THE FALLON POST



KEEPING YOU POSTED ON LOCAL NEWS

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Let's Fill the Bleachers for our FFA, 4-H, and Grange Kids

Story and photos by Nancy Chapman

For 86 years now, the youth of Fallon and Churchill County have raised and shown livestock with the kind of care, grit, and responsibility you just don't see every day. This spring will be no different.

The 2025 Churchill County Junior Livestock Show and Sale is set for April 24–26 at the Rafter 3C Complex. Animal judging will take place Thursday and Friday, with the live auction beginning at 1 p.m. on Saturday, April 26. And just like we did in 1939, when the first 4-H livestock judging contest was held at Chester Lima's place, we're asking you to come out and fill the bleachers.

We fill the bleachers for basketball and drive all over creation for baseball, softball, gymnastics, and dance. Let's do the same for these kids—because the effort it takes to get an animal into that show ring is every bit as demanding, if not more.

Students from Churchill County High School and Oasis Academy FFA, Churchill County 4-H, and Fallon's High Desert Grange programs will be showing animals they've spent months raising. "This is your opportunity to purchase locally raised animals that will yield high-quality meat," said Karen Bogdanowicz, Churchill County 4-H program coordinator. A buyer's appreciation lunch will be served at noon on Saturday at Rafter 3C, just before the auction.

At a recent Fallon Chamber of Commerce luncheon, four youth participants—Macady Bogdanowicz, Zachery Lewis, Alley Fait, and



L-R Macady Bogdanowicz, Zachery Lewis, Fallon 4-H, Michelle Gabiola Rogers, CCJLS Promotions Chairwoman and Fallon Chamber of Commerce Secretary, Taylor Sowersby, and Allie Fait, Fallon FFA Chapter.

Taylor Sowersby—spoke about their projects and what they've learned along the way.

Eleven-year-old Macady will be showing her sheep and rabbits. Like all 4-H members, she's responsible for keeping a detailed record book for each animal, tracking every expense and bit of care from day one. With three animals, that's three separate record books—a serious responsibility for anyone, let alone a middle schooler.

Zachery Lewis is raising two steers, one for the local show and another for Reno, along with two heifers he'll take to additional competitions. He shared the real-life lessons he's learning, from basic veterinary care to selecting the right feed and managing his daily routine to keep the animals in top form.

Allie Fait started in 4-H at age nine with a single ewe lamb. She now has a flock of

ten breeding ewes and will be showing a market lamb this year. She's developed a strong sense of project planning and decision-making—skills that serve her both in and out of the show ring.

Taylor Sowersby, a lifelong livestock participant, focused her presentation on the public speaking and leadership opportunities 4-H and FFA have given her. She confidently addressed the Chamber crowd, using the same speech she'll bring to future competitions.

These kids—and dozens more—will be judged not just on the health and quality of their animals, but on their handling, knowledge, and ability to

[4-H continued on page 4]

City Council Confirms Trent deBraga as New City Attorney

By Rachel Dahl

In a full-circle moment of local pride, the Fallon City Council voted to confirm Trent deBraga as the new City Attorney during its regular meeting Tuesday evening—marking not only a career milestone for deBraga but continuing a legacy of public service that spans three generations in the Churchill County community.

Trent, a fifth-generation Nevadan and Fallon native, was surrounded by his family as the Council considered Mayor Ken Tedford's recommendation. Among those in attendance was Trent's grandfather, Ted deBraga, longtime former President of the Truckee-Carson Irrigation District and a well-respected leader in the community. It was a moment of significance not just for Trent, but for a family that has served Fallon for over a century.

"It's a proud day for Fallon," said Mayor Tedford. "Trent has dedicated himself to this city through his work as Deputy City Attorney and has the knowledge, professionalism, and community heart we want in this role."

[City Council continued on page 2]



L to R: City Councilman Paul Harmon, new City Attorney Trent deBraga, Councilwoman Kelly Frost, and Mayor Ken Tedford. Photo courtesy of the City of Fallon.



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

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FROM THE PUBLISHER

Captain's Log

Bunnies and Chickens at the Boyer Bunny Ranch

By Rachel Dahl

I got a new bunny. She's a Satin Angora, and her color is officially lilac. So, of course, her name is Lilah.

The other Boyer bunnies are English Angora, with fancy face furnishings and ear tassels. And the two French Angora who are slightly crankier with rougher wool.

I didn't know about Satin Angora until the National Rabbit Show was held in Reno a couple years ago. I walked into the Convention Center, which was completely filled with 50 different breeds of bunnies. In the Angora section, I got to see the German, French, English, and Giant, and then there they were — sparkling away, the Satins.

Who knew there was such a thing — bunnies with sparkly fur. How in the world??? And why didn't I know about this before I went down the English Angora road?

At any rate, Lilah spent a few days acclimating with us in the house. The cats were instantly in love with her, and she was instantly in love with the Great Dane. She now joins her international friends in the bunny shed and has adjusted quite well. I'm looking forward to seeing how this shiny fur spins into yarn and how it will look if I blend it with the softer English fiber.

Directly after moving Lilah to the bunny barn, I noticed one of the hens was wide across the bottom and waddly. Upon closer inspection and a quick inquiry with Doctor Google, it appeared that the poor girl was suffering a fairly impressive case of vent fleet, an affliction of which I have been blissfully unaware until now. If you don't know, don't Google it. Trust me. It's gross.

So, in came the hen, one of the few who has not yet been named, to the house, where I plopped her in the pet carrier to begin isolation and treatment.

Dr. Google recommended thorough cleaning and then a soak in a warm Epsom salt bath. Yes, picture that, if you will. But wait, it gets better. When you plop a chicken in the kitchen sink full of warm Epsom salt water, it resembles a duck taking off the surface of a pond as it squawks, flaps their wings, and tries to escape. In your kitchen. Wild flapping and splashing while you're trying to soothe them and get them to settle in and enjoy it.

Then the question becomes, how do you keep them in there for 20 minutes to get the full effects? Well, after a quick assessment of the tools at your disposal, you simply place a cookie sheet and the breadboard over the sink with only the chicken head sticking out, and there you go. Spa day.

So while I nurse Queenie, you know, "fat bottoms make the rockin' world go round," back to health, we'll still be right here...



Letter to the Editor

LTE – Duntley After reading the latest on the Navy's Fallon Range Training Complex I found my thoughts heading back 70 some years when my family's ranch and range were bought out by Edwards Air Force Base's expansion down on the Mojave Desert of California. I was in my teens at the time so I'm an old guy now, but I remember it well because I lived on the ranch. Ranch life, with the hard work, the care for the livestock, the everyday responsibilities, was integral to my development then and my later years. My maternal grandparents had a successful cow/calf desert grazing operation when they were notified that the Air Force needed all that land because of the increased aircraft testing which would be taking place to compete with the Soviets. Obviously, there was no alternative for them but to agree to the monetary compensation and move off the land. They had a few years from the original notice to the finalization to sell livestock, or to find somewhere to place them until they resettled. After they jumped thru all the hoops required and the final day came, I remember well my grandfather's tears. It was a sad day for the family.

Now, the rest of the story. From the ranch headquarters to Edwards AFB was some 15 miles and unless one knew there was an AFB to the east you would never suspect it because all of the base's operations were to the east of the base's facilities and there was a range of hills/low mountains between us and the base. And, other than posting signs at the boundaries one would never know there was a base over there. They never used the thousands of acres for a darn thing but every time a neighboring rancher's cows grazed onto that land the Air Force sent their security police to

inform them to get those cattle off that land. Obviously, the threat of cattle to military security was lost on the rancher. After 9-11 they did fence the entire area. Some of the area near a public highway had high security fencing and the more remote areas had simply barbed wire fencing. But still the land was not used by the military until about two to three years ago when large solar panel fields were built. Those fields required hundreds, if not thousands, of beautiful, majestic Joshua trees to be eliminated. So much for the concern for the environment and the wildlife. Remember when the tree huggers were wailing about the cows damaging the desert tortoise's habitat? Did the Air Force really need all those thousands of acres at that time? From my perspective; no they did not. Why did they take it? Who knows? So some 65-70 years later huge solar panel fields could be built there? I doubt many even knew about solar panels in the 1950's if they even existed.

Does the Navy really need to extend their range some 600,000 acres? I certainly don't know the answer. I sincerely hope it is necessary but the skeptic in me does question it. I truly feel for the ranchers, miners, hunters and outdoors folks who will be kept off of the land. I often hunted and went boondocking out that way with my family when I was a bit younger. And, before I am thought to be antimilitary or anti-national defense, I am a Navy veteran who proudly served on the carrier USS Shangri-La, CVA38, in the 1950's. Also, I'm not naive to the fact that America has serious foes elsewhere in the world who would do us harm. Thanks for letting me share some thoughts.

Ron Duntley, Sr., Fallon

[City Council continued from page 1]

After graduating from Churchill County High School, Trent went on to play college football at Colorado Mesa University, where he earned his degree with a focus on criminal justice and law. He later completed his law degree at the William S. Boyd School of Law at UNLV in 2016. Following two years in private practice in Las Vegas, he returned home to Fallon and joined the City Attorney's office in 2018 as Deputy City Attorney.

Since then, Trent has built a reputation for integrity, steady leadership, and deep roots in the community he serves.

He and his wife, Courtney—his high school sweetheart—are raising their four children, Brighton, Teagan, Daxson, and Titus, in Fallon. He's actively involved in youth sports as a coach for local wrestling and baseball teams and serves on the school board at Veritas Preparatory School. He also lends his time as an assistant coach for the Greenwave Varsity Football team.

The Council voted unanimously to confirm the appointment and also approved the salary for the position at \$142,264 per year, based on job duties, responsibilities, and experience.

"Trent has earned the trust of our team and the community over the past several years," said Councilwoman Kelly Frost. "He's a hometown professional with deep knowledge of municipal law, and we're proud to have him serve as our City Attorney."

As he took his seat among City leadership, flanked by his wife and children, and with his grandfather looking on, the moment underscored more than a new role—it reflected Fallon's deep tradition of homegrown leadership.

FEATURES

Cottage Food Expansion Bill **Stirs Debate in Carson City**

Supporters say AB 352 would unlock rural entrepreneurship; health districts push back on safety, enforcement

By Rachel Dahl

A bill to modernize and expand Nevada's cottage food laws drew strong support—and pointed opposition—during a hearing last week before the Assembly Committee on Health and Human Services.

Assembly Bill 352, sponsored by Assemblymember Natha Anderson, proposes increasing the current gross sales cap on cottage food businesses from \$35,000 to \$100,000. The bill also includes provisions to legalize small-batch "cottage cosmetics" under updated federal guidelines, allow up to four farm-to-fork events per

month without requiring a commercial kitchen license, and consolidate oversight under the Nevada Department of Agriculture.

"This is our opportunity to help others realize their full potential," Anderson told the committee. "Nevada's current law is holding entrepreneurs back. The 2013 law was a heavy lift, but it's time we update it to support small and home-based businesses."

Currently, if a home-based food producer exceeds \$35,000 in gross sales, they must shift to a commercial kitchen, undergo inspections, and acquire more intensive licensure. Anderson said the \$100,000 cap was a midpoint based on comparisons with other states.

Supporters of the bill argued that AB 352 would unlock opportunity, particularly for rural Nevadans, stay-at-home parents, and small agricultural producers looking to diversify.

"We work with farmers and food business owners around the state," said Kelli Kelly, a rural entrepreneur advisor. "Many want to start small—selling salves, lotion bars, shampoo bars, sourdough bread, or hosting farm dinners—but the regulatory burden has made it nearly impossible. This bill would change that."

Kelly highlighted how allowing cottage cosmetics would enable producers to use farm-grown botanicals like lavender and beeswax in new value-added products.

"Increasing the gross sales cap, allowing more delivery options, and expanding permitted product types will enable more Nevadans to build sustainable businesses from home," she said.

"If I was making \$100,000 worth of sourdough bread in my



kitchen," Kelly added, "I'd be pulling my hair out and ready for a commercial facility. This threshold makes sense—it supports growth until the infrastructure demands a bigger move."

The bill also received support from the Nevada Farm Bureau, the Food Bank of Northern Nevada, the Retail Association of Nevada, and individual producers from across the state. Supporters cited the bill's potential to reduce food deserts, foster economic development, and streamline oversight, which is currently split between multiple agencies.

However, several of the state's local health authorities voiced op-

position, raising public health and enforcement concerns. Amber English, Environmental Health Supervisor for Northern Nevada Public Health, warned that "home kitchens are not equipped to ensure safeguards" for acidified and fermented foods like pickles and hot sauces—products that can carry a risk of botulism if mishandled.

Maria Menjivar, Deputy Administrator for the Central Nevada Health District, opposed shifting regulatory control to the state. "Local governments have a better understanding of their communities," she said, cautioning that enforcement at farmers markets and community events could become fragmented if the state took over registrations while local agencies retained inspection duties.

The Nevada Department of Agriculture testified in a neutral position but stated they are prepared to implement the expanded program. Director J.J. Goicoechea told the committee the agency already oversees dairy and meat inspection statewide and has environmental scientists in both urban and rural regions.

Under current law, Nevada has one of the lowest cottage food revenue caps in the country. Forty-four states allow direct home delivery of cottage foods. At least 37 permit the sale of acidified foods like salsa and sauerkraut, and 11 states—including Utah and Oregon allow cottage cosmetics under a federal small-business exemption enacted in 2022.

Stakeholders on both sides said they are open to amendments clarifying roles and responsibilities. The committee is expected to make changes and vote on the measure in the coming weeks.

Redwood Project Gets Green Light by Planning Commission

By Rachel Dahl

In a special meeting held Monday, March 24, the Churchill County Planning Commission voted 6-1 to approve a special use permit submitted by NNV Investments, LLC—operating under Redwood Materials—for the establishment of a hazardous materials storage site and battery explosion and combustion testing facility on Bango Road.

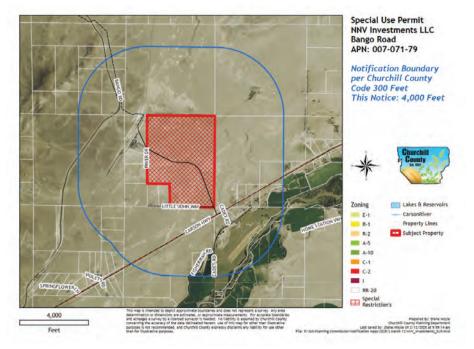
The application, which was tabled on March 12 due to concerns over safety and environmental risks, was reconsidered following a revised presentation by Redwood and the addition of new safety con-

More than a dozen Churchill County residents spoke in opposition to the project, raising concerns about the facility's proximity to water sources, including the Truckee Canal, the Hot Springs Reservoir, and the Carson River. Several residents cited fears of water contamination in the event of a lithium-ion battery fire, referencing past incidents at other facilities, such as the Moss Landing fire in Monterey County, California, which resulted in evacuations, air quality alerts, and an ongoing class-action lawsuit.

"Putting this near our farms, our water, and our homes is playing with fire," said Sherry Wideman, who owns property on Cadet Road. "Literally."

Other residents challenged the adequacy of local emergency response capabilities, pointing to the 20-minute average fire department response time to the Bango area and previous industrial fires that burned out of control.

Many attendees questioned the lack of broader notification to residents beyond a 3,000-foot radius. They shared skepticism over the proposed use of solar-powered lighting and AI-powered fire detection systems, which they argued were unproven or insufficient for such a



high-risk operation.

Representatives from Redwood Materials, including project managers Don Tatro and Brad Mayhew, made a presentation outlining the facility's purpose and safety protocols. The 438-acre site will be used for two primary operations: outdoor storage of end-of-life batteries and a research and development center for testing battery safety and potential reuse.

Mayhew emphasized that batteries would be stored in DOT-compliant, fire-safe packaging arranged in 30-by-30-foot grids with a minimum of 15 feet between each stack to prevent fire propagation. Operations will include infrared thermal monitoring (FLIR cameras), AI-enhanced detection systems, and 24/7 on-site staffing with emergency response equipment, including 300-gallon water tanks and fire suppression foam. [Redwood Project continued on page 8]

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

PETS OF THE Adopt me! WEEK

Meet Norman & Tank



Norman and Tank are one-year-old bonded brothers looking for a forever home together. Neutered, vaccinated, and ready for adoption, these sweet but timid boys thrive with patience and love. They enjoy playtime—especially with toys—and can't resist a Churu treat. When not playing, they nap side by side. They must be adopted as a pair because they rely on each other for comfort. Ideal for a quiet, patient home, Norman and Tank have so much love to give.

Visit our adoption center to see if these charming brothers are the right match for you.

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

CAPS Pet O' the Week



Johnny is a 7-month-old
Husky/Dalmatian
mix and the
youngest pup at
CAPS. He's full of
energy, loves kids,
and gets along well
with other dogs.
This sweet and curious boy is ready
to find a forever
home that can

match his playful spirit. To meet Johnny or see other adoptable dogs visit capsnevada.org.

While CAPS is stocked on cat food and linens, we currently need dog treats, bleach, printer paper, paper towels, toilet paper, and monetary donations. Please view our full wishlist at capsnevada.org/donate-supplies.

Want to help more? We're looking for volunteers, vendors for Bark in the Park (June 6–7), and flea market donations (April 3 drop-off). Learn more on our website!

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

City of Fallon Animal Shelter



We are deeply grateful to the adopters who generously opened their hearts and homes to seven senior Lhasa Apsos. We are also extremely appreciative of Pam Yost of Cranberry Cottage for her charitable contribution and kindness to-

ward helping to make this a smoother transition for these dogs into their new environments. If you're looking to be a doggy hero, come check out our animals at the City of Fallon Animal Shelter.

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

Vendors Wanted for Hawthorne's 74th Armed Forces Day Celebration

Applications Open for Food, Crafts, and Service Vendors

Nevada's longest-running Armed Forces Day Parade and Celebration is set to take place in Hawthorne from May 13-18, 2025, and organizers are seeking vendors to take part in this historic event.

The Armed Forces Day Committee is calling on businesses, artisans, and food vendors to help create a vibrant market-place for the thousands of visitors and residents who attend the week-long festivities in America's Patriotic Home. A variety of vendor packages are available to accommodate different needs and schedules, making it easy for businesses and individuals to participate.

"Hawthorne has been celebrating Armed Forces Day for more than 73 years," said event organizer Dana Tommila. "Every year, the third weekend of May brings together family, friends, and visitors from near and far to honor those who are serving and have served in the U.S. Armed Forces. We celebrate them with activities, fireworks, and a remarkable parade in their honor."

VENDOR OPPORTUNITIES & APPLICATION DETAILS

- Vendor applications are due by April 25, 2025
- Spaces start at just \$30 per day
- Non-profits pay a flat fee of \$15 for the entire event
- Information-only vendors (no sales) can participate for FREE

Interested vendors can find applications and more details at armedforcesdaynv.com or email armed.forces.day@outlook.com.

This year's celebration promises to be bigger than ever, with a packed schedule of patriotic events, community activities, and the legendary Armed Forces Day Parade. Vendors will have the opportunity to showcase their products and services while joining in a cherished tradition that honors the men and women of the U.S. military.

Don't miss the chance to be part of Hawthorne's 74th Armed Forces Day Celebration—apply today and help make this event unforgettable!

Movies & More

Catch a Movie and Support a Community Hub at the Fallon Theatre

By Kelli Perez

This weekend, we invite you to enjoy great films while supporting a vital community space. The Fallon Theatre is more than just a place to watch free classic movies—it's a nonprofit center that brings people together, offering a space for cultural enrichment, entertainment, and connection. By attending our events, you're helping us continue to offer a variety of activities, from film screenings to live performances, all while supporting a local gem with a meaningful role in our town's cultural life.

Join us this weekend for two free movies at the Fallon Theatre. On Friday and Saturday, we'll be screening "McLintock!" at 6 p.m. and "The Horse Whisperer" at 7 p.m. Whether you're in the mood for a classic Western comedy or a poignant drama, there's something for everyone.

"McLintock!" (1963) is a Western comedy starring John Wayne. Packed with humor, action, and lighthearted romance, the film follows the feisty McLintock as he navigates a troubled relationship with his spirited wife and their rebellious daughter.

Rated G, it runs 2 hours and 7 minutes. At 7 p.m., settle in for "The Horse Whisperer" (1998), a drama directed by and starring Robert Redford. The story centers on a young girl and her horse struggling to heal after a tragic accident. Enter Tom Booker, a quiet, empathetic horse trainer with a rare ability to communicate with animals and

ability to communicate with animals and people alike. Rated PG-13, the film runs 2 hours and 50 minutes.

Mark your calendars for The Lincoln Highway Band's concert on Saturday, April 5, at 7 p.m. The band brings a mix of country, rock, and '50s classics for a fun-filled night of live music.

And coming in May, don't miss a special tribute concert when Head Over Feet, an Alanis Morissette tribute band, takes the stage on May 5 at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$15 at the door.

Looking for the perfect venue for a celebration, party, or special event? Our auditorium is available for rentals. Contact us at 775-423-6210 or email thefallontheatre@gmail.com to book.

[4-H continued from page 1]

present with confidence. Their work includes long days of feeding, watering, exercising, grooming, and preparing animals for show, along with learning how to present them to judges in the ring.

It's no small task, and it deserves a crowd.

If you're interested in purchasing an animal at the show and sale, you can attend the auction in person or contact the 4-H office to arrange for remote bidding. Can't buy an animal but still want to help? There are sponsorship opportunities for buckles, prizes, and show expenses—every bit of support makes a difference.

Let's fill the bleachers, Fallon. Let's show these kids that their early mornings, long hours, and commitment to agriculture don't go unnoticed. Because of them, the future of farming, ranching, and leadership in Churchill County is in good hands.



L-R: Macady Bogdanowicz and Zachery Lewis, Fallon 4-H speaking at the Fallon Chamber of Commerce luncheon attendees.

For more information, or to inquire about sponsorship, contact the Churchill County Junior Livestock Show and Sale at CCJLS@churchillcountynv.gov or call 775-427-2480.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Obituary

LILA LOU GUAZZINI

Feb. 18, 1930 - March 18, 2025

On March 18, 2025, Lila Lou Guazzini took the outreached hand of God and stepped over into a new life. There had to be a crowd waiting for her, as she was a very special lady.

Lila was born Feb. 18, 1930, in Fallon to Ernest and Lillian Baumann. She was the eldest of three children.

If you knew Lila, there is not enough paper to write an obituary. She was a strong, hardworking wife, mother, grandmother and great-grandmother—not to leave out, many friends.

She was the epitome of a farm wife, up early, cooking, feeding cattle, milking cows and gardening. She was a multitasker—she could be cooking breakfast (yes, she did cook breakfast), preparing for what she would have for lunch, all while answering phone calls or writing a receipt for a bull buyer, and she might have to make a new pot of coffee or bottle-feed a baby goat in the middle of it all.

Lila was a devoted Christian woman, never missing a Sunday at church. She taught Sunday school to the children before the church service, where she would lead the music selections. Sunday dinner was cooking at home, ready for the family when she returned home.



She was preceded in death by her parents; sister and brother-in-law, Remo and May Laca; mother- and father-in-law, Marie and Louis Guazzini; son and daughter-in-law, Sam and DaNielle Guazzini; husband of 69 years, Louie Guazzini; grandson-in-law, Brandon Kempf; and brother, Ernest "Bud" Baumann.

Lila is survived by her daughters and sons-in-law, Morena and Gary Heser, Virginia and Jeff Knight, and Ted and Lorretta Guazzini; grandchildren, Randalyn Kempf, Brandon (Elissa) Heser, Brian (Jeanette) Knight, Angela (Ward) Viera, Samantha (Chris) Scholer, Sam (Jeri) Guazzini, Mark Saltee, Heather and Mariela

Holdridge-Fernandez, and Michelle Jeppsen and Dan Jeppsen; numerous great- and great-great-grandchildren; and nieces and nephews.

The family would like to thank the caregivers at The Homestead for all the love they showed to their mother during her stay.

A potluck dinner will follow services at the Wolf Center. The family wishes donations be made in Lila's memory to The Country Church, P.O. Box 413, Fallon, NV 89407.

A service to celebrate Lila's life will be held at 11 a.m. Friday, March 28, 2025, at Smith Family Funeral Home.

Arrangements are under the direction of Smith Family Funeral Home, 505 Rio Vista Drive, Fallon, NV 89406.

CCHS Expands CNA Opportunities Through Local Partnerships



Dr. Sue with CCHS CNA student.

Staff Report

Churchill County High School is growing its work-based learning programs through partnerships that prepare students for jobs in healthcare and transportation.

This spring, seven students will complete a Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) course offered in partnership with TMCC. The training provides immediate job opportunities, and some students, like senior Nadia Basturo, plan to continue working as CNAs while attending college. Basturo is enrolled at the University of Nevada, Reno and hopes to become a doctor.

Next year, Western Nevada College will take over the CNA course, keeping tuition local. Fifteen students are already signed up. "This is work-based learning in action," said CCHS Schools to Career Coordinator Dr. Sue Segura,.

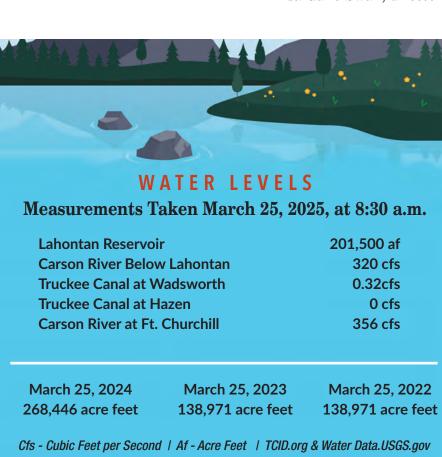
Lisa Gallo Swan, director of the WNC Fallon

campus and rural outreach, said, "WNC is thrilled to be expanding our partnership and providing valuable opportunities for both CCHS students and community members. We look forward to working closely with the high school to support the success of this program."

In addition to healthcare training, the school is also offering students a path to earning a commercial driver's license (CDL). Through a partnership with the governor's office and Nevada Works, six seniors are scheduled to take their CDL exams in June.

Bart and Jason, program representatives, spoke with students about employment options. "You can always find a job," Bart said. Case Utter, a 2024 graduate who went through the program, returned to speak with current seniors about how it helped him get started.

"This is a valuable opportunity for our students and their future employability," Segura said.



MEETINGS March 31 - April 4, 2025

Fallon City Council Tuesday, Apr. 1 at 9 a.m. 55 W. Williams Ave. City Hall

> County Meetings 155 N. Taylor St. Commission Chambers

Parks & Recreation Commission Tuesday, Apr. 1 at 7 p.m.

Board of County Commissioners Thursday, Apr. 3 at 8:15 a.m.

Liquor Board Thursday, Apr. 3 at 9:15 a.m. Highway Commission Thursday, Apr. 3 at 1:15 p.m.

CC Communications Thursday, Apr. 3 at 3 p.m.



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, March 31

Baked Fish Fillet

Creamy Coleslaw

French Fries

Garden Salad

Strawberries

Tuesday, April 1Cowboy Chili

Kidney Beans

Corn Bread

Colorful Salad

Wednesday, April 2
Baked Chicken Tenders
French Baked Potatoes
Steamed Carrots
Pineapple Bits
Green Salad

Thursday, April 3

Beef Stir Fry w/Broccoli
Steamed Brown Rice
Edamame Beans
Beet Salad
Mandarins

Friday, April 4
Chicken Enchilada
w/Salsa Verde
Ranch Style Beans
Comstock Corn
Strawberry FF Yogurt

FALLON DAILY BREAD

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

Monday, March 31 Spaghetti & Meat Sauce Salad & Bread Thursday, April 3

Rotary Night

Warm Peaches

Monday, April 7
Bean & Cheese Burritos
Rice & Salad

Thursday, April 10 Cheesy Potato Soup Salad & Bread Volunteer groups needed to help serve once per month, 3 p.m. until 6:30 p.m. Call for information.

COMMUNITY

Churchill Arts Council Welcomes New Executive Director Robyn Jordan

Staff Report

The Churchill Arts Council has announced Robyn Jordan as its new Executive Director, ushering in a fresh chapter for one of Fallon's most cherished cultural institutions.

Jordan stepped into the role on March 17, bringing with her more than a decade of experience in community engagement, event planning, and nonprofit leadership. A Nevada native with deep roots in Churchill County, Jordan most recently served as the Recreation Supervisor with Churchill County Parks and Recreation and has long been recognized for her commitment to strengthening local organizations through strategic vision and inclusive programming.

"We are thrilled to welcome Robyn to the Churchill Arts Council," said Board Chair Tedd McDonald. "With her extensive experience and passion for community, Robyn will be a great leader to continue our work and advance our goals. We look forward to the exciting opportunities that lie ahead."

In her new role, Jordan will oversee all aspects of the Arts Council's operations, including planning, fundraising, and community outreach. One of her first priorities is to build an arts-focused support staff and to invite community members who are passionate about the arts to get involved. She also plans to revitalize the Arts Council's school programs and increase attendance at events.

"I am so deeply honored to join such a dynamic organization and to lead the Arts Council as we continue to build on the incredible foundation that has been established through the dedication of our organization's founders," Jordan said. "I want everyone to experience the arts."

Jordan's background includes leadership roles with the Churchill County School District, where she served as Family and Community Engagement Coordinator, and as Executive Director of the Fallon Cantaloupe and Country Fair. She has long been active in local initiatives and is a lifelong supporter of the arts in all its forms.



The Churchill Arts Council is currently implementing a strategic plan that aims to expand the role of the Oats Park Arts Center as a cultural hub for the region. Upcoming events include a Spring Film Series featuring Wes Anderson on the first three Fridays in April; a literary reading and reception with author Caleb Cage on Saturday, April 12; and an artist reception with Beck Bauman on Saturday, May 3.

For more information, visit churchillarts.org or contact the Council at 775-423-1440.

FALLON, NV

Gun Show!

Gun, Knife and Antique Collectibles Show

Raffle Ticket with each PAID Admission



ADMISSION: × Adult 16 and over - × \$10.00 Sat. April 5 - 9am to 5pm Sun. April 6 - 9am to 3pm

Fallon Convention Center
100 Campus Way, Fallon, NV 89406
Tickets are available at the door only.
For vendor info, please call
Rufino - (775) 351-8512

Under New Management

GOVERNMENT

County Commission Update

Public Lands and the Legislature



Geothermal plant in Churchill County. Photo by Leanna Lehman.

Staff Report

Representatives from the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) provided an update on various projects affecting Churchill County.

AMONG THE KEY TOPICS DISCUSSED:

- Sand Canyon Road Realignment BLM and the Bureau of Reclamation are working together on the next steps for this project, including maintenance plans.
- Grazing Permit Amendments Meetings continue between BLM, the Nevada Department of Agriculture, the U.S. Navy, and grazing permit holders regarding how federal land withdrawals may affect grazing permits.
- Wild Horse and Burro Management BLM is currently conducting census flights for wild horse herds in Mineral County, Pine Nuts, Garfield Flat, and other areas. A new management plan is also in the works for the Montgomery Pass herd, co-managed with the U.S. Forest Service.
- Geothermal and Mining Projects Updates were provided on the Dixie Meadows and

Diamond Flat geothermal projects, as well as the Bell Mountain Mine, which recently changed ownership and is now working with the state and BLM on its final design and pre-construction phase.

County officials reviewed several bills currently under consideration in the Nevada Legislature and determined their positions on them. Among the most notable:

SUPPORTED BILLS:

- AB 70 Requires the Director of the Office of Energy and the Governor's Office to consider written comments from county commissioners regarding tax abatement applications.
- AB 226 Requires a community benefit plan from companies seeking tax abatements, ensuring local contributions beyond zoning and planning requirements.
- SB 116 Addresses compensation for elected county officials, which is expected to result in a pay increase across most county positions.

OPPOSED BILLS:

- SB 355 Would allow for expanded tax abatements for energy projects, potentially reducing county tax revenue.
- AB 307 Proposes eliminating excise taxes on wholesale cannabis sales, removing a potential revenue source for the county.
- SB 93 Would require prevailing wage standards for federally funded broadband projects, potentially increasing costs.
- SB 71 Mandates additional county website transparency requirements, adding regulatory burdens.
- SB 120 Addresses court payment plans and was initially expected to have a substantial fiscal impact on the county.

Commissioners emphasized the importance of staying vigilant as bills move through the legislative process, noting that last-minute amendments could significantly alter their impact on the county.

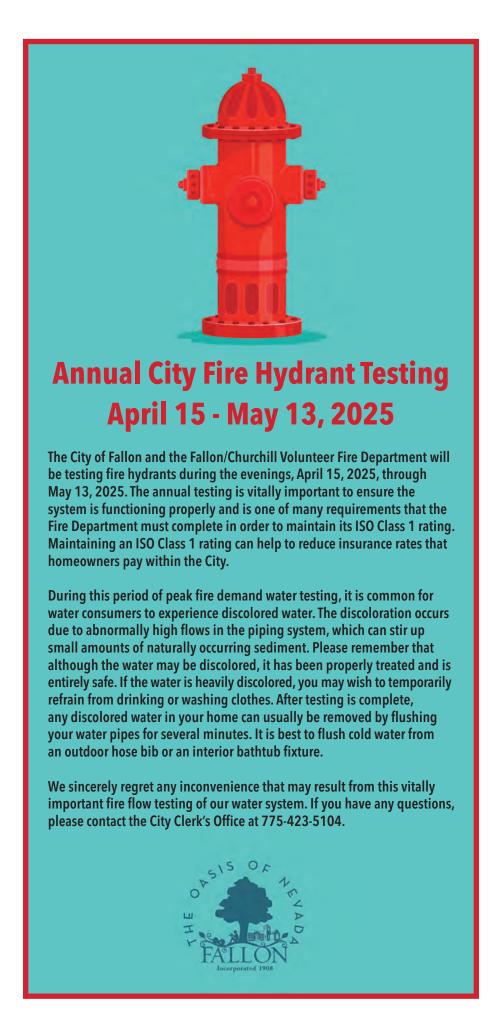
The Commission approved a professional services agreement between Churchill County and Sanborn for aerial imagery projects totaling \$120,179.72. The Assessor's Office and other county departments rely on aerial photography for property assessments and planning. Commissioners voted to move forward with the agreement to ensure timely data collection.

Additionally, the Commission approved a resolution authorizing the sale of tax-delinquent properties held in trust by the Churchill County Clerk-Treasurer. Five properties are currently eligible for sale due to unpaid taxes, though county officials expect that number to decrease before the final sale.

Commissioners also selected Hinton Burdick CPAs & Advisors to continue as the independent auditor for fiscal years 2025 and 2026, exercising a two-year contract extension. The 2025 audit will cost \$93,300, while the 2026 audit will cost \$100,764.

Before adjourning, commissioners and staff provided updates on various activities:

- Commissioner Myles Getto attended a library strategic planning meeting and a Central Nevada Regional Water Authority meeting. He also highlighted an ongoing tree sale partnership between the Conservation District and Churchill County FFA, with orders due by April 4 and pickup scheduled for May 3.
- Commissioner Eric Blakey reported on a Stillwater Conservation meeting and the Churchill County Museum's ongoing spring lecture series. He also noted that the county's fire board had completed interviews for a new fire marshal, with a recommendation expected soon.
- County Manager Jim Barbee reminded the Commission that staff would be closely monitoring legislative developments to ensure Churchill County's interests were represented.





CHURCHILL COUNTY COURTS

Case Against Robert Richards in Filiatraut Murder Case Continues

New Witness Appears, New Counsel Assigned, and Evidence Under Review

By Leanna Lehman

Robert Matthew Richards, currently in custody at the Lyon County Jail, appeared in Fernley's Canal Township Justice Court in Fernley on March 18 for a status hearing before Judge Lori Matheus. Richards is charged in connection with the March 2024 death of 25-year-old Sara Filiatraut.



Sara Filiatraut. Photos courtesy of LCSO.

During the hearing, Patrick Mansfield, Esq., Richards' appointed counsel, informed the court that a new material witness had come forward. Mansfield explained that this individual presented a conflict of interest, and he could no longer represent Richards. Mansfield requested the case be reassigned to Kale Mackenzie Brock, Esq., also of Walther, Mansfield, Brock, and Mayo, PLLC.

The investigation into Sara's disappearance began on April 15, 2024, after her father reported he had been unable to reach her and that she had not posted on social media since March 21—behavior he said was unlike her.

Following an extensive effort by Lyon and Churchill County sheriff's deputies and a LCSO technological deep dive into both Sara and Richards' movements, Sara's body was discovered May 23 in a pit in a remote desert area roughly 30 miles east of Fallon. The Washoe County Regional Medical Examiner's Office ruled her death a homicide. Investigators believe she was killed sometime on or about March 23.

On April 8—before Sara was reported missing—Richards was arrested in an unrelated case involving allegations of sexual assault and solicitation of prostitution. He was booked into the Lyon County Jail on a combined bail of \$101,140.

According to court documents, deputies were dispatched to Richards' residence after a woman—who had previously interacted with Richards as an escort—called 911. She reported that he was attempting to sexually assault her and that she had locked herself in the bathroom. She later told officers that Richards said he "liked it rough."

At the time of their initial response, deputies observed injuries on both individuals but did not make an arrest. The woman later re-contacted dispatch and met with responding officers. "I immediately observed [the victim] to be shaken and distraught," one deputy wrote. "She showed me both of her wrists and forearms, and both had multiple bruises and redness."

According to her statement, which she maintained throughout the investigation, she told Richards she was not consenting to any sexual activity. She reported that he became increasingly aggressive, grabbed her by the neck, and attempted to prevent her from leaving. She said he eventually covered her mouth and nose and said she was "not going anywhere." Richards later denied the allegations and told investigators the encounter was consensual.

Richards was arraigned on April 10, pleaded not guilty, and was released by Judge Matheus on his own recognizance under enhanced supervision. At that time, authorities were still unaware that Sara was missing—or that they may have briefly held a man suspected of a future capital offense.



Robert Richards.

Richards appeared via Zoom on April 30 for a pretrial hearing in the sexual assault and solicitation case. Matheus continued the matter to allow him time to retain private counsel.

On May 23, investigators found Sara's remains, and her death was ruled a homicide. Investigators contacted Richards by phone. In a brief interview on May 27, he admitted he had been with Sara the night of March 22 but said she left his trailer. Later that day, his employer contacted investigators and reported that Richards had said he

was under investigation for murder, was not returning to work, and was "bailing out."

Despite these developments, Richards again appeared via Zoom on May 28, though still without legal representation.

On June 18, Richards failed to appear for his pretrial hearing, and his whereabouts were unknown. A multistate manhunt was already underway as Richards had fled Nevada. The court assigned his case to Mansfield on July 3. By that point, the Lyon County District Attorney's Office had filed additional charges for failures to appear (FTA). By July 25, the DA levied murder charges against Richards as investigators concluded they had sufficient evidence to believe he was responsible for Sara's death.

Upon extradition from Utah in November, Richards has been since arraigned, denied bail, and reassigned counsel. He remains in custody as his defense team reviews the evidence.

Though the charges are severe and the loss of life devastating, it is crucial to note that Robert Richards has pleaded not guilty nor been found guilty of any offense. He remains presumed innocent until proven guilty and is entitled to due process protections under the law.

[Redwood Project continued from page 3]

In response to public and commission concerns, Redwood committed to 15 conditions which include maintaining two trained fire-response personnel on site at all times, spacing battery storage grids at least 15 feet apart, constructing a clay-lined water retention and containment pond, installing a microgrid-powered lighting system with redundancies, and collaborating with Churchill County Fire Department for joint training.

Redwood representatives stated they have not experienced any large-scale thermal events at their primary facility in the Tahoe-Reno Industrial Center, noting that their internal detection systems have successfully prevented minor incidents from escalating.

While public sentiment was overwhelmingly against the facility, several commissioners pointed to the property's industrial zoning designation and Redwood's compliance with state and local requirements. Commissioner Joe Frey, who noted he lives near the site and has personally toured Redwood's TRI facility, acknowledged the community's fears but emphasized the importance of private property rights and responsible industrial development.

"I've flown over the facility, walked the site, and read the documents. They're not Bango Oil. They're not Safety-Kleen," said Frey, referencing past industrial mishaps in the area. "We need to hold them accountable, but we can't punish them for someone else's mistakes."

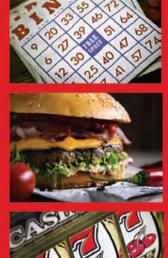
Commissioner Tammy Edgmon added that she, too, had reviewed the company's track record and found the proposed fire mitigation strategies credible.

The commission voted 6–1 to approve the application with an additional 15th condition mandating that at least two trained fire-response staff be on site 24/7. Commissioner Mark Hyde requested that the new 15-foot spacing requirement be codified as a formal condition, and county staff confirmed it would be enforced through site plan review.

A 10-day appeal period is now in effect. If no appeals are filed, the Planning Department will finalize the permit and oversee ongoing compliance, including drainage, water runoff, and hazardous materials containment plans.

Redwood has indicated that a potential third application—for constructing a solar energy system and accompanying battery storage—may be submitted in the future. Any future applications will require additional review by the commission and a new public comment period.





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BUSINESS

Tree Topping Is Not Tree Care

By Marco DiGiacinto, MD Tree Surgery and Nancy Chapman

As the days get longer and property owners start thinking about spring cleanup, it's the season when trees often end up on the to-do list. But before you let someone start cutting limbs and reshaping your trees, it's worth pausing to ask a crucial question: Are they ISA certified?

In the tree care world, not all trimmers are created equal. And topping a treeremoving the crown or major upper branches—isn't just bad practice. It's the fastest way to damage or kill a tree that may have stood for generations.

We see it happening here in Churchill County all too often. Old-growth cottonwoods and elms—pillars of our neighborhoods and farms—are being ruined by improper cuts. Topping is not the same as pollarding, and understanding the difference could save your trees.

Topping is a harmful practice where large branches or the entire crown of a tree are indiscriminately cut off. It leaves trees vulnerable to sunburn, decay, pest infestation, and structural weakness. Once a tree has been topped, it often never recovers, and the longterm damage is irreversible.

Pollarding, on the other hand, is a very specific method that involves careful, strategic internodal cuts. It's typically used in urban environments to maintain the shape and size of street trees. True pollarding is done only by trained ISA Certified Arborists and takes several years to establish properly.



Marco DiGiacinto, MD Tree Surgery.

It is not something to be attempted casually—or confused with topping.

There's a code of ethics set by the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) that governs certified professionals. These arborists go through years of education, handson experience, and testing to earn their credentials. They stay up to date on scientific developments in tree care and commit to protecting public safety, property, and the environment.

Hiring someone who isn't ISA certified means putting your trees—and your property—at risk.

HERE'S WHAT THE ISA CODE OF ETHICS REQUIRES:

- Continuous self-development and technical proficiency.
- Honest, fact-based representation of services.
- A focus on public safety and environmental
- Fair, transparent business practices.

When someone knocks on your door and offers to "trim" or "top" your trees for a deal, take a step back. Ask for their ISA certification. If they don't have it, they're not an arborist—they're just a person with a saw.

In Fallon and Churchill County, we are stewards of some truly beautiful, mature trees. They add shade, character, and value to our properties. Let's not let a quick cut destroy decades—or centuries—of growth.

If you need advice, consultation, or proper tree care, we're here to help. MD Tree Surgery is fully certified and experienced in all aspects of professional arboriculture. You can verify our credentials anytime through the ISA:

- Marco DiGiacinto, ISA Certified Arborist #WE-10213A
- Zak Thomas, Foreman, ISA Certified Arborist #WE-13314A

We're local. We care. And we'll treat your trees with the respect they deserve.

Call MD Tree Surgery at 775-867-2944 or 775-217-9009 to schedule a consultation or ask questions about your trees.

EDUCATION

Veritas - Classical and Christian

By Assistant Headmaster David Ernst with photos courtesy of Veritas



Sutton Hammond working on her K4 Rainbow Project.

School enrollment season is upon us, and this week, we are focusing on our littlest learners. Veritas Preparatory School offers classes for children as young as four years old. Our Kindergarten 4 (K4) class is ideal for families looking for a structured environment emphasizing early literacy, math, and social skills. Students learn and practice the behavioral expectations necessary for success in kindergarten and beyond—all while making friends through activities and play.

Ms. Emma, our K4 teacher, brings a joyful heart, patient spirit, and love of learning to the class. Recently, the K4 class finished a unit on weather, celebrating their learning by making rainbows and sharing their work with one another. Our Kindergarten

4 program is designed to nurture young minds, spark curiosity, and create a love for learning that lasts a lifetime!

Enroll Today!

Spaces in our K4 class are filling up quickly, and enrollment is now open. Students must be potty trained and turn four by August 18th, the first day of the school year to be eligible to enroll in the K4 class.

For more information or to schedule a tour, contact us at Veritas Preparatory School at 775-217-0069 or visit our website at www.veritasfallon.org. Give your child a strong foundation for success in a fun and engaging learning environment.

We can't wait to welcome your little learner into our K4 family!





EDUCATION

Bighorn Bulletin

By Angela Viera with photos courtesy of Oasis Academy.

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT: MEAGAN HIX

Graduating senior Meagan Hix started at Oasis Academy during 5th grade.

"I've enjoyed the experience of receiving a better education and having more opportunities," said Hix.

Her advice for future students is to look at things one at a time so you don't get overwhelmed. "Don't let the expectations overwhelm you; if you take things one step at a time it becomes drastically easier. Stay on top of your work, and don't let yourself have overdue assignments," she said.

She would like to thank Counselor Andy Lenon for his support during high school. "Mr. Lenon has always been there to guide me in my education," Hix explained.

Hix's favorite memory was a project from her government class. "One of my favorite memo-

ries from Oasis was in our government class," she said. "We had a class project where we had to make songs to explain a part of the government. It was fun and definitely memorable."

"My favorite class was Business 101 because I loved the teacher. It was a great time," she said. Hix will graduate in May

with her high school diploma and associate of arts degree from Western Nevada College.

STUDENTS CELEBRATE THE 100TH DAY OF SCHOOL

Oasis Academy students marked the

100th day of school with fun and creative celebrations. From Kindergarten to Second Grade, young learners dressed up as their elderly counterparts, bringing laughter and joy to the school.

The 100th day of school is a milestone for the students as they have been practicing counting to 100 throughout the year, including bringing in 100 of an item that day to count. The students have also been doing math activities centered around the number.

Mrs. Kim Sorensen, the Math Interventionist, and teachers collaborated to challenge students with 100 ways to

make 100. Grades created a banner with the challenge, displaying 100 different number bonds and equations to add to 100.

To help celebrate, students acted out the part, wore gray wigs, used canes, and dressed in vintage clothing. Families helped create these imaginative outfits, which included accessories like reading glasses and homemade Life Alert buttons.

The 100th day is a long-standing Oasis tradition that students and staff look forward to each year.

MIDDLE SCHOOL CELEBRATES SPIRIT WEEK

Middle school students helped get ready to kick off Spring Break with Spirit Week. Sixth through Eighth graders had fun dress-up days to help bring community spirit to the middle school grades. The Middle School Student Council coordinated the event.

On Monday, students dressed as their younger selves for the preschool day. Tuesday, students wore their favorite sports attire; Wednesday was twin day; Thursday was staff dress like students, and students dress like staff day.

"Dress-up days are one of my favorite events to coordinate for students. It brings us together and allows the students a time of selfexpression and creativity," said Dakota Groom, Middle School Student Council Advisor. "These days bring joy and unity to our school."

For students dressed like staff day, Mr. Andrew Gilliland's class went above and beyond and all dressed like their teacher. "It made my whole day," said Mr. Gilliland of seeing the students.



Story and photos courtesy of Logos

At Logos Christian Academy, one of the fundamental principles we teach our students is the importance of community. The way we impart this lesson varies based on the students' ages. Older students may take a more active role in the community by helping at events, providing support where needed, and assisting younger students in school. For younger children, the first step in teaching about community is often helping them shift their focus away from themselves. This can be a new and challenging concept for six-year-olds, but I witness it happening daily at Logos.

Senior Meagan Hix.

Coaching young students to recognize that others have needs and desires, too, can seem straightforward, but at this age, their focus tends to revolve around themselves. We start fostering a sense of community in the classroom by encouraging students to see that we all share the same goal: to learn! By helping one another, they can achieve these goals more quickly. In the classroom, we prioritize collective objectives over individual achievements.

For instance, we engage in a game called "Sight Word Round Up," whereas in class, we try to read as many sight words as possible in

three minutes. We set goals for this game each week based on the class's performance. Success is measured by the improvement of the whole class, not just by individual students. Another community-oriented question I often ask is, "Can we finish this task in 10 minutes?" instead of, "Can you finish the task in 10 minutes?" Students begin to think about their classmates' needs by focusing on our classroom community. Being the first to finish becomes less critical, as there's no reward for it. Instead, students naturally look around after completing a task to see who needs help.

Galatians 6:2 states, "Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ." I often stand back in awe of the communal behavior I observe in my classroom as students help one another. I love teaching, and sometimes it's hard not to intervene, but even the best teacher must recognize that children can teach each other in ways that a teacher cannot. I listen closely to ensure no one is simply giving away answers; typically, my ears are filled with little voices offering prompts and abundant encouragement. It is truly a remarkable sight to behold.

CCSD Cool School News

Compiled by Kaitlin Ritchie with photos courtesy of CCSD.



(Front row) Dallin West, Humphrey Arata, Lucas Chappell, Ethan Murray (Back Row) Caleb West, James Heines, Oaklee McKnight, and Melody Garcia-Bishop competing at Hug High.

CCHS

The Churchill County High School Academic Olympic team wrapped up an impressive season, holding strong in third place overall. They finished the season at Hug High School in a tough single-elimination bracket. They gave it their all but came up short, with a final score of 220-115. Despite the loss, their hard work and perseverance earned them a well-deserved third-place finish.

The team consisted of Humphrey Arata, Melody Garcia-Bishop, Dallin West (team captain), Oaklee McKnight, Caleb West, Lucas Chappell, Craig Soules, James Heines, Ren Thompson, and Ethan Murray.

The team is already looking forward to next season. "We are already excited for next season and are motivated to see if we can do even better," advisor Laruel Topken said.

CCMS

Churchill County Middle School students gathered on March 20 for a pep assembly before state testing. To encourage strong effort during the Smarter Balanced Assessments (SBAC), students can earn raffle tickets by being on time, staying focused, and maintaining a positive testing environment. Prizes include AirPods, gift cards, blankets, Nintendo Switches, and electric scooters—one for each grade level.

Students who demonstrate "Gerka Greatness" during testing will also be invited to an SBAC Completion Party on May 9. The outdoor event will feature food, music, and games. To attend, students must avoid disruptions and suspensions after March 24 and meet schoolwide behavior expectations. The celebration aims to reward students for staying engaged and giving their best effort during the exam period.

NUMA

Students in Shannon Matheson's class began their energy unit by exploring concepts such as terminal velocity, centripetal force, and friction. Last week, students put their knowledge to the test by making and racing rubber band cars to examine friction. The activity was a hit, with students testing their designs and offering ideas for improvements.

"The activity went really well, and the students provided great ideas for car design modifications that will help next year's students," Matheson said.

E.C. BEST

Last week, the E.C. Best Spring Jamboree Family Night brought together students and their families for an evening of games, food, and fun. The event featured a book fair, a carnival hosted by the CCHS Volunteer Club, and free hot dogs, popcorn, and caramel apples.

Students from CCHS played a major role in the evening's success. "We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to the CCHS Volunteer Club, the CCHS Mentor Club and CCHS ROTC students, along with Sara McGowan and Heather Benjamin for all their help," teacher Christine Mori said. "It was wonderful to see our high school students giving their time and energy to make this event a success. Their dedication to serving our young students was truly inspiring."

LAHONTAN

Students in Amy Hawkins' class celebrated St. Patrick's Day last week with a day full of surprises. The morning began with students discovering a mess left by a sneaky leprechaun. After cleaning up what they could, they created colorful rainbows and wrote poems inspired by their artwork.

For math, students graphed Lucky Charms marshmallows while enjoying a sweet treat, and ended the day with shamrock-shaped cookies. It was a festive day of learning, laughter, and leprechaun mischief.

SPORTS ROUND UP

Lady Wave Battle Fernley in Gritty Three-Game Series

Story and photo by John Baker

In a high-stakes rematch of last year's 3A State Championship, the Churchill County Lady Wave softball team hosted the Fernley Vaqueros last weekend to kick off league play—and fans got every bit of the drama they hoped for.

Friday's opener looked promising early on for the Greenwave, who came out swinging with five runs in the first inning and another in the second. But Fernley wasn't about to roll over. The Lady Vaqueros chipped away with a three-run third and mounted a full comeback with a monster eighth inning—scoring eight runs to flip the game on its head. Churchill pushed in the bottom of the inning but couldn't close the gap, falling 15-10 in a wild, hard-fought game.

Both teams returned to the diamond Saturday for a doubleheader, and Churchill came out with something to prove. Game one was all Lady Wave from the start. Steady bats and strong defense gave Fallon a dominant 13-3 win in just six innings.

The second game of the day was a different story. Fernley jumped ahead, leading 5-2 by the end of the fourth. But the Greenwave found their rhythm again in the fifth, putting up five runs to retake the lead. With solid defense holding Fernley scoreless in the final innings, Churchill locked in the 10-7 victory and took the series 2-1.

The series win gives the Lady Wave solid footing as they roll deeper into their league season—and proves this team is every bit as competitive as last year's championship squad.



Taralynn Vershum making a catch.

HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS SCHEDULE



CHURCHILL COUNTY

Monday, March 24

Boys Golf at Dayton – All day

Tuesday, March 25

Boys Golf at Fernley – All day Varsity Baseball vs. TBD at Greater Nevada Field – 4 p.m.

Friday, March 28

Varsity Softball at Reed
JV Softball at Douglas
Varsity Baseball vs. Dayton – Home, 4 p.m.
JV Baseball at Dayton – 4 p.m.

Swim at Fernley Track at Reed

Saturday, March 29

Track at Reed

JV Softball at Douglas
JV Baseball at Dayton – Doubleheader, 11 a.m.
Varsity Baseball vs. Dayton – Home, Doubleheader, 11 a.m.

OASIS ACADEMY

Girls Lacrosse

Saturday, March 29 vs. TBD – Home, 11 a.m. Monday, March 31 vs. TBD – Home, 5 p.m.

Boys Lacrosse

Thursday, March 27 at Reno High – 5:30 p.m. Saturday, March 29 vs. TBD – Home, 1 p.m. Monday, March 31 at Douglas – 6 p.m. Wednesday, April 2 vs. TBD – Home, 5 p.m.

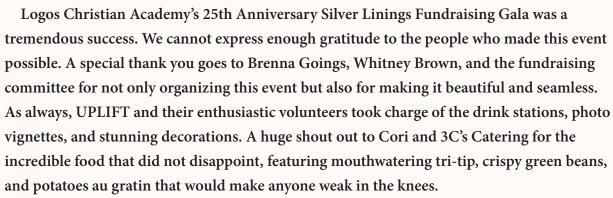
Softball

Friday, March 28 vs. TBD – Home, 4 p.m. Saturday, March 29 at Silver Stage – Doubleheader, 10 a.m. Tuesday, April 1 vs. TBD – Home, 4 p.m.

Baseball

Friday, March 28 vs. TBD – Home, 4 p.m.

Trank You



If you've ever been involved with private schools, you know that fundraising events like these are crucial. Logos is incredibly blessed to have such an outstanding group of parent volunteers who not only make these events happen but also elevate them to something spectacular. The DJ kept spirits high during the long food line, and our auctioneer, Colonel Anthony R. Mendoza III, not only excelled at his role but also brought delightful character to the event. This was his ninth auction for Logos Christian Academy, and he and his wife, Vada, traveled from Middleton, Idaho, to help make our event exciting and successful. His enthusiasm and wit truly light up the room as items fly off the tables. Thank you, Colonel Anthony R. Mendoza III!

To all our families and friends—whether you volunteered your time on campus, donated auction items, helped organize the auction, or were able to attend the event—we are grateful for your support. Through the contributions of families, faculty, staff, and generous donors, we have cultivated an environment that fosters intellectual growth, spiritual development, and a love for Christ.

"Each of you should give as you have decided in your heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." 2 Corinthians 9:7



COLUMNS

What's Cooking in Kelli's Kitchen

Pork Belly Porchetta

By Kelli Kelly

Kelli's Kitchen was in full swing this last weekend, preparing food for The Black Market Trust, a gypsy jazz band performing at the Churchill Arts Council. My friend Erik joined me in the kitchen (you will hear from him again next week). It is always such a pleasure to cook at the Arts Council-the kitchen is super functional, and they have all the best toys.

The Black Market Trust is a five-member American jazz group influenced heavily by Belgian-Romani guitarist Django Reinhardt (he might be the most influential guitarist you've never heard of). The members hail from southern California (Long Beach and San Diego) and Arizona. The centerpiece of the menu was porchetta accompanied by some charred broccoli with lemon and parmesan, mashed potatoes, arugula and chickpea salad with marinated tomatoes, and Royal Corona beans with smoked paprika (I'm on a mission to serve Rancho Gordo beans at every Arts Council dinner).

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

If you haven't tried porchetta before, you are in for a treat! Chef Kenji from Serious Eats nailed it when he wrote, "We all know that pork belly—the same cut that the magnificence that is bacon comes from—is the king of pork cuts and that pork is the king of meats, and that meats are the masters of the universe." Porchetta is surprisingly simple to make and is an absolute banger of dish, certain to impress your friends and family. For the Arts Council dinner, our porchetta included a butterflied pork loin. But I recommend foregoing the second cut and just sticking to the belly-belly meat is the best meat anyway, so no need to make it more complicated than it needs to be!

DIRECTIONS:

1 tbsp.

10 cloves

2 each

1 tbsp.

1. Preheat oven to 300 degrees.

Red chili flake

shredded on a

Lemon, zested

Baking powder

Butcher twine

microplane

(cobanero is the best)

Garlic,

zester

- 2. Place pork belly skin-side down on a large cutting board. Cut slices into the meat (but not all the way through the skin) diagonally about 1" apart. Rotate the belly 90 degrees and repeat to create a diamond-shaped cross hatch.
- 3. Grind the peppercorns and fennel together in a spice or coffee grinder (or using a mortar and pestle). Then mix well with garlic paste, rosemary, lemon zest, and red chili flake.
- 4. Season the pork belly with kosher salt, then rub the spice mix all over the meat side of the pork belly-make sure to work the rub into the crosshatch. Roll the pork belly into a tight log and tie it with butcher twine at 1-2" intervals. Combine baking powder with 2 tbsp. of kosher salt and rub all over the pork skin.
- 5. Place the tied belly roast in a roasting pan with a rack and place in the oven. Roast for approximately 4 hours until a knife easily moves through the roast without resistance (aside from the crunchy skin), basting periodically with the fat that renders out of the roast.
- 6. Turn oven up to 500 degrees and continue cooking until the skin is blistered and crackly (about 20 more minutes). Remove roast from oven and let rest for 15-20 minutes before slicing and serving.

Porchetta is both meaty and deliciously fatty. Consider garnishing your porchetta with gremolata (lemon zest and parsley), pickled onions, or Italian salsa verde-these herby and acidic toppings cut through the fattiness of the belly and add delicious top notes to the dish.





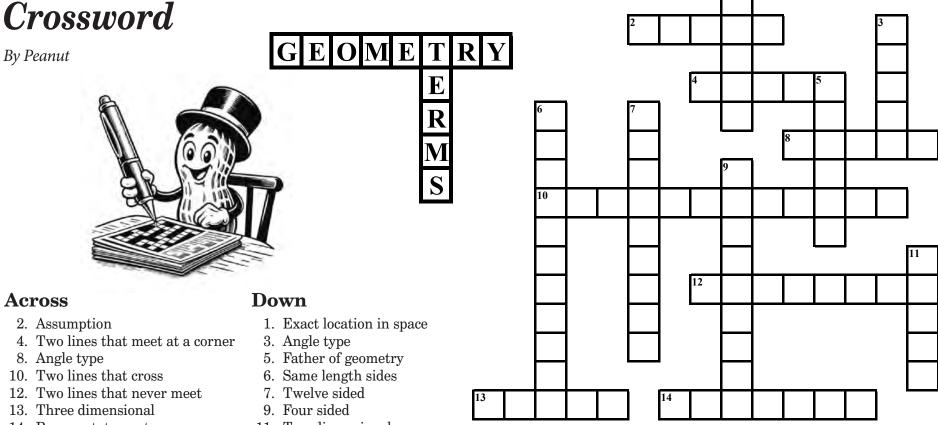
Ingredients:

1 Whole pork belly, skin on

Kosher salt

3 tbsp. Black peppercorns 3 tbsp. Fennel seed

1 bunch Rosemary, stems removed and finely chopped



[Crossword answers on page 13]





NOTICE OF APPOINTIVE POSITION VACANCIES

Churchill Area Regional Transportation, CART Board of Directors is seeking two community-minded citizens who are willing to serve as a member on the Churchill Area Regional Transportations Board. The board meets once every quarter and more frequently as necessary. This person will serve on a seven (7) member board who will be responsible for decisions associated and affecting Churchill Area Regional Transportation. It is desired that the board member be conversant and have an interest in supporting the CART program and their integrant's. Interested persons may obtain an application at the following location: 952 S.Maine St. Fallon, NV 89406 or by calling Cathy Lucero at 775-428-2988 for more information.

Published in The Fallon Post March 21, 28 and April 4, 2025 Ad #6299

Case No.: 25-10DC-0153

DEPT NO.:

The undersigned hereby affirms this document does not contain a social security number

> IN THE TENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF CHURCHILL

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE

BRETT TYLER MORRISON, aka BRETT T MORRISON,

Decedent.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Monte C. Morrison has been duly appointed and qualified by the above-entitled Court on March 12, 2025, as Administrator of the estate of Brett Tyler Morrison, deceased.

All creditors having claims against said estate are required to file the same, with the proper vouchers attached, with the Clerk of the Court within sixty (60) days after the first publication, or mailing, of this notice (as the case may be).

Pursuant to NRS 239B.030 the undersigned does hereby affirm that this document does not contain the social security number of any person.

DATED this 14 day of March, 2025.

LAW OFFICES OF RYAN J. EARL By: Ryan J. Earl, Esq. 548 W. Plumb Lane, Suite B Reno, NV 89509 Tel: 775-829-1800 Attorney for Administrator

Published in The Fallon Post March 28, April 4 and 11, 2025 Ad #6304



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COLUMNS

Allison's Book Report

The House of My Mother: A Daughter's Quest for Freedom

by Shari Franke

One afternoon about two weeks ago, the weather was really yucky, and I was in a true crime television mood. I turned on a new Hulu docuseries, "Devil in the Family: The Fall of Ruby Franke," on Hulu and watched all three episodes in one fell swoop. It is about a family of famous YouTubers whose viral vlog, called "8 Passengers" as a nod to their large family, had once been a wholesome internet sensation – that is until the mother was exposed and sent to prison for abusing her kids. The oldest Franke daughter, Shari, has just released a memoir documenting her side of the harrowing tale. I had to read it right away.

It is, at once, heartbreaking and awe-inspiring, recounting what life was like growing up as a famous social media influencer with some very dark secrets. Shari's childhood was a constant battle for survival. Her mother, Ruby Franke, enforced a severe moral code while maintaining a façade of a picture-perfect family for their wildly popular YouTube channel "8 Passengers," which documented the day-to-day life of raising six children for a staggering 2.5 million subscribers. But a darker truth lurked beneath the surface—Ruby's wholesome online persona masked a more tyrannical parenting style than anyone could have imagined. As the family's YouTube notoriety grew, so too did Ruby's delusions of righteousness. Fueled by the sadistic influence of relationship coach Jodi Hildebrandt, together they implemented an inhumane and

merciless disciplinary regime. Ruby and Jodi were arrested in Utah in 2023 on multiple charges of aggravated child abuse. On that fateful day, Shari shared a photo online of a police car outside their home. Her caption had one word: "Finally." For the first time, Shari will reveal the disturbing truth behind "8 Passengers" and her family's devastating involvement with Jodi Hildebrandt's cultish life coaching program, "ConneXions." No stone is left unturned as Shari exposes the perils of influencer culture and shares her battle for truth and survival for the first time in the face of her mother's cruelty.

This book is not for everyone, as it contains graphic descriptions of physical and emotional abuse, extreme religion, narcissism, and cultish behavior. That being said, "The House of MyMother" is an eye-opening look at what growing up in the public eye – and under the watchful eyes of an abusive mother - looked like for the Franke children. I don't want to spoil anything, but let's just say that I'm not convinced that some of the players in this story weren't more aware of what was going on than they say they were - so whether you watch the docuseries or grab Shari's book, don't forget to pop over to @allison.the.reader on Instagram and let's discuss.

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.

CITY OF FALLON NOTICE OF INTENTION **TO ACT ON A RESOLUTION TO AUGMENT BUDGET**

Notice is hereby given that the Honorable City Council of the City of Fallon will hold a public hearing on Thursday, April 3, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. in the City Council Chambers, City Hall, 55 West Williams Avenue, Fallon, Nevada to act on a resolution to augment the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 budget of the General Fund in the amount of \$2,344,000 in order to appropriate previously unbudgeted resources.

All interested persons may attend the public hearing and be heard. Prior to the meeting, written comments may be submitted to the City Clerk's Office, 55 West Williams Avenue, Fallon, Nevada and any comments so submitted will be considered by the City Council.

Date: March 28, 2024

Published in The Fallon Post March 28, 2025 Ad #6305





CROSSWORD ANSWERS Crossword found on page 12 **ACUTE** PARALLEL **ANGLE PLANE AXIOM POINT DODECAGON** RECTANGLE **EQUILATERAL RIGHT EUCLID SOLID** INTERSECTING **THEOREM**

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE PROPERTY SALE

Churchill County Treasurer Will be conducting an online sale of delinquent tax properties to be held on Thursday, April 17 thru Friday, April 18, 2025 Bidding will begin at 8:00 AM on April 17th and conclude at 12:00 PM on April 18th The auction website is www.Bid4Assets.com/Churchill See website for registration and bidding instructions

PARCEL #	OWNERS	ACREAGE	LOCATION	LAND USE	MIN BID
007 211 04	GRAZIDE, REX LAUREN & DAMA GARY	3.12	12820 CARSON HIGHWAY	236	REDEEMED
006-631-03	LEMBURG, DEANNA A.	5.23	4728 BENSON LANE	280	\$1,562.67
007-021-47	BRICKNER, MYRON V. & DOROTHY A.	40.00	S31 T19N R26E SE1/4-SW1/4	100	\$738.82
007-891-02	BLANKENSHIP, RAYMOND & KARIE	1.00	3120 STARK LANE	200	\$ 2,093.38
010-235-15	JOHNSON, ARTHUR W.	0.10	S7 T19N R31E CIRAC ADDITION, LOT 12. BLOCK 4	120	\$ 251.79

For more information regarding this tax sale please visit the website at

www.Bid4Assets.com/Churchill

If you have any questions regarding this information or the tax sale, please contact us email: taxes@churchillcountynv.gov or phone: (775) 423-6028

The Fallon Post March 21, 28, April 4 and 11, 2025 Ad #6297

Published in

COLUMNS

PostCardsOral Histories

By Michon Mackedon

Did you know that you can browse the online collection of oral histories held by the Churchill County Museum and Archives? Just download the Churchill County Museum App. Click on "At Home," then on "Other Online Exhibits." Scroll down to red script and hit "Browse Collections." You will then be able to access the Churchill County Oral History Project where 153 oral histories reside. Just click the name of the person whose history you wish to read, and read away.

Last week, I clicked on Doris Buerer Whalen's Oral History, and I found myself connecting her memories to what I knew about life on the early Newland's Project. She was born in the Harmon District on December 31, 1910. Her parents had moved to Churchill County from Oregon propelled by her mother's health, which necessitated a

drier climate, and lured by the prospect of finding work at the building site of a major component of the irrigation project: Lahontan Dam.

Construction on the Newlands Project began in 1903, but Lahontan Valley, during the first few Project years, received irrigation water directly from the undammed Carson River. Those waters were supplemented by waters from the Truckee River by way of Derby Dam, constructed between 1903 and 1905. and the Truckee Canal, built at the same time. Posters distributed throughout the country advertised "Irrigated Homestead Lands Now Open To Entry under the Truckee-Carson Project in Churchill County." On February 5, 1906, the US Reclamation Service delivered the first water to Project homesteaders, then consisting of 674

men, women, and children settled on 108 ranches. However, 1905 and 1906 were low water years for both the Carson River and the Truckee River. Farms failed. Then, the floods came, in 1907, sending the undammed, raging waters into the heart of Fallon. Plans to dam the Carson River for storage found more favor, and the construction of Lahontan Dam began in early 1911. As news of the million-dollar project spread, a new wave of settlers entered the valley, including the family of Doris Buerer Whalen.

WHALEN: My father came down [to Fallon from Oregon] first because they were homesteading and found a place for them to live which was in the ditchrider house in Harmon. ... This land had opened up as homesteads and it wasn't long after that. He worked on Lahontan Dam with horses and scrapers.... I can remember going up there and he had a little tent house, a platform with the sides up and the top covered with a tent. My mother and I and my younger sister went up there and we would spend maybe several days before we'd come home.... I remember that tent.

John Townley, in his history of the Newlands Project, "Turn This Water Into Gold," describes how the construction camp at the dam site "was divided into two areas: Lahontan City for the Englishspeaking workmen and their families and 'Bohunkville' for the large number of Slavs from Eastern Europe recruited to work at the site." The camps were "model institutions," absent the crime and chaos which had characterized the Derby Dam Camp. There was a reading room and a billiards parlor, and crews were well-fed. Doris and her family could feel safe when visiting there.

While her father moved dirt and broke rock, her mother learned to raise vegetables and turkeys.

WHALEN: Oh, she raised seventy-five or eighty, close to a hundred. And that was a chore when we got ready to help pick the turkeys.... but sold the turkeys and bought a Ford car. She bought

it from the Fallon Garage.

After the work on Lahontan Dam was completed, Mr. Breuer continued to work for the TCID, operating a dragline. He planted a productive orchard on the Harmon property. His children's education was important to him as well.

WHALEN: My father helped build [the Harmon School]. In fact, he was one of the instigators of the whole thing. Of course, he was pretty well educated himself and he'd gone to Napierville College so he knew that learning was very important.

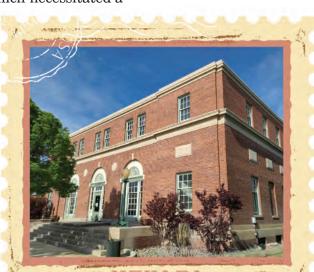
The Buerer story, while it may not have personified the American Dream, certainly gave shape to the Lahontan Valley Dream. From raising turkeys to

purchasing an automobile. From digging ditches to building schools. With fulfilling the dream came the hard work. Whalen recounted her endless chores: milking cows, shocking hay, mowing hay, raking hay, picking turkeys, and making clothes. But she also remembered taking part in the kind of pleasures unique to the valley: fishing at Dutch Bills, exploring Hidden Caves, swimming in the irrigation ditches, riding horseback, going barefooted on hot summer days.

Oral histories like Whalen's provide us the details that help us to understand how, family by family, a dusty small place on earth became an enduring community.

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

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



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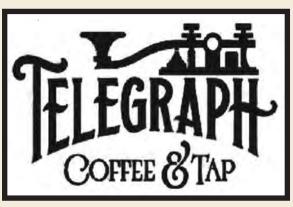


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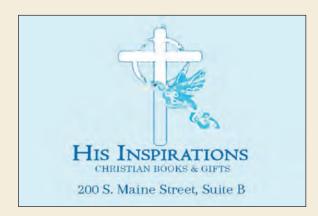


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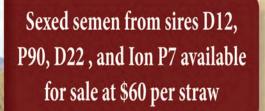
Indie

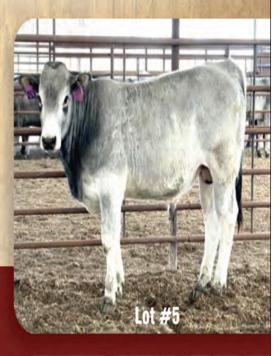
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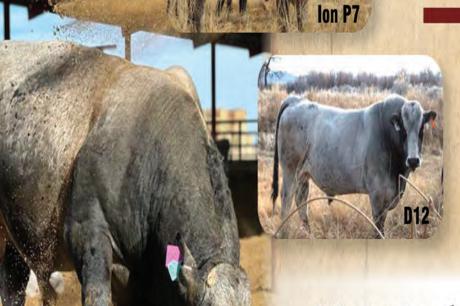
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