

# THE FALLON POST



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## Outdoor Adventure Class at CCHS Inspires Students

By Rachel Dahl

The Churchill County High School outdoor adventure class has become a transformative experience for students, offering an alternative approach to physical education that combines fitness, outdoor recreation, and conservation. The class is led by P.E. teacher and coach Anne Smith, who presented at the last school board meeting, sharing how she created the class, the unique ways the class helps students build life skills, and its impact on students.

The idea for the outdoor adventure class was born during the COVID-19 pandemic when Smith said she and her friends would spend time together on outdoor excursions during the lockdown. She said that those outings and their relationships had a profound impact on their physical and mental health. As she thought about their experiences, she wondered if such activities could also benefit her students.

Smith began researching and found a curriculum through the Outdoor Tomorrow Foundation, which integrates outdoor recreation and conservation with core subjects like science, math, and critical thinking.

“Instead of teaching PE with balls and rackets, we use rods and reels, bows and arrows, kayaks, and paddles,” Smith said. “It’s a unique approach designed to enhance physical fitness while also promoting mental health, social development, and cross-curricular academic success.”

The class launched in the 2022-23 school year with two sessions and roughly 50 students. The curriculum includes rock climbing, survival skills, archery, camping, camp cooking, geocaching, kayaking, and



Photo by Kayaks.com.

snowshoeing. Field trips have been a highlight, with students visiting Lake Tahoe for paddle sports, the Donner Tunnels for hiking, and Chickadee Ridge for snowshoeing. Local businesses have played an essential role in supporting the program, offering discounted or free equipment rentals and guided activities.

“One of the best things about this class is seeing students experience nature for the first time,” Smith said. “When the bus crosses up over the hill looking across Lake Tahoe and you hear a kid gasp because it’s their first time seeing the lake—it’s unbelievable. Moments like these make it all worthwhile.”

Several students spoke at the meeting, sharing how the class has positively impacted their lives. Junior Jenna Steins highlighted the skills she learned, including survival and camping, from building fires to cooking meals. “It also taught me how to budget, which will help when I’m in college,” she said.

Zachary Tom, another student, appreciated how the class introduced him to activities he had never tried before. “I wasn’t an outdoorsy kid, but now I’ve learned to kayak and even enjoy snowshoeing. This class gets us off our phones and into nature.”

[Outdoor Adventure continued on page 2]

## NAS Fallon Sailors Lend a Helping Hand at Out of Egypt Food Pantry



Photos courtesy of NAS Fallon.



Story courtesy of NAS Fallon

Last week, NAS Fallon Sailors stepped up to make a difference in our community by volunteering at the Out of Egypt Food Pantry. Together, they sorted, packed, and distributed food to help local families.

Giving back is at the heart of what we do, and we’re proud to support organizations that make a positive impact. Thank you to all the Sailors who dedicated their time and energy to this worthy cause – your efforts truly make a difference!



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### TO SUBMIT AN OBITUARY

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

### SUBSCRIPTIONS OR ADDRESS CHANGE

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## FROM THE PUBLISHER

# Captain's Log

## 297905.6268-ish

By Rachel Dahl

LOL. We think we're funny around this joint. Now everyone is on the Stardate band wagon.

Denice thinks she's really funny – "Make it so, Number One."

I'm still doing the Fernley layout, and the girls are almost done with the Fallon layout and someone just realized I hadn't written this yet. I had a really good idea a few days ago for the Captain's Log and wrote a note somewhere.

Found it!

What I was thinking about was ceremony. Standing on ceremony. I've been in a lot of meetings lately. Actually, I may have written about this once before over the past six years. It's a feeling that comes over you when you're in a public meeting and our elected officials start with the Pledge of Allegiance. Then there's the minutes and the treasurer's report. And pictures on the wall of the ones who came before.

The concept of accountability. Our civic customs. It makes me proud and a little bit humble.

"Patriotism swells in the heart of the American Bear."

Name that movie.

No one around here knows what I'm talking about, so I was going to look it up and play it for them, but I've been chastised severely. "No squirrels."

Focus man.

This reminds me of back in the day where we had a song for every situation and we saved them all in *The Fallon Post* playlist on Spotify. The other day I walked in the office and somebody said, "Guess Who's Back" and of course I broke into song.

We had to look it up – who knew I knew an Eminem song.

But don't go listen to it unless you choose the clean version, sorry if you did.

Now we're rocking out.

My dream has always been to have an office on Maine Street full of all my friends where we get to work together to do something meaningful and change the world, but also have a ton of fun and everyone gets to do the thing they're best at or that they love the most. And here we are. How lucky are we?!?!

So, while we hang out together and move mountains, we'll still be right here...

...Keeping you Posted.

— Rachel

[ Outdoor Adventure continued from page 1 ]



Photo by Anne Smith.

For Michaela Taylor, the program provided access to experiences her family couldn't afford. "I'd never been to Lake Tahoe before, but this class gave me the opportunity to see it for the first time," she said. "It's amazing that our school offers this to students." The class also introduces valuable problem-solving and teamwork skills. Students learn to build shelters, navigate with a compass, and prepare emergency kits. These activities boost confidence and teach students to collaborate and work with students from diverse backgrounds.

"The class is for everyone," Taylor said. "It brings together kids who play video games, those into roping, and everyone in between. No one is excluded."

Despite its success, the program faces challenges, including funding and limited availability. Field trips cost students a small fee, but Smith ensures no one is left behind due to financial constraints. "If a student

can't afford it, I cover the cost. It's just not an option for them to miss out," she said.

Demand for the class is growing, and plans are underway to add a second session to accommodate more students. Smith envisions expanding the curriculum to include activities like ATV safety, canoeing, and fly fishing.

The program's success is a testament to the support of local businesses, the school administration, and the community. "This class wouldn't be possible without partnerships with organizations like Clearly Tahoe and Mountain Top Sports," the instructor said. "Their enthusiasm and generosity make these adventures accessible to our students."

As the school board members congratulated Smith and applauded her program, Board President Gregg Malkovich said, "This program is exciting and inspiring—it makes me want to sign up for the class myself, this is a class I could pass."

FEATURES

# Superintendent Parsons Recognized for 25 Years of Educating in Churchill County



Superintendent Derild Parsons receiving his 25-year certificate. Photos courtesy of CCSD.

By Leanna Lehman

*Churchill County School District Superintendent Derild Parsons was recently recognized for his service to Churchill County School District – service that spans a quarter of a century and multiple educator roles. He was honored with a 25-year service pin and Certificate of Appreciation and Recognition by the Board of Trustees.*

Parsons began his career in the classrooms of West End and Lahontan Elementary before becoming CCSD Dean of Students, Director of

Special Services, and Director of Learning and Innovation. While moving from the classroom to district leadership, Parsons has long strived to build lasting connections with students, family, and staff.

Years of student-focused teaching and programming served as the perfect backdrop for Parson’s most recent educator role as CCSD superintendent - the first local superintendent promoted from within the district since the 1990s.

As a longtime resident and educator, Parsons continues in his efforts to support students, staff, and the Fallon community.

Congratulations, Superintendent Parsons. Thank you for 25 years of dedicated service.

## NDOT I-80 East Widening Project

By Heidi Lusby-Angvick

The Nevada Department of Transportation (NDOT) and the Federal Highway Administration are in the process of studying the Interstate 80 (I-80) East Widening Project under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requirements. The study process will lead to decisions through NEPA that will guide the final design and, ultimately, construction of the I-80 East Widening Project.

The purpose of the widening project is to provide additional capacity on I-80 to reduce travel time delays and accommodate traffic volumes associated with past and currently planned growth in the region. It will also enhance safety features such as wider shoulders, truck parking, and wrong-way driver detection. Currently, the corridor meets capacity needs, but crashes cause gridlock. Approval of the NEPA study is expected in summer 2025, which will allow the

project to advance to the final design phase. Construction could begin as early as 2027 and take three to four seasons to complete.

The NEPA study area includes the interchanges at Vista Boulevard, Lockwood (including the Union Pacific Railroad bridge), Mustang, Patrick, and USA Parkway. Both Vista Boulevard and USA Parkway will undergo minor interchange modifications. Some immediate safety changes have already been implemented at the Lockwood interchange to provide traffic with more room to merge onto I-80 westbound. Capacity studies have shown that widening is not warranted from USA Parkway east to Fernley.

There are physical constraints within the project area that must be avoided, including the Truckee River, Union Pacific Railroad, and locations of environmental concern. The NEPA process considers resources and impacts. Key NEPA studies for this project include biological resources, cultural

resources, water quality, traffic noise studies (particularly for the community in Lockwood), recreational and visual resources, and consultation with resource agencies. Avoidance of environmentally sensitive areas will be prioritized to minimize potential impacts. For water quality, treatment facilities will be built to treat runoff before it enters the Truckee River.

This project is complex. There will be three lanes of traffic, a 10-foot inside shoulder, and a 12-foot outside shoulder in each direction. Slopes on the north side of I-80 will be cleared to accommodate additional lanes and shoulders. Retaining walls and separated elevations will be constructed for eastbound and westbound traffic lanes. Increasing the number of lanes and shoulder width is intended to improve traffic flow, especially in the event of an accident.

For more information, please visit [www.i80eastnv.com](http://www.i80eastnv.com).

**GREAT BASIN BULL SALE**  
GENETICS MATTER

**THE BELLAMY BROTHERS**  
FEB. 14TH

**GREAT BASIN BULL SALE SCHEDULE**  
RAFTER 3C ARENA | FALLON NV

**Thursday Feb. 13th**  
Free admission  
Bar & Concessions open at 3:30pm  
Ranch Rodeo Contestant Check in at 4:00pm  
Ranch Rodeo at 5:30pm

**Friday Feb. 14th**  
Doors open 7:00am  
Bull Sale Preview  
Ranch Rodeo at 8:00am (free admission)

Doors open for Concert at 4:30pm  
VIP Dinner served at 5:00pm  
Bucking Bulls & Broncs at 6:00pm  
Concert Kickoff at 7:30pm

**PURCHASE BELLAMY BROTHER TICKETS HERE!**

**Saturday Feb. 15th**  
Bull Sale Preview 7:00am  
Bull Sale Lunch 12:00pm  
Sale 1:00pm

**QUESTION DIRECTORY:**  
RANCH RODEO | RICHARD ALLEGRE 775.848.2108  
CONCERT & VENDORS | HUNTER GIOVANETTI 775.460.4327  
BULL SALE  
GREATBASINBULLSALE@GMAIL.COM

ANNOUNCEMENTS



PETS OF THE WEEK

Cat Adoption Event

Feb. 15, 11 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Come meet adorable, adoptable cats looking for their forever homes. 4629 Reno Highway, Fallon

Yard Sale Event

Feb. 15–17, 8 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Find great deals while supporting a great cause. All proceeds go toward the care of our shelter cats. 6305 Lakeview Drive, Fallon

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.

CAPS Animal Spotlight



Our Spotlight This Week Is LULU! She is our longest resident and a resilient, high-energy four-year-old Shepherd mix with a tough past but an incredible potential for growth.

Lulu will require an experienced and patient adopter who can provide her with consistent training and guidance. She has behavioral issues that need attention, but with the right commitment, she can thrive in a loving and structured home. Lulu is looking for a family that can help her overcome her past and support her on her journey to becoming the wonderful companion she has the potential to be.

We will be open by appointment only beginning Jan. 26 -16. We have construction going on throughout our building to make some much-needed upgrades and repairs. Please email us at caps@cccomm.net for appointments and any questions.

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

City of Fallon Animal Shelter



This Is Oden (D-84). Oden is around 3 years old and was an owner surrender due to his previous owner not having time for him. They said Oden is amazing with people and got along with a female husky. However, cats are a no-go for this handsome boy.

If you think he would make a great addition to your household, please give us a call or come check him out.

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



Photo courtesy of City of Fallon.

American Heart Month

Mayor Tedford, Councilwoman Frost, Councilwoman Kent, and Councilman Harmon dyed the fountain RED today, in honor of American Heart Month. Please join in the efforts to promote heart health in our community.

Movies & More at the Historical Fallon Theatre

By Kelli Perez

The Fallon Theatre has a lot of exciting events coming up this month. Along with screening all four “Shrek” films, we have a full lineup of music-filled movies and two special Valentine’s events this weekend.

We’re kicking off our month of fractured fairy tales with “Shrek” at 6 p.m. on both Friday and Saturday. In this classic animated parody, a cruel lord banishes fairy tale creatures to the swamp of a grumpy ogre, who must embark on a quest to rescue a princess for the lord in exchange for his land. This PG-rated film has a runtime of 1 hour and 30 minutes.

This Friday at 7 p.m., join us for a fun Galentine’s evening featuring a free concert by The Domesticated Man Band, followed by a complimentary screening of the 2008 romantic musical “Mamma Mia!,” starring Meryl Streep and Pierce Brosnan. The film follows Donna, an independent hotel owner, preparing for her daughter’s wedding with help from two old friends. Meanwhile, the spirited bride Sophie invites three men from her mother’s past, hoping to find her real father. This PG-13 movie has a runtime of 1 hour and 28 minutes.

On Saturday morning, Maine Street in front of the theatre will be filled with runners as we host our annual “Love Your Theatre” Valentine’s Fun Run/Walk 5K fundraiser. Early registration starts at 8 a.m., and the event promptly at 9 a.m. Pre-registration is \$25 per person or



“Love Your Theatre” Valentine’s Fun Run/Walk 5K fundraiser Saturday, February 8.

\$40 per couple, with prices increasing by \$5 on the event day. You can find registration details on our Facebook page or at fallontheatre.com. Registration forms are also available for pickup at Kent’s Supply Center. “Mamma Mia!” will be screening again on Saturday at 7 p.m.

In addition to our free movies and fun events, we offer our newly refurbished marquee for personalized messages. If you’d like to book a Marquee Message or reserve an auditorium for a party, don’t hesitate to contact us at 775-423-6210 or email us at thefallontheatre@gmail.com.

OBITUARIES

**LOIS VIRGINIA FRIESEN OGDEN**  
January 25, 2025 - March 1, 1947

Lois Virginia (Friesen) Ogden passed quietly at home in Spanish Springs in the early hours of January 25, 2025, following several health challenges. Her loving husband of 56 years, Tom, was at her side.

Lois was born on March 1, 1947, in Gladewater, TX, and raised in cities across the southwest US while following her father's career. The family settled in Las Vegas, NV, during Lois's high school years. She met Tom Ogden, the love of her life, in Fallon, NV, at 16. After graduating from Western High School in 1965, Lois attended Nevada Southern University and the University of Nevada, Reno, before joining Nevada National Bank in Reno. She and Tom married in August 1968. They bought their first home in Sparks in 1973 and stayed there until April 1997, when they moved to their current home in Spanish Springs. In January 1974, Lois and Tom welcomed their first son, Troy, followed by their second son,



Damon, in July 1976. In 1986, Lois graduated from Southern Methodist University with a degree in Banking, which allowed her to advance to a position as Assistant Vice President at Nevada National Bank and later at Security Pacific Bank before retiring in 1990.

Lois was known by family and friends for her caring and toughness. Her toughness developed at an early age after she lost the use of her right arm in an accident at age three. Her parents told Lois she could do anything she wanted to, and she did. From riding horses and barrel racing to drag racing a 4-speed GTO, changing her boys' diapers, and tying their shoes, there was nothing Lois could not do. "I can't" was not in her vocabulary, and she made sure it was not in anyone else's either. Lois was always there for those in need. Family and friends knew she would be there for them, no matter the circumstance.

For fun, Lois enjoyed camping with the family and traveling with Tom, especially to the Hawaiian islands and on tropical cruises. At home, she tended to her flower garden

and her family. She loved her role as Grammy and tried to spend as much time as possible with her grandchildren.

Lois was a wonderful wife, mother, and Grammy and is missed by all who knew her.

She is survived by her husband Tom; sons Troy (Terri) and Damon (Becca), both of Sparks; grandchildren Riley Ogden, Annie Ogden, Colin Ogden, and Maura Ogden, all of Sparks; sister Nancy (Alberto) Arnold Becerril of Corvallis, OR; aunt Allyne (Al) Isaac of Beamsville, ON, Canada; brother-in-law Robert (Dawna) Ogden of Reno; and numerous nephews, nieces, and cousins worldwide.

Lois is preceded in death by her parents, Helen and Jess Friesen; her brother, Charles Friesen; and her sister and best friend, Pat Larick.

A graveside service and burial are scheduled for 1 p.m., Friday, February 7, 2025, at the Churchill County Cemetery in Fallon, NV. A Celebration of Lois's Life will be held on Saturday, March 1, 2025, at 2 p.m. in the Cottonwood Room at Lazy 5 Regional Park in Spanish Springs. We invite you to this casual affair to share stories of Lois with her loved ones.

**BRETT MORRISON**  
July 8, 1989 - January 26, 2025

The family of Brett Morrison announces with great sadness and heavy hearts his passing and joining his Savior, Jesus Christ, on Sunday, Jan. 26, 2025. Brett died peacefully at his home in Fallon after a lengthy battle with liver disease and alcohol addiction.

Brett was born July 8, 1989, in Reno at St. Mary's Hospital. He was a proud fourth-generation Nevadan and a nearly lifelong resident of Fallon.

He attended Lahontan and Numa elementary schools, Churchill County Junior High, and graduated from Churchill County High School in 2007. He played varsity tennis for three years and ran junior varsity track for two years. He chose competitive ballroom dance, joined the team, and went on to win a national championship with CCHS's team in 2007. He played in marching and jazz band from junior high through high school, playing the trumpet and bass. As a junior, he switched from band to choir and was proud to sing the national anthem for the San Francisco Giants twice, once at Ground Zero in New York City. He finished high school as the National Honor Society president. He loved to dance both competitively and in musicals for the high school and community theater.

Brett attended Colorado Christian University for one year before returning to Fallon, where he earned his National Registry EMT certificate. He interned at the Soda Lake Geothermal Power Plant with his father and successfully passed the Edison Electric Institute operator test at 18, which only 10% of applicants passed.

He was a mechanic and was learning to be a machinist. He worked at Bassham Furniture before traveling the U.S. rebuilding large power plant cooling towers. Later, he worked for Reed Electric,



Mars Petcare, Driveline Services, and finally Oasis HVAC.

Brett attended Parkside Bible Fellowship from 1996 to 2023 and accepted Christ as his Savior in 1999 at Cowboy's Rest Christian Camp. He and his parents recently began attending Oasis Community Church. Brett loved his time at Cowboy's Rest as a camper, junior counselor, camp medic, and attendee of several men's retreats.

Brett was very social, loved to tease, and, as his friends knew well, loved to chat. He had many friends in Nevada and throughout the U.S. He was very conservative, a lifelong Republican, and eager to visit with anyone, whether near or far.

Brett was preceded in death by his grandparents; aunts Janet Delgado and Ginger Miller; and cousin Denver Heitzman.

He is survived by his parents, Amy and Monte Morrison; brother, Josh Morrison (fiancée Joe Knepper); aunt, Teri Morrison; aunt and uncle, Kathy and Mike Stahlke; and cousins, Matt Stahlke (Cassie, son Benny), Missy Stahlke, Tia Openshaw (Ty, son Konrad), and Jake Tipton (Hailey).

His family will miss him dearly—his laugh, his stories, and enjoying Amy's homecooked meals, from which Brett always took leftovers back home.

A funeral service will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 15, 2025, at Oasis Community Church, 1520 S. Maine St., Fallon, or online. Details are available at [oasisma.org](http://oasisma.org). A luncheon will follow immediately at the Oasis Fellowship Hall.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donations to a local food bank, like Food Bank of Northern Nevada - [fbnn.org](http://fbnn.org), or to Cowboy's Rest Christian Camp Scholarship Fund - [cowboysrest.org/donate.html](http://cowboysrest.org/donate.html), or Oasis Community Church Camp Fund - [oasisma.org/giving](http://oasisma.org/giving).



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, February 10**  
Hearty Beef Stew  
WW Pasta  
Garden Salad  
Dressing  
Mixed Berry Cup

**Tuesday, February 11**  
Creamy Paprika Chicken  
Breast  
Fluffy Brown Rice  
Vegetable Normandy  
Diced Pears  
Cranberry Juice

**Wednesday, February 12**  
Chili Relleno  
Salsa Roja  
Spanish Rice  
Refried Beans  
Tossed Salad  
Tropical Fruit Cup

**Thursday, February 13**  
Shepherd's Pie  
Spinach Salad  
Italian Dressing  
Banana  
Bran Muffin

**Friday, February 14**  
Home Style Lasagna  
Italian Style Beans  
Garlic Bread  
Watergate Salad  
Fresh Apple

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, February 10**  
Turkey Pot Pie  
Bread & Salad

**Thursday, February 13**  
Grilled Cheese Sandwiches  
Tomato Soup  
Dessert

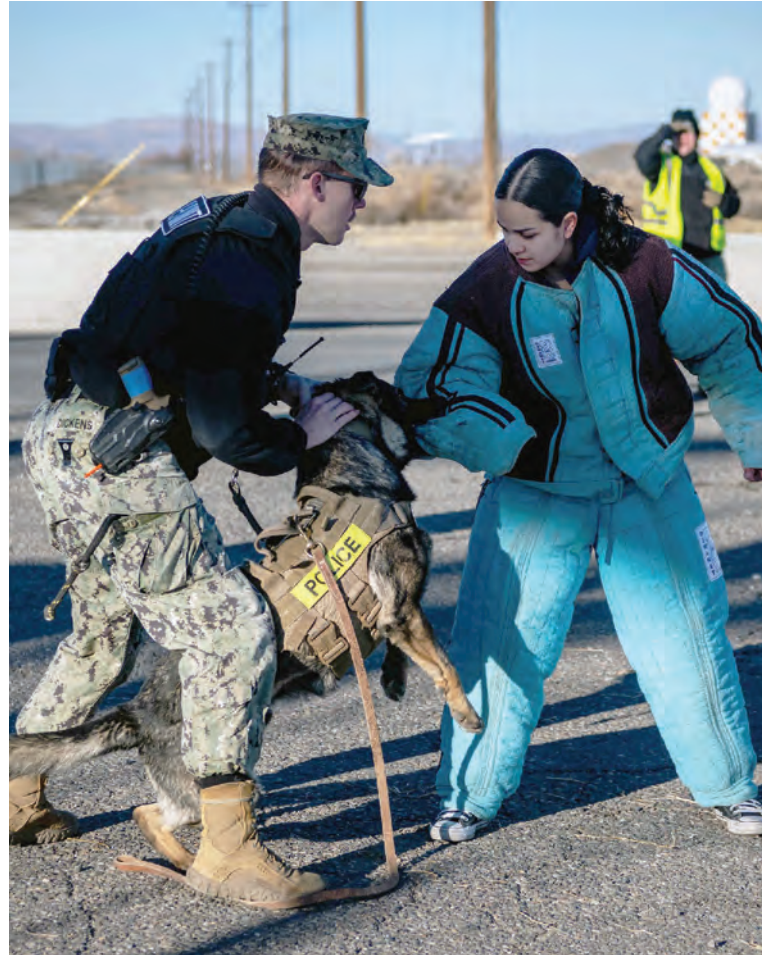
**Monday, February 17**  
Meatloaf  
Potatoes & Green Beans

**Thursday, February 20**  
Baked Omlet  
Fruit

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

COMMUNITY

# NASF Partners with Community in Readiness Drills



Story and photos courtesy of NASF

Naval Air Station (NAS) Fallon is currently conducting its Citadel Shield-Solid Curtain 2025 exercise, enhancing our readiness and security posture against potential threats.

A big thank you to our security forces, first responders, Churchill County Sheriff's Office, and all personnel who participated in the drills. Your dedication and professionalism ensure NAS Fallon remains mission-ready and secure. Training like this is essential in maintaining the highest level of preparedness and protection.

# CCHS Student Highlight

This week's spotlight is former student – Kiley Wallace. "I was surprised when I walked into Dr. Anne Hayes dermatology office in Reno," said Churchill County High School School-to-Careers Program Director Dr. Sue Segura. She happened upon Kiley, who graduated in 2024, hard at work for Dr. Hayes.

According to Dr. Sue, Kiley set her sights on a career path in medicine and plans to be a P.A. in the dermatology field. "Made my day!" said Dr. Sue, who loves seeing students succeed as they work toward their career goals.



Kiley Wallace with Dr. Hayes. Photo courtesy of Dr. Sue Segura.

**GREEN GODDESS COLLECTIVE**

EVERY THURSDAY  
FEBRUARY - OCTOBER  
2PM - 6PM

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448 South Maine Street, Fallon

New Look | New Space  
Same Good Vibes

Reopening February 13th!

QUESTIONS  
Email us: [hello@yellowpetalflowerfarm.com](mailto:hello@yellowpetalflowerfarm.com)

**WATER LEVELS**

Measurements Taken February 4, 2025, at 8:30 a.m.

Lahontan Reservoir	149,800 af
Carson River Below Lahontan	2.36 cfs
Truckee Canal at Wadsworth	253.0 cfs
Truckee Canal at Hazen	3400 cfs
Carson River at Ft. Churchill	389 cfs

February 4, 2024	February 4, 2023	February 4, 2022
234,944 acre feet	107,791 acre feet	87,458 acre feet

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

**MEETINGS**

**February 10–14, 2025**

CCSD Board of Trustees Wednesday, Feb 12 at 5:30 p.m. 690 S. Maine St.	Coalition for Senior Citizens Monday, Feb 10 at 4 p.m.
County Meetings 155 N. Taylor St. Commission Chambers	Planning Commission Wednesday, Feb 12 at 6 p.m.
	Central Nevada Health District Thursday, Feb 13 at 1:30 p.m.

COME JOIN THE FUN! The Churchill County Museum's

**YOUNG CHAUTAUQUA PROGRAM!**

Young performers, in character and in costume, bringing local historical figures to life!

**FREE for ages 12 - 18**  
Thursdays, beginning February 6th, through April 10th  
3:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. at the Churchill County Museum  
Instructor: Glen Perazzo

Register today! Form must be completed and signed by parent/guardian - available at the museum front desk or visit [ccmuseum.org](http://ccmuseum.org)

**This year will focus on local historical figure's "Jaunts and Journeys"!**

It's FREE! Questions? Call Education Curator Jennifer Jones at (775) 423-3677, ext. 5

## GOVERNMENT

# Assemblyman Greg Koenig Outlines Legislative Priorities

By Robert Perea

Nevada Assemblyman and Fallon native Greg Koenig said looking out for the best interests of the rural counties and upholding Governor Joe Lombardo are his biggest priorities for the 2025 legislative session, which starts next week, during a talk at the Lyon County Commission meeting on January 16.

Koenig said the top priority for Republicans in the legislature is to back the governor and make sure he looks good and gets reelected. “We picked up one seat this last election, which kept us out of the super minority,” Koenig said, explaining that if we were in the super minority, they would have been able to override all 75 of the governors’ vetoes. “And so, by picking up that one seat, we were able to sustain the vetoes and keep those, in my opinion, 75 bad bills from becoming law.”

Koenig said his district has a 2-1 ratio of Republicans to Democrats, the second highest per percentage of Republicans in the state. But the legislature, he said, had a 3-1 Democrat ratio. “And how that works is, the chair of every single committee is a Democrat, and they decide which bills they want to get heard,” he said. “So, any bill that you have, and you want to be heard that has any teeth to it, they won’t even let it have a hearing.”

As a result, Koenig has taken on the role of advocating for rural areas, noting that his district is one of the few that primarily represent rural Nevada without including Reno, Carson City, or Las Vegas. “So, everyone comes to me and looks to me for to champion the rurals, and that’s what I’ve done with a lot of my bills,” stated Koenig.

One of Koenig’s bills would allow volunteer firefighters to get a break on their vehicle registration. “I know Fernley is a paid fire district, but a lot of the other ones in the rurals, especially, they might have some paid leadership, but a lot of it is done by volunteers and they’re really struggling with some of their numbers,” said the assemblyman. “So, we’re going to try to find some benefit to help them want to participate in a volunteer fire fighting.” Many rural community volunteer fire departments are not well funded.



Another of Koenig’s bills would change how rural emergency rooms and hospitals are classified.

“Right now, the way emergency rooms are categorized, the rural hospitals can’t reach the highest level of classification, which means they don’t get reimbursed as much,” he explained. This bill would help Yerington, Fallon, and potentially Tonopah if they can qualify. “We’re going to try to make it so that the rural emergency room hospitals can reach that higher classification and get some better reimbursement.”

Koenig, who has been appointed to the Ways and Means Committee for the upcoming session, will be facing much more work, but the position will allow him a lot more influence. “We’ll be able to have a little more say in how some of our money is spent,” he said. “In fact, I’ll be the Northern deputy, which

puts me as a second-ranking Republican in the assembly this time, so, being in the leadership again, a lot more work, but I think there’s also a lot more opportunity to have a little more influence, so hopefully we can do what we can to have a say.”

Koenig reported that 75% of the legislature is from Las Vegas and claimed that half of them don’t know where a city in Lyon County is. “You have a single law that has to apply to downtown Vegas and to Silver Springs at the same time, and that’s pretty tough,” Koenig stated, “but we’re trying to make sure that they know who we are and that they respect us as rural Nevadans.”

Koenig also pledged to become more involved in Lyon County. He said people in Churchill County and Fernley approach him frequently, and he attends events there often but said that appearance before the County Commission was his first interaction with Lyon County itself.

Koenig admitted that he initially felt uncomfortable talking to commission chairman Scott Keller because he ran for office against Keller’s wife. “I think we’re over that. I think we can work together, and I need to do better there, and I will,” Koenig said. “If I get elected next session, I’ve got a star, that one of my bills is going to be from Lyon County.”

## Update: Nevada Steps Up Efforts to Prevent Spread of Avian Flu

Staff Report

The Nevada Department of Agriculture (NDA), working alongside the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Wildlife Services, is taking additional precautions to limit the spread of avian influenza. Dairy farms in Nye and Churchill counties have been placed under quarantine following detections of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI). Further testing by the USDA National Veterinary Services Laboratory is underway to confirm the strain found in Churchill County. Preliminary results suggest it is similar to strains previously detected in wild birds across North America.

“The challenge with this virus is that it can spread in multiple ways—through contaminated clothing and shared equipment, as well as by infected birds transmitting it to domestic animals and livestock,” said NDA Director J.J. Goicoechea, DVM. “It’s critical that we all take biosecurity seriously, keep equipment clean, and follow best practices to help stop the spread.”

To track how the virus is moving, the USDA Wildlife Services will begin testing wildlife for HPAI. Meanwhile, the NDA is already conducting surveillance on milk silos to detect the virus early, as part of the National Milk Testing Strategy.

One major concern is the role of non-native European starlings, which gather in large numbers and can contaminate food and water sources for livestock. To reduce this risk, the NDA and USDA Wildlife Services will begin targeted removal of starling



populations in Churchill, Pershing, and Lyon counties. These birds have been known to contribute to the spread of HPAI, salmonella, E. coli, and other diseases that threaten animal health.

If residents come across dead or dying birds due to the removal efforts, Wildlife Services advises using single-use gloves for handling and disposing of them in the trash. While the pesticide used in the removal process is not harmful to pets, the NDA recommends keeping animals away from the birds as a precaution against HPAI. There is no need to report dead birds, but those unable to dispose of them can call the USDA at 775-851-4848 and provide the location for assistance.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) states that the risk to humans remains low, and the NDA is working closely with state and county health officials to monitor the situation.

“Our top priority is protecting both public and animal health,” Goicoechea said.

As a reminder, dairy and meat products remain safe to eat when cooked to the proper internal temperatures. The USDA has confirmed that pasteurized milk does not transmit the virus to humans. Raw milk, which is illegal in Nevada, is not recommended. For more food safety information, visit [foodsafety.gov](https://www.foodsafety.gov).



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Debbie Ridenour 775-423-1412 ext. 244 or email: [debbier@newfrontiernv.us](mailto:debbier@newfrontiernv.us)

CHURCHILL COUNTY COURTS

Tenth Judicial District Court

Tuesday, January 28, Judge Thomas Stockard Presiding

By Teresa Moon

Christopher Paul Zimmer appeared for a Status Hearing, having previously pleaded guilty to Category C Felony Non-support of a Spouse, Former Spouse, or a Child, which is punishable by 1-5 years in prison and a fine of up to \$10,000. On June 11, the state reported Zimmer was in arrears \$11,000. The court continued the matter, allowing Zimmer to get current on his payments. Zimmer's case will proceed to sentencing as he has not met the terms of the court order regarding his payments. Judge Stockard ordered a Pre-Sentence Investigation (PSI) and set sentencing for April 1.

Kenneth Jermaine Estrada pleaded guilty to Category B Felony of Failure to Stop on the Signal of a Peace Officer, which is punishable by 1-6 years in a Nevada State Prison and a fine up to \$5,000. Judge Stockard ordered a PSI and set sentencing for April 1. At the request of Churchill County Public Defender (CCPD), Jacob Sommer, Judge Stockard provisionally placed Estrada into the Western Nevada Regional Drug Court specialty program.

David Bryan Finley, in custody, pleaded guilty to Category B Felony of Driving Under the Influence of an Intoxicating Liquor or a Controlled or Prohibited Substance, a Third or Subsequent Offense, which is punishable by 1-6 years in prison and a fine of \$2,000 to \$5,000. The charge carries a mandatory sentence unless the defendant applies for and is admitted to the DUI Diversion Program. Finley also pleaded guilty to Category B Felony of Failure to Stop on the Signal of a Peace Officer, punishable by 1-6 years and a fine of up to \$5,000. A PSI was ordered, with sentencing set for April 1.

Nathaniel Arnold Slaamot, in custody, pleaded guilty Pursuant to Alford for Category B Felony Reckless Driving Causing Death or Substantial Bodily Harm. The charge is punishable by 1-6 years and a \$2,000 to \$5,000 fine. An Alford Plea allows a defendant to accept the full penalties of a guilty plea, without admitting guilt.

Steve Evenson, Esq., defense counsel for Slaamot, told the court that there were two individuals in a vehicle that was involved in an accident, both may have been under the influence. He questioned the evidence as to which one may have been driving, stating that it could be refuted.

Chief Deputy District Attorney Lane Mills said the driver was going 15 to 24 miles over the speed limit, was unable to maintain the lane, lost control, and rolled the car, the other individual was thrown, and the defendant admitted driving.

Judge Stockard noted that Slaamot also has two existing cases for which he is on probation. Under the terms of the plea agreement, he admitted to Non-Technical Sentencing Violations (failure to meet

the terms of probation). Judge Stockard ordered a PSI, provisionally placed Slaamot in Drug Court, and set sentencing for April 29.

Dylan Ethan Dennis, in custody, denied committing a Non-Technical Sentencing Violation. Dennis received probation in March on charges of Conspiracy to Commit Battery with a Deadly Weapon, a gross misdemeanor, and a Category D Felony of Battery by a Prisoner in Lawful Custody. The court set an Evidentiary Hearing for March 6.

Darren Scott Evans, in custody, admitted to a Non-Technical Sentencing Violation regarding numerous violations, including absconding. According to Senior Deputy DA Chelsea Sanford, Evans received probation on a suspended sentence on January 10, 2023, on charges of Conspiracy to Commit a Felony Crime Under the Uniform Controlled Substance Act.

Evans was supposed to check in with the Division of Parole and Probation (P&P) by November 17 and did not do so. Sanford said he had absconded for at least 297 days, noting he had not complied with the probation terms. Sanford asked that Evans' probation be revoked and that he serves the underlying sentence of 19-48 months.

CCPD Jacob Sommer stated, "Plain and simple, I rarely get to talk to clients who take such full and fair responsibility for their actions." Sommer shared that due to some very unfortunate circumstances, Evans had been taking care of his invalid brother here in Fallon during his absconding; he knows this is not an excuse and should have stayed in contact. Sommer said they were not asking for reinstatement but for modifying the sentence to 13-48 months.

Judge Stockard revoked Evans's probation, modified the sentence to 13-48 months, and remanded him to the custody of the Churchill County Sheriff for imposition of the sentence.

Donald James Knight appeared for a Change of Plea Hearing. On August 6, Knight pled not guilty to I) DUI; II) Battery by a Probationer, Parolee, or a Prisoner in Lawful Custody; III) Resisting, Delaying, or Obstructing an Officer; and IV) Driving while License is Canceled, Revoked, or Suspended. Knight entered a No Contest plea to the Category B DUI Third, punishable by 1-6 years and a \$2000-\$5,000 fine. This charge is mandatory prison unless the defendant applies for and is granted the privilege of the DUI Diversion Program. Judge Stockard ordered PSI and set sentencing for April 29.

CONTINUANCES:

David Allen Wright: Sentencing/Status Hearing continued to February 11.

Darrin Ray Dummer: Sentencing Violation Hearing continued until March 25.

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BUSINESS

# Geraldo Gonzales Bring the Beauty of Rawhide to Braiding

By Nancy Chapman

Geraldo Gonzalez, owner of *Leather and Rawhide*, has been braiding for more than eight years, making everything from rawhide bridle reins to rawhide reatas (also known as riatas - long, hand-twisted braided rawhide ropes used to handle livestock).

If you are unfamiliar with rawhide, it is just like it sounds: dried “raw” hide. It begins as a “green” hide, meaning straight from a harvested cow, then put in a frame to dry. Unlike leather, which is put through a tanning process and used on saddles, horse tack, boots, and belts, rawhide is not.

Rawhide is made from animals, such as cows, deer, goats, and kangaroos.

“All hides work differently,” said Geraldo. For example, deer rawhide is very thin and can be braided, but the strings can break easily and react differently during the tempering of the strings. “Some [hides] take on moisture more than others,” he explained. Once thoroughly dried, the hide is moistened in water to soften it up and cut into “Correas” (Spanish for strap). Only then can he begin his braiding process.

Geraldo, who has been using Kangaroo leather for braiding, said it is strong and durable yet soft and supple. These qualities make it a prevalent choice for bridle reins and headstalls and is a popular choice for bullwhip makers. According to Geraldo, the only



Bosals and bolo tie, photo by Geraldo Gonzales.

moisture needed for this medium is soap, which he uses to lubricate the strings before braiding. He said, with kangaroo leather, “I can put it up for the night and come back to it later and not have it dried out like rawhide does.” However, the high cost of the material can make these products more expensive to produce.

As an example, Geraldo offered a nicely finished bolo tie (all kangaroo leather with red cow rawhide buttons) and some hackamores reins. “These are all hand braided by me and are an eight-plait kangaroo with red limed buttons [color of the hide and the way it was prepared, in a lime solution]. The smaller buttons were challenging. They were 1/16th inch wide, but I am pleased with them overall.”

As in the picture, the top bosal has a kangaroo nose button, as well as the heel knot. Gerardo braided on black cow rawhide, where the color of the cow’s skin is black, and strips of rawhide are braided as the core for the bosal. The other two are also kangaroo nose buttons and are braided on red cow rawhide, also with rawhide cores.

Braiding rawhide and leather isn’t just a craft for Geraldo Gonzalez—it’s a skill that demands patience, precision, and an understanding of how each hide works. Whether he’s shaping kangaroo

leather into finely plaited reins or perfecting the heel knot on a bosal, every piece he creates carries the mark of true craftsmanship. While the materials may vary, one thing remains the same—his dedication to preserving a time-honored tradition, one carefully woven strand at a time.



Photo Credit: Kirk Ferris. Photo by Jaclyn R. Ferris


## Expert Cutting Horse Trainers Partner to Offer Clinics

By Nancy Chapman


Kirk Ferris Performance Horses specializes in training cutting horses. Kirk has been cutting since he was 13 and has racked up more than \$109,000 in event earnings. Most notably, Kirk won the Western Nevada Cutting Horse Association Open Cutting and the 2021 Pacific Coast Cutting Horse Association Limited Open Futurity Championship.

Kirk loves teaching, giving lessons, and promoting the cutting horse industry. He has recently teamed up with James Dexter, owner of 50 Horse Ranch, to host mini-clinics. Sponsored by STABLE Pro, they offer cutting flag practices, lessons, and regular cow-cutting sessions.

If you are interested in participating, contact Kirk at 775-297-1168 or stop by a Saturday morning meetup from 9 a.m. -12 p.m. at Fifty Horse Ranch, 13333 Carson Highway in Fallon.



**Notice of Availability of a Final Environmental Assessment (EA) and Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for Construction and Operation of Public Private Venture Housing at Naval Air Station (NAS) Fallon, located in Churchill County, Nevada (EA-007-17-USN-1700467201)**



Pursuant to the Council on Environmental Quality regulations (40 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] Parts 1500–1508) implementing the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), U.S. Department of the Navy (Navy) NEPA regulations (32 CFR Part 775), and Chief of Naval Operations Manual-5090.1, the Navy gives notice that a Final EA and FONSI have been prepared for the proposed construction and operation of Public Private Venture (PPV) Housing at NAS Fallon, located in Churchill County, Nevada. The Navy proposes to amend existing agreements with San Diego Family Housing, Limited Liability Company (SDFH), to include the leasing of additional Government land from the Navy into the SDFH leasehold, as well as construction, operation, and maintenance of 172 new PPV privatized military family housing units at NAS Fallon. The Proposed Action would address the lack of housing for active-duty military members assigned to NAS Fallon and their families by providing new housing units. The proposed PPV housing development would be located on undeveloped NAS Fallon property north of existing PPV housing and along Pasture Road. The site location is adjacent to the NAS Fallon Child Development Center, approximately 600 feet west from the NAS Fallon main gate on Churchill Avenue.

Interested parties may review the Final EA and FONSI at the local library (Churchill County Library, 553 S Maine St, Fallon, NV 89406) and on the Navy Region Southwest website at: <https://cnrsw.cnicy.navy.mil/Operations-and-Management/Environmental-Support/Public-Information-Access-to-Navy-Projects/NASF-Environmental-Assessment-PPV-Housing/>.

In addition, a copy can be requested by contacting Naval Facilities Engineering Systems Command Southwest:

- Via email: [amanda.t.peyton.civ@us.navy.mil](mailto:amanda.t.peyton.civ@us.navy.mil)
- Via mail: Attn: Amanda Peyton  
Naval Facilities Engineering Systems Command Southwest  
750 Pacific Highway (12th Floor, Environmental)  
San Diego, California 92132-5190

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EDUCATION

CCSD Cool School News

Compiled by Kaitlin Ritchie with photos courtesy of CCSD.



Students in Kirsten Ritchie's Special Topics II class practicing fleshing techniques on cowhide.



Athena Enriquez, Finn Few, and Jordan Tapia by their class kindness calendar.



Kallie Harner, Olivia Mclain, and Finley Word get ready to race their sled dogs.

CCHS

Students in Kirsten Ritchie's Special Topics II class kicked off the second semester with a refresh on taxidermy processes. Taxidermy has been part of the curriculum for the past two years, providing students with a unique perspective on biology and allowing them to work with real specimens better to understand animal physiology and the process of animal preservation. It also reinforces patience, precision, and attention to detail.

CCMS

On Wednesday, January 14, the CCMS Academic Olympic Team showed off their academic talents, finishing fourth place in the final competition in Virginia City. "We are so proud of these Gerka Greats, keep up the amazing work," CCMS Principal Victor Schoenfeldt said. Great work, CCMS Olympians! Brilee Larkin, Benny McClelland, and Rhett Beach (8th grade); Aubrey

Motl, Luke Hendrix, Tim Sydney, and Kayedon Bowman (7th grade); and Adalyn Ash and Emmalyn Sprunk (6th grade).

NUMA

February is National Random Acts of Kindness Month, and students in Lisa Solinski's class celebrate by performing small acts of kindness. Throughout the month, they will pull random hearts with kindness ideas and put them into action in the classroom, at school, and home. "Their focus is to show that even the smallest gestures and random acts of kindness can make a big difference and to spread that through the school and community," Solinski said.

E.C. BEST

Last week, in language arts, Kari Lister's class started a new unit on the books Akiak and Balto. Students learned new vocabulary while analyzing and describing character traits. They then got to have a little fun,

design their own "dream" sled dog, and decide what they looked like and what character traits they would have. "The students were very creative with this, and it was fun to see what traits they came up with," Lister said. Students then raced their sled dogs down a ramp specially crafted by AJ Lister.

LAHONTAN

This year, a district-wide focus and goal has been integrating Social Emotional Learning (SEL) into classrooms. One way kindergarten teacher Rachel Gonzalez is doing this is with a morning check-in. Students come to class and "checks in" by dragging their name to a colored monster that corresponds to a school-wide Zone of Regulation. "I want them to use strategies to work through their emotions so they can navigate any 'zone' they are in," said Gonzalez, explaining that her goal is to foster self-awareness and teach her pupils how to recognize their feelings from a young age.

Bighorn Bulletin

By Angela Viera with photos courtesy of Oasis Academy.

FFA STUDENTS PRACTICE FOR VET MED CDE

By Taylor Sowersby

Last Friday, Oasis FFA Members and coach Dr. Danye Archuleta met at the high school to practice Veterinary Medicine Career Development before zone competitions.

In Veterinary Medicine, members learn different tools, ailments, and basic medical procedures they administer to animal models. In this practice, FFA members went over tools used in procedures and learned how to pack them in wraps for surgeries. Dr. Archuleta also brought horses to practice haltering and wrapping legs.

This is not the first hands-on practice for the students. The week before, Katrina Laca brought puppies in to practice restraints and identification of body parts.

Members will compete at zone competitions on January 31 and state-level competitions at the Nevada FFA State Convention in March.

"Without the support of our families and community members students would not receive the real-life training that they have experienced," said Jackie Bogdanowicz, FFA Advisor. "We are especially thankful to coaches Archuleta and Laca for their time and support."

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT: JOSHUA GUSEWELLE

Oasis Academy has been about community and support for graduating senior Joshua Gusewelle.

"Throughout the seven years I have attended Oasis I have truly felt a part of the school, I have had no regrets since starting here," he said. "The students, teachers and



Senior Joshua Gusewelle.

advisors have all been supportive and have helped to shape me into the person I am today."

One of his favorite school memories reflects the early sense of connection he felt.

"One of the dress-up days during spirit week my sophomore year was teacher-student swap day. Mr. Eric Grimes dressed up as me—shorts, a sweatshirt, a blonde wig, and even came into school late, all things I do," Gusewelle explained. "It made me feel like I was truly part of the Oasis community."

Gusewelle credits several teachers for their impact, especially science and ag teacher Jackie Bogdanowicz. "Ms. B was without a doubt the most influential teacher I have ever had in my life."

He also appreciates teachers Eric Grimes and Evan Brandt. "Their classes were both very engaging, and I was always happy to show up," he said.

Gusewelle has been active in FFA, serving as Parliamentarian last year, and played all four years for the Churchill County Greenwave soccer team. He was named to the NIAA 3A Honorable Mention team and

earned All-State Academic honors each year.

"The amount of opportunities FFA grants far surpasses any other class Oasis or WNC offers," he said. "You get to meet people from not just Nevada but across the entire country."

He was also part of the first-ever Oasis baseball team. "I knew I wanted to be a part of it the instant I heard about it," recalled Gusewelle. "Our team never had a large number of players, which made us have a sense of trust I don't believe I've had on any other sports team."

As graduation approaches, Gusewelle reflects on lasting friendships and his future. "I don't believe I can talk about my high school years without bringing up my friends," he said, thanking Troy Underwood, Zach Budner, An Nguyen, Clint Vaughn, Josh Helm, and Kaeden Waller.

He will graduate in May with both his high school diploma and an associate of science degree from WNC. He plans to attend Boise State University or the UNR. His advice for future students: "Put yourself out there. Do everything the school offers because you only get to go through high school once," he said.

SAVE THE DATES

The Second Annual Oasis Academy Science Fair will be held in Gordman's on February 27.

The First Annual National History Day Expo will be held in Gordman's on February 19.

Seventh Annual Future Fest Fundraiser Dinner benefitting Oasis STEM programs on April 18.

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EDUCATION

# Logos Christian Academy

Story and photos courtesy of Logos.



Logos spelling bee winners.

A common misconception about private schools, which typically have fewer students, is that there are few events for students to participate in. This is not true at Logos Christian Academy. The next few weeks will be busy with activities.

This week, our students enjoyed a guest speaker during chapel.

Local pastor Brennan Behimer graciously spoke to our student body on a cold Monday morning about the armor of God, specifically focusing on the concept of “shoes of readiness.”

You may wonder what exactly “shoes of readiness” are. The phrase symbolizes being prepared to spread the gospel of peace, being ready at all times to share our faith, and maintaining the support needed to stand firm in a world filled with spiritual challenges.

Several pupils were recognized for their hard work and achievements during the chapel service. We also applauded our student’s impressive efforts during our recent annual spelling bee. Those who made the A and A/B honor roll were also celebrated for their dedication to academic excellence. We love honoring our students’ commitment to their studies and inspiring others to keep striving for success.

The Logos Uplift parent volunteer group hosted a pep rally to finish the week. Celebrating our school pride together is always a fantastic and fun time for everyone, filled with games, challenges, prizes, and plenty of spirited enthusiasm—leaving adults needing their earplugs.

LCA’s annual Science Fair was February 4, so stay tuned for more details! Your desire to tell the good news about peace should be like shoes on your feet. Ephesians 6:15.

## Veritas Preparatory School – Classical & Christian

By David Ernst, Headmaster. Photos courtesy of Veritas.

On Thursday, January 30th, Veritas Preparatory School celebrated its 100th Day of School. Mrs. Cota’s 1st-grade students dressed up as 100-year-olds and enjoyed a day filled with number-related activities. Other classes also joined in on the 100-Day festivities. Mrs. Jung’s Kindergarten class created a “100-Day Trail Mix,” while Ms. Emma’s Kindergarten 4 class practiced skip counting by 10s.

Students also participated in their 2nd chapel service of the new year. The entire Veritas school attends Monday chapel services every other week. Students participate in singing together, reading from the Bible, and listening to a message from a local pastor or Veritas parent. Classes also frequently give presentations during these chapel services. On Monday the 27th, Mrs. Jung’s Kindergarten class provided a fantastic performance of “Aminals,” a story that demonstrated the importance of good pronunciation for the entire school. Many parents were in attendance for the performance.

Open enrollment for Veritas begins Monday, March 3rd, at 8:00 a.m. For those interested in learning more about Classical Christian education at Veritas, please visit our website at [www.veritasfallon.org](http://www.veritasfallon.org).



Veritas 100 Days - 1st Grade.

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## 2025 - 2026

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Tickets available for \$10/person at the door or by contacting Veritas Preparatory School at (775) 217-0069

# SPORTS ROUND UP

## Basketball

### Oasis Boys' Battle Through Tough Stretch

Information provided by Coach Donald Schank

The Oasis Academy boys' basketball team faced a challenging week on the court, taking on three opponents in a tough stretch of league play. From a hard-fought comeback attempt against North Tahoe to a dominant rivalry win over Coral Academy, the Bighorns showed resilience as they near the end of their season.

Oasis traveled to North Tahoe Jan. 28 to take on the fourth-place Lakers, putting up a much stronger fight than in their previous matchup. Senior Fenn Mackadon led the charge, finishing with 33 points—20 of which came in a standout fourth-quarter performance.

Defensive pressure late in the game created offensive opportunities, fueling an attempted comeback. Oasis entered the final quarter down by 17 points but cut the deficit to just six with two minutes remaining. Despite the effort, the Bighorns fell short but walked away with a performance that showed significant improvement.

Oasis then traveled to Incline to face the top-ranked Highlanders on Jan. 31, who proved why they lead the division. The Bighorns struggled to find offensive rhythm, as Incline's defense held all Oasis scorers to single digits and forced 23 turnovers.

With the regular season winding down, Oasis enters its final week of games. The Bighorns will travel to Lovelock on Tuesday before returning home Wednesday for Senior Night against Incline, where they will honor seniors Zack Budner and Fenn Mackadon in their last home game. The season comes to a close on Saturday with a road game in Carson City against Sierra Lutheran.

All scores and stats from the past week have been entered into MaxPreps.

As the Bighorns prepare for their final three matchups, they'll look to build on their recent performances and carry momentum into the postseason.

### Another Ore Cart Trophy Triumph for Oasis



Oasis takes home the Ore Cart.

Story and photos by John Baker

On Saturday, the basketball rivalry between Oasis Academy and Coral Academy of Science heated up for the annual Battle for the Ore Cart in Reno. The Ore Cart is a traveling trophy that started in 2017 and is awarded to the "Charter School Champion" and has been won by the Oasis Academy every year except in 2021. The winner is determined by the cumulative scores of the Varsity games.

The opening act was the Junior Varsity Boys. Oasis came out a little slow but managed to pull within one point against the Falcons at the half. They continued fighting and by the end of the third quarter, Oasis was up by one. During the 4th quarter, the Bighorns built up a lead, but were unable to get anything to fall the last few minutes and wound up losing a heartbreaker 30 - 34.

Up next and the start of the Battle for the Ore Cart was the Varsity Girls, with the Lady Bighorns coming out with a vengeance,

racking up a 10-point lead by the end of the first quarter. In the second quarter, Coral Academy was held scoreless and the first half ended with Oasis up 24 - 8. The Bighorns continued their domination in the second half and easily won 44 - 25.

Closing out the night the Varsity Boys were up to finish strong to retain the Ore Cart for another year. Like the ladies, they came out strong and had a 19-point lead at the half. The second half was no different. Senior Fenn Mackadon scored 26 points scored during the game, leading the Bighorns to an easy win at 45 - 28.

According to coach Donald Schank, key defensive performances from Cayden White and Austin Thibodaux helped shut down Coral's top two scorers, allowing Oasis to take control and never look back. The high-energy crowd fueled the team throughout the night, making for a memorable rivalry win.

Once again, Oasis Academy came home with the Ore Cart making their school and community proud.

### Tiny Mites Take on Vegas at the National Jamz Competition

By Rachel Dahl

The Greenwave Tiny Mites cheerleading team had the opportunity to compete last week in the Jamz Nationals in Las Vegas.

Tori Edgington Ausano, a coach and mom, said it was an amazing weekend. "They owned that whole stage. What an amazing ending to watch them throw it down like that on one of the biggest cheer stages in the nation. Although we competed out of our age division, we definitely did not out-shine."

She said it has been a great cheer year, and a dream to be a part of this team. "Getting to work hand in hand with these kids,



Photos courtesy of Tiny Mites.

their families, and our coaches has been an extreme honor, and highlight in my life."

Hailey Perez also coached the team and said the girls' heart and dedication are things that can't be taught. "They poured their heart and souls into every single practice for the past seven months, and on the biggest stage in the nation, it showed. I have no words for the abundant amount of happiness, pride, and love for these girls and what they did this weekend."

Although the team did not come home with a trophy, Perez said they came home happy and learned so much.

Perez and Ausano were joined by Nicole Howell, Cassandra Fox, and Tami Rowland as coaches.

She thanked the parents of her team for sharing their girls with them. "As a coach you go into it 'teaching them' but man, they taught me. We had the best, most supportive parents around."

SPORTS



# Lady Wave Basketball Blast



Photos courtesy of CCHS Girls' Basketball.

Staff Report

The end of January marked a great couple of weeks for the CCHS Lady Wave basketball team. According to team officials, Senior Night was a triumph, with a strong outpouring of support from the community. The "Little Sister" visit with younger players in the community was also a success. Add in two wins against tough opponents, and the team is ready for February.

# Fallon Wrestlers Rack Up Wins at Recent Tournaments

Staff Report

Rafter 3C Arena was packed with youth wrestlers for the SWA Greenwave Rural Rumble Wrestling Tournament, held January 24-26 and hosted by the Greenwave Youth Wrestling Club. Competing against wrestlers from around the region, Fallon Greenwave youth wrestlers took to the mat and performed well.

On January 15, Anna Lewis, competing for the Greenwave team, earned a second-place finish at the Beehive Brawl in Richfield, Utah, which was capped at 1,500 wrestlers. Great job, Anna!

The Fallon Outlaws youth wrestling team also fared well at the Rural Rumble. The highest-ranking Outlaws for the weekend were Harleigh, Kaidan, Carter, Stetson, Zayden, Hunter, Raymond, Lincoln, Breyson, Hudson, Marco, Alessa, Jazmine, Jaxon, Emmett, Bartell, Liam, Zack, Kypton, Bradley, Lucas, Alexa, Remi, Finn, Ethan, Wyatt, and Liam. Several contestants took home multiple wins.

Congratulations to all the hard-working wrestlers who competed in the Crush Cancer Blacklight Tournament at Wooster High School in Reno. For the Outlaws, first-place rankings went to Hudson,



Anna Lewis earned a second-place win at the Beehive Brawl. Photo courtesy of Greenwave Youth Wrestling.



Outlaws at Crush Cancer Blacklight Tournament.



Outlaws at Rural Rumble. Photo courtesy of Fallon Outlaws

Harleigh, Bradley, Stetson, Raymond, Carter, Marco, Zack, Liam, Ethan, Alessa, and Alexa. Second-place finishers were Finn, Kypton, Braxtyn, Zayden, Ava, Emmett, Kaidan, and Atticus. Third place went to Breyson, Lucas, Jazmine, Hunter, and Remi.

In the coming months, the Outlaws are gearing up for competitions in Oregon, Winnemucca, Las Vegas, Utah, and the Reno World Finals. Great work, Outlaws!

Don't miss the NIAA State Wrestling Tournament at Rafter 3C Arena on February 7-8. Wrestlers from across the state will be competing in multiple divisions, bringing in over 2,000 visitors.

Good luck to all our youth and high school wrestlers!

# Would You Like to Enjoy a Fun Shooting Sport? Lahontan Valley Claybreakers want you!

**Orientation and Tryouts Mandatory to Participate Saturday, March 22, 2025, Returning shooters at 9 a.m., new shooters 11 a.m. Fallon Trap Club, 2007 Airport Road**

The Lahontan Valley Claybreakers are starting our 20th Trapshooting season. If you are in the 4th thru 12th grade and want to participate in a fun youth shotgun shooting program, which emphasizes firearms safety, responsibility, teamwork and sportsmanship. You are invited to attend the orientation and tryouts on February 22. Returning shooter must be there at 9 a.m. and new shooters must be there at 11 a.m. Parent or guardian must be present.

**SPACE IS LIMITED**

Items to bring with you for new shooters to the orientation: If you already have one, bring your shotgun (12 or 20 gauge); if you are unable to bring a shotgun and would still like to join please reach out to us.

The Lahontan Valley Claybreakers are members of the Pacific International Trapshooting Association. For more information or full orientation/safety information, email please email LahontanValleyClaybreakers@gmail.com; check our website: www.claybreakers.com or call Pat Whitten at 427-6827.

COLUMNS

What's Cooking in Kelli's Kitchen

Pork and White Bean Bake with Chile Crisp

In for Kelli Kelly this week, Weeknight Gourmet, Erik Jimenez



Photo by Linda Xiao.

Kelli hasn't spent quite enough time in her kitchen as of late. Last week, I traveled south to Las Vegas for work. The trip felt just a little bit too long, but it was productive. I joined a group from the Nevada Department of Agriculture and Grown in Nevada on a series of farm visits (yes, there are farms in Las Vegas), presented at the 2025 Urban Agriculture Conference, and had some exciting meetings about growing our marketing program for Nevada farmers. While I generally use trips to Vegas to eat fun things and try out new restaurants, the demands of this trip kept me inside the walls of South Point for the duration.

So, upon my return to the North, which couldn't come quickly enough, I was craving a home-cooked meal. And nothing says "home-cooked" and "comfort" for me more than beans. What a surprise, right?

A NOTE ON BEAN DISHES

I recently took a moment to review my past columns published in *The Fallon Post*, and I was thrilled to see that I had reader comments! Nothing makes me happier than reading comments from folks who tried out a recipe. Did you try a dish? Did you like it?

How did you adapt it to fit your family preferences? The comments were submitted on an article about a cheesy green chile bean bake that has been read almost 10,000 times (holy cow). This recipe goes out to all of you who enjoyed the previous bean bake.

Kelli's Pork and White Bean Bake with Chile Crisp

Ingredients:

- 2 tbsp. Olive oil
- 5 Cloves garlic, thinly sliced
- 1 bunch Green onions, sliced, whites and light green parts separated
- 1 lb. Ground pork (can substitute tofu if you want)
- 3 tbsp. Tomato paste
- 2-4 tbsp. Chile crisp \*See Note
- 1/2 lb. White beans, cooked until soft or substitute
- 2 cans of White beans, drained
- 1/2 cup Chicken stock
- 8 oz. Shredded sharp white cheddar cheese (or substitute your preferred cheddar)

Directions:

1. Preheat oven to 425 degrees.
2. In an oven-safe skillet (cast iron, braiser, etc.) heat olive oil until shimmery. Add in garlic and the white and light green parts of the green onions. Saute until soft and starting to turn golden. Add in ground pork and cook, stirring regularly, until browned.
3. Add in tomato paste and continue cooking until well combined and a little darker red. Add in chile crisp and stir to combine. Add in drained beans and chicken stock. Bring to a boil, reduce heat to simmer and let cook for about 5 minutes.
4. Top with shredded cheese and dark green parts of the onions. Pop in the oven until the cheese is melted and the dish is bubbling.
5. Serve in a bowl with tortilla chips or tortillas for dipping.

\*Note about Chile Crisp

Each brand of chile crisp has a different level of heat. Add enough chile crisp to make your mouth tingly but not enough to fry your palette. I used Fly by Jing Sichuan and Xtra Spicy Chile Crisps (both available at Safeway) and added 2 tbsp. each.



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

Allison's Book Report

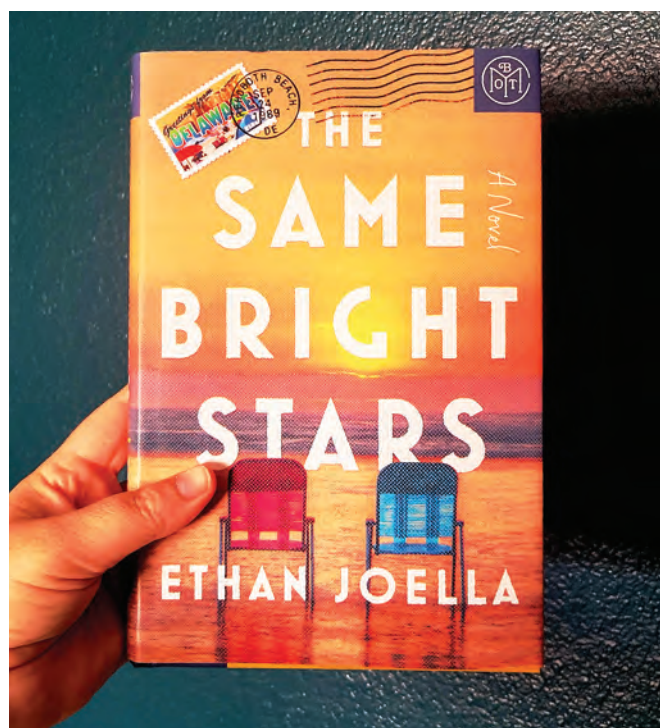
"The Same Bright Stars" by Ethan Joella

When my girls were little, we were always busy running around to activities like story hour, Lego Club, Girl Scouts, and play dates. Now they are teens, and things have not slowed down, but I am discovering a new kind of busy as I am more of an Uber driver for things like play rehearsals, sports tryouts, friends' houses, dances, and other teen destinations. One thing is certain - no matter how busy I am, there is always time for a good book. This week, I have a book to share with you that is 100% worth carving out time for.

"The Same Bright Stars" by Ethan Joella is a beautifully written, emotional novel that explores grief, healing, and the connections we form with others in times of loss. Set in a small town, the book follows the lives of four main characters, each dealing with their own personal tragedies.

Olivia is coping with the death of her husband, struggling to find a way to move forward without him. Jonah, dealing with the recent loss of his brother, is grappling with feelings of guilt and regret. Ruby's life has been deeply affected by the death of her son, and she's trying to make sense of a world that feels a lot emptier without him. Lastly, Charles is mourning the loss of his wife and trying to find a way to understand his emotions while also caring for his elderly mother.

While these characters are all dealing with their grief in different



ways, the novel shows how their lives begin to intertwine as they seek healing. Despite the heaviness of their individual losses, the story is not just about sorrow; it's also about the small, unexpected moments of hope and redemption that can arise when we least expect them. Through their journeys, the characters form bonds with each other that help them begin to heal.

Joella's writing is gentle and full of empathy, making it easy to connect with the characters. Each feels incredibly real, and their pain is understandable and relatable. What makes "The Same Bright Stars" so special is that it doesn't just focus on grief but also on the resilience of the human spirit, showing that even in the darkest times, there's the potential for growth and renewal.

At its heart, the novel is about finding light after loss and learning to live with grief while allowing space for new beginnings. It's a reminder that, though life can be tough, we're never truly alone in our struggles.

I hope you can carve out some time in your week to pick up a book, pop over to my Instagram @allison.the.reader for more of my recommendations, and send me a couple of yours, too.

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.

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COLUMNS

# Postcards

## January 1925

By Michon Mackedon

Last week, I spent a few hours in the Churchill County Museum and archives looking over editions of the “Eagle” that had been published in January 1925, just 100 years ago. For me, vintage newspapers are a pleasure to read from front to back, from the content of the ads to the sports reporting to the local news items. The January 1925 editions of the “Eagle” provided no exception to my reading pleasure, devoted as they were to reporting the day-in and day-out news of Lahontan Valley. But, as I read through the pages, I posed a silent question to the muse of history: How did our local events, trends, and discussions intersect with national events, trends, and discussions? Of course, not all of our local news can be analyzed as a microcosm of national movements, but I decided to begin this Postcard with a selective view of the year 1925 as it is commonly viewed by American historians and then to view selected items of local news or advertisements within that frame.

The year 1925 sits squarely in the middle of what is often labeled The Roaring Twenties. And roar they did. During the decade, cars roared. Radios roared. Women roared. Political debates roared. Prohibition ruled. I’ll leave the roar of women and the sound and fury of political debates for next week’s column. I have plenty to say about both.

To the point of today’s Postcard, across the land, automobile production, sales, and use soared during the 1920s. It has been said that before World War I, cars were a luxury. After the war, they became a necessity. In the advertisements showcased in the January 1925 editions of the “Eagle,” automobiles loom large. Ads were placed by at least three auto parts and repair businesses. Vintage auto aficionados will find it interesting that the Fallon Garage (later the Coverston Garage) ran a large ad announcing that the new Star Automobile would be sold by them and that new models were due to arrive in Fallon in just weeks. (That year, the Fallon Garage also took on the sales of White Trucks and Buicks.) Balloon tires were touted in other Fallon Garage ads. And Fallon citizens cheered when the 1925 Federal Road Act designated much of the Lincoln Highway, then running through Fallon, as Highway 50.

The decade saw a similar boom in the sales of radios, which, like the automobile, became, almost overnight, a household and business status symbol, then a household necessity. In 1925, RCA (Radio Corporation of America) released figures showing that 19% of U.S. homes had radios. In five years, that percentage grew

to 40%. My readers, who are fans of Country Western music, will love the fact that, in 1925, a musical program named Barn Dance was launched by WSM radio station in Nashville, Tennessee. In 1927, it was renamed the Grand Old Opry, and the Golden Age of Radio was well on its way. At the local level, the “Ozarka Plan for Radio Satisfaction” was heavily advertised in the January 1925 editions of the “Eagle.” The ads claimed that the “Ozarka Radio set is installed and serviced by factory representatives who have been trained under Ozarka radio engineers to know the Ozarka set.... Why not ask for a demonstration and let us arrange to be in your home some evening soon? Ozarka Junior 4-tube Set, complete... \$80. Wayne B. Mills, Box 384.” Most relevant to the topic of the radio boom is that the January 1925 Morris & Loring Drug Company ads did not feature pharmaceuticals but... Radiolas and Radiotron Tubes, both produced by RCA. The tubes sold for \$3 each, and the Radiola models ranged in price from \$83 to \$269.

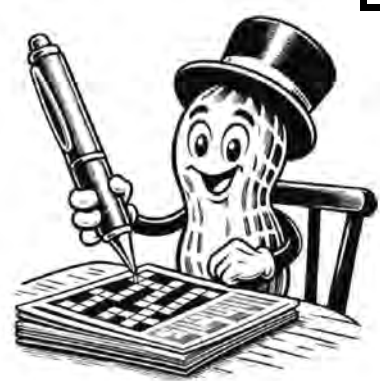
As for Prohibition, one of the thrilling headline stories in the January 1925 local newspapers detailed a local bootlegging crime. “A large still and other equipment were taken in a raid conducted on the old Berney ranch, six- and one-half miles southeast of Fallon. A hundred gallons of mash and several gallons of liquor were destroyed... [Sheriff Crane said that] “the moonshine was of very poor grade. The mash was found in filthy condition. Containers were dirty.” The still, officers said, was in “such condition as to turn the appetite of the most devoted connoisseurs of jackass brandy.” The paper followed up on the raid by reporting a few days later that “Federal officer P.E DuBois arrived Monday, being sent here by the director of Prohibition in Nevada to make a special investigation of the case in which Sheriff Crane arrested R.A. Gillett last Monday in on what was formerly the Berney ranch.... [Mr. Dubois] stated that he was thoroughly convinced that the sheriff has landed the right man when he got Gelllett.” A separate news item concerned the sentencing of four men from White Pine County to serve time in the Fallon jail for “violating the dry law.” Two of the wrongdoers received four- and one-half-month sentences and the other two received four-month sentences for reasons not explained in the article.

Please send your thoughts and stories to [Mackedon@phonewave.net](mailto:Mackedon@phonewave.net).

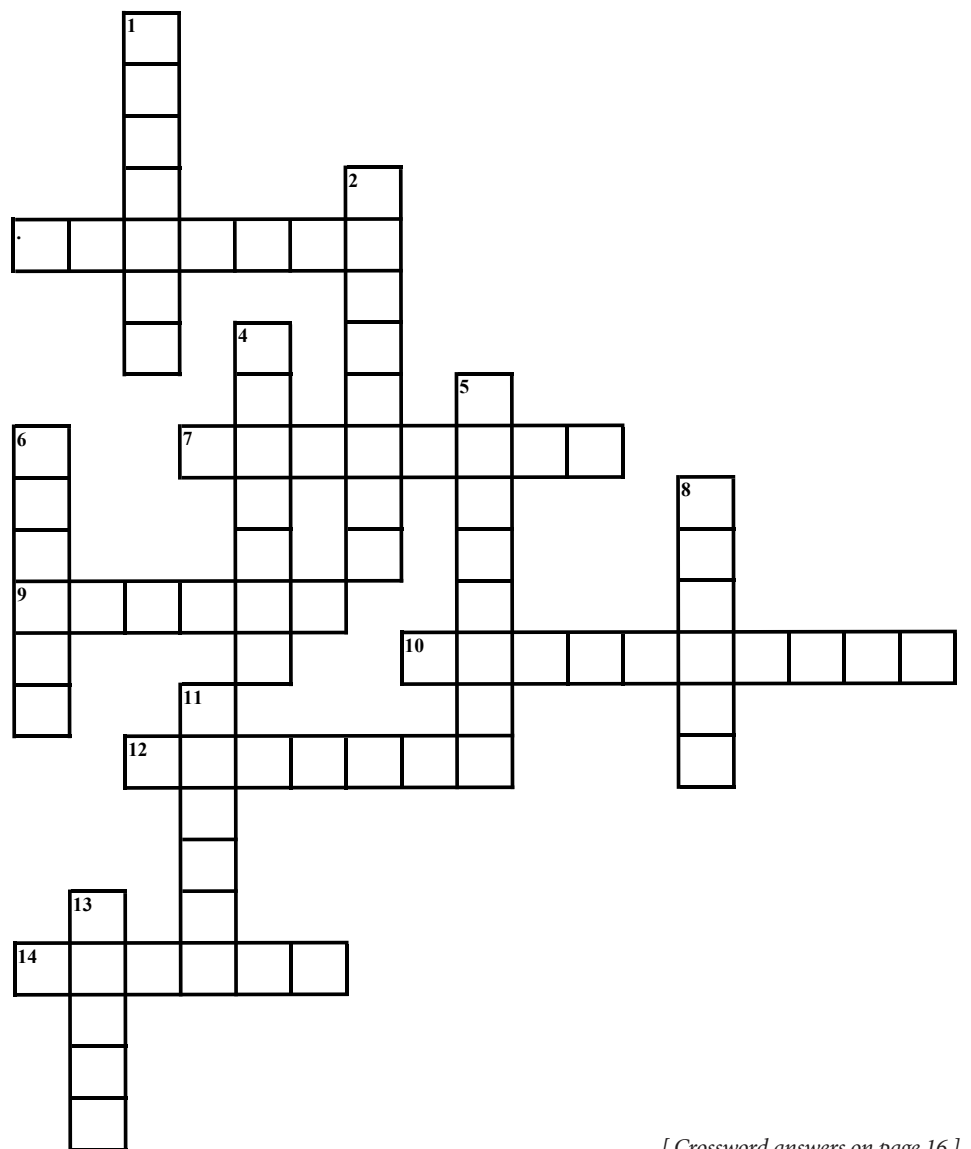
*Michon Mackedon is a native of Fallon and a retired professor of English and Humanities (WNC). She loves her family, her home, her dog, reading, writing, making good food, and sipping a glass of fine white wine. Beyond that, she refuses to be categorized.*

## Crossword

By Peanut



MYTHICAL  
 R  
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### Across

- 3. Irish shrieker
- 7. Man bull combo
- 9. Water horse
- 10. Horse eagle combo
- 12. Sea living people
- 14. Two legged dragon

### Down

- 1. Immortal bird
- 2. Lycanthrope
- 4. Lion eagle combo
- 5. Serpent
- 6. Monster squid
- 8. Winged fire-breather
- 11. Seal person
- 13. Many headed serpent

[ Crossword answers on page 16 ]

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Published in  
*The Fallon Post*  
February 7, 2025  
Ad #6289

**NOTICE**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the following Ordinance was passed and adopted by the Churchill County Board of Commissioners on January 15, 2025:

TITLE: An ordinance amending Titles 13 and 16 of the Churchill County Code to provide for water dedication and service connection requirements, and other matters related thereto.

SUMMARY: An ordinance amending Titles 13 and 16 of the Churchill County Code to (1) consolidate water dedication requirements within Title 13 of the Churchill County Code, (2) clarify water dedication requirements for all land development, (3) set payment-in-lieu of dedication requirements for all land development, (4) designate the purposes to which payments-in-lieu of dedication may be put, and (5) other matters related thereto.

At the final reading of the above listed ordinance, the vote was as follows:

AYES: Myles Getto, Chairman  
Eric Blakey, Commissioner  
Matt Hyde, Commissioner

NAYS: None  
ABSENT: N/A

Copies of the Ordinance are available at the County Clerk's Office, 155 No. Taylor Street, Suite 110, Fallon, Nevada 89406, for inspection by all interested persons.


Dated this 24th day of January, 2025.

PAMELA D. MOORE  
DEPUTY CLERK TO THE BOARD

Published in  
*The Fallon Post and The Pershing Post*  
January 31 and February 7, 2025  
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**CROSSWORD ANSWERS**  
*Crossword found on page 15*

BANSHEE	KRAKEN
BASILISK	MERFOLK
DRAGON	MINOTAUR
GRIFFIN	PHOENIX
HIPPOGRIFF	SELKIE
HYDRA	WEREWOLF
KELPIE	WYVERN



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**The lottery for Fall 2025 will be held March 3, 2025.**



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*Group Classes*

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WEDNESDAY 6 am, 8 am, 9 am, 5:30 pm  
THURSDAY 6 am, (7 am), 8 am, 9 am, 4:30 pm, 5:30 pm  
FRIDAY 6 am, 8 am, 9 am, 5:30 pm  
SATURDAY 7 am\*, 8 am, 9 am, 10 am

*Underlined class times are JUMP classes.*  
\*Mat class

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