

THE FALLON POST



KEEPING YOU POSTED ON LOCAL NEWS

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Locals Rake in FFA Awards at National Convention

By Leanna Lehman

Congratulations to Fallon's Future Farmers of America (FFA) students, who took home honors from the 97th annual National FFA Convention in Indianapolis, IN.

Oasis Academy's FFA Fallon team earned the Bronze Emblem for Farm & Agribusiness Management, with Oasis student Reese Laca receiving a Silver Emblem in Dairy Cattle Handling. Churchill County High School's Madison Gregory, was awarded the Bronze Emblem for Prepared Public Speaking.

In addition, Nevada FFA Executive Director, Fallon's own Heather Dye, was awarded an Honorary American FFA Degree. This prestigious honor recognizes her incredible dedication, time, and efforts in supporting FFA members and promoting agricultural education.

The Honorary American FFA Degree is awarded to individuals who have made outstanding contributions to FFA and have helped inspire and empower young leaders in agriculture. Dye's commitment to future leaders has made a lasting impact.

Students from around the state who also earned honors include Diamond Mountain



Nevada FFA Executive Director Heather Dye being awarded an Honorary American FFA degree at the 97th National FFA Convention and Expo. Photo courtesy Nevada FFA.



FFA, who earned a Silver Emblem in Horse Evaluation; Ariana Neyra-Maya, who received a Bronze Emblem in Creed Speaking; and Wells FFA, who won a Bronze Emblem in the Agricultural Issues Forum. Capitol FFA brought home two awards in Nursery & Landscape, with the team achieving Silver Emblem honors and Eduardo Fonseca-Loyola capturing the top prize with a Gold Emblem.

The National Convention gathered over

70,000 FFA members, advisors, and guests from across the country. FFA officials report that this year's convention was the largest in FFA history, breaking all previous attendance records.

Hats off to all the hardworking FFA teams and individuals. You are to be commended for your dedication and commitment and for helping shape the future of the Silver State's agricultural community.



MA1 Eryk Weber with Tallahassee. Photo by MC1 Ryan Batchelder.

NAS Fallon K9 Team Bring Home Honors

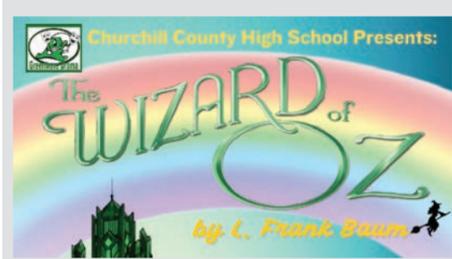
Staff Report

On October 19, nearly 40 K9 teams from 13 agencies competed in four events centered around the primary duties they perform in the field. The NAS Fallon team took third place in the Top Agency category.

Carson K9s controlled the narcotics detection portion, finishing first, second, and fourth, while Washoe K9s took first and second in apprehension, and Lyon K9 took first in agility. Capitol Police and the Fallon USN had a strong showing for explosives detection, taking first and second, respectively.

In addition to the individual events, Matt Galvin with Lyon County K9 took top dog awards with his K9 partner Blady, and Washoe K9 took top team honors with the most cumulative points.

The Carson County Sheriff's Office thanks everyone who participated and came to show their support for the local K9s.



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FROM THE PUBLISHER

Captain's Log
November, November



Our book club girls and very first volunteers who are still with us after all this time, Denice Pinder on the left, Gretchen Felte, Beth Reese peaking over the paper, Phil Pinder, and an innocent bystander who got caught up in our celebration, and on the right one of our biggest fans, our dearly departed Denise Edgmon. August 2019. Photo by Rachel Dahl.

By Rachel Dahl

It's nearly November 1. I guess it will be by the time you see this and I'm still here in Fallon. It's gotten cold and rainy and blustery.

Last winter, I remember dreaming and declaring on these pages that this would be the last winter I would spend in the cold. Pretty sure I said the same thing the winter before that, too.

In my dream life I'm gearing up to move this weekend to somewhere warm with more light. As soon as we put the paper to bed this afternoon, I would pack the RV and head south. November 1 to May 1 is the dream. Florida or Mexico, or a white beach on the shores of Alabama.

Except for the weather and the dark part, November is an exciting time around the Post. Four years ago, on November 6, we started printing the weekly paper. The Captain's Log was born, and we began our sleepless Thursday nights at the shop with Becky printing our own beautiful little newspaper.

This week, as a happy anniversary, the first version of the printed Fernley Reporter is born. It wasn't intentional to launch on the same week—it's sort of funny, actually—and we cannot wait for Wednesday night to see it.

Robert asked us as we sent the finished version to the printer in Vegas, "What was it like the first time you guys printed," and I honestly burst into tears at the thought.

It was actually in August of 2019, the very first printing. We had the press in Carson print one Special Section for us. A Back-to-School Edition. I drove to Carson and picked it up and met our team and volunteers back at our old shop, where we all split up to

deliver all over town. We met back up at the Tea Room when everyone was done, and all sat around reading the paper, and laughing, and crying.

I still have a picture somewhere of that night, and every time I see it, that feeling comes back. We want to do that for Robert this week, and we're working on the logistics of how to make that happen. The paper comes on a truck now from Vegas and arrives on Wednesday night sometime between 8 p.m. and midnight, so we'll let you know how it goes.

I never really answered Robert; how did it feel? How does it feel? Sitting here this morning on a rainy day when you really want just to cancel everything and sit in front of the fire reading a good book, it still feels like the best thing ever. Very surreal, still magical. We made something that we think matters out of nothing but a dream and a desire to make our communities better.

And we know we couldn't have made it happen without the support and, sacrifice, and belief of all the many, many people in our communities who jumped in with us with barely any better sense and a great deal of gusto. We're finding a whole new batch of those over in Fernley, and that, too, has been really, really fun to watch.

So, while we finish this Fallon paper up, work on Fernley for next week, plan a celebration party and delivery routes for them, we'll still be right here...

...Keeping you Posted.

—Rach

Attention Puzzlers:

I bought a 300-piece Flower Packets jigsaw puzzle at Blue Sky in Fallon last week and it had four pieces from another puzzle. Contact me if you want them back. Nancy Zivkovich on Facebook.



FEATURES

The Art of Braiding Rawhide

Story and photo by Nancy Chapman

Gerardo Gonzalez was introduced to braiding rawhide in the late 1990s when he worked for the Elison Cattle Company, based in Midas, Nevada. A fellow cowboy would braid during his free time, which looked interesting to Gonzalez. He learned little to no braiding techniques then, but the idea of braiding stayed in his mind until 2018, when he began attending the Rawhide Gatherings.

That is where he met his first real mentor and fellow braider, Brad Tarp, who would teach him all the elements of rawhide braiding, beginning with the cowhide, which will provide the material for braiding. He learned to remove the flesh and put the hide in a frame to stretch during drying. Gonzalez learned to cut continuous one-inch wide correas, the Spanish for straps, from the hide. The correas are then narrowed down by using a machine called a doughnut cutter. The doughnut cutter will help yield about 300 feet of material. The correas will be worked over many times to get the desired width. Then again, he will split off the correas until the desired thickness is reached for the strings that will be used for building an item. As an example, to make a 3-strand rawhide reata or rope, Gonzalez will start with 270 feet of usable correa; by the time he is done pulling



Gonzalez and his art: two quirts, 70ft reata, bosal, hackamore.

the material through the doughnut cutter, all by hand roughly six times, he would have approximately 1,600 feet of strips and very sore arms. Then he would begin twisting the three strands to build the reata.

Gonzalez attends many Rawhide Gatherings. One of these is held in Decatur, Texas, by a gentleman named Clint Haverty each year. Many top braiders from around the country and the world attend, some coming from as far away as Denmark and Argentina. This is the event that would get him back into braiding in 2018.

Many people he met during this journey have become good friends and family. One notable acquaintance he has made is the curator of the Fort Worth Stockyards Museum in Fort Worth, Texas, to whom he donated some items on display today.

Braiding was becoming a dying art, but thanks to the hard work of people like Gonzalez and Haverty and the annual gathering of braiders to trade ideas, techniques, and designs, the tradition and enthusiasm for braiding rawhide are still alive

and thriving.

Gonzalez's work includes quirts, bosals, hackamores, and reatas. Check out his Facebook page for availability; custom orders are rarely accepted.



Photo Courtesy of Churchill County Museum.

Trails and Tribulations Exhibit at the Museum

The newest exhibit at the Churchill County Museum invites you to walk in the footsteps of pioneers as you learn about what it was like on the Emigrant Trail. Packed with hands-on activities, "Trails and Tribulations" gives a solid introduction to overland travel for those unfamiliar with the topic as well as providing trivia likely to be new to experts.

"Normally, once an exhibit is up, we leave it alone," said Rae Sottile, Photo and Exhibit curator. "However, our "Trails and Tribulations" exhibit has a new star: This full-size wagon on loan to us from Loren and Shellie Marcus."

Be sure to attend this exhibit. Come by to check it out at 1050 S. Maine Street, Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.



CCHS Senior Night

CCHS students, faculty, and families gathered on October 18 to honor this year's football team, cheerleading squad, and band.



In Greenwave uniforms, Kylan Sorensen #64, Gary Phipps #8, and Collin Shishido #1, with friends and family. Photo courtesy of CCHS Yearbook Staff.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Movies & More
November 1 & 2

By Kelli Perez



November is here, along with a month of fun movies and events to share while the Halloween decorations come down and the Fallon Theatre’s staff gear up for the fantastic Christmas decor that will go up in December.

This weekend, watch “Madagascar: Escape 2 Africa” showing on Friday and Saturday at 6 p.m. In this 2008 animated adventure, the Madagascar animals fly back to New York City but crash-land on an African nature reserve in Kenya. There, they meet others of their kind, and Alex discovers his royal heritage as a prince of a lion pride. This film is rated PG and has a runtime of 1 hour and 29 minutes.

Also showing both days at 7 p.m. is the 2003 coming-of-age family comedy-drama “Secondhand Lions,” starring Haley Joel Osment, Michael Caine, and Robert Duvall.

Fourteen-year-old Walter Caldwell’s irresponsible mother Mae sends him to live with his bachelor great-uncles, Hub and Garth, so that she can go on yet another husband-hunting trip. This movie is rated PG with a runtime of 1 hour and 49 minutes.

There are two very special events this month, starting with Lee Hardin’s live comedy show on Friday, November 15, at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$20 and available on the theatre’s Facebook page and website, www.fallontheatre.com. The following weekend, on Saturday, November 23, Steve & Raena will be performing along with their special guest, Annabelle. Admission is \$12 at the door, and the show starts at 7 p.m.

Please call 775-423-6210 for more information on your local nonprofit community theatre, to book a Marquee Message, or to reserve an auditorium for a party.



Sis is Available for Adoption



This is Sis (D-798). She’s a super affectionate, six-year-old love-bug.

She was surrendered to the shelter due to no fault of her own. Her previous owners moved and were unable to take her with them. She is already spayed, and we are told she is a quiet dog.

If you think she would be a good addition to your household, please give us a call or come check her out at 1255 Airport Road. Her hours are Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Saturday, 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.



Photo Courtesy of the City of Fallon.

Mayor Proclaimed Lights of Afterschool Day

Staff Report

City of Fallon Mayor Ken Tedford proclaimed October 24, 2024, as Lights on Afterschool Day. This national celebration of afterschool programs promotes the importance of quality afterschool programs in the lives of children, families, and communities. Afterschool programs build stronger communities by bringing together families, schools, and community partners to ensure the well-being of our children. They also give working families peace of mind, knowing their school-aged children are safe and productive before and after the regular school day. The programs focus on developing skills and building resilience in our young people, giving them the tools to become responsible and engaging community members.

Holiday Craft Fairs

November 1 & 2
11th Annual Holiday Fundraiser Craft Fair at St. John’s Lutheran Church. Friday from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Raffle items and a \$6 lunch on Saturday. Contact Sylvia Dankers desyl@cccomm.net or 775-217-5771 for more information. 1170 S. Taylor Street, Fallon

November 2
Christmas Bazaar at the Holy Trinity Episcopal Church. Doors open at 9 a.m. Raffle tickets for sale. Lunch of homemade soups, salad, garlic bread, and dessert is \$5 and runs from 11 – 2 p.m. 507 Churchill Street, Fallon

November 9 & 10
Craft Show & Bake Sale Benefit for Banner Churchill Community Hospital. 1130 Alder Drive, Fallon

November 16
Fallon Elks Craft Fair Fundraiser 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Call 775-423-2239 to reserve a booth. 93 W. Center Street, Fallon

Holiday Pie Contest
November 16, 2024

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www.fallonchamber.com

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OBITUARIES

BARBARA JEAN EVANS
1938 - 2024



Barbara was born in Cody, Wyoming, on August 17, 1938, to Leonard and Regina Apps of Fillmore, Saskatchewan. She grew up in Billings, Montana, and graduated from Billings High School in 1956. She attended Pacific Lutheran College and studied business at Eastern Montana College of Education.

Barbara met Claude Evans while he was on leave from the Navy and they married soon after, on December 27, 1958. As the wife of a Navy Seabee, she lived in various places, including

Guam, Great Lakes, Illinois, Japan, and Gulfport, Mississippi. Claude and Barbara finally settled in Fallon, Nevada, in 1973, where she and Claude raised three beautiful children.

Besides being a loving wife and mother, she worked as a receptionist at The Fallon Convalescent Center for 20 years. After retiring, Barbara volunteered at the hospital auxiliary and the food pantry. Barbara was an active member of the Fallon Nazarene Church, serving in the choir, the nursery, as a Sunday School teacher, and as a board member. Barbara loved her church family, and she loved Jesus. She took every opportunity to share that love with others. She loved spending time with family and friends. She also enjoyed traveling, camping, swimming, bowling, bible study, and watching her children in various sporting events. Barbara had an infectious laugh and a contagious smile.

Barbara leaves behind her brother, Gary Apps (Colleen); Claude, her husband of 65 years; son Lawrance, son Wes (Barb), and daughter Claudia (James); grandchildren Trista, Bryce, Jerrod, Amanda, Levi, Travis, Ryan, and Lindsey; eight great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews.

A memorial service for Barbara will be held on Saturday, November 9, at 1 p.m. at the Nazarene Church, located at 1520 Grimes St., in Fallon.

Arrangements are by The Gardens Funeral Home.

DEREK KYLE PLANTS
1991 - 2024



Derek Kyle Plants passed away at the age of 33 years old, on October 12, 2024. He was a pillar of strength to all who knew him and a beloved son, father, and brother. Derek was a beacon of kindness with a gentle soul that touched all who knew him. His laughter echoed through the world, a melody of happiness that will forever resonate in our memories. He was passionate about music and always had an 80s song playing in his mind, and if you were lucky, he would sing it to you.

Derek is survived by his parents, Dale Plants and Vikki Plants (Jim Keller); his brother and best friend, Kameron Plants; his sisters Kaydee Keller and Destiny Keller Shermerhorn (Jon); his children, Brooklynn Plants and Mark Rico; his grandfather Kenneth Stone Sr., Walter and Sarah Plants, Uncle Corey Stone (Kelly), Aunt Stacia Foster (Steve) Aunt Jeannette Southern (Steve) and countless cousins, nephews, nieces and extended friends and family who adored him.

Derek was preceded in death by his grandmothers, Phyllis Stone and Marie Keller, and his uncle, Kenny Stone.

Graveside services will be held at the Churchill County Cemetery on November 16, 2024, at 2 p.m., with a gathering to honor Derek immediately following at the Twisted Branch in Fallon.

“He will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there will be no more death, mourning, crying, or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.” Revelation 21:4.

Instead of flowers, the family asks for donations to The Brain Trauma Foundation in Derek’s memory.
<https://braintrauma.org/donate>.

MEETINGS
November 4-7, 2024

<p>City Council Tuesday, Nov. 5, 9 a.m. Council Chambers 55 W. Williams Ave.</p>	<p>CC Communications Thursday, Nov. 7, 1:45 p.m. Commission Chambers 155 N. Taylor St.</p>
<p>Board of County Commissioners Thursday, Nov. 7, 8:15 a.m. Commission Chambers 155 N. Taylor St.</p>	<p>Highway Commission Thursday, Nov. 7, 1:15 p.m. Suite 110 155 N. Taylor St.</p>

Karma-giving

We are in need to help those with the gift of Hygiene Items
Add an item to a box each day and on November 20, 2024 deliver to the Fallon Chamber of Commerce for the Karma box project.

Nov. 1	Bottle of shampoo
Nov. 2	Bottle of conditioner
Nov. 3	Brush or comb
Nov. 4	Tube of hair gel
Nov. 5	Bottle of hairspray
Nov. 6	Tooth brush
Nov. 7	Tube of toothpaste
Nov. 8	Package of dental floss
Nov. 9	Bottle of mouthwash
Nov. 10	Package of shower wipes
Nov. 11	Bar of soap
Nov. 12	Tube of deodorant
Nov. 13	Bottle of lotion
Nov. 14	Tube of Blistex / Carmex
Nov. 15	Package of Qtips
Nov. 16	Package of disposable razors
Nov. 17	Can of shaving cream
Nov. 18	Package of Band-Aids
Nov. 19	Package of toilet paper

Drop off location:
Fallon Chamber of Commerce
290 W. Williams Ave
Fallon, NV 89406



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, Nov. 4
Beef Stew
Buttermilk Biscuit
Mixed Green Salad
Mandarin Oranges

Tuesday, Nov. 5
Lemon Chicken
Piccata
Cheese Tortellini
Asparagus
WW Bread
Diced Peaches
Apple Slices

Wednesday, Nov. 6
Meatloaf
Mashed Potatoes & Brown
Gravy
Garlic Green Beans
Baby Carrots
Fruit Cocktail
WW Roll

Thursday, Nov. 7
Baked Fish w/Cilantro Sauce
Black Beans
Spanish Rice
Mixed Green Salad
Mango Orange Cup

Friday, Nov. 8
LS Tomato Soup
Holiday Sub
Baby Carrots
Spiced Pears

FALLON DAILY BREAD

WOLF CENTER | 457 ESERALDA AVE., FALLON NV | 775-423-4714

Meals are served Mondays and Thursdays from 5 - 6 p.m.

Monday, Nov. 4
Beef Stew
Bread & Dessert

Thursday, Nov. 7
Shepard's Pie
Bread & Dessert

Monday, Nov. 11
Buffet Night
Vegetables & Bread

Thursday, Nov. 14
Citrus Baked Fish
Potatoes & Vegetables

All are Welcome!

COMMUNITY

Churchill County Library: November Happenings

Staff Report

As the weather cools down, cozy up with new programming added to old favorites at the library in November. The library will be closed Thursday through Saturday, November 28, 29 and 30 to observe the Thanksgiving holiday. Stop by and say hello to the new library director, Cathy Thorsen.

SPECIAL EVENTS

New adult programming starts this month. A monthly adult crafting project is now on the library calendar. Come out on November 14 at 4 p.m. to make a pie garland. The Adult BYOB(ook) Club begins November 21 at 4 p.m. Bring a book you are reading or have recently read.

Senator Rosen's office representative will be at the library on November 14 at 1 p.m. for "office hours." Stop by and let the senator's staff know what is on your mind.

Reading with Rover also takes place on November 14 at 3:30 p.m. Practice your reading skills with the best listeners and keep the book you choose to read. Geared to ages 6-11, but all are welcome.

Elementary Book Club meets November 22 at 3:30 p.m. in the Library Annex for those in grades 3 through 5. Reserve your spot at bit.ly/CCLElementaryBookClub.

The Churchill County Museum's recent art exhibit, "Shadow Catchers," features eight photographers who either lived in Churchill County or photographed its natural beauty between the 1860s and 1980s. The exhibit is currently on display at the library.

ONGOING PROGRAMS

"1,000 Books Before Kindergarten" encourages youngsters to read books before entering school. Recognition given for every 100 books read on the way to 1,000! Sign-ups are accepted at any time at bit.ly/CCL1000BBK.

Spice Club continues in November, this month featuring black lime. Ask at the desk for your free sample.

WEDNESDAYS

Children's story time is at 11 a.m. Each week's story time will feature the same content. Children's Librarian Miss J reads picture books to children and offers a craft to accompany most stories. Geared to children ages 3-5, but all kids are welcome to participate.

Family game night is at 4 p.m. Come with the whole family or on your own to enjoy games supplied by the library...or bring your own to play together.



THURSDAYS

Children's story time is at 10 and 11 a.m. on November 7, 14, and 21 only this month due to the holiday.

FRIDAYS

STEAM sessions are at 1:30 p.m. Choose from science, technology, engineering, art, and math activities that vary weekly. Geared to kids ages five through 11, but all are welcome.

OTHER SERVICES AT THE LIBRARY

Desktop computers are free for public use while printing and photocopying services are available for a small printing fee.

Online learning services include Mango, Creativebug, World Book, Libby, Hoopla, and Kanopy. Use them to learn a new language, explore crafts, study the planet, or download audiobooks, movies, music, and more! Access these programs from a computer, download the app to a smartphone, or activate them on a TV.

And as always, the library does not charge overdue fines.

HOURS OF OPERATION

The library's hours of operation are Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and it is closed on Sundays, Mondays, and major holidays.

Call 775-423-7581 for more information on any of the activities above. The Churchill County Library is located at 553 South Maine Street in Fallon. Programming is subject to change, so keep current on the library website, www.churchillcountylibrary.org.

High Desert Artists Art Sale and Show this Weekend

By Rachel Dahl, Photos courtesy of High Desert Artists

Local artists group, the High Desert Artists, who have been meeting on Wednesdays for years, will show their work this weekend, November 1 and 2, from noon until 6 p.m. each day at the Old Post Office at 90 N. Maine Street.

"The artistic talent in our local group is amazing," said Kim Rowlett, organizer and artist. "We meet at the Oats Park Art Center, and the Arts Council has been wonderfully accommodating and supportive."

They are also holding a raffle to benefit CAPS, the Churchill Animal Protection Society, the local no-kill dog and cat shelter. One of the local artists' works will be raffled off.

Refreshments will be served.

This is a good opportunity to meet local artists and to see the beautiful work they create.

"Come see the artworks of our very talented group," Rowlett said. "We are a friendly, spirited, fun group that meets each Wednesday at the Oats Park Art Center to paint and share our love of art. We would love to see you."



Suzie Slaybaugh, artist.



Mary Darby, artist.



Denise Johnson, potter.



Kim Rowlett, artist.

GOVERNMENT

School Board Considers Teacher Evaluations

By Rachel Dahl

During its October meeting, the Churchill County School Board of Trustees received a report from Human Resources Manager Cameron Sorensen on the Nevada Educator Performance Framework (NEPF) regarding the scores from the 2023-24 staff evaluations and the data from the staff survey.

According to Sorensen, the Department of Education staff met with district leadership to review the licensed staff evaluation results and assess the survey feedback, which highlighted both strengths and areas for improvement in how staff perceive and utilize the evaluation system.

There were 170 licensed staff evaluated, and none were rated as ineffective or developing. In fact, all the evaluations showed that they were effective or highly effective. Additionally, the number of teachers evaluated in FY 2024 dropped by 29% compared to the previous year, with only licensed teachers being evaluated.

In his report, Sorensen said that although highly effective ratings for staff increased significantly, from 14.68% in 2022 to 47.41% in 2024, this rise doesn't correlate directly with improved student performance, "indicating a need to better align teacher ratings with student outcomes." While the highly effective rating surpasses the statewide average of 19.83%, the disparity emphasizes the need to analyze whether the evaluation process reflects teacher impact in the classroom.

Recent 2023-24 school year results for scores measuring English Language Arts and Math proficiency show that Churchill Middle Schoolers dropped from 30.9% to 25.9%, and the High School students decreased from 48.8% to 37.6% in ELA. Middle

school students dropped from 15.6% to only 1.8% proficiency in math, and high school students went from 19% to 13.6% proficient in math.

Survey results from the staff evaluated indicated a favorable perception of the NEPF system, with most teachers finding it fair and impactful in improving instructional practice.

"I found it interesting," said Board President Gregg Malkovich. "There was a higher percent of highly effective than the percentage who thought it was fair, which tells me even those who were highly effective don't think it's fair, that means it's broken."

Trustee Kathryn Whitaker was less than pleased with the data, saying the evaluations didn't match the student performance results. "When I look at this, it looks like everyone gets a ribbon for participation, and it absolutely has to change," she said. "I'm tired of seeing the same results."

She expressed frustration that the district still has one-star schools, and the Smarter Balanced Assessments are also down. "The NEPF says of 135 teachers, half are highly effective – how does that even track? I know there are issues, but are we really changing our practices to help the students? I'm not seeing that in reports, in what's going on. The needle still hasn't moved."

Superintendent Derild Parsons said he agreed with Whitaker's frustrations. "Stacey (Cooper) is working with the administration to make sure the evaluations are more meaningful. Our hope is when we do this report next year our student performance equates a lot better to what we see in our evaluations."

The NEPF has been fraught with controversy since the Nevada Department of Edu-

cation released the measuring tool in 2019. The tool is a result of legislation initially passed during the 2011 session of the Nevada Legislature. It was designed to create a statewide way to evaluate teachers and administrators, rating them as highly effective, practical, minimally effective, or ineffective. The tool also provided student achievement data from statewide assessments to determine educator effectiveness ratings.

Over the years, revisions to the teacher evaluation eventually removed statewide performance measures based on student performance, implementing a Student Performance domain that was adjusted to weight from 40% to 15%.

The NEPF's goals are to foster student learning and growth, improve educators' instructional practices, inform human capital decisions, and engage stakeholders in the continuous improvement and monitoring of a professional growth system.

The main purpose of the framework, as stated by the Nevada Department of Education, is to determine "whether educators are helping students meet achievement targets and performance expectations."

Sorensen reported that the following steps will include refining the evaluation process to ensure that the increase in highly effective ratings translated into measurable student performance improvements and strengthening tracking mechanisms for probationary and permanent staff to ensure proper evaluation procedures are followed and staff are supported.

For the online version of this story, go to <https://www.thefallonpost.org/article/6697>, local-public-schools-struggle-to-make-the-grade-nevada-report-card-released-this-week.

Library to Open Mondays

By Rachel Dahl

The Churchill County Library will resume regular hours after several months of a skeleton schedule due to staffing shortages after Library Director C.L. Quillen was terminated in May.

Beginning Monday, November 4, the library will be open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The Board of Trustees voted last week to allow the library to be open 55 hours a week if needed.

Newly hired Library Director Cathy Thorson said she has looked through the data and cannot find a justification for staying open an extra hour during the week or on Saturday. "For consistency and so the community knows that there will be regular hours that we'll be open until the same times each night during the week we would propose closing at 6 p.m. during the week," she said.

Thorson conferred with board chair Jessica Rowe and former Library Director Carol Lloyd, who has been filling in through the interim, to see if there was a community justification for keeping the library open until 7 p.m. "There seems to be no community reasons to stay open."

She also said it would be good to reopen on Mondays. "I've been in the library now for two Mondays and I can't tell you how many people come up to open the doors and we're closed," Thorson said.

Trustee Sue Segura also asked Thorson to come prepared with a report for the board. "I want you to do an analysis of the number of people, the number of books checked out, and bring us some ideas of what you would like to change. I'm sure the trustees have things they want to change, but I want to see data," Segura said.

In other business, the board moved the November meeting to November 21, at 3 p.m., due to the Thanksgiving holiday.

ELECTIONS

Early Voting Shows Strong Republican Turnout

By Rachel Dahl

As of October 28, early voting returns, as the Nevada Secretary of State reported, show that in Churchill County, 73 democrats have early voted, 617 republicans, and 175 voters listed as "other" for a total of 865 voters turning out early.

There are 12,166 registered voters in Churchill County, 3,183 Democrats and 6,774 Republicans. Early voting will continue through Friday, November 1, from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the County Commission Chambers and the Fallon Tribe Learning Center.

Statewide, 28,342 Democrats have cast their votes, 44,316 Republicans, and 27,177 early voters listed as "other."

Election day is November 5, and the polls will be open at the Fallon Convention Center, 100 Campus Way, from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.



CHURCHILL COUNTY COURTS

Tenth Judicial District Court

Tuesday, October 22 - Judge Thomas Stockard Presiding

By Teresa Moon

Jonathan Dale Keller, in custody, pleaded guilty to the gross misdemeanor of injuring or tampering with a vehicle causing \$250 to \$5,000 in damages, which is punishable by up to 364 days in jail and a fine up to \$2,000. Senior Deputy District Attorney Chelsea Sanford requested restitution of \$800, which includes parts and labor. Sanford said Keller was walking around having mood swings, yelling vulgarities at people, crying, and then hitting and damaging random vehicles. The state believes supervision will be adequate “to ensure he commits no further violation and gets on the right path in life.” Sanford asked for a maximum suspended sentence with the condition that Keller participates in a diversion program through Western Nevada Regional Drug Court.

Charles Woodman, Esq., defense counsel for Keller, told the court his client is forthcoming about issues he needs to address, has a healthy perspective on where he needs to go, and feels being on probation with specialty court would benefit him. Woodman argued for a suspended sentence of 60 to 90 days hanging over his client’s head, saying he believed that would be sufficient.

Keller told Judge Stockard, “I know I’ve been very belligerent and very Neanderthalish, I guess you could say. Which I’ve not meant to be.” Judge Stockard asked Keller about his future and what he would like to see. Keller said he hopes for a better future for himself. Stockard replied, “The beautiful thing is the future is unwritten. You get to write it.”

Keller received a year’s probation on a suspended sentence of 364 days. He must obtain a substance abuse evaluation and follow the recommendations, and he must pay \$800 restitution at \$100 per month. Stockard ordered him to remain in custody until his first Drug Court appearance.

Richard Edward Wayne Harrison, in custody, pleaded guilty to the Category D felony of reckless driving causing death or substantial bodily harm, which is punishable by one to six years in prison and a fine of \$2,000 to \$5,000. Judge Stockard ordered a pre-sentencing investigation (PSI) and set sentencing for December 31.

Matthew Bernard Williams appeared for violating the terms of his pretrial release. Court Services Director Brenda Ingram reported Williams was permitted to do a drug test in Reno; however, he had failed to do so. Judge Stockard modified the conditions of Williams’ release, requiring him to submit



Tenth Judicial District Court Building.

proof to the court by 4 p.m. explaining the missed September 6 test. If Williams fails to comply, he must turn himself in immediately. Further, Williams must test daily, turn himself in upon positive tests, attend all hearings in person, and arrive 15 minutes early. Judge Stockard stated he would set a cash-only \$50,000 bail should Williams violate any of the conditions. Williams pleaded not guilty to Category B Felony Battery with a Deadly Weapon Causing Substantial Bodily Harm on June 4 after allegedly punching or hitting another individual while holding a rock. His trial begins November 18.

Jolean Marie Boag appeared for a review hearing on an original charge of a Category C Felony of Non-Support of a Spouse, Former Spouse, or a Child. The court consented to amending the charge if she kept her payments current for 12 months.

Deputy District Attorney Priscilla Baker told the court that Boag has become current with her child support after a rocky start. Therefore, the state amended the complaint to the gross misdemeanor charge of Conspiracy to Commit the Crime of Non-Support of a Child, which is punishable by up to 364 days in jail and a fine of up to \$2,000.

Boag pleaded guilty to the amended charge. Judge Stockard imposed fees, assessments, and a \$2,000 fine, which he suspended for one year on the condition that she remain current with her child support payments.

Paul Albert Shultz appeared for sentencing for Gross Misdemeanor of Abuse, Neglect, or Endangerment of a Child Not Causing Substantial Bodily or Mental Harm, to which he entered an Alford plea in August, which allows him to maintain his innocence while accepting the penalties associated with a guilty plea. The court had a psychological risk assessment by Dr. Hixon-Brenenstall, which concluded that Shultz is at low risk of reoffending and makes him probation-eligible.

DDA Priscilla Baker explained the matter:

“This case has some very serious charges. Those charges involve a 5-year-old girl.” Baker said the mother of the victim did not want to put her young child through the trauma of going to court; however, she would like Shultz restricted from being around children. “The evidence presented was that this 5-year-old disclosed that Mr. Paul tried to make her touch his privates over his clothing,” Baker stated, asking the court to impose a sentence that would hold him accountable for those actions.

Churchill County Public Defender Jacob Sommer told the court that his client maintains he did nothing wrong. Further, Sommer said Shultz is an Arizona resident, is at low risk of reoffending, has no prior criminal history, and has retired from the military. When asking the court to impose a fine, Sommer stated, “He has shown in every aspect that he is cooperative, that he is responsible, that he’s honest.”

Judge Stockard inquired about Hixon-Brenenstall’s recommendations regarding counseling. Sommer replied that Shultz thinks counseling could be good and beneficial to him. Shultz said he has learned a lot about the judicial system and is not opposed to counseling, noting there is a VA clinic near where he lives off the grid in Arizona.

Judge Stockard imposed fees, assessments, and a \$2,000 fine to be paid in full within six months. Stockard told Shultz, “I am concerned about the allegations... I look very seriously at what you’ve been convicted of... I would really encourage you to go back and read those recommendations, especially the ones about counseling.”

CONTINUANCES:

- Matthew P. Beyer’s arraignment was continued to October 29.
- Nathaniel Arnold Slaamot’s sentencing violation hearings continued until December 3.
- Travis Wade Souza’s sentencing violation hearing continued until October 29.

Court Rejects New Counsel Request - Sentences Greene to Prison

By Teresa Moon

James Lewis Greene, Jr. appeared for sentencing in the Tenth Judicial District Court on October 22 before Judge Thomas Stockard. Greene pled guilty in June to charges of Category D Felony of Battery that Constitutes Domestic Violence, a Third or Subsequent Offense.

Greene addressed the court, telling Judge Stockard that he felt his attorney, Charles Woodman, Esq., was not adequately representing him and that Woodman pushed into the plea deal before even having the chance to figure everything out and that he had realized he could not trust that his attorney has his best interests.

Judge Stockard closed the courtroom for a Young Hearing, based on the *Young v. United States* ruling, to determine if a conflict of interest exists when a defendant’s lawyer might also be involved with other defendants or parties in a related case. A Young Hearing allows a judge to ensure the lawyer focuses on the client they are defending in that case, without being pulled in different directions due to other cases or clients protecting the defendant’s right to a fair trial with fully committed legal representation.

Upon reconvening, Judge Stockard issued a ruling, stating, “... Mr. Greene’s request today for substitution of counsel, or for his own counsel, are for purposes of delay.” Stockard explained he ruled based on the record, which shows that Greene entered a guilty plea in June, which was found to be freely, voluntarily, and intelligently entered, and counsel gave a factual basis to support the plea.

On August 27, Greene appeared for sentencing but asked for a continuance based on new evidence. The victims were present in the courtroom, but sentencing was postponed, allowing the state to interview two additional witnesses – interviews that concluded that the battery did occur.

Judge Stockard further determined that Woodman, appointed to defend Greene, stayed in touch with him, had discussions, and prepared him for the hearings. When Greene made statements of new evidence, Woodman investigated thoroughly.



James Green Jr. Photo courtesy of CCSO.

Stockard reported that the Young Inquiry found that Woodman’s alleged conflict was minimal, remarking, “We are deep into this case, we’re at our third sentencing hearing...the court is going to deny the substitution of counsel. There is not significant prejudice to you ... This is as untimely of a request as I’ve ever seen... and is done solely for the purposes of delaying... So now we’ll go forward with the sentencing.”

Woodman argued for a minimum sentence for Greene, stating, “I think the most salient part of the Pre-Sentencing Investigative report for the court to be aware of is... where it says my client was raised by his mother and older sister. His father was incarcerated most of his childhood; his mother was an alcoholic, and until she became sober, his older sister raised him.”

Woodman explained that his client is an example of the classic breakdown of the family institution and expressed concern about his client’s ability to make sense of the world around him the way the “average person does,” because, as it’s spelled out in the PSI of the way he was raised.

“You have to look at my client for who and what he is. When he’s raised by his older sister, how much of a grounds gain was he given to live a productive adult lifetime...” Woodman continued. “This is, unfortunately, a young man who’s just not equipped to go out and lead a normal life... It’s a question of how much of his life that isn’t good can we hold him responsible for.” Woodman said he believed the standard court minimum sentence of a year would be appropriate.

Greene told the court, “I just would like to get my life in order. I think, honestly if I can make it to Oregon and get working, I can fix what I have mistaken. Start fresh.” The victim was present but chose not to make a statement. Her mother told the court that her daughter is more scared, jumpy, and less trusting than before this incident occurred.

Judge Stockard sentenced Greene to 24-60 months in a Nevada State Prison, imposed a fine of \$1,000, and remanded him to the custody of the Churchill County Sheriff for imposition of the sentence.

SPORTS

Greenwave Sports Roundup

By Robert Perea

GIRLS SOCCER SCORES

The Churchill County Greenwave girls' soccer team dominated the Northern 3A East on the field and in the classroom this season.

On the field, the Greenwave went 17-1 in league play, scoring 139 goals and allowing only nine.

Karlie Simper shattered the school record with 48 goals and also had 13 assists. Yasmien Laceste followed with 17 goals and 11 assists, McKenzie Peterson scored 16, and Kortnie Simper had 14 goals and led the team in assists with 15. Payton Ocegura also had 11 assists, and both Kaylee Craig and Kylee Simper had 10.

Ocegura led the team with recoveries or steals from the opponent with 371, and Kortnie Simper followed closely with 362, Craig with 336, Kylee Simper with 301, and Kaitlin Goings chipped in with 279.

The team started the season without a goalkeeper, but Ambreea Snodgrass stepped up to the position after the first nonleague tournament. She finished with 67 saves and 10 shutouts.

In addition, the Greenwave players accumulated a team grade point average of 3.7 to win the NIAA 3A state academic championship.

The Greenwave was the No. 1 seed from the East for the North Region Tournament but lost 3-0 in the first round to North Tahoe on Oct. 28.

"It's a tough pill to swallow," coach Macy Myers said. "It was a great game too, 0-0 at halftime, looked like we'd be heading for overtime, but they're tired."



Greenwave Girls Soccer Team. Photo courtesy of Coach Macy Myers.

The Greenwave suffered several injuries at the end of the season and were without three players.

"I just hope they heal before popping into their next sport," Myers said.

Myers said she is proud of the team for all they accomplished this season and is sure they will get many players on the All-State 1st & 2nd teams. Those results will come out on November 4.

BOYS SOCCER CLAIMS 4TH SEED

The Greenwave boys soccer team finished in fourth place in the Northern 3A East with a 10-6 record. By beating Lowry 2-0 on Oct. 22, they clinched the No. 4 playoff seed, eliminating Fernley. In the tournament's first round, they lost 5-0 at South Tahoe on Oct. 28.

VOLLEYBALL FALLS IN FIRST PLAYOFF MATCH AT TRUCKEE

The Greenwave Volleyball team finished tied with Lowry for third place in the Northern 3A East with a 6-4 record, but due to tiebreakers, they claimed the No. 3 seed for the regional tournament. That matched them against Truckee, which was the No. 1 seed in the Northern 3A West with an undefeated league record.

In the first round on Oct. 28, the Greenwave put up a stiff fight, losing in three straight sets, but all by four points or less, 25-22, 26-24, 25-21.

Fallon will host the regional semifinals this Friday and Saturday. Fernley will play Truckee at 4 p.m., and Spring Creek will face Elko at 6 p.m. The two winners will play for the championship at 1 p.m. Saturday.

State Wrestling Tournament to be Held in Fallon

By Rachel Dahl

During the last school board meeting, School Board Trustee Matt Hyde announced that the Nevada Interscholastic Activities Association, NIAA, has chosen to hold the State Wrestling Tournament in Fallon at the 3C Arena in February 2025. Hyde sits on the NIAA Board of Control.

"I'd like to thank the city, the county, and the school district for collaborating on making this happen," Hyde said. "It is awesome to see three public entities come together to do something great for our kids, and honestly, this is going to be great for economic development in this community."

The Board of Control approved a schedule change during their September meeting that will allow for the 2A/3A/5A tournaments to be held at the Rafter 3C.

"It's going to take some work from the school; the city and the county will all have to band together," Hyde said. "Everyone was so impressed with the state baseball tournament. This community really comes together and puts on a great event and we expect we'll see more and more of these types of events coming here. It is great to see."

Trustee Gregg Malkovich, board president, echoed Hyde's comments. "This is a big thing for Fallon; it will be a big crowd, the restaurants, and everyone will benefit from that."

The State Tournament is scheduled to be held February 7 through 9, 2025, shortly following the 3A Regional Wrestling Tournament, which is also scheduled for the Rafter 3C from January 31 through February 2, 2025.



File photo courtesy of John Baker.



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EDUCATION

Oasis Bighorn Bulletin

By Angela Viera. Photos courtesy of Oasis Academy.

STORYBOOK PUMPKINS

The annual tradition of transforming pumpkins into storybook characters has become a delightful and creative activity for third graders. This engaging project blends literacy with hands-on art and not only fosters creativity but also gives the students a chance to share about some of their favorite characters.

The idea behind storybook pumpkins is simple: students select their favorite book character and decorate a pumpkin to represent that character. This project allows children to express their artistic skills while deepening their connection to literature.

Once a character was chosen, students made it come to life using paint, crafting materials, and accessories.

The project also meant family involvement.

"I chose Fly Guy from 'Fly High Fly Guy and Buzz' because I love the character and the adventures in the book," said Indie Sullivan. "My mom helped me with the eyes and the wings of 'Fly Guy.' Overall, we worked on it for three days."

"I talked to my mom about choosing 'Elf on the Shelf,'" said Harley Gomes. "She thought it was a good choice. We then spray painted the pumpkins and got all the accessories, including lights."

Gomes especially enjoyed the project and wants there to be more like them for a couple of reasons.

"It was a fun-cool project. These are the projects we really want to keep doing in school. We got to be very creative, and I am very proud of my fellow classmates with how much effort they put into their pumpkins," said Gomes.

This project serves multiple educational purposes, including literacy development, artistic expression, teamwork, and collaboration.

Families were invited to view students' pumpkins on Thursday and hear the background behind each creation.



Indie Sullivan.



Harley Gomes and Lance Gomes.



Joshua Polish, Keaton Jaques, Asher Irving and Chrissy Stokes.

unique structure allows students to fully engage with the material before progressing to the next course," he said.

The school has been popular with Oasis graduates.

"Our former Oasis students that are attending absolutely love the structure and are even more successful taking one class at a time. I wouldn't mind seeing more universities implementing the Experience One model," Lenon closed.

BOARD GAMES ELECTIVE NEW FOR MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS

Oasis Academy Middle School offered a unique elective for middle school students this year. Mr. Dane Nott teaches the popular Board Games class, which has a full roster of students.

Critical thinking, problem-solving, math, teamwork, cooperation, patience, increased engagement, resilience, and stress relief are just some of the skills the 45-minute class offers students.

Eighth-grader Leyton Anderson has enjoyed being in the class. "I like board games," he said. "It's a nice way to socialize and kind of get to know my classmates."

Students can choose from multiple games during the class period.

"My favorite so far is Monopoly, because it involves a couple things. It has money and math skills, and strategy is a big part of the game," Anderson said.



Jeremy Heath, Leyton Anderson, Ezra Acomb, Jared Sherer.

Incorporating the board games class into the curriculum has supported academic learning and nurtured vital social, emotional, and cognitive skills in students.

Playing board games fosters teamwork, as students must collaborate to achieve common goals. This interaction helps build essential social skills like cooperation, turn-taking, and conflict resolution.

Students also must articulate strategies, negotiate, and listen actively, which enhances their verbal communication abilities. This can be especially beneficial for shy or reserved students.

The interactive nature of board games makes them an effective tool for fostering a collaborative and engaging learning atmosphere.

Veritas Preparatory School

By David Ernst

On Friday, October 11, Veritas held its annual Grandparents Day event. Families sat in on morning classes and experienced some of the activities their students engaged in during class time. Families raced their students in math facts, completed classroom scavenger hunts, and experimented with magnetic fields.

Afterward, families were treated to individual presentations from each grade level.

Veritas' patriotism was put on display with Ms. Emma's K4 class's performance of "You're a Grand Old Flag" and Ms. Pustovrh's 5th-6th grade "Bee-mocracy." Stu-

dents displayed their exceptional memorization skills with Mrs. Jung's Kindergarten's Cowboy ABCs and Ms. Kelsey's second-grade recitation of the Books of the Bible. Mrs. Felte's 3rd-4th grade and Mr. Ernst's & Mrs. Rosario's 7th-8th grade students each performed skits about Saint Francis of Assisi and the importance of logical propositions, respectively, while Mrs. Kota's first-graders celebrated their families singing "All About My Gramps & Grandma." The 3rd-8th graders also performed a rousing rendition of "Fly Me To The Moon" in Latin.

Veritas was blessed with a full house for the event and is thankful to all those who attended.



Logos Pajama Day for Cancer

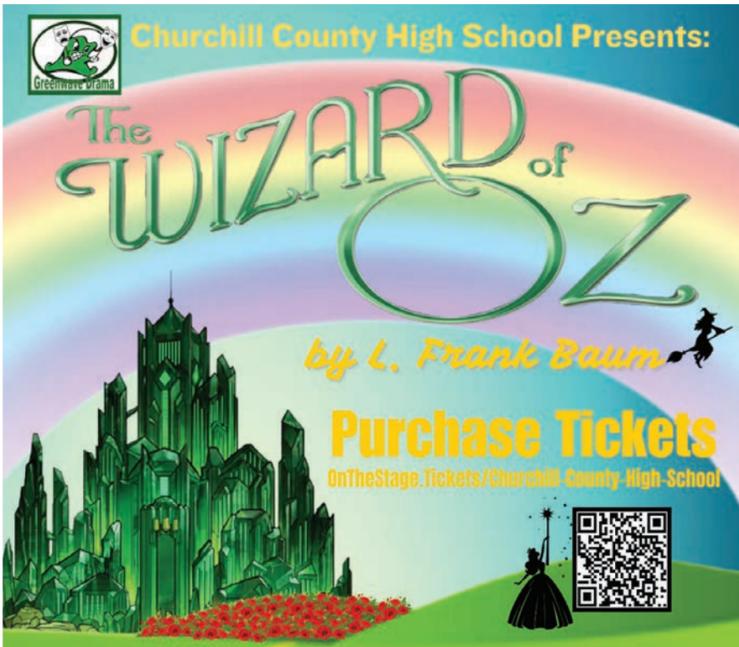
Photos courtesy of LCA.

Logos Christian Academy students love wearing their jammies to school, especially when they are raising money for a local family whose daughter is battling cancer.

EDUCATION

CCSD Cool School News

Compiled by Kaitlin Ritchie. Photos courtesy of CCSD.



CCHS

The CCHS production of “The Wizard of Oz” is set to take place in the newly renovated CCHS Auditorium. Performances will be held on December 6, 7, 13, and 14 at 7 p.m., with matinees on Saturday, December 7 at 1 p.m. and Thursday, December 12 at 4:30 p.m. The production features a cast from various local schools, including students from CCHS, CCMS, Oasis Academy, Agape Church School, and homeschool programs spanning grades 6 to 12. Tickets for the performances are available for purchase online at <http://www.our.show/fallon/wizard>.



Students at the STEAM glow dance.

CCMS

Last Thursday evening, Randi Orong’s STEAMLab students transformed the pit into an exciting space where students gathered for a glow dance. The event celebrated students’ achievements and adherence to school-wide expectations during the first quarter while raising funds to support the STEAMLab. As students entered, they were greeted by vibrant neon lights and music, setting the perfect party atmosphere. The glow dance was a celebration for students and also a testament to CCMS’ strong school community. It was an opportunity for students to come together outside of school hours and enjoy a night of fun.



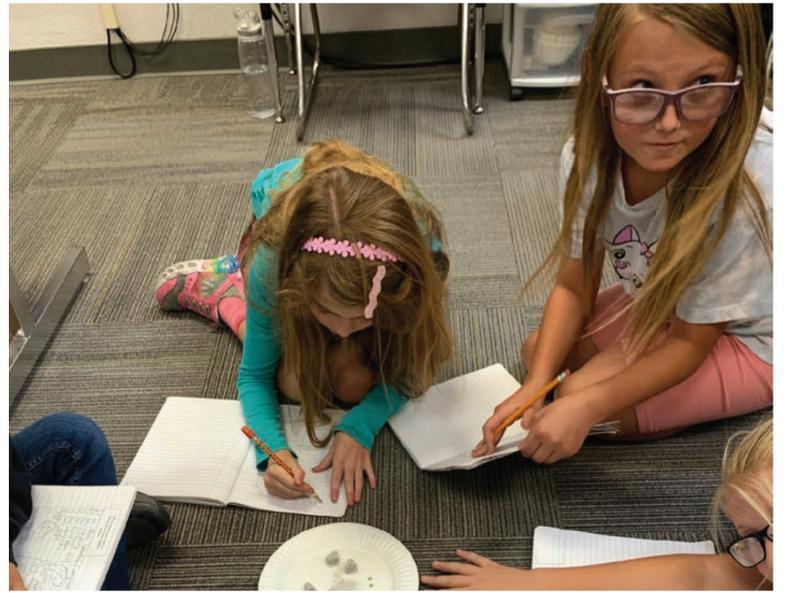
Learning about spiders.

EC Best

Last week, students in Marla Wood’s class learned about spiders. They started the week by reading Gail Gibbons’s book “Spiders.” The class was divided into groups, each assigned a specific type of spider. Students worked independently and in groups to learn and discuss their spiders before presenting their reports to the class.

Numa

Students in Dominique Johnson’s class engaged in an exciting lesson focused on physical weathering, a critical geological process. Each group began their experiment with whole pieces of granite and conglomerate, two types of rock known for their durability. The students carefully shook the rocks in containers, simulating natural forces like wind and water that contribute to weathering. After shaking, they poured the contents onto paper plates, revealing the small fragments created through abrasion. Seeing even the toughest rocks broken down by simulated weathering was shocking.



Students observe and record weathering.

Lahontan

The CCFD visited the school last week to celebrate Fire Safety Month. Students were thrilled to meet Sparky the Fire Dog and interact with local firefighters, who shared vital information on fire safety. Students learned essential tips on what to do in the event of a fire, the importance of smoke alarms, and how to recognize firefighters in their gear when they arrive to help.



Students with Sparky the fire dog.

NELC

Last week, NELC hosted its annual School at the Farm family engagement event. Students and their families went on a field trip to Lattin Farms, where the teachers led students and their families in several activities designed to educate students while having fun. NELC wants to thank all the families who attended this fun-filled day. Family engagement events like this one are essential for building connections between families and schools. They create opportunities for parents to be involved in their child’s education and enhance students’ learning experiences.



Learning about pumpkins at Lattin Farm.

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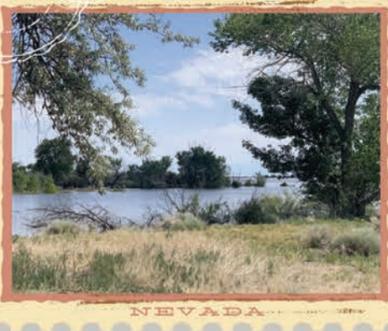
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PostCards



By Michon Mackedon

When I initiated this column, Postcards, I suggested several topics to write about, not to exclude topics of your own choosing. One of the suggestions was “First impressions upon moving here.”

Below is the first postcard I have received on that topic - from Andrea Robb-Grulli: ‘Twas The Night Before Christmas. My husband and I have lived for half a century in Northern Nevada towns.

Winter snows in other towns always slowed or stopped safe traffic on the streets. Major streets were plowed but on side streets snows were often left to melt away—if there was sunshine.

We moved to Fallon on December 21. The third day we were in Fallon, I was busy unpacking our belongings and heard a strange, muffled sound out in the street.

“It was the Night Before Christmas and what to my wondering eyes should appear”—not eight tiny reindeer but a street sweeper thoroughly cleaning the street of a sprinkle of snow.

There was only enough snow to make the pavement white. When the sweeper moved on its way not a snowflake was to be seen.

What a town we had moved to. No slippery streets to contend with when it snows.

Let’s keep those first impressions coming in.

Robb-Grulli’s memory of Christmas snow gives tribute to the many fine City of Fallon services we all enjoy but sometimes take for granted. Her postcard also furthers my thinking on a topic I have been writing about - Fallon’s streets.

I drove down Ferguson Street yesterday and thought about how its name memorializes a unique part of Lahontan Valley’s history. Modern-day Fergusons still live among us, proving that the Ferguson legacy is long-lived.

Some of you are familiar with Thompson and West’s “History of Nevada,” published in 1881. The Churchill County section of the book provides a snapshot of our particular place at one particular time, and the name Jackson Ferguson is prominent in the account. The brief biography states that Ferguson was born in Cuyahoga, County, Ohio in 1832. He grew up on a farm and married Miss Elizabeth Peugh before following dreams of gold to California, first by himself in 1854, then later, accompanied by his family, in 1862. They made their way to Nevada, probably in the late 1860s and purchased 740 acres in St Clair District, Churchill County. In 1878, his ranch became the Post Office for the St. Clair District, and Ferguson was appointed Postmaster. He was elected to the Nevada Assembly in 1878, representing his county “with honor and fidelity.” We also learn from Thompson and West that Ferguson “is the fortunate father of five sons and one daughter...with one daughter sleeping in the churchyard.”

Of local interest as well is Jackson Ferguson’s leadership in the Seventh-Day Adventist movement here. He held a meeting of local fellow church members in Stillwater on the first of June 1876, with 22 people in attendance. An impressive number for that early date in our sparsely populated county.

Let me put some pieces of the street name/Ferguson story together. The stately Seventh Day Adventist Church was built in 1950 on the corner of Ferguson and Esmeralda Streets and designed to seat 225 worshippers. The property had been purchased many years earlier from the Ferguson family and had once been part of the Ferguson Ranch. If you have not paid attention to this imposing white two-story structure, it’s worth your time to do so.

In any case, the Ferguson Street name is more than just a name. It’s a part of who we are.

Send your postcard to mackedon@phonewave.net. Last week, I left a letter out of the email address, so my apologies. This week, the address is correct.

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.

COLUMNS

What’s Cooking in Kelli’s Kitchen

By Kelli Kelly

A few weeks ago, one of my favorite Fallon farmers posted on Facebook that this is the season to go “Full Pony Mode” on eating apples. This post made me giggle with visions of chomping on apples like a voracious horse and ruminating on how we eat in modern society. Like every other ingredient grown or raised, apples have a harvest season starting in late July and extending through November, depending on the variety. Demand for apples, however, is year-round. Grocery customers would be shocked if they walked into a conventional store in the springtime and found the shelves empty of apples. From a business perspective, year-round demand and seasonal production generate opportunities. How do apple producers supply seasonal products to satisfy year-round demand? The answer, of course, is in storage solutions.

Food storage is an essential piece of the food system. For time eternal, people have taken steps to preserve the harvest from gardens and farms to postpone decay. Preservation solutions include fermenting, drying, smoking, and curing ingredients to extend their useful and consumable life. For the most part, food preservation techniques are the same now as in the old days, though innovative technology has made it easier. Storage solutions, on the other hand, have changed drastically through science and innovation. No longer are storage plans based on root cellars and cool, dark spaces. In modern times, seasonal apple harvests are kept in controlled atmosphere storage, in which the apples are put into hibernation by

controlling the temperature, carbon dioxide, oxygen, and humidity levels.

Increasingly, apples are being engineered to match storage solutions. The new Cosmic Crisp apple was created for this exact purpose. It is an apple that can be stored under controlled atmosphere conditions for 12 months and under refrigeration alone for 6 months. While the “business advisor” in me is impressed with the creative problem-solving for supply and demand challenges, the “food systems advocate” in me wants to scream in protest. I am sure that you all can guess which of these voices is louder.

I encourage you to consider seasonality when making cooking decisions. While we have all grown accustomed to having access to virtually every produce item every day of the year, fruits and vegetables taste better and are more nutritious in season. I, for one, am going to lean into eating all of the apples during apple season. Full Pony-Mode, Activated!



Savory Apple Thyme Tart

From Le Petit Chef

Ingredients:

- 1 Roll of store-bought pie dough (enough for two individual 6 inch tarts)
- 1 tbsp. Unsalted butter
- 1 tbsp. Olive oil
- 1 Small yellow onion, sliced into thin rings
- 1/2 cup Crème fraîche
- 1 tsp. Dijon mustard
- 1 cup Shredded Gruyere cheese
- 1/2 tbsp. Fresh thyme leaves chopped, plus more for garnish
- 1 Apple cored and thinly sliced
- Salt and freshly ground pepper

Directions:

1. On a lightly floured surface, roll out the dough and press into two six-inch tart pans, trimming off excess. Refrigerate until firm, about 30 minutes.
2. Preheat oven to 375 degrees. Line the dough with parchment paper and top with pie weights or dried beans. Bake for 20 minutes. Remove the parchment and weights. Continue baking until the crust is golden brown and crisp, about 10 minutes more.
3. Transfer tart pans to a wire rack and let cool slightly. Reduce the oven temperature to 350 degrees.
4. Meanwhile, make the filling: In a skillet over medium heat, melt the butter with the olive oil and swirl the pan to combine. Add the onions and cook until lightly browned and starting to caramelize, about 8 minutes per side. Remove from heat.
5. In a small bowl, stir together the crème fraîche and mustard and spread evenly over the crust. Sprinkle with half of the cheese and the thyme. Arrange the apple slices and onions on top. Sprinkle with the remaining cheese and season with salt and pepper.
6. Bake on the top oven rack until the pastry is golden and the cheese is melted, about 15 minutes. Let cool for 10 minutes, garnish with thyme, cut into slices, and serve.



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

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COLUMNS

Allison's Book Report

"The Last One at the Wedding"

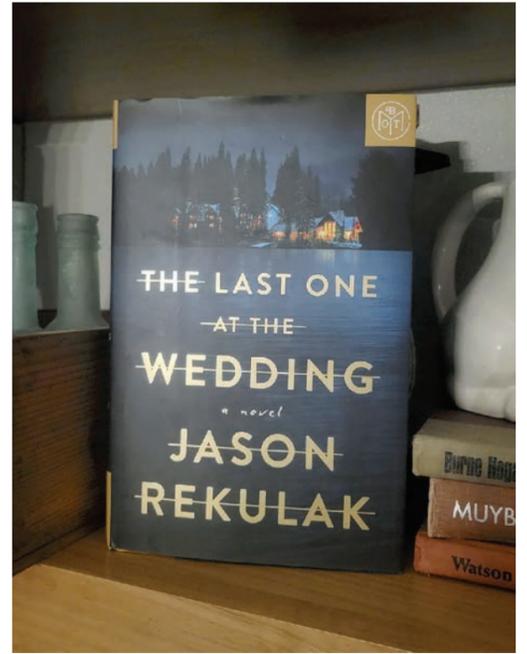
by Jason Rekulak

Another week has gone by, and it looks like fall is actually here. This weekend, the time changes and the sun will be setting earlier and earlier. What better time to pour yourself a glass of wine or make a cup of tea and crack open a good book? As promised, this week's Book Report is about the new book from Jason Rekulak, "The Last One at the Wedding." Let me tell you: this one will have you turning pages well into those long evenings.

Frank Szatowski last heard from his daughter, Maggie, three years ago. He has been convinced that their estrangement is permanent, so he is surprised when she calls him out of the blue. He's even more surprised when she invites him to her wedding in New Hampshire. Frank is ecstatic and hopes that this is the opportunity to make things right with Maggie after all this time. When Maggie introduces her dad to her new fiancé, he turns out to be none other than Aidan Gardner, the sole heir of tech billionaire Errol Gardner. Frank is apprehensive about Aidan but excited to walk his daughter

down the aisle. When he arrives, he finds that the wedding is at the family's private estate – very secluded, very luxurious, and very much out of his league. Feeling desperately out of place, Frank focuses his energy on reconnecting with Maggie and getting to know his new in-laws, which proves to be harder than Frank thought it would be. Aidan is withdrawn and evasive. Maggie doesn't seem to have time for Frank with all of the wedding planning. Frank even finds that the locals are disturbingly hostile to the Gardners, and Frank starts to suspect that Aidan and his family are hiding something.

"The Last One at the Wedding" is a suspenseful thriller that had me on the edge of my seat. This book is a family drama meets murder thriller, which is very different from the horror/thriller that is Rekulak's previous book, "Hidden Pictures." The Gardner's wealth and the setting of their private estate add a "haves and have-nots" element, making readers wonder how far a family will go when money is of no concern. The red flags and the red herrings are everywhere, and I



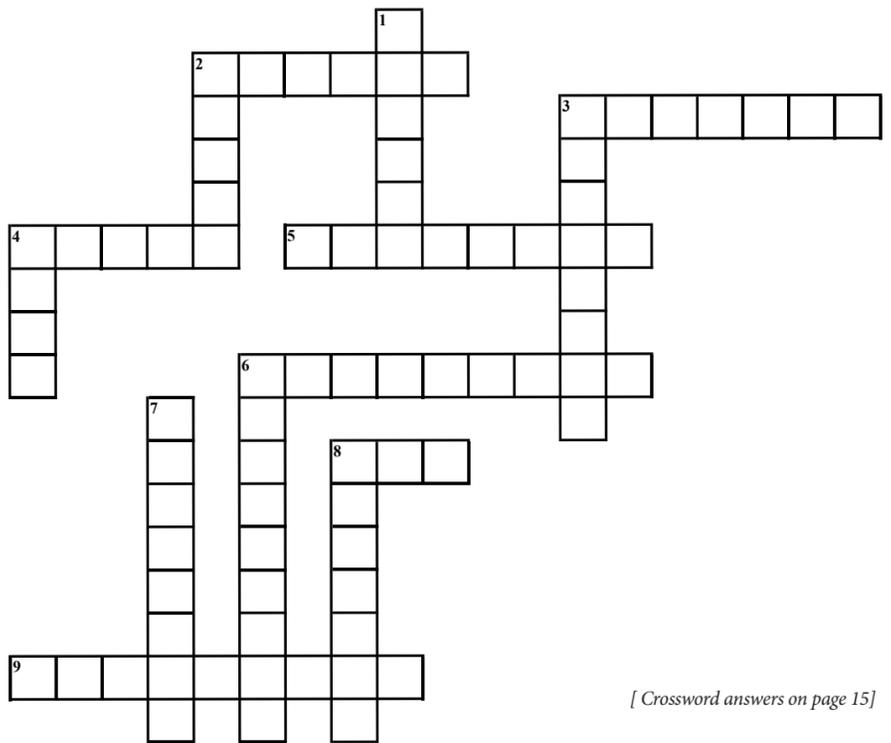
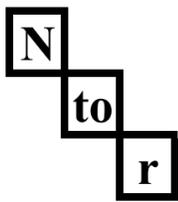
know that thriller readers will not be able to put this one down.

That's all I have for this week, so go on and turn your clocks back, add "The Last One at the Wedding" to your to-be-read queue, and pop over to my Instagram, @allison.the.reader, and let me know what books are keeping you company this fall, and what you think I should be reading next.

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. Digit
- 3. Bomb
- 4. Purchased last
- 5. Parent
- 6. The Fallon Post
- 8. Goes with neither
- 9. Stationery

Down

- 1. Tidier
- 2. At no time
- 3. Eleventh month
- 4. Close by
- 6. Pajamas
- 7. Beginner
- 8. Goes with nor

[Crossword answers on page 15]

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LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE OF OPEN APPOINTIVE POSITION

The Board of County Commissioners is seeking a public-spirited citizen who is willing to serve as a member on the Churchill County Planning Commission. The Planning Commission is an advisory board to the Board of County Commissioners and will meet twice monthly. This person will serve on a seven (7) member board responsible for decisions with Planning Department matters associated within Churchill County. This member will serve a term from December 1, 2024 through December 31, 2026. Computer knowledge and experience is essential. Familiarity with Churchill County and a broad understanding of Churchill County's governance, Master Plan, and land use planning policies is preferred. For more details, interested persons may talk to the Public Works Director for additional information about the Planning Commission and what the position entails. Interested persons may obtain an application at the Human Resources Department, 155 N. Taylor St., Suite 177, Fallon, Nevada 89406, or by downloading the application at the following link: <https://nvchurchillcounty.civicplus.com/773/AdvisoryGoverning-Board-Openings>. All letters and applications are to be submitted to the above address not later than 3:00 p.m. Wednesday, November 6, 2024.

Pamela D. Moore
Deputy Clerk to the Board

Published in
The Fallon Post
Oct. 18, 25 and Nov. 1, 2024
Ad #6257

NOTICE OF OPEN APPOINTIVE POSITION

The Board of Churchill County Commissioners is seeking the names of a public-spirited citizen who is willing to serve as a member of the Churchill County Cemetery Board. The Cemetery Board is an advisory board, appointed by the Board of County Commissioners, authorized and directed to make recommendations to the Churchill County Board of Commissioners regarding programs and any other matters properly relating to the Cemetery. The board meets approximately once every three months or more often as necessary. The board is currently seeking to fill a term running from January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2028. For more details, interested persons may obtain an application at Churchill County Human Resources, 155 N. Taylor St., Suite 155, Fallon, Nevada 89406 or by downloading the application at the following link: <https://nv-churchillcounty.civicplus.com/773/AdvisoryGoverning-Board-Openings>. All letters and applications are to be submitted to the above address not later than 3:00 PM on November 13, 2024.

Pamela D. Moore
Deputy Clerk to the Board

Published in
The Fallon Post
Oct. 25, Nov. 1 and 8, 2024
Ad #6256

In the Court of Indian Offenses of the Western Region Criminal and Civil Court Case No. P-24-WR01

In the Matter of the Estate of: RONALD DEAN SNOOKS, SR., Deceased.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned has been appointed and qualified by the Court of Indian Offenses of the Western Region on October 7, 2024 as the Administrator of the Estate of RONALD DEAN SNOOKS, SR. All creditors having claims against the estate are required to file the claims with the Clerk of the Court within 60 days after the mailing or the first publication of this NOTICE.

DATED:
This 11th day of October 2024.
RONALD DEAN SNOOKS, JR.
Administrator of estate

Published in
The Fallon Post
Oct. 18 through Nov. 1, 2024
Ad #6255

PUBLIC NOTICE OF REDEMPTION OF CERTAIN HEADQUARTERS BAR & CASINO CHIPS

Pursuant to Regulation 12.070(2)(c) of the Nevada State Gaming Commission, as of July 7, 2024, the following chips are discontinued at the Headquarters Bar and Casino: \$25 – Green, \$5 – Red, and \$1 – White.

The casino chips described above will be redeemable at the Fallon Nugget main cage, located at 70 S. Maine St. Fallon, NV 89406, twenty four (24) hours a day through November 7, 2024 which is one hundred and twenty (120) days after July 7, 2024.

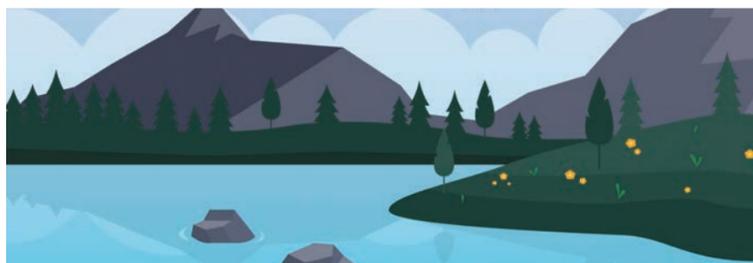
Published in
The Fallon Post
from July 5 - November 1, 2024
Ad #6227

NOTICE OF OPEN APPOINTIVE POSITION

The Board of County Commissioners is seeking a public-spirited citizen willing to serve as a member on the Library Board of Trustees. The Library Board is a governing board that meets once a month. This person will serve on a five (5) member board and act as Library Trustee for the public library. Applications are being considered to fill an unexpired term through March 31, 2027. For more details, interested persons may talk to the Library Director for additional information about the Library Board and what the position entails. Interested persons may obtain an Application at Churchill County Human Resources, 155 N. Taylor St., Suite 177, Fallon, Nevada 89406 or by downloading at: <https://nv-churchillcounty.civicplus.com/773/AdvisoryGoverning-Board-Openings>. All letters and applications are to be submitted to the above address not later than 3:00 PM on November 6, 2024.

Pamela D. Moore, Deputy Clerk to the Board

Published in
The Fallon Post
Oct. 18, 25 and Nov. 1, 2024
Ad #6258



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Measurements Taken Oct. 29, 2024, at 4:30 p.m.

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Af - Acre Feet
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CROSSWORD ANSWERS

Crossword found on page 13

- NEAR
- NEATER
- NEITHER
- NEVER
- NEWCOMER
- NEWER
- NEWSPAPER
- NIGHTWEAR
- NOR
- NOTEPAPER
- NOVEMBER
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