4-11 p.m.

Grab pre-sale tickets before noon on Aug. 21 at FallonCantaloupeFestival.com/tickets.

Rev It Up: The Car & Bike Show Returns

On Saturday, Aug. 23, the lot outside the 3C Event Complex will be shining with chrome and rumbling with horsepower. The Car & Bike Show, hosted by Rustoration Garage, invites classic car lovers and motorcycle enthusiasts to show off their rides.

Check-in begins at 8:30 a.m., with the show starting at 9 a.m. and awards at 1 p.m. Registration is \$30 in advance or \$35 on the day of the show. Register at RustorationGarage.net.

CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS

Events like this don't happen without the heart and hustle of community volunteers. If you're looking to get involved, there's still time to sign up and lend a hand. From ticket booths to contest support, your help makes the fair a success. Visit FallonCantaloupeFestival.com/volunteer to get started.

Mark your calendars, grab your hat, and bring the whole family out to the 2025 Fallon Cantaloupe Festival & Country Fair. It's not just an event, it's a taste of everything we

love about rural Nevada. More details, tickets, and updates available at FallonCantaloupeFestival.com.

FEATURES

Churchill County School District Welcomes Four New Administrators

Staff Report

The Churchill County School District is ushering in the 2025–2026 school year with four new administrators—some familiar, some brand-new to town—but all bring a deep commitment to students, staff, and the wider Fallon community. Here's a closer look at the newest members of the team:

SHANNON URQUHART

Coordinator of Student Services



Shannon Urquhart, Coordinator of Student Services.

A Fallon native, Urquhart is a 1998 Churchill County High School graduate and attended the University of Nevada Reno. She spent her career working with students on the autism spectrum, and her expertise has taken her everywhere from local schools to international conferences. After earning her master's in educational administration, she traveled across Nevada offering professional development, coached interscholastic horse shows and volunteered with Autism on the Seas.

Now back in her hometown, Urquhart is ready to partner with local educators and families. When she's not supporting stu-

dents, you might find her riding horses or cheering on her nieces and nephews at 4-H shows or trap shoots.

TRICIA STRASDIN

Dean of Students, Churchill County High School

Tricia Strasdin spent the past eight years serving as a Churchill County School District board trustee, all while holding a teaching position in Fernley. She is also a graduate of CCHS. Strasdin said her goal is to make sure every student knows they're seen, supported, and surrounded by staff who truly care.

Strasdin comes from a big Fallon family and is about to become a first-time grandmother. When she's not at school, you'll likely find her camping, reading historical fiction, or planning her next Disneyland trip.



Tricia Strasdin, CCHS Dean of Students.

HEATHER ALVES

Vice Principal, Churchill County Middle School



Heather Alves, CCMS Vice Principal.

Raised in California, Alves earned her bachelor's degree in psychology from Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo, and later completed her teaching credentials. She most recently earned a master's degree in educational leadership.

Alves taught in California before the family relocated to Fallon to start a dairy. She taught in Lyon County for several years, then came to Churchill County where she has been a second-grade teacher at E.C. Bost

Outside of her professional pursuits, Alves enjoys spending time with family

and friends, taking road trips, and staying active.

TRENT VASS

Vice Principal, Churchill County Middle School

Trent Vass, native of Lompoc, Calif., played college baseball in Arizone and North Carolina before he served with the U.S. Army's 82nd Airborne Division. Following his service, Vass earned an education degree from UNR followed by two master degrees.

He taught at Hug High School in Reno working with students with emotional and behavioral challenges. Later he stepped into leadership roles in Reno at a charter and middle school.

Now he's landed at CCMS, where he hopes to build strong, respectful relationships with students and families.



Trent Vass, CCMS Vice Principal.

Off campus, Vass enjoys exploring the outdoors, shooting sports and golf course.

Superintendent Derild Parsons said the district is fortunate to bring such a dynamic group on board.

"We are thrilled to welcome these talented leaders to our administrative team. Each of them brings unique strengths, dedication, and a shared commitment to supporting our students, staff, and families. I am confident that they will make a positive and lasting impact not only in our schools, but in our community," Superintendent Derild Parsons said.

J&K Llamas Nursery Closes

After 36 Years in Business

By Nancy Chapman

Jerry and Kathy Whitten Llamas have made the difficult decision to close J&K Llamas Landscape & Nursery, Inc. and Gift Shop after 40 wonderful years of operation. They plan to semi-retire by ending the nursery business to the public on July 3 and focus on lawn care services throughout the remainder of this season.

Raised in lawn and nursery care by his father, Jerry Llamas Sr., it was inevitable that Jerry would start his own business. He initially planned to move to Reno, but meeting Kathy in 1988 changed his plans

to Reno, but meeting Kathy in 1988 changed his plans. They married and started J&K Llamas Landscape & Nursery at their home on Mt. View Drive in 1989. Over time, they expanded until the business occupied nearly an entire block. Eventually, Kathy suggested moving to a larger location due to their growth.

The Llamas' started their business while both still worked full-time, Jerry at NAS Fallon and Kathy as a nurse at Banner Hospital. Once the business required full-time attention, Jerry began working at the store. Their three children learned a strong work ethic early, helping Jerry with tasks before school. He joked that his son worked



Kathy and Jerry Llamas. Photo courtesy Jerry Llamas.

harder than the girls on projects, which might have traumatized him.

"I loved riding with him while he mowed lawns, learning the value of hard work and customer service through my very first job," said daughter Krista. "We had the business name on the backs of all my sports team uniforms and I watched how a small business can make a big impact in its community."

J&K Llamas Landscape & Nursery opened its doors on the Reno Highway in 2004 after purchasing the property in 2003. It was fully licensed, insured and bonded to care for developing properties. A few years later, they expanded their business once again from 2.25 acres to 3.50 acres to accommodate growth. They added bulk bins, a larger area for trees and ornamental plants, and added a maintenance shop for the lawn care service.

For the next 21 years, Jerry and Kathy made the nursery an important part of Fallon's growth by

landscaping properties, installing sprinkler systems, and customizing each property to the owner's specifications.

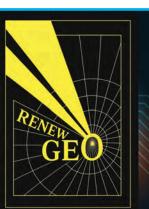
As time progresses and life evolves, many individuals learn the importance of family. The desire to spend more time with their children, grandchildren, relatives and each other – whether vacationing to their dream location Italy, going to Mexico, or taking their RV and traveling – led them to make the difficult decision to bid farewell to JK Llamas Landscape & Nursery. They plan to keep Fallon as their home as they step into the next chapter of their lives.

Thank you to the following companies that have helped support RenewGeo - Salt Wells, NV

RenewGeo is a clean energy technology company developing hybrid solar thermal and geothermal systems to deliver 24/7 carbon-free power using thermal storage. Its approach leverages proven drilling and heat exchange methods to create a reliable, dispatchable renewable energy source designed to replace fossil fuel baseload generation.

Homestretch Geothermal and Cory Egbert Valley Electric Baker Hughes Mills Industrial and Grant Mills Jim Menesini Petroleum Nevada Energy Systems

Davison Van Cleve and Curt Ledford



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Fallon Theatre Movies & More

By Kelli Perez



July is here, and we're kicking off the month with a mix of classic charm and animated comedy at the Fallon Theatre! As always, admission to our weekly movies is free, concessions are open, and we've brought back \$5 soda floats to help you stay cool all summer long!

This Friday and Saturday at 6 pm, join us for the Bee Movie (2007), a lighthearted and quirky animated tale starring Jerry Seinfeld as Barry B. Benson, a bee who decides to sue the human race for stealing honey. This family-friendly adventure is rated PG and runs 1 hour and 31 minutes. We're showing Bee Movie on the Fourth of July in celebration of this year's parade theme: "America the Bee-autiful!" Special thanks to Digitex Printing for sponsoring this screening!

Then at 7 pm, we're going back in time with the celebrated classic Mr. Smith Goes to Washington (1939), starring Jimmy Stewart. This timeless political drama follows an idealistic senator fighting corruption in Washington D.C. and remains one of the most iconic American films ever made. It has a runtime of 2 hours and 9 minutes.

Looking ahead to Friday, July 18 at 7 pm, we're teaming up with the Toiyabe Chamber Music Society to present The Bow and the Brush, a one-of-a-kind performance by internationally acclaimed violinist Dan Flanagan. Currently on faculty at UC Berkeley, Dan pairs original solo violin pieces with projected artwork that inspired them, weaving in lively and insightful stories about each creation. After successful performances in Rome, Paris, and Carnegie Hall, this engaging program comes to Fallon for a suggested donation of just \$5 - don't miss it!

Then on Saturday, July 19 at 7 pm, get ready for an electrifying night of live music with Acid Box and Cryptilians. Fallon's own Acid Box brings a hard rock, heavy metal, punk, and blues fusion that's loud, bold, and full of energy. Reno's Cryptilians deliver a no-frills, punk-adjacent set distilled to the essence. Admission is just \$10 for this powerhouse double-bill so grab your friends and join us for an unforgettable concert night!

We're also proud to take part in the citywide Community Reunion in August. Join us on Friday, August 15 at 7 pm for a free concert at the Fallon Theatre featuring the Great Basin Band - a local favorite that's graced our stage many times and performed past reunion shows. Known for their lively mix of pop, country, and rock covers from the '80s, '90s, and aughts, they're sure to get the celebration started right. The following day, Saturday, August 16 from 10 am to 2 pm, stop by for guided tours of the theatre. Whether you're revisiting old memories or discovering the space for the first time, we'd love to welcome you through our doors.

Looking ahead to the fall, don't forget about our Fundraising Show & Shine, happening Saturday, September 27 from 9 am to 1 pm. This annual community car show is free to attend and open to all. Expect classic cars, local vendors, live music, and great food. If you're interested in showcasing your vehicle, registration info is available at fallontheatre.com.

And finally, mark your calendars for a night of laughter this fall as clean comedy returns to the Fallon Theatre on Friday, November 14 at 7 pm with Lee Hardin! Visiting us from Nashville, Lee has been featured on NBC, DryBar Comedy, and Nateland Live. His clever jokes and relatable stories had last year's crowd laughing from start to finish - and that show sold out! Tickets are \$20, and you won't want to miss the fun this time around.

As always, thank you for supporting your local historic theatre. See you at the movies (and concerts, and car shows, and comedy nights)! To rent an auditorium or schedule a Marquee Message, contact us at 775-423-6210 or thefallontheatre@gmail.com.

Virtual Public Hearing on I-80 East Widening Project Until July 18 Public comments encouraged at i80eastnv.com

Staff Report

The Nevada Department of Transportation (NDOT) and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) have prepared an Environmental Assessment (EA) to evaluate potential impacts of the proposed Interstate 80 (I-80) East Widening Project between Vista Boulevard and USA Parkway.

Residents are invited to comment on the EA and participate in the virtual public hearing, which covers the project's purpose and need, environmental impacts, mitigation plans, and the Preferred Alternative for construction. This hearing is part of the federal environmental review process required under the National Environmental

Policy Act (NEPA).

A separate in-person hearing was held June 25 in Lockwood. The virtual hearing is available 24/7 through July 18, 2025.

Visit i80eastnv.com and click "Enter the Virtual Hearing" to review project materials.

To provide feedback, click the yellow "Comment Here" button. Comments submitted will become public record under NRS 239.0107.

NDOT anticipates environmental approval by September 2025. Final design is expected to continue through September 2027, with construction anticipated from 2027 to 2031.

For details and to submit comments, visit i80eastny.com.



I-80 East of Sparks. Photo courtesy of NDOT.











Say Hello to Sam

Sam (D-526) is a 14-year-old gentleman who came to us after his owner moved into assisted living and couldn't bring him along.



Ing him along.

Now he's looking for a quiet,
loving place to
spend his golden
years.

We don't have much background on Sam, but he seems content just soaking up the sun and

taking life easy. His needs are simple: a soft bed, a warm patch of light, and someone to care.

If you have room in your heart and home for a senior companion, Sam could be the one. Let's help him find peace and comfort for the rest of his journey.

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

Rogutiful Rollaling!

Beautiful Bellalina!

PETS OF THE WEEK



Bellalina is a sweet five-year-old Terrier-American Pit Bull and Boxer mix with a playful spirit and a gentle heart. Though shy at first, she warms up quickly and loves hugs and pets. She enjoys toys and

does well with select dogs but needs a cat-free home. Protective of those she loves, Bellalina will thrive with an experienced owner who can provide consistent training and socialization.

She's a proud graduate of the WAGS K9 six-week board and train program—adopt her and receive free follow-up lessons from WAGS!

To learn more or meet Bellalina, call 775-423-7500 or visit our website. Volunteers and board members are also needed!

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

Meet Mama Jane

Mama Jane is a young, beautiful cat who's spayed, vaccinated, and ready for her forever home. After doing an amazing job raising her kittens, it's finally her turn to be spoiled and loved. She's a laid-back girl who enjoys lounging in

sunny spots and watching the world go by. Mama Jane is deeply bonded with her playful calico kitten, Pearl, and they must be adopted together. Pearl brings the fun; Mama Jane brings the calm.



This sweet duo would thrive in a quiet, peaceful home where they can keep snuggling, playing, and loving their people. Ready for a perfect pair? Mama Jane and Pearl are waiting for you!

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

OBITUARIES

WILLIAM (BILLY) NORMAN ERB

Aug. 20, 1945 – June 24, 2025

William (Billy) Norman Erb passed away Tuesday, June 24, 2025, peacefully in his home at the age of 79, surrounded by members of his family. He was born Aug. 20, 1945, to Norman and Anita Erb.

Little did he know when he was born, he would become a member of a large family. His father was the eighth of twelve children and his mother was the oldest of three. He leaves behind many cousins as well as his sister, Nona McFarlane, and five children: Sean Erb, Nona (Shad) Smith, Angela (Kelly) Clyburn, Veronica Erb, and Clay Erb; as well as 11 grandchildren: Reid and Emily Clyburn, Kaitlyn Hert and Blake Brandenburg, Bret (Rhauni) Gorm-

ley, Kaylee, Blake and Reese Smith, and Jace Erb; and two great-grandchildren, Jack and Juliana Smith.



His extended family reaches far, including niece Amber Morrow and nephew Matt McFarlane; greatnieces Mackenzie (Jake) Conners and Mattie McFarlane; great-nephews Patrick and Eddie Morrow; and great-great-nephew Parker Conners.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Anita and Norman Erb; his beloved mother- and father-in-law, Jack and Nancy Lund; his treasured little brother, Eddie Erb; and his brother-in-law, Pat McFarlane.

While growing up on the family farm in the Old River District, he inherited three brothers—Don, Joe, and Garnett Mello—as well as their sister, Betty. With the addition to the family, his dad had his hands full. These six kids were very creative, with Billy arguably being the most creative. He was known for tearing

things apart but not putting them back together—mostly because he lost the parts.

Despite his short-term memory as a child, Billy would eventually be referred to as the "family encyclopedia," as he could recall names, dates, and events. When in doubt—call Billy!

After graduating from Churchill County High School in 1964, he went to work for several electric companies. He later joined the Operating Engineers, working for many construction companies around the state throughout his approximate 40-year career.

In his younger years, he loved to race cars, hunt, fish, and camp. Later in life, he loved frequenting Ione, Nevada, where he spent a lot of time as a little boy with his grandparents, Billy and Julia Cislini. He also enjoyed spending time with friends at the VFW, Overland, and the American Legion.

Out of all his family members, Billy was the one who loved carrying on family traditions—making "red meat" at Christmas being one. It was at least a three-week process, which he was happy to lead. Billy would have over 20 family members gather for a potluck and begin the long process. In the past few years, he had the opportunity to pass this tradition along to the younger generation of his family, something he was proud to do.

The family would like to thank everyone who has called and shared stories, extending their love, thoughts, prayers, and support. It means so much to all of us in this difficult time.

Billy will be deeply missed by those who knew and loved him. He will live on in our hearts and memories.

Per his wishes, there will be no public services. The family will have a private gathering at a later time.



MEETINGS July 7–11, 2025 TCID County 155 N

Next Meetings: July 8, August 5, Sept. 2 at 9 a.m. 2666 Harrigan Road

Churchill County School District 4th Wednesday of the Month at 5:30 p.m. 690 S. Maine Street CCSD Admin Bldg.

Fallon City Council 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the Month at 9 a.m. City Hall, 55 W Williams Ave County Meetings 155 N. Taylor St.

Planning Commission Wednesday, July 9 at 6 p.m.

Library Board Friday, July 11 at 3 p.m.



WATER LEVELS Measurements Taken July 1, 2025, at 10 a.m. **Lahontan Reservoir** 182,100 af **Carson River Below Lahontan** 861 cfs **Truckee Canal at Wadsworth** 288 cfs **Truckee Canal at Hazen** 228 cfs Carson River at Ft. Churchill 26.2 cfs July 1, 2024 July 1, 2023 July 1, 2022 285,019 acre feet 291,383 acre feet 134,545 acre feet Cfs - Cubic Feet per Second | Af - Acre Feet | TCID.org & Water Data.USGS.gov

SENIOR CENTER MENU

WILLIAM N. PENNINGTON LIFE CENTER 952 S. MAINE STREET, FALLON, NV | 775-423-7096 Lunch Served Monday - Friday 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. | Lunch is \$6 for those under 60 and a suggested donation of \$3 for those 60 and older.

Monday, July 7
Citrus Chicken
Cranberry Orange Sauce
Parslied Wild Rice
Krinkle Cut Carrots
Apple Slices

WW Bread

Tuesday, July 8

Turkey Chili
Cornbread

Mixed Green Salad
LSLF Dressing
Ambrosia

Wednesday, July 9
Salisbury Steak
Whipped Potatoes
Onion Gravy
Garlic Green Beans
WW Bread
Fresh Mandarin

Thursday, July 10

Dill Pickle WW Pasta Salad

Fresh Dill Dressing

Diced Chicken

White Beans

WW Bread

Tropical Fruit Cup

Friday, July 11 Dixieland Shortcake Summer Squash Garden Salad Banana

FALLON DAILY BREAD

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

Monday, July 7

Burritos
Rice & Salad

Thursday, July 10
Sausage, Onion & Carrot Salad
Dessert

Monday, July 14

Pork Loin
Potatoes & Vegetables

Thursday, July 17 *Beef Over Rice Vegetables & Bread*

Volunteer groups needed to help serve once per month, 3 p.m. until 6:30 p.m. Call for information.

COMMUNITY

Library Loses Yet Another Director

Applications for Interim Director Accepted Until July 7

By Christy Lattin

The Library Board of Trustees is once again searching for a new director for the Churchill County Library. Director Cathy Thorsen, who was in the position for eight months, resigned June 18, effective immediately.

At its June 26 meeting, the board discussed the hiring of an interim library director to ensure the library remains open six days a week. Trustees discussed reaching out to current library employees, other county employees, and even school district librarians to fill the interim position until a new director is chosen. Chairwoman Jessica Rowe said the interim director would most likely serve into September before the permanent director is in place.

"We're putting out the call because no one is jumping up to volunteer," she said.

Trustees decided those interested in the interim director position can just submit a letter of interest, similar to the process of selecting board members. The interim director will not

need to hold all the qualifications needed for a librarian, but will need to possess managerial and supervisory skills and "be the face of the library" during this transition time. The interim director would be paid during their tenure, or they could volunteer their time. Trustee Sue Segura felt strongly the person should be compensated because unpaid volunteers often lose interest quickly and leave organizations scrambling for coverage.

Churchill County Human Resources Manager Kim Brontesema said the search for the new library director will begin immediately. She will use traditional online job boards to ensure a national reach, as well as local advertisements and postings on the county's website. The job listing will be open for four weeks, and Brontesema will pre-screen applications to make a recommendation for the top candidates. It was decided candidates would be vetted by a member from the Churchill Library Association, the interim director, and human resources. Final candidates will be

interviewed by the board in an open meeting.

Due to the sudden resignation of Thorsen, staffing issues could affect the library's hours. Currently, the library is short one position to be open on Monday mornings; the library needs at least two people working at one time to remain open to the public and to ensure their safety. Trustees and staff are hopeful they can fill the Monday morning slot with either volunteers or staff willing to work overtime. However, the board passed a motion stating the library will be allowed to close Monday mornings if needed.

Those interested in the interim director position are encouraged to submit a letter of interest to Churchill County Human Resources by July 7. Trustees will meet again on July 11.

The previous library director, C.L. Quillen, was terminated by the board May 31, 2024. At that time, retired library director Carol Lloyd agreed to serve as the interim director. She worked four months before Thorsen started on Oct. 14, 2024.

After 40 Years, Nevada's **State Entomologist** Jeff Knight Set to Retire

Staff Report

After four decades of dedicated service to the Silver State, Jeff Knight, Nevada's longtime state entomologist, is preparing to retire. His final day with the Nevada Department of Agriculture (NDA) will be Friday, July 4, 2025.



Jeff Knight sharing his passion. Photo courtesy of NDA.

Knight's path to entomology began in childhood, sparked by an early fascination with insects and nurtured through 4-H programs. He earned a Bachelor of Science in pest management from the University of Nevada, Reno, followed by a Master of Science in entomology from Utah State University. He first joined gist in 1977.

Knight has deep Nevada roots and strong ties to the Fallon community. In October 1976, he married Fallon resident Virginia Guazzini. They welcomed son Brian in 1980

and daughter Angela in 1982. He continues to spend much of his time in Fallon with family.

In 1993, Knight was promoted to state entomologist, a role in which he helped safeguard Nevada's economy and food systems by leading responses to invasive species and agricultural pests. According to NDA Director J.J. Goicoechea, Knight's "passion and dedication to the development and curation of the State of Nevada Entomology Collection has catalogued the discovery of new species within the state and expanded the formal state records for species."

Knight also became a go-to resource for the public and agriculture professionals alike, identifying countless specimens and offering guidance on pest management. "He has also identified innumerable samples from the public and agriculture community, offering insights and management recommendations," Goicoechea noted.

Throughout his career, Knight was known not only for his scientific expertise but also for his commitment to public education and environmental stewardship. "Jeff is regarded as a tireless advocate for environmental stewardship, educating Nevadans on the importance of sustainable practices to preserve our state's valuable ecosystems," said Goicoechea.

Knight has worked on several of Nevada's major insect issues, including Mormon crickets, fire ants, grasshoppers, gypsy moths, spiders, Japanese beetles, Africanized honeybees, and more. He has given thousands—literally—of lectures throughout Nevada and Fallon, working closely with the University of Nevada Extension Office, Master Gardeners, schools, and other organizations. He is a familiar face at the Fallon Cantaloupe Festival, often staffing the Department of Agriculture's booth, and has spent countless hours teaching students about insects in classrooms across the region.

Sharing his love for the field, Knight also taught community education classes through Western Nevada College's Fallon campus. One beetle has already been named in his honor as a newly discovered species, with another in the process.

With his July retirement approaching, colleagues across the state are taking time to reflect on Knight's many contributions to Nevada's agriculture, environment, and scientific community. Governor Joe Lombardo has issued a proclamation in his honor upon retirement.

"We wish him all the best in his well-deserved retirement,"

Goicoechea said. Information for this article was provided by the Nevada Department of Agriculture and additional details were contributed by the Knight family.



Aurora June Ward, daughter of Hannah Ward, is just six months old and is already devouring the news in The Fallon Post. We love to see new readers! Photo courtesy of Lucy Carnahan.



GOVERNMENT

Mosquito Abatement District Holds Open House, Dedicates Building to Former Chairman

Story and photo by Christy Lattin

The late Hal Newman, the longtime former chairman of the Churchill County Mosquito, Vector & Noxious Weed Abatement District, was honored at the district's open house held June 21 when the building was formally dedicated to him with a presentation of a plaque to his family.

Managers also presented a plaque to former county manager Bjorn Selinder, and a plaque listing the names of all board members through the years.

"I think he would be beaming," said Newman's wife, Phyllis. She and three of the couple's children were on hand for the dedication.

Phyllis said he began serving on the mosquito abatement district board because he was interested in being of service to the community. He eventually served 24 years on the board, from 1985 to 2009, only leaving after term limits were instituted.

Term limits were approved by Nevada voters in 1996, which limited local elected officials to 12 years total. The amendment required ratification a second time in 1998; the amendment was challenged in court, and the Nevada Supreme Court ultimately

upheld the decision regarding term limits on July 25, 2008. That decision left both Lynn Pearce, Churchill County commissioner, and Newman ineligible for the 2008 election.

Newman graduated from Churchill County High School in 1948 and from the University of Nevada, Reno in 1960 with a metallurgical engineering degree. He was a Navy veteran, an instructor at Western Nevada College Fallon, and even earned the rank of Eagle Scout at age 75 (his family moved before he could complete the paperwork in 1945). His father was a mining engineer, and the Newmans were instrumental in excavating ichthyosaur fossils in Berlin in the 1950s. He was the proud father of 10 children from two marriages, and passed away Jan. 21, 2024.

Selinder, who served as Churchill County manager from 1976 to 2004, said prior to establishing a separate taxing entity, it was simply a county department covered by the general fund. He said informal talks with Jerry Frey of Frey Spray were "the spark that built the fire." Frey Spray was, and still is, contracted to provide aerial spraying of larvicide and adulticide to abate mosquitos in the valley.



Members of the Newman family were on hand to witness the building dedication to Hal Newman who spent 24 years on the board. Pictured above, from left to right, are son Luke Newman, wife Phyllis Newman, and daughters Kristine Stacey and Karyl Brown. Photo by Christy Lattin.

A Lahontan Valley News article from 1984 said the Nevada Tax Commission approved an emergency appropriation of \$58,000 to Churchill County in May 1984 to fund a summer mosquito abatement program, but they told the county not to come back next year with the same problem. Selinder said the request was approved because commissioners placed an advisory ballot question on the November 1984 ballot requesting the formation of a special assessment district to fund mosquito abatement.

"It is unlikely there will ever be sufficient general revenues to fund a mosquito abatement department again," Selinder said at the time. "The formation of a mosquito abatement district will ensure continued funding."

A majority of voters approved the ballot question, and commissioners signed a resolution forming the district March 20, 1985. Newman was one of the first five trustees to take the oath of office in September 1985.

The tax rate—which has remained the same since 1985—is \$0.08 per \$100 of assessed value, or about 2% of the total county property tax rates.

Planning Department Proposes New Industrial Zoning Designations

By Christy Lattin

Proposed updates to clarify industrial zoning in the county were presented to the Churchill County
Planning Commission at its June 24
workshop. Randy Hines, public works
director, said his department's goals
regarding the suggested changes were
to provide more explanation and
transparency for industrial uses in the
future. The department proposes to
split the industrial zone into subcategories referenced as I-1, I-2 and I-3.
Currently, the county only has one
industrial zoning designation.

"With just one industrial zone throughout the county, you're really stuck with requiring special use permits for almost everything that comes in the area," Hines said.

I-1 zoning would cover light industrial uses like warehousing and indoor manufacturing. The I-2 zoning will be for medium industrial uses like munitions manufacturing and hazardous materials manufacturing, and the I-3 zoning will be used for heavy industrial activities like explosives and chemical manufacturing. Hines said even with the new zoning designations, some special use

permits will be necessary for higher-risk activities.

Hines presented proposed zoning tables and maps to the commission, with colorcoded maps showing the separate industrial zones. He showed maps for Hazen, Leeteville Junction, Rattlesnake Hill area, and industrial lands on Highway 95 north of Fallon.

Planning commissioners reviewed the maps and provided initial feedback, pointing out certain parcels they felt should have different industrial zoning. Hines listened and said he wasn't opposed to adjusting the proposed zoning designation and added they could even have a split zoning on one parcel if necessary.

County Manager Jim Barbee said when the National Defense Authorization Act was passed in 2022, the Navy's lands expanded by 600,000 acres. Part of the county's negotiations involved addressing the "checkerboard" parcels skirting the Interstate 80 corridor north of Hazen. The checkerboard refers to alternating private and public sections of land in that area. A section is approximately one mile square and normally contains 640 acres. Barbee said in the 1800s, when the railroads were blazed through the country, there was a 20-mile buffer on each side of the railroad—lands anticipated to become townsites, farmland, or commercial locations. However, the federal government held onto much of that land, which created access issues for both private and public lands.

Barbee said the county received 14,000 acres of vacant land in direct conveyance from the federal government in exchange for the lands taken over by the B-20 bombing range expansion. Those lands are located near Interstate 80, by the airport and north of the sewage treatment plant, and are available for development, Barbee said.

Currently, if a privately held section of land sits at the top of a mountain and the owner wants to swap it for a federally held section on the valley floor—a more suitable place for industrial or commercial development—the owner must go through several lengthy state and federal review processes. He said ideally, the federal lands would be consolidated to the mountaintops and unusable areas, leaving the valley floor for private ownership.

Churchill County created a land-swap process wherein they will "sit at the table between BLM and the private owner" to help aid owners of less-desirable mountaintop private sections become eligible for an exchange of valley floor sections.

"This workshop is to address the current industrial parcels as they sit today," Hines emphasized. "We are not proposing any new parcels."

The Planning Department will take comments regarding the proposed changes for the next couple of weeks. Members of the public are welcome to email their comments to Hines at randy.hines@churchillcountynv.gov.

County Seeks Interim Library Director Applications Due July 7

Submitted by Churchill County

Churchill County is seeking an interim library director with strong management skills to guide its vibrant public library through a short transitional period while the search for a permanent director is underway. This is a paid position and offers a unique opportunity to serve a community that truly values its library.

Interested individuals are asked to submit a letter describing their

interest in the position, relevant skills, availability, and required compensation.

Download the application form, complete it, and email it along with the letter of interest to hr@churchillcountynv.gov by July 7. Applicants may also drop off their completed materials at Churchill County Human Resources, 155 N. Taylor Street, Suite 177, during normal weekday business hours.

GOVERNMENT

City Approves Police Officer Pay Increases and Final Budget Adjustments

By Christy Lattin

The Fallon City Council approved a threeyear collective bargaining agreement with the Fallon Peace Officers Association at its June 27 special meeting. Don Lattin, the attorney who represented the city during negotiations, told the council the agreement includes phased pay hikes along with two additional changes from previous contracts.

During the first year, union members will not receive a pay raise, but they will receive a 2% boost in the second year and a 3% jump in the third year. Lattin said union members were willing to forego a salary adjustment for fiscal year 2025–26, since the city's contributions to the Nevada Public Employees' Retirement System (PERS) are set to climb by 8.75% for police officers.

In 2025, Nevada PERS contribution

rates are climbing for both employer and employee groups. Regular members will see their contribution rate increase from 17.5% to 19.25%, while Police/Fire members will experience a hike from 25.75% to 30%.

Employer contributions are also jumping, with rates for regular employees climbing from 33.5% to 36.75%. Police/Fire contribution rates are surging from 50% to 58.75%. These changes took effect July 1.

Lattin also noted the new agreement calls for a shift differential of 8% for officers working between 6 p.m. and 6 a.m. The final major revision in the contract addresses the types of training courses eligible for reimbursement. Lattin said officers expressed interest in more physical defense—style courses, as well as college courses required to complete a career-related degree. Course selection and tuition reimbursement will be

pre-approved by the police chief.

Lastly, the agreement adds Juneteenth to the list of recognized paid holidays. The finalized collective bargaining agreement is available on the city's website under Meeting Minutes and Agendas in the June 27 special meeting agenda packet.

In other business, the council approved the augmentation of several funds, as required by Nevada Revised Statutes at the fiscal year end. Accounts augmented include the General Fund, the Convention & Tourism Authority Fund, the Airport Fund, the Mayor's Youth Fund, the Electric Enterprise Fund, the Water Enterprise Fund, the Sewer Enterprise Fund, the Sanitation Enterprise Fund, the Landfill Enterprise Fund, the Water Treatment Enterprise Fund, the Water Treatment Reserve Fund, the Data Processing Internal Service Fund, and the Public Works Internal Service Fund.

CHURCHILL COUNTY COURTS

Nevada State Police Release Preliminary Findings in Officer-Involved Shooting

Staff Report

The Nevada State Police Division of Investigations has released preliminary findings into an officer-involved shooting involving a Churchill County Sheriff's Office deputy on June 16.

Dispatch received calls reporting a fire on Trento Lane, north of the paved roadway near Mustang Pong. At approximately 7:44 p.m., a CCSO deputy arrived on scene and located a vehicle fully engulfed in flames. The deputy contacted an individual, identified as 46-year-old Denny Benka, who was standing on the porch of his RV near the fire.



The deputy gave repeated commands directing Benka to move away so firefighters could begin suppression efforts. Benka refused to comply, responded confrontationally, and brandished a hatchet. The deputy drew his firearm and ordered Benka to drop the weapon; Benka remained non-compliant.

Benka retreated into the trailer, then re-emerged in the doorway holding what appeared to be a scoped high-caliber rifle, which was later identified as a pneumatic rifle. When he raised and aimed the weapon at the deputy, the deputy fired to protect himself.

The deputy provided medical assistance and helped transfer Benka to paramedics, who attempted life-saving measures. Those efforts were unsuccessful, and Benka was pronounced deceased at the scene.

A subsequent search located additional weapons on Benka, including a knife and an object resembling an ice pick.

The involved deputy has five years of service with CCSO and more than 10 years of total law enforcement experience. In accordance with agency policy, the deputy has been placed on administrative leave pending the outcome of the investigation.

Benka had an extensive Nevada criminal history dating to 1998 including prior arrests for resisting arrest, assault on a peace officer, battery, and arson. Had he survived, anticipated charges included attempted murder of a police officer, assault with a deadly weapon on a police officer, and resisting arrest with a deadly weapon.

The causes of both the fire and the officer-involved shooting remain under active investigation. Based on the information known at this time, the deputy's actions appear to have been in self-defense during a rapidly evolving, life-threatening encounter. Additional information will be released as it becomes available.

Shooting at Lake Lahontan June 26, No Injuries Reported



Staff Report

Gunshots rang out in the early evening hours of Thursday, June 26 in the area between beach 23 and 24 at Lahontan State Recreation Area followed by screams and people yelling.

Members of the Churchill County Sheriff's Office and Nevada State Parks responded to the area, no injuries were reported. The male subject who had discharged the firearm was located and arrested for multiple charges. The firearm that was discharged was located and secured by sheriff's office personnel.

Resident Craig Krammer posted online that shots were fired into the ground and no one was shot or injured. He called 911 and provided a statement to law enforcement his post stated.

The incident is being investigated by Nevada State Parks.

LIVESTOCK SHOW

Churchill County Junior Livestock Show & Sale Results (Part Two)

By Nancy Chapman

We continue with the results of the Churchill County Junior Livestock Show & Sale, held April 24–26 at the Rafter 3C Complex. Previous results were published in the June 27 edition of The Fallon Post.

In the Goat Showmanship competition, first place went to Olivia Manskie and second place to Scarlett Pellandini (Peewee division), both sponsored by Patty Julian. In the Junior division, Leigh Eisenhauer placed first and Maylee McKnight second, sponsored by Churchill County Federal Credit Union. Chloe Kent won first in the Intermediate division, sponsored by Peek Brothers Construction, while Caoilainn Byrne took second, sponsored by Mick and Claudia Casey. In the Senior division, Karlie Simper earned first place (Peek Brothers Construction), and Alyssa Gardner was second (Mick and Claudia Casey).

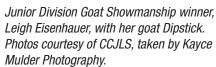
Louie Paladini presented the Grand Champion Market Steer, sponsored by Les Schwab Tire. Macady Bogdanowicz exhibited the Reserve Champion Market Steer, sponsored by New Millennium. Addison Allegre won first place for Best Home-Grown Market Beef (Winder Land and Cattle), with Zachary Lewis in second (Sullivan's Supply). Caitlyn Dock won the Carcass Contest, sponsored by Winder Land and Cattle and Lahontan Valley Meats. Piper Humphrey took second, sponsored by Winder Land and Cattle.

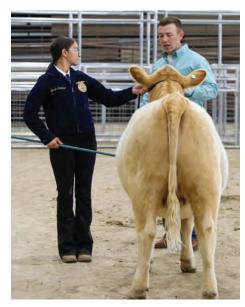
Louie Pellandini won both Grand Champion and Supreme Champion Jr. Female Beef, sponsored by Mick and Claudia Casey and Edison Electric, respectively. Piper Humphrey showed the Reserve Jr. Female, sponsored by the City of Fallon. Zachary Lewis presented the Grand Champion Sr. Female (Mick and Claudia Casey), while Macady Bogdanowicz earned Reserve Senior Female (Churchill County). Taylor Sowersby showed the Grand Champion Bull, sponsored by Ed Depaoli.

In Beef Showmanship, Scarlett Pellandini won the Peewee division (Peek Brothers Construction). Junior division winners were Hayse Allegre and Laylan Pellandini, both sponsored by Carey Transport. In the Intermediate division, Louie Pellandini placed first (Carey Transport), and Macady Bogdanowicz took second (Peek Brothers Construction). Senior division winners were Zachary Lewis in first and Hannah Montalvo in second, both sponsored by Carey Transport.

Makenzie Shroeder exhibited the Grand Champion and Supreme Champion Rabbit, sponsored by DFA and Mick and Claudia Casey. The Reserve Grand Champion Rabbit was shown by Autumn Thomas (Jeff's Digitex and Printing). In the Market Rabbit competition (pen of three), Grayling Thomas won Grand Champion and Autumn Thomas received Reserve Grand Champion—both sponsored by Tedford Tires and Auto Service.







FFA Exhibitor Hannah Montalvo with Judge Jared Wolf.

Rabbit Showmanship winners, all sponsored by Reno Brake, Inc., were Allie Drake (Peewee), Grayling Thomas (Intermediate, first place), Chloe Kent (Intermediate, second place), and Sarabel Olshefski (Senior, first place).

In Poultry, Kayala Downs (VFW Post 1002) won first place for Standard Hen. Chloe Kent's Bantam Hen placed first and earned both Grand Champion and Supreme Champion Poultry titles, sponsored by VFW Post 1002 and John Henry Schoenmeier. Reserve Grand Champion went to Kayala Downs (John Henry Schoenmeier). Emma Elmore placed first with her rooster, sponsored by VFW Post 1002.

Poultry Showmanship winners included Natalie Laca (Peewee), Emma Elmore (Junior), Chloe Kent (Intermediate, first), Grayling Thomas (Intermediate, second), and Kayala Downs (Senior). All were sponsored by Silver State Brokerage LLC.

These young competitors—and all 4-H and FFA members—were judged on their livestock and handling skills, demonstrating decision-making and project management throughout the Show and Sale. Participants spent countless hours exercising, feeding, and caring for their animals, learning how to present them to judges. They were also evaluated through interviews, record books, Ag Mechanics, Senior Crafts, and Metal.

The Best Dressed 4-H members—and their costumed animals—were judged by Jared Wolfe. The Round Robin competition gave participants the chance to show animals they weren't familiar with. Additionally, many members participated in a poster contest promoting 4-H in the community.

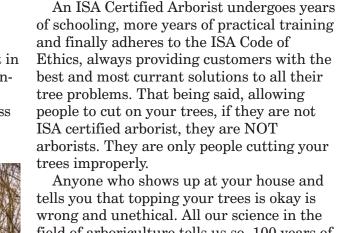
GARDENING

Tree Trimming and Pollarding a Tree Are Different Things

By Marco DiGiacinto, MD Tree Surgery and Nancy Chapman

The International Society of Arboriculture Code of Ethics (adopted August 1992) is the philosophy that an ISA-certified arborist operates on. Main tenants include: be to mislead or misrepresent.

- Holding paramount the safety and health of all people, and endeavor to protect property and the environment in the performance of professional responsibilities.
- Subscribing to fair and honest business practices in dealing with clients,



tells you that topping your trees is okay is wrong and unethical. All our science in the field of arboriculture tells us so, 100 years of research tells us this. Do not let anyone tell you anything different. The regret will last a lifetime. The damage is irreparable.

Topping is not pollarding; they are two different things. Pollarding is primarily a technique used by making internodal cuts for street trees in high traffic areas and should only be done by a qualified ISA certified arborist and takes several years to establish properly.

Topping is indiscriminately removing the crown of larger trees on dominant as well as subordinate branches. This is killing our old growth cottonwood and elm trees in Churchill County. Contact M D Tree surgery for your tree needs. 775-867-2944 or 775-217-9009.

My ISA number is WE-10213A. This can be researched on ISA, International Society of Arboriculture. MD Tree Surgery, foreman, Zak Thomas, ISA # WE-13314A.

This is sponsored content from M.D. Tree Surgery.



Pollarded trees. File photo.

- Striving for continuous self-development by increasing their qualifications and technical proficiency by staying abreast of technological and scientific developments affecting the profession.
- Not misusing or omitting material facts in promoting technical information, products or services if the effect would
- suppliers, employees, and other professionals.
- Supporting the improvement of professional services and products through encouraging research and development.
- Observing the standards and promoting adherence to the ethics embodied in this code.

EDUCATION

Bighorn Bulletin

By Angela Viera with photos courtesy of Oasis Academy.

OASIS GRADUATE CHARTS A PATH IN CARDIAC SONOGRAPHY

Oasis Academy 2022 graduate Kaitlyn Hert has found her passion and success in the medical field. After earning both a high school diploma and an Associate of Science degree at Oasis Academy and Western Nevada College in May 2022, the alum continued her education at the College of Southern Nevada in Las Vegas. There, she completed an Associate of Applied Science (AAS) with a



Former Bighorn Kaitlyn Hert.

major in Diagnostic Cardiac Sonography. She now works in both a hospital and an outpatient facility, performing cardiac and vascular ultrasounds.

"I really appreciated how Oasis set me up for the success I've achieved. I was able to do two years of college completely free, and pretty much go right into my specialized program after graduation," Hert said. "That was such a huge help to have those credits under my belt before moving to Vegas," she added.

Looking ahead, Hert is not done with her education and has already mapped out her future plans.

"I plan on going back to school to complete a bachelor's with an emphasis in health science management, and I also plan on sitting for the national vascular registry exams to obtain those credentials in addition to the ones I already have," she said.

When asked about advice for future students, Hert emphasized perseverance.

"Hard work pays off," she said. "I know it sounds boring, and in the moment usually doesn't feel very fun, but if you're willing to put in the work, there's no telling what you might accomplish."

Hert especially wanted to express her deep gratitude for her family

"I do want to extend a BIG thank you to my family," Hert said. "They stood by me and supported me through the past handful of years, and I wouldn't be where I am without them."

As this Oasis alum continues to advance in the field of cardiac sonography, her story stands as a testament to the power of early college programs, determination, and family support.

FFA STUDENTS ATTEND SUMMER LEADERSHIP CAMP IN LAKE TAHOE

Eleven students from Oasis Academy's FFA chapter recently returned from a week at the annual Nevada FFA Summer Leadership Camp, held at the historic 4-H Camp at Lake Tahoe. The camp, which drew over 100 FFA members from across the state, offered a blend of leadership workshops, team-building activities, and classic summer fun.

Throughout the week, Oasis Academy students participated in a variety of workshops designed to develop leadership skills and introduce them to the many opportunities available through FFA. The camp's curriculum focused on personal growth, teamwork, and social-emotional development, all set against the backdrop of Lake Tahoe's natural beauty.

Along with the workshops, recreational activities played a big part in the experience with students enjoying swimming, basketball, volleyball, relay races and chapter bonding events. These activities helped students forge new friendships and connections with FFA students from across the state and within their own chapter.



Bighorn FFA students, Gabriel Keener, Laynee Diaz, Kylie Moya, Avery Laca, Abigail Madera, Bailey Peixoto, Bailey Beebe, Grace Laca, Trevor Barrenchea, Reese Laca and Taylor Sowersby.

FFA Advisor
Jackie Bogdanowicz
emphasized the
importance of the
camp for both new
and returning
members.

"Summer Leader-ship Camp is a won-derful opportunity for our FFA members each year," Bogdanowicz said. "It's one of my favorite events because it allows students to have fun, make new friends, and grow as leaders. And of course, the Lake Tahoe setting is unbeatable."

Oasis Academy's FFA members and officers have already begun planning for the upcoming school year. To learn more about Oasis Academy FFA, contact Advisor Jackie Bogdanowicz.

Veritas Preparatory School - Classical and Christian Veritas Celebrates Patriotism with Purpose

 $\label{thm:courtesy} \textit{By Assistant Headmaster David Ernst with photos courtesy of Veritas}.$

As Independence Day approaches, Americans across the country prepare to celebrate the birth of a nation founded on liberty, justice and the pursuit of truth. At Veritas Preparatory School, this celebration is more than fireworks and festivities—it's an opportunity to instill deep respect for country, leadership and civil discourse in the next generation.

Veritas believes in teaching students to honor their country and its leaders, while also equipping them with the tools to thoughtfully engage with differing viewpoints. Each school day begins with the Pledge of Allegiance, a daily reminder of the unity and ideals that bind the nation together. In classrooms, students learn and sing patriotic songs such as "The Star-Spangled Banner" and "America the Beautiful," joining voices as a school community at least once a month to celebrate the values these songs uphold.

Beyond tradition, Veritas emphasizes critical thinking and civic responsibility. Older students are taught to research, analyze, and support their political and social opinions with reason and respect. Beginning in second grade, all students participate in the annual Speech Meet, with upper-grade students delivering persuasive speeches that demonstrate their growing rhetorical and analytical skills.

"We want our students to grow into citizens who love their country, engage respect-



Veritas students gather around the flag pole to sing patriotic songs.

fully, and understand both their rights and responsibilities," said Assistant Headmaster David Ernst. "We teach them that disagreement isn't disrespect—what matters is how you express it and what steps you take to make a difference."

Veritas also draws on timeless biblical principles, encouraging students to pray for their leaders, even in times of disagreement.

Romans 13 and 1 Timothy 2 remind the community to uphold those in authority through prayer and respect, modeling a posture of humility and honor.

As the Fourth of July draws near, Veritas Preparatory School remains committed to nurturing students who not only love their country, but also lead it well—through thoughtfulness, faith, and conviction.



SPORTS

de Golyer Rodeo Offered a Bucking Good Time



Bull rider catching some air.



Ranch Bronc rider gets wild and woolly.



Little Mutton Buster hanging on for the big prize.



Junior calf rider shooting for eight seconds.



de Goyler's Bucking Horse and Bull Bash.

Story and photos by John Baker

The end of June tradition continued with the 11th Annual de Golyer Bucking Horse and Bull Bash at the Rafter 3C Arena, held June 27-28. This year was bigger than ever.

Things kicked off on Friday night with a concert starring county music legend Deana Carter. Saturday's events included a car/bike show, mud volleyball tournament, corn hole tournament, Civil War encampment with live presentations and demonstrations, live music, and wiener dog races.

Of course, the evening featured the main attraction, the rodeo with the usual events of mutton busting, calf riding, junior steer riding, team roping, breakaway, barrel racing, bareback barrel racing, ranch bronc riding and bull riding. The rodeo concluded with a fireworks show and more live music.



Fireworks take center stage after the rodeo. Photo courtesy of de Goyler's Bucking Horse and Bull Bash.

Fallon Fillies Flag Team Present at de Goyler Rodeo

Story and photo by Nancy Chapman

The Fallon Fillies Flag Team proudly held sponsor flags during the 11th annual de Goyler Bucking Horse and Bull Bash. Arena director Stephanie Kniestedt is also the coordinator for the flag team. These nine talented ladies carried 13 sponsor flags during the rodeo on Saturday, June 28 at the outdoor arena at the Rafter 3C Events Complex. These ladies have been together for a year and a half, lending their talent to the Nevada Day parade, the 4th of July parade in Fallon, as well as Armed Forces Day.



The Fallon Fillies Flag Team, pictured L to R: Aliyah Hayes, Ashlyn Bailey, Teaira Lawson, Stephanie Kniestedt, Karen Aberle, Stevie Dallas, Jennifer Jones, Victoria Rosa, and Amanda McKenney.



COLUMNS

What's Cooking in Kelli's Kitchen: Fideo Seco

By Erik Jimenez

Recently, I had the pleasure of visiting Mexico City, which was a tremendous experience. In addition to the thousands of years of history and culture that permeate throughout every neighborhood in the city, the food was unreal.

Today's recipe is a rendition of a dish that has been deeply rooted in Mexican gastronomy: Fideo Seco. Taken soon after colonialization from a similar dish from the Spanish called fidua, this dish takes thin noodles, toasts them until golden, and then cooks them down in a roasted chile and tomato-based sauce. You then cook the noodles until all the sauce is absorbed.

This is an excellent side dish that would go well with beans, tortillas, or a nice piece of grilled fish; and all the ingredients can be found at your neighborhood Mexican market.

The secret to this dish is really in the garnishes that you put on top, which bring together the creamy texture of the noodles. Here we are using a soft panela cheese, avocado, cilantro, and freshly squeezed lime for the garnish, but the world is your ovster here!

Fideo Seco

Ingredients:

2 Roma tomatoes 1/4 Large white onion

2 Garlic cloves (skin on) 1 Pasilla chile, stem and seeds

removed

2Chipotles in adobo, plus 1 tbsp.

of the liquid

1 tsp. Mexican oregano



Kosher salt 1 tsp. Olive oil 2 tbsp.

1 1/2 cups Chicken stock (low-sodium or

homemade)

Fideo noodles (2-inch pieces) 7 oz.

Panela cheese 4 oz.

Avocado, peeled and thinly sliced

Cilantro, roughly chopped

DIRECTIONS:

Heat a small pot of water to a boil. Once boiling, reduce to a simmer.

Using a comal or a cast iron skillet lined with foil, set to medium heat. Briefly toast the pasilla chile until fragrant. Transfer the chile to the simmering water and cook for 15 minutes until soft and rehydrated.

As the chile is simmering, add the tomatoes, onion and garlic to the pre-heated comal/skillet. Dry roast the vegetables, turning as the sides turn black. Roast until well blackened.

Once roasted, peel the garlic and then transfer to a blender along with the tomatoes, and onion. Add the rehydrated pasilla chile to the blender cup. Finally, add the chipotle, adobo liquid, Mexican oregano, and kosher salt to the blender. Blend until smooth, adding a couple of tablespoons of the chile soaking liquid if needed to loosen it up.

Once blended, run the liquid through a fine mesh sieve and into a bowl to remove any remaining skins or seeds.

Heat a skillet over medium-low heat. Add olive oil and the dry fideo noodles. Toast the noodles until they are browned, stirring

Once the noodles are browned, add in the blended tomato and chile liquid and stir together with the noodles. Cook for a minute or so, then add the chicken stock and allow the mixture to come to a boil. Once boiling, cover the pan and reduce heat to a simmer, allowing the noodles to cook until liquid is fully absorbed. This process should take about 20-25 minutes, and if you need more liquid, you can add a few tablespoons of water during the cooking process. Taste and adjust for seasonings as the noodles cook.

As the noodles cook, prepare the garnishes. Roughly chop the cilantro, cut the lime into wedges, dice the panela cheese into small cubes, and peel and thinly slice the avocado.

Once the noodles are cooked and the liquid is absorbed, turn off the heat.

Using a small bowl, pack the cooked fideo noodles into the bowl, then invert onto a plate. Top with the panela cheese and avocado slices. Garnish with lime and cilantro when serving.

Allison's Book Report: "This Bird Has Flown" by Susanna Hoffs

By Allison Diegel

It's already July and a summery three day July 4th weekend is upon us! Whether vou're checking out the parade, hanging by the pool or at the lake, or staying indoors and soaking up some air-conditioned couch time, you're gonna need a book to read – and as usual, I have a story for you!

Susanna Hoffs, best known as a co-founder f 1980s pop-rock band The Bangles, makes her delightful literary debut with "This Bird Has Flown," a charming and witty romance



that's sure to resonate with anyone who's ever had a complicated relationship with fame, love, or their own expectations. Jane Start is a seasoned rock star (just like the author herself) who is navigating the messy aftermath of a public breakup and a career slump. As a Grammy-winning musician whose star has faded a bit, Jane finds herself at a crossroads. She's just been dumped by her manager/boyfriend and her once-glamorous life is feeling decidedly un-glamorous Desperate for a change of scenery and a creative spark, she agrees to teach a songwriting workshop at a slightly eccentric college in a sleepy British town. It's a far cry from soldout arenas, but maybe, it's exactly what she needs. Enter Tom Hazards, a brilliant but prickly literature professor at the same university. Tom is everything Jane isn't: buttoned-up, cynical, and seemingly allergic to anything resembling pop music. He's also devastatingly handsome in a rumpled, academic sort of way. Their initial encounters are a hilarious clash of cultures and personalities, filled with witty banter and palpable tension. Jane, used to the rock-and-roll world, finds Tom's intellectualism both intriguing and a little intimidating, while Tom is clearly captivated by Jane's genuine warmth and unconventional charm.

As they are forced to collaborate on a university event, an unexpected connection begins to blossom. Hoffs masterfully builds the "will-they-or-won't-they" dynamic, weaving in Jane's journey of self-discovery as she grapples with her past, re-evaluates her priorities, and finds her voice again, not just as a musician but as a person. The novel is peppered with delightful musical references and a keen insight into the creative process, all delivered with warmth and humor.

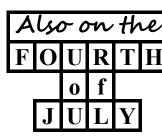
"This Bird Has Flown" is more than just a romance; it's a heartwarming story about second chances, finding love in unexpected places, and rediscovering your passion. It's a feel-good read that celebrates the joy of music, the power of human connection, and the idea that sometimes, the most harmonious melodies come from the most unlikely duets. You'll be rooting for Jane and Tom every step of the way!

I hope you all enjoy a relaxing long weekend. Take some time to cool off and crack open a book and don't forget to pop over to my Instagram @allison.the.reader for more recommendations and fun book talk! Happy 4th, Fallon!

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. 1776 - Rung for 2nd Continental Congress

5. 2004 - This tower's cornerstone laid at site of WTC in NYC

6. 1944 - US flag raised on this Japanese island 9. 1884 - Statue presented to US in Paris

11. 1776 - Declaration of this signed

12. 1803 - Jefferson announced its purchase 14. 1845 - This republic voted for US annexation

Down

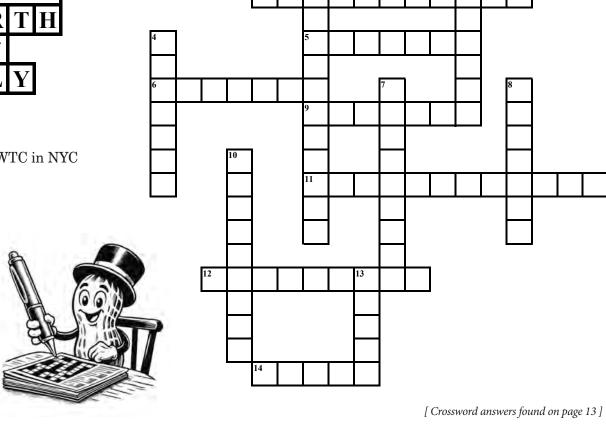
1. 1942 - US air offensive began there

3. 1883 - His 1st wild west show opened

4. 1855 - He published Leaves of Grass 7. 1826 - This US president died

8. 1845 - He moved to Walden Pond

10. 1802 - 1st US military academy opened 13. 1826 - This US president died



LEGAL NOTICES

CITY OF FALLON Publication of Annual Fiscal Report

In accordance with NAC 354.561, the City of Fallon hereby publishes notice of the Annual Fiscal Report for Fiscal Year 2024-2025:

General Fund

		Estimated	F	Final Approved
	Actual Prior	Current		Budget
	Year Ending	Year Ending		Year Ending
	 6/30/2024	6/30/2025		6/30/2026
Total Available Revenues	\$ 14,340,076	\$ 13,854,472	\$	13,243,737
Total Expenditures/Other Uses	\$ (16,870,797)	\$ (16,119,315)	\$	(13,153,780)

Electric Enterprise Fund

		Estimated	ŀ	final Approved
	Actual Prior	Current		Budget
	Year Ending	Year Ending		Year Ending
	6/30/2024	6/30/2025		6/30/2026
Total Operating Revenues	\$ 13,970,666	\$ 14,050,000	\$	14,170,000
Total Operating Expenses	(13,268,850)	(13,275,693)		(13,592,740)
Total Non Operating Revenues	320,784	164,000		35,000
Total Non Operating Expenses	(1,263,292)	(1,259,000)		(755,000)

Water Enterprise Fund

	Actual Prior	Estimated Current		Final Approved Budget	
	Year Ending	Year Ending			Year Ending
	6/30/2024		6/30/2025		6/30/2026
Total Operating Revenues	\$ 1,945,500	\$	1,993,500	\$	1,999,500
Total Operating Expenses	(2,437,041)		(2,815,291)		(2,681,036)
Total Non Operating Revenues	274,863		209,000		205,000
Total Non Operating Expenses	(25,155)		(12,000)		(40,500)

Sewer Enterprise Fund

		Estillateu	1	·iliai Appi oveu
	Actual Prior	Current		Budget
	Year Ending	Year Ending		Year Ending
	6/30/2024	6/30/2025		6/30/2026
Total Operating Revenues	\$ 3,047,821	\$ 2,850,800	\$	2,914,500
Total Operating Expenses	(2,700,008)	(2,868,107)		(2,858,320)
Total Non Operating Revenues	59,485	88,000		151,000
Total Non Operating Expenses	(173,361)	(232,000)		(190,000)

Sanitation Enterprise Fund

		Estillateu	Г	iliai Appi oveu
	Actual Prior	Current		Budget
	Year Ending	Year Ending		Year Ending
	6/30/2024	6/30/2025		6/30/2026
Total Operating Revenues	\$ 2,838,022	\$ 3,013,000	\$	3,016,550
Total Operating Expenses	(2,727,458)	(3,022,406)		(3,010,693)
Total Non Operating Revenues	1,907	50		50
Total Non Operating Expenses	(68,432)	(69,000)		(65,000)

Landfill Enterprise Fund

		Estimated	F	inal Approved
	Actual Prior	Current		Budget
	Year Ending	Year Ending		Year Ending
	6/30/2024	6/30/2025		6/30/2026
Total Operating Revenues	\$ 2,309,311	\$ 2,289,000	\$	2,341,400
Total Operating Expenses	(1,344,344)	(2,065,728)		(1,954,225)
Total Non Operating Revenues	88,661	40,000		15,000
Total Non Operating Expenses	(233,789)	(186,000)		(205,000)

Water Treatment Enterprise Fund

	Actual Prior	ior Current		Budget
	Year Ending		Year Ending	Year Ending
	6/30/2024		6/30/2025	6/30/2026
Гotal Operating Revenues	\$ 1,762,177	\$	1,880,000	\$ 2,337,986
Гotal Operating Expenses	(2,506,494)		(2,654,083)	(2,480,342)
Total Non Operating Revenues	25,676		39,750	25,200
Total Non Operating Expenses	(575)		(1,200)	(600)

Water Treatment Replacement Enterprise Fund

				Estimated	rinai Aj	pprovea
		Actual Prior		Current	Buc	dget
	7	Year Ending	Y	ear Ending	Year I	Ending
		6/30/2024	ϵ	6/30/2025	6/30,	/2026
Total Operating Revenues	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-
Total Operating Expenses		-		-		-
Total Non Operating Revenues						-
Total Non Operating Expenses		-		-		-

Data Processing Internal Service Fund

		Estimated	1	inai Approved
	Actual Prior	Current		Budget
	Year Ending	Year Ending		Year Ending
	6/30/2024	6/30/2025		6/30/2026
Total Operating Revenues	\$ 270,000	\$ 365,000	\$	365,000
Total Operating Expenses	(263,094)	(356,000)		(362,000)
Total Non Operating Revenues	118	10		-
Total Non Operating Expenses	-	-		=

Public Works Internal Service Fund

		Estimated	I	Final Approved
	Actual Prior	Current		Budget
	Year Ending	Year Ending		Year Ending
	6/30/2024	6/30/2025		6/30/2026
Total Operating Revenues	\$ 2,024,000	\$ 2,000,000	\$	2,000,000
Total Operating Expenses	(1,819,708)	(2,067,809)		(2,058,865)
Total Non Operating Revenues	32	-		-
Total Non Operating Expenses	-	-		-

Date: June 30, 2025 Michael O'Neill City Clerk/Treasurer

Published in The Fallon Post on July 4, 2025 Ad #6339

Case No.: 25-CV-0394

The undersigned hereby affirms this document doesnot contain the social security number of any person.

IN THE THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADAIN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF LYON

SUMMONS

KATIE LYNN BAILEY, Plaintiff, vs. JOSEPH LEE LEIBEL,

Defendant.

THE STATE OF NEVADA SENDS GREETINGS TO THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANT: A civil COMPLAINT FOR DIVORCE has been filed by the Plaintiff against you:

- 1.If you intend to defend this lawsuit, you must do the following within twenty-one (21) days after this SUMMONS is served upon you:
- (a) File with the Clerk of this Court (911 Harvey Way, Yerington, NV, 89447) a formal written response to the COMPLAINT FOR DIVORCE, in accordance with the Local Rules of the Court.
- (b) Serve a copy of your response upon the PLAINTIFF whose name and address are shown below.
- Unless you respond, a Default may be entered in favor of the Plaintiff and this Court may enter a Judgment against you for the relief demanded in the COMPLAINT.
- 3. If you intend to seek the advice of an attorney in this matter, you should do so immediately, so as to respond in a timely manner to this lawsuit.

ANDREA ANDERSEN CLERK OF THE COURT May 15, 2025

Plaintiff:

Final Approved

Katie Lynn Bailey 3375 Richards Way Fernley, Nevada 89408 Telephone: 775-217-4026

Published in

The Fallon Post
June 27, July 4 and 11, 2025
Ad #6334

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AUCTION ENDING Thursday, JULY 10, 2025 at 9 a.m.

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H & L Storage

577 Gummow Dr, Fallon, NV 89406

Unit # B6 Jeremiah Krill Contents: Tools, Totes, Misc Furniture

Published in
The Fallon Post
June 27, and July 4, 2025
Ad #6331

CROSSWORD ANSWERS

Crossword found on page 12

ADAMS

BUFFALOBILL FREEDOM GERMANY INDEPENDENCE IWOJIMA JEFFERSON

LIBERTY LIBERTYBELL LOUISIANA TEXAS THOREAU

WESTPOINT

WHITMAN

C R R D W S S S





COLUMNS

Postcards Polio: Lest We Forget

By Michon Mackedon

Last week, I once again opened the local newspapers from 1925, which are housed in the Churchill Couty Museum and Archives. I had hoped to write an article about the Fourth of July festivities of 100 years ago. Mysteriously, there were no Fourth of July activities advertised! No dances; no parades; no community picnics. What did catch my attention was a half-page ad placed by the Nevada State Board of Health in both the Fallon Eagle and the Churchill County Standard, in late June 1925, stating that precautions should be taken "to prevent the spread of Infantile Paralysis," commonly called polio. Parents were advised to keep children at home. "The best way to keep your child from contracting this disease is to keep him away from other children. It is especially important that they should not be allowed to go to school, church, moving pictures, shows, baseball games, Fourth of July celebrations or any other place where there is a crowd." The mystery, then, was at least partially solved. Fallon was experiencing an outbreak of polio.

In quest of more information about the local polio outbreak, I came upon this news item from the October 10, 1925, Churchill County Standard:

"Deputy Sheriff C.M. Way received a cheerful and happy letter from his daughter, Mildred, yesterday, giving a very pleasing report of the progress of her case ...

"A portion of the first cast was removed Tuesday evening from her lower limbs. The doctor was delighted with the results so far attained...while a couple of more casts may be necessary. The doctor only expected the limb to come up one inch but was most agreeably surprised to see that it had come up four inches. He remarked, 'It is wonderful what a little plaster and rest will do.'

"Mildred goes from the apartments to the hospital in a wheel-chair for treatments. In conversation with various patients, she has gained a new vision so far as her own case is concerned. She mentions various girls and women who are taking treatment who remark that Mildred is sure to recover because she came to the hospital so soon after her siege of infantile paralysis. Some of them had it a number of years before taking treatment, so that there is no hope of recovery, though they may receive considerable benefit. At best, they know that they will always be cripples.

"One of the girls told Mildred that the other children at Fallon who had infantile paralysis ought to come there for treatment. The patients told Mildred that the treatments can be had there for 23 cents a treatment and with children from families that are not able to pay the hospital will treat them without charge. There are a few children in Fallon who, it is understood, are not being treated and it really seems that efforts should be made to send these unfortunate little ones to this public hospital in Los Angeles (the hospital is not identified in the article)."

As in the case of Fallon's Mildred Way, during the 1920's, management practices for infantile paralysis emphasized the need to rest the affected muscles and suggested that the application of splints would prevent tightening of muscle, tendons, ligaments or skin that would prevent normal movement. Many paralyzed polio patients lay in plaster body casts for months at a time. This

prolonged casting often resulted in atrophy of both affected and unaffected muscles. In 1926 (a year following Mildred's illness), Franklin Roosevelt, convinced of the benefits of hydrotherapy, bought a resort at Warm Springs, Georgia, where he founded the first modern rehabilitation center for treatment of polio patients, which still operates. Beginning in the 1930's, the invention of the iron lung saved many thousands of lives, but the machine was cumbersome and very expensive, and mortality rates were nonetheless high. 1952, during the worst recorded epidemic in America, 3,145 people in the United States died from the disease. A year later, a vaccine invented by Dr. Jonas Salk was tested, first on himself and his family and then on 1.6 million children. The vaccine was licensed in 1955. By 1994, polio was considered eliminated in North and South America.

I don't know the rest of Mildred's story or whether more local children were sent to the Los Angeles hospital, but I do know that, on the Fourth of July, 1925, 100 years ago, there was no celebrating on the streets of Fallon.

Please send your stories and suggestions 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.



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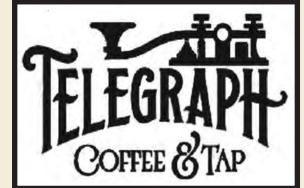
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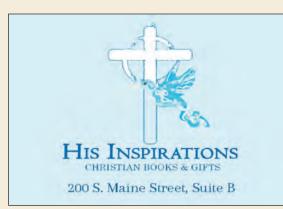


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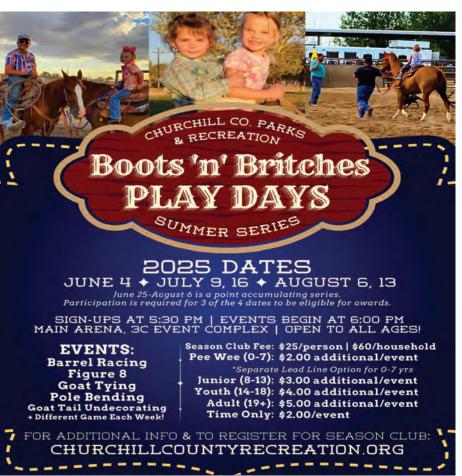
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11TH ANNUAL Community Wide Leunion All Years, All Classes, Students, Teachers, Family & Friends Don't miss the opportunity to connect with friends from the past! Friday, August 15 7:00 p.m. FREE concert at the Fallon Theatre

Saturday, August 16

8:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

FREE Breakfast at the Oats Park Arts Center - Lariat Patio FREE Show-n-Shine Car Show and Antique Tractors display Tour the Oats Park School & Art Center

10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Tours

Old High School **Cottage Schools Douglass House** Fallon Police Department The Old Post Office Tour City Hall w/Mayor Tedford Fallon/Churchill Fire Department

10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. **Tour Churchill County Museum**

10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. FREE Swim at the City Pool & the New Splash Pad area

10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Historic Fallon Theatre Tours 10am-2pm Frey Ranch Distillery Tours

4:00 p.m.

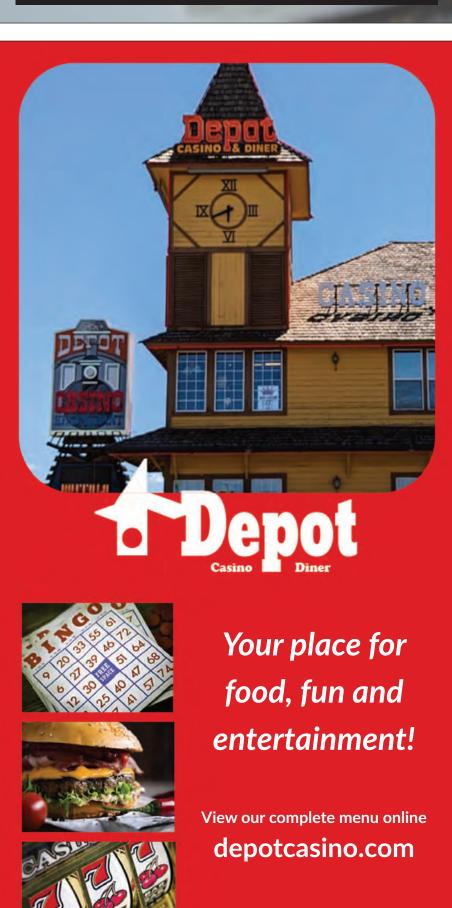
Gather at Oats Park BRING YOUR OWN CHAIRS - Some classes will have tents set up We will be honoring the Class of 1965.

Purchase food, ice cream, beer and wine, or pack a picnic. Enjoy the photo booth, face painting, balloon artist, reuniting with friends, and other fun-filled activities!

7:30 p.m. FREE concert

Della Mae | EXTRA parking at E.C. Best





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