

# THE FALLON POST



KEEPING YOU POSTED ON LOCAL NEWS

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## Cowboys, Commerce, and Country Music Rafter 3C Great Basin Bull Sale Keeps the West Alive

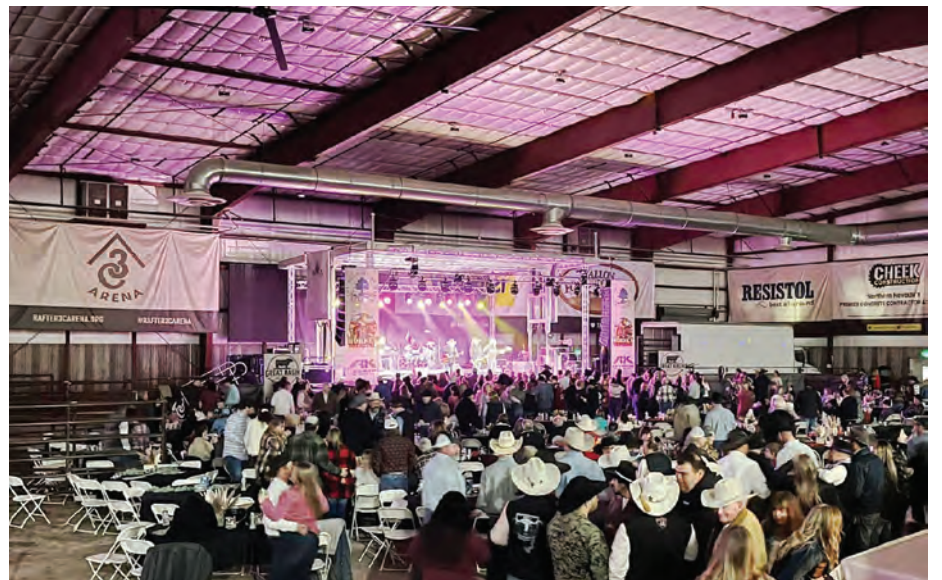
By Leanna Lehman

Rafter 3C Arena has had a busy late winter. According to arena officials, the first two weeks of February brought in 16,700 visitors for events at the Rafter 3C Arena, including the NIAA State Wrestling Tournament and the Great Basin Bull Sale weekend, held Feb. 13-15.

While the Feb. 7-8 state wrestling tournament drew athletes and families from across Nevada, the Great Basin Bull Sale attracted cattlemen, cowboys, and cowgirls from California, Oregon, Idaho, and Utah. Rafter 3C reported that 3,165 visitors attended the three-day event, with nearly 1,000 from out of town. Giving the local economy a boost, an estimated 791 overnight stays and 198 day-trippers contributed to an overall economic impact of \$528,000. Not too shabby for a town working on maximizing its tourism dollars.

While this is only the third year for the event under its newest iteration, the “Bull Sale” has been part of Fallon’s history since 1966. Formerly the Fallon All-Breeds Bull Sale, the event has long provided ranchers with high-quality bulls bred for Nevada range conditions. The Cattlemen’s Association, which initially organized the sale as a fundraiser, handed over the reins to Charlie Hone, Kris Gudel, and Dave Holden in 2022, ensuring the Bull Sale legacy continues. Thus, the Great Basin Bull Sale was born, keeping one of Fallon’s most beloved Western heritage events alive.

The event proved profitable for ranchers and cattle producers buying and selling high-quality, range-ready bulls. With 210 bulls consigned and 170 sold, the average price per bull landed at \$6,881. That meant Rafter 3C Arena Operations Deputy Jesse Segura’s pre-



Bellamy Brothers Feb. 14 performance. Photo courtesy of Rafter 3C.

diction that nearly \$1.2 million would change hands was spot on.

For those unfamiliar with bull sales, the event allows buyers an opportunity to purchase sound, reliable bulls tested for specific qualities, making it easier for ranchers to find the right bull for their herd.

The Great Basin Bull Sale was much more than just a livestock auction. Rafter 3C’s Jesse Segura and Hunter Giovanetti organized three days of ranch rodeo fun, expanding the event beyond the traditional sale, dinner, and dance.

Thursday evening kicked off with a team branding competition, honoring the long-standing ranching tradition where neighboring ranch crews gather to help brand livestock. In the spirit of that

[ Rafter 3C continued on page 2 ]

## Crunch Time for Coleman Road Apartment Project

By Rachel Dahl

During the regular County Commission meeting last week, Commissioners agreed to an extension of the purchase agreement with Vertex Fund 3, a Colorado housing developer for two parcels of land on Coleman Road and heard from Vertex representatives regarding the future of the proposed multifamily housing development. The development is intended to be a 420-unit apartment complex aimed at addressing local housing shortages and contributing to economic growth.

The original purchase and sale agreement with Vertex Fund 3 was approved on April 7, 2022, with an anticipated 15-month entitlement period. However, that period lapsed in July 2023 without final map approval. An amendment was signed in June 2024, extending deadlines, but progress remained slow due to



County Commissioner Myle Getto with Senator Jacky Rosen during her visit to the Coleman Road site. Photo by Leanna Lehman.

external agency approvals, including the Tahoe Carson Irrigation District (TCID), Bureau of Reclamation (BOR), and Nevada Department of Environmental Protection (NDEP).

Steven Tuck, a managing member of Vertex Fund 3 said, “We are at the one-yard line of that process,” reporting that the company a project investment of approximately \$1.8 million. He admitted that he was overly optimistic in his previous timelines but says they are dedicated to moving the project forward.

Tuck elaborated on the challenges faced, particularly with the slow pace of external agency approvals. He stressed that while the TCID and NDEP processes were moving along, the BOR timeline is unknown and could be lengthy. “Our only goal, once we borrow that money with an interest clock

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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

## Bathroom Brawls & Midnight Mice

By Rachel Dahl

Hector and Mikey have become quite the hunters.

Every morning at about 2:30 a.m., there's some sort of ruckus in the bathroom that wakes me from a dead sleep to go investigate. It's usually a mouse that one of them is tossing about while the other lounges, alert, diligently guarding the bathroom door.

They hunt as a team. Or at least they kill as a team.

I kept wondering how in the world I have so many mice in my house – there are no tracks or evidence of mice, save the nightly carnage, so I couldn't figure it out. But recently, the victims have become more like a ROUS – Rodent of Unusual Size, if you remember your Princess Bride. And I KNOW I don't have Kangaroo Rats in my house.

Clearly, they are making use of the cat door and importing creatures. Why the bathroom though – the psychology of that is beyond me. But they go to great lengths to

bring their creatures into the bathroom and dramatically fling them about, in gladiator-style theatrics, prolonging their game until I begin to worry they'll lose their prey and it will escape to seek refuge in my slippers.

Yesterday morning, like clockwork, Hector began at 2:30 a.m. while Mikey stood post at the door. Eventually, it was over, the evidence consumed, and we all went about our business, with the brothers napping and me madly writing. But at 5:30 a.m., it all began again – only this time it was Mikey batting his breakfast while Hector hung in the doorway.

This morning, it was the same thing. Eating in shifts. At this pace, the entire neighborhood will be rodent-free by April.

So while I tiptoe around my house grateful the boys eat the evidence rather than deliver it as presents, I'll be right here...

...Keeping you Posted.

— Rachel

[ Rafter 3C continued from page 1 ]

tradition—and for some good, not-so-clean fun—teams of cowhands worked together to brand calves in a controlled and efficient manner, simulating real-life ranch operations. The competition involved roping, wrestling, branding, and sometimes vaccinating or ear-tagging. Teams were judged on speed, efficiency, and stockmanship, ensuring cattle were handled with skill and minimal stress.

Friday morning brought traditional ranch rodeo timed events and a trade show featuring 25 top-notch vendors. That evening, Troy's Double Shot Bar catered the sold-out Bull Sale Dinner. Troy's and the Rusty Canteen kept drinks flowing at multiple locations, keeping lines manageable.

After the meal, the action turned wild and woolly with ranch bronc and mini bull riding.

The ranch bronc riding competition put several seasoned cowboys to the test. Unlike professional saddle bronc riding, which uses specialized equipment, ranch bronc riders compete using everyday working saddles with stirrups and saddle horns—the same style of saddle used on a ranch.

Several top cowboys, including Western States Ranch Rodeo Association's 2024 World Champion Tegan Nevarez, made high-scoring rides during the Friday night event. Nevarez and Bill Alldritt tied for first place with 76 points. John Crites and Ray Valdez ranked second with 75 points, and Brad Cessna and Wyatt Victor took third with 74 points.

The top-ranking young bull riders included Fallon's own Rostin Snow, the 2024 Junior World Bull Riding Champion, who took first place, along with Keston Moore and Zach Greenberg. Lane Sites, from Red Bluff, Cali-



Rostin Snow and Zach Greenberg. Photo by Hunter Giovanetti.

fornia, also delivered a strong performance ranking in the top four.

Closing out Valentine's Day evening, the Bellamy Brothers took the stage, performing country classics like "Redneck Girl," "Let Your Love Flow," and "Old Hottie." The arena and dance floor were packed as attendees of all ages enjoyed music, family, friends, and a night of Western tradition.

Rafter 3C extends a special thank you to its hardworking crew, whose behind-the-scenes efforts made the event a success. They also extend their gratitude to the many sponsors who supported the Great Basin Bull Sale weekend, including the City of Fallon, Papé Machinery, Horney Toad Meats, Wild Horse Cattle, Dandelion Express, Great Basin Bull Sale, Renewal by Anderson, Walker Lake Disposal, A&K Earthmovers, Promega, Rafter 3C Arena, MDV Scaffolding.

Rodeo lovers, mark your calendars! The next Rafter 3C Western Heritage event, Battle Born Broncs, is April 18-19. Don't miss it!

[ Apartment Project continued from page 1 ]

ticking, is to get heads and beds for a profit," he said

Commissioner Matt Hyde asked about maintaining the county's rights, "If we cannot, if we don't like the agreement, we'll still have the option to terminate." Civil Deputy District Attorney Joe Sanford confirmed that as correct.

Commissioners questions the project's financial situation, which Tuck clarified that while the project was not "fully funded" in a traditional sense, Vertex Fund 3 was in a strong position to secure the necessary financing. He cited discussions with UC Funds in Boston and Builders Capital in Seattle as evidence of the project's viability. "We are a lendable, capable group that have delivered products over the years," Tuck asserted.

Commissioner Eric Blakey voiced concerns about the infrastructure phase of the project, particularly if only a portion of the development moved forward. "What kind of assurance would we have that at least the county portion would be completed?" he asked. Tuck acknowledged that not all infrastructure might be completed in the first phase but promised to work closely with county planners to mitigate risks.

Sanford outlined the county's options:

a 60-day extension, allowing the agreement to lapse, or pursuing a negotiated amendment. Sanford advised against a short extension.

"A 60-day extension ultimately doesn't meet the needs of the county or the developer," explained Sanford, who suggested commissioners consider an amendment that could provide both parties with a clear path forward.

The commission ultimately voted unanimously to extend the agreement from March 2 to March 6, providing a brief but critical window for attorneys and developers to finalize an amendment. Sanford assured the commissioners, "No matter what, there will be an amendment here for us to look at on March 6." He stressed that if an acceptable agreement was not reached, the county would retain its full rights, which include the right to terminate the agreement.

The project aims to provide much-needed housing to help address availability and affordability in the community. However, the commission also stood firm on importance of accountability.

"The batteries are almost worn out on this clock," Blakey said.

Tuck concluded by stating, "We want to work with you... we are fully invested in this."

FEATURES

# Local Pilots Earn Their Wings at Fallon Municipal Airport

Staff Report

The Fallon Municipal Airport has some big news—five local residents just earned their FAA Pilot certifications, thanks to the hard work and dedication of Fallon’s aviation community.

These new pilots completed their training with local instructor pilots using a Cessna 172M aircraft, a testament to the high-quality training available right here in Fallon.



Colton Urquhart gets his Instrument Rating, pictured with Anthony Tisdale.



Jennifer McFadden earns her pilot's license.



Hunter Drost, Private Pilot. Photos courtesy of Anthony Tisdale.

**NEWLY CERTIFIED PILOTS:**

- Brody Allyn, Private Pilot Certificate issued April 17, 2024
- Thaine Ernst, Private Pilot Certificate issued September 28, 2024, trained by his son Matt Ernst
- Colton Urquhart earned his Instrument Rating on December 17, 2024, adding to his existing Private Pilot certification
- Jennifer McFadden, Private Pilot Certificate issued December 19, 2024
- Hunter Drost, Private Pilot Certificate issued December 25, 2024

These new pilots join a proud tradition of aviation excellence in Fallon, made possible by the expertise and mentorship of the local flight instructor cadre. Leading the team is Walter Wardwell, owner of Fallon Airmotive, whose extensive 40-year career as a Certified Flight Instructor and aviation professional has been instrumental in building the local aviation community over the past three decades.

**MEET THE INSTRUCTOR TEAM:**

- Walt Reep, USN Retired, former F-4, F-14, A-4, F-18 pilot, retired FedEx Express Captain, Certified Flight Instructor/Instrument/Multi-Engine Instructor.
- Steve Rochna, USN Retired, former F-14 and F-5 pilot, current commercial airline pilot on the Boeing 737/777, Certified Flight Instructor/Instrument/Multi-Engine Instructor.
- Kris Nastro, USN Retired, former F-18 Hornet/Super Hornet and F-16 pilot, current commercial airline pilot for Boeing 737, Certified Flight Instructor/Instrument/Multi-Engine Instructor.
- Mark Kummer, USN Retired HH-60 Instructor, Part 135 Charter Captain, Certified Flight Instructor/Instrument/Multi-Engine Instructor.

- George Pomeroy, former USAF F-15C pilot, Aerobatics Instructor, Ag Pilot, Corporate Pilot, and local business owner of GP Global.
- Keiton Rogne, Part 135 Charter Pilot, Certified Flight Instructor/Instrument/Multi-Engine Instructor.
- Matt Ernst, recent Churchill County High School graduate turned Certified Flight Instructor.
- Bryanna Travis, Certified Flight Instructor, Ground Instructor, Aircraft Dispatcher, and instructor at Western Nevada College.
- Anthony Tisdale, FAA Designated Pilot Examiner, owner of Flyintiz Aviation LLC, former USAF F-15C, A-10C, and T-38 pilot, current airline pilot for FedEx Express.
- Katherine “Kitty” Reep, a student pilot who manages aircraft rentals at the airport, works behind the scenes and keeps things running smoothly for aspiring pilots.

Mayor Tedford, Airport Manager Derek Zimney, and the City of Fallon have been putting in the work to improve the airport, making it a better resource for pilots and the community. Partnering with Churchill County and securing an FAA grant, the city is now working on a new FBO facility to bring the airport’s services into a new era.

This wave of new pilot certifications show the promise of outstanding aviation education in Fallon and reinforces the community’s commitment to nurturing the next generation of aviators. As these pilots take to the skies, they carry with them the pride and support of their hometown.

For those inspired by this success story and interested in pursuing their pilot’s license, Kitty Reep is available for inquiries at [katherine.reefallonmuniflyers@gmail.com](mailto:katherine.reefallonmuniflyers@gmail.com) to book aircraft and instructors.

For more stories of local achievements, stay connected with *The Fallon Post* at [www.thefallonpost.org](http://www.thefallonpost.org).

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Churchill County School District Offering Hiring Bonus

Attention Educators, families of educators, and friends of educators – now is the time to get them closer to you!

The Churchill County School District is rolling out significant hiring incentives for the 2025-2026 school year, offering attractive bonuses to licensed teaching staff, special education teachers, and educators willing to relocate to Fallon, Nevada.

**INCENTIVES INCLUDE:**

- \$7,000 Hiring Bonus for Licensed Teaching Staff: \$3,000 paid after the first week of reporting to work, with an additional \$4,000 on the September check after the first year.
- \$12,000 Hiring Bonus for Special Education Teachers: \$5,000 paid after the first week of reporting to work, plus \$7,000 on the September check after the first year.
- \$2,500 Relocation Incentive for teachers moving to the area from outside Churchill County.

ChurchillCSD boasts the highest base salaries for school counselors, psychologists, and special education staff, reflecting its commitment to attracting and retaining top educational talent.

Join a District That Values You!

ChurchillCSD is dedicated to fostering an environment where educators and students alike can thrive. With competitive salaries, robust support, and a welcoming community, this district is the perfect place for passionate educators to make a difference.

**INTERESTED IN APPLYING?**

Call: 775-428-7240  
 Email: [sorensenc@churchillcsd.com](mailto:sorensenc@churchillcsd.com)  
 Apply Today: ChurchillCSD

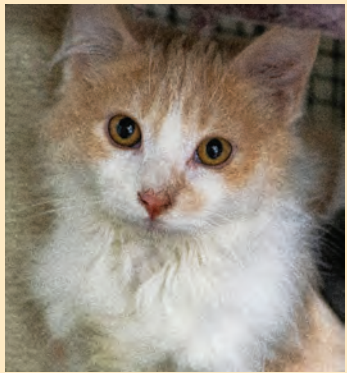
**APPLICATION LINK**

Start your next chapter with ChurchillCSD—where your dedication is valued, and your career can flourish.



### PETS OF THE WEEK

#### Available for Adoption



Our cats and kittens are getting ready for spring. What do they want most as winter leaves us behind? To find their forever homes!

Whether you're looking for a playful kitten to light up your days or a

calm and cuddly companion to share your quiet moments, we have the perfect feline friend waiting just for you.

Start your spring off with love—visit us and meet your new best friend. Let's make this season one of happy tails and warm snuggles!

Interested in adding a new family member this year? Call us at 775-217-4745 to schedule a time to come in and see who's ready to come home.

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

We are still under construction and are only available by appointment. Please hold off on donations other than dog food, Kongs and training treats, bleach, printer paper, and monetary donations. We thank everyone for their continued support during this remodel and the Reno Aces for partnering with us. We are still accepting sponsors and vendors for our Bark In The Park!



Meet Bellalina, a four-year-old Terrier-American Pit Bull and Boxer mix with a gentle heart and a playful spirit. Initially a little shy, she loves hugs, pets, and toys. Bellalina does well with select dogs but prefers a cat-free home. She can be protective, so this sweet girl will need an experienced owner who can provide consistent training and socialization.

Churchill Animal Protection Society  
 5894 Pasture Rd, Fallon  
 775-423-7500 | [capsnevada.org](http://capsnevada.org)  
[caps@cccmm.net](mailto:caps@cccmm.net)

#### City of Fallon Animal Shelter



Say hello to Arlo (D-136). Arlo is a year and two months old. He is a Shepherd mix, who we were told is playful, active, and quiet. It's unknown how he is with cats and small dogs, so meet and greet suggested. We were also told this little guy is fine with large dogs.

If you think he would make a good addition to your household, please give us a call, or come check him out. Also, the City of Fallon Animal Shelter is looking for volunteers.

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

## CCHS Intern Spotlight: Randen Ferguson

Story and photo by Amanda Hammond – Art Teacher, CCHS

Churchill County High School Junior Randen Ferguson is putting his learned construction skills into practice at Hammond Homes and Construction (HHC). Determined to break into the construction industry, Randen was relentless in asking me to help him secure a job with my husband, Trevor. As it turns out, his persistence paid off!

When I asked Trevor, a partner at HHC, about Randen, he joked, "He shows up to work when I ask him to!" But on a more serious note, he added, "It is nice to see a youth who is eager and interested in learning the construction trade. He is gaining skills that will benefit him for a lifetime, whether or not he chooses construction as a career."

Randen is excited to gain experience, has a great work ethic, and has already proven to be a valuable asset on job sites. His persistence in securing this opportunity has paid off, and we are excited to see how he continues to grow in the construction field.



## Movies & More February 28 & March 1

By Kelli Perez

This weekend, we're wrapping up our month of Shrek with the fourth installment from 2010, "Shrek Forever After." In this film, Rumpelstiltskin deceives Shrek, who's struggling with a mid-life crisis, into erasing himself from existence, thrusting him into a dark alternate timeline where Rumpelstiltskin rules the land. Starring the voice talents of Mike Myers, Cameron Diaz, and Eddie Murphy, this PG-rated film has a runtime of 1 hour and 33 minutes and will be showing on both Friday and Saturday at 6 p.m.

We're closing out February with one more musical film, "Yesterday" (2019), showing at 7 p.m. on Friday and Saturday. A struggling musician realizes he's the only person on Earth who can remember The Beatles after waking up in an alternate reality where they never existed. This movie is rated PG-13 and runs 1 hour and 56 minutes. Both films are free!

As we look forward to early Spring, we are excited to announce that we're seeking performers for our Heritage of the West event on April 5th. This event will celebrate the rich traditions of the American West, featuring various performances, including oral histories, storytelling, cowboy poetry, dance, and live music. If you or someone you know is



interested in participating in this free community event, we'd love to hear from you! Please contact us via email at [huck\\_salt@yahoo.com](mailto:huck_salt@yahoo.com) or call 775-423-2055 or 775-217-4142 for more information or to sign up. We appreciate your help in spreading the word!

Need a space for a party, celebration, or special event? Our auditoriums are available for booking! To reserve a Marquee Message or secure an auditorium for your next event, don't hesitate to contact us at 775-423-6210 or email [thefallontheatre@gmail.com](mailto:thefallontheatre@gmail.com). We're here to help make memories.

## OBITUARIES

**MICHAEL FENN MACKEDON**  
*August 4, 1941 - February 23, 2025*

Just before sunrise on Sunday, February 23, 2025, a noble heart stopped beating, and the world lost one of its great men.

Michael Fenn Mackedon was born August 4, 1941, in Fallon, Nevada, to Leonard and Julia Mackedon. His lifelong interests were developed early. He loved the Nevada desert, especially the land around Dixie Valley and the Greenhead Hunting Club, or wherever there were fish to catch, ducks to hunt, or chukar to scout. He loved learning and was a serious citizen of the world of ideas. When he was in grade school, his friends and family predicted that he would study law and become a fine lawyer. He graduated from Churchill County High School in 1959, after serving as student body president, and from the University of Nevada in 1963, where he again served as his school's student body president. He journeyed on to receive his law degree at Georgetown Law School in 1967 with his new bride, Michon (Maupin), at his side. The two of them then returned to Fallon, where, as he put it, he "hung up his shingle."



For Mike, practicing law was not a means to a financial end, but rather a calling. He always said that he had chosen the profession of law to "help the widow and the orphan," and he did. He practiced law in Fallon for fifty-seven years, serving since 1993 as Fallon's City Attorney. He left a legacy of gentlemanly actions, scholarly legal work, and kind and genuine concern for others.

Along the way, he had a lot of fun. He was a member of Alpha Tau Omega fraternity. That speaks for itself. He and Michon traveled the highways and byways of Nevada, camping at Smith Creek with their children in the earlier years, stopping at country bars to "Waltz Across Texas," and visiting Nevada friends in the north, south, east, and west. Later, they were fortunate enough to vacation in New York, Washington, D.C., Chicago, Montreal, Europe, and always, San Francisco. They made two trips to The Republic of Georgia, where their son was serving in the Peace Corps, and made life-long friends there.

Above all, Mike loved being at his dining room table, reading everything from cookbooks

to philosophy, or stepping outside to tend his famous vegetable garden. His mind was clear and active to the end; the day before he died, he finished a crossword puzzle, streamed a Great Course episode on capitalism, and talked to his law partners about a case.

Mike was pre-deceased by his parents and his son and law partner, Leonard Ernest Mackedon. He is survived by his wife of fifty-eight years, Michon, his two sons, Gib Mackedon (Melissa) and John Mackedon (Meg), his daughter, Amy O'Flaherty (Patrick), and his six cherished grandchildren: Maggie, Ellie and Sadie O'Flaherty, Fenn and Hazel Mackedon, and Anastasia Mackedon. He also leaves behind his sisters, Michelle Dondero and Lenn Furrow, his brother, James Mackedon, as well as a host of extended family members.

The family would like to thank Mikel, Chelsea, and Peyton of Infinity Hospice for their kind and capable care and Dr. Amanda Casey for being an extraordinary doctor and friend.

A Celebration Service will be held on Saturday, March 1, at 11 a.m. at the Oats Park Art Center, 151 East Park Street, Fallon, Nevada. Donations in Mike's name can be made to the Fallon Youth Club, 324 Pennington Cr., Fallon, NV 89406, or the Churchill Arts Council, 151 East Park Street, Fallon, NV 89406.

**EMMA CARMAE SORENSEN WHITAKER**  
*September 24, 1931, to February 18, 2025*

Emma Carmae Sorensen Whitaker, 93, passed away Tuesday, Feb. 18, 2025, at the Fallon home where she was born. Carmae was born Sept. 24, 1931, to Emily Olsen and Ephraim

Aaron Sorensen, the youngest of seven children. She loved growing up on the family farm in the Lone Tree District and considered herself a tomboy. Carmae attended the Lone Tree School through eighth grade and graduated from Churchill County High School in 1949. While in high school, she actively participated in Alpha Lambda Honor Society, sang in a trio and served as a state officer in Future Homemakers of America (FHA).

After high school, Carmae attended Utah State Agricultural College, where she studied home economics and served as president of Sigma Kappa. She also sang in the Chansonnettes Choir. Upon graduation in 1953, she returned to her beloved home in Fallon, where she taught fourth grade for two years at West End Elementary and Oats Park Elementary.

Carmae met Kent Whitaker in Fallon in 1949. They were married while he was on leave from the Army in the St. George, Utah, temple of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints on Dec. 23, 1953. Kent and Carmae were married for almost 63 years before he died.

Carmae was an exceptionally hard worker who drove tractors and dump trucks in the hay fields in the morning, fixed lunch for the hay crews and then returned to the hay fields. She was also a gifted seamstress and cook; her children and grandchildren all benefited from her handmade items and delicious meals and treats.

Her faith in Jesus Christ guided her life. No matter the challenge she faced, Christ was her strength. She served diligently in her church by leading and teaching adults, youth and children, and by serving in the Reno Nevada Temple for 13 years.

Carmae's family was her joy. She and Kent raised a family of six children on the original Sorensen farm, where Carmae grew up. She is survived by all of them: Maryan (Craig) Kellersberger, Jeff (Diane), Greg (Linda), Lori (Lyle) Johnson, Lisa (Mark) McKell and Brad (Kathryn). She is also survived by 23 grandchildren and 51 great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband Kent, her parents and her six siblings.

A viewing will be held Thursday, Feb. 27, 6-8 p.m. at Smith Family Funeral Home. There will also be a brief viewing on Friday, Feb. 28, 9-9:30 a.m. prior to funeral services, which will be held at 10 a.m. at the church, 125 W. Tolas Pl, Fallon. Burial will follow at the Churchill County Cemetery.

**WALTER "WALT" SKEFFINGTON "SKIP" DORMAN**  
*December 10, 1947 - January 28, 2025*

Walter "Walt" Skeffington "Skip" Dorman, 77, passed away Jan. 28, 2025. He was a beloved father, grandfather and friend who will be deeply missed by all who knew him.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Linda Gayle Dorman, who passed away Feb. 2, 2022.

Walter was born Dec. 10, 1947, in Sacramento, where he spent his formative years. He attended Brooks Institute of Fine Arts for photography and later became a graphic designer at the Sacramento Army Depot. After the closure of the Sacramento Army Depot, Walter moved to Reno, where he continued his work as a graphic designer at the Sierra Army Depot in Herlong. Throughout his career, he was known for his hard work, dedication and passion for helping others.



More than anything, Walter was a devoted father and spouse. He loved spending time with his children and grandchildren—cooking, sharing stories, playing games and watching their favorite TV shows. He was always there to offer guidance, support and encouragement, no matter what challenges they faced.

In his free time, Walter enjoyed cooking, golfing, bowling and cycling and was always eager to share his knowledge and enthusiasm with others. He was an active member of his community, volunteering for the Kiwanis bicycle program.

Walter is survived by his two sons and daughter-in-law, as well as his two granddaughters and three grandsons. His memory will be cherished by all who knew him.

A funeral service will be held for family and friends at 1 p.m. Feb. 28, 2025, at the Fernley Veterans Memorial Cemetery.

**BONNIE GLEE STRYKER**  
*August 1, 1942 - February 13, 2025*  
*Heartbeat of Our Lives*

Bonnie Glee Stryker was born on August 1, 1942, in Deerfield, Illinois, to parents Howard and Lucille and sister Nancy. She moved to Nevada in 1965 and loved the Wild West with its mountains, wide spaces, and glorious skies, a place where she could ride her horse, Lucky Bough, and have a large garden.

As a mother of eight, she nurtured education, taking her children to the library, expecting good grades, and completing homework. She encouraged adventure and independence. Her children built forts and rafts, fished, camped, cooked, played baseball and kickball, and rode bikes around the long block.

Bonnie was also adventurous herself. She worked for the forest service fighting fires and planting trees, played the violin in country music shows, hiked alone in the mountains, and looked for rocks in the desert. She remarkably opened her last restaurant at the age of 80. Her education and hobbies were self-taught: knitting, gardening, baking, interior decorating, canning foods, and sewing. She had a God-given talent to play the violin by ear, paint, and write poetry, and a keen sense of creativity and an eye for anything artistic.

Joe France was both Bonnie's life partner and business partner for 30 years. Joe considered her a true pioneer. Together, they rebuilt covered bridges, camping out the entire time. They rebuilt and painted 10 houses in Schurz while living in a cabin on Walker Lake. Bonnie and Joe later opened and operated seven restaurants in Dayton, Carson City, Virginia City, Mound House, Lake Almanor, and Fallon. They worked hard to make a liv-



ing and retired to be close to family in Fallon.

Jesus was everything to Bonnie. Her favorite book was The Bible, with its words of wisdom, promises, and the life of Jesus. Bonnie attended Fallon Christian Fellowship.

Bonnie was known for her kindness to others, giving support, and being helpful. Cooking was one of her many talents; she always blessed others with her homemade soup and cookies. She was also known for sending encouraging and thoughtful, beautiful hand-written cards.

Bonnie was a natural beauty, enhanced by her flare and style. Even at 82, she was radiant, classy, and energetic. She was incredibly active for her age.

Bonnie is survived by seven children: Charles Alan Davis, Marie Ann Nygren, Robert Raymond Davis, Johnathon Lee Davis, Clinton James Niemi, Rebecca Lou Niemi, and Lincoln Lyle Glimpse, as well as 18 grandchildren and 18 great-grandchildren with one more on the way, her husband Joe France and Tommy and Jason his sons, and her faithful dog Lily.

Her family will miss the beauty she brought into the lives of others and the love so freely given. She will be remembered at every family event, in every sunset that spreads across the sky, flowers in the spring, the first snow on the mountains, but mostly in the faces of her children and grandchildren. We know she is with her parents, grandparents, son Michael Scott Davis, and grandson Austin Niemi in the presence of the Lord. Jesus has welcomed her into heaven - into eternity. Until then, in the sweet by and by, we shall meet again on that beautiful shore.

We will be remembering Bonnie on March 1, 2025, at 12 p.m. at New Beginnings Church, 1191 E. Stillwater Ave. Fallon, NV 89407.

COMMUNITY

# Stillwater Firearms Association Announces Two Upcoming Events

The Stillwater Firearms Association (SFA) is hosting two educational events in March to promote safe firearm handling and responsible ownership in the Fallon community.

**Ladies & Youth Intro to Firearms Seminar** The first event, scheduled for Saturday, March 8, 2025, from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m., is the Ladies & Youth (Under 18) Intro to Firearms Seminar. This introductory class will occur at the SFA Private Shooting Range, 3245 Indian Lakes Road. Participants should watch for the SFA sign to find the location easily.

This seminar focuses on firearms safety, with a variety of firearms on display. An optional live fire seminar is included, allowing attendees to gain hands-on experience if they choose. Participants may bring their own firearms and ammunition, though it is not required.

The class is not a pistol instruction course but provides a foundational understanding of firearm safety and responsibilities as a firearm owner. The registration fee is \$5, payable by cash or check only. Eye and ear protection are mandatory for all attendees.

For more information, contact SFA at 775-427-5295.

The second event is the Concealed Firearms Permit Class, which will be held beking a Nevada CCW permit in compliance with NRS Chapter 202.

**THE FEE SCHEDULE FOR THE CLASS IS AS FOLLOWS:**

- Initial Training (Nevada or Utah only): \$60
- Renew NV & Initial UT Combined Carry: \$80
- Initial Training NV & UT Combined Carry: \$100
- Renewal Training Only NV: \$40

Participants must demonstrate safe and competent firearm handling skills and bring 30 rounds of factory-produced ammunition, a strong side holster, and eye and ear protection. Only factory-produced ammunition is allowed.

Pre-registration is requested; participants should arrive by 7:30 a.m. to ensure a seat. To register or for more details, call 775-750-3373 or visit [www.stillwaterfirearms.org](http://www.stillwaterfirearms.org).

These events provide valuable opportunities for both beginners and experienced gun owners to enhance their knowledge and skills under the guidance of trained professionals. The Stillwater Firearms Association encourages all interested individuals to register early and participate in these community-focused educational sessions.

For ongoing updates on community events, visit *The Fallon Post* at [www.thefallonpost.org](http://www.thefallonpost.org).

## CCHS Students Join Sunday ACT Prep and NV Energy Line Crew Career Discussion

Story and photo by Dr. Sue Segura

On Sunday, Feb. 23, the CCHS School to Careers classroom was buzzing with activity.

At 1 p.m., eight seniors met with Mr. and Mrs. Hellton. Mr. Hellton, who oversees the NV Energy line crew in Northern Nevada, provided an informative introduction to the work his team does. The Helltons' knowledge and experience offered students valuable insight into careers in the energy industry.

At 2 p.m., 17 juniors arrived to take a



practice ACT test. Research shows that practice tests are one of the best ways to improve scores. CCHS teachers have been tutoring students for the ACT since Jan. 8, hoping to better prepare them for the official junior class test on Feb. 25.

As the School to Careers coordinator, Dr. Sue Segura says her job is to provide up-to-date research and opportunities to help juniors succeed and attend the colleges of their choice. Many students plan to pursue careers in medicine, engineering, business, nursing, and other fields, all of which require strong ACT performance as part of their Career Pathway.

### WATER LEVELS

Measurements Taken February 24, 2025, at 5:30 p.m.

Lahontan Reservoir	177,300 af
Carson River Below Lahontan	4.03 cfs
Truckee Canal at Wadsworth	435.0 cfs
Truckee Canal at Hazen	415.0 cfs
Carson River at Ft. Churchill	295.0cfs

February 24, 2024	February 24, 2023	February 24, 2022
248,033 acre feet	126,408 acre feet	103,159 acre feet

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

### MEETINGS

## March 3-7, 2025

<p><b>Fallon City Council</b> Tuesday, March 4 at 9 a.m. 55 W. Williams Ave. City Hall</p>	<p><b>Board of County Commissioners</b> Wednesday, Mar. 5 at 8:15 a.m.</p>
<p><b>County Meetings</b> 155 N. Taylor St. Commission Chambers</p>	<p><b>Highway Commission</b> Thursday, Mar. 6 at 1:15 p.m.</p>
<p><b>Parks &amp; Recreation Commission</b> Tuesday, Mar. 4 at 7 p.m.</p>	<p><b>CC Communications</b> Thursday, Mar. 6 at 1:45 p.m.</p>
<p><b>Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife</b> Wednesday, Mar. 5 at 7 p.m.</p>	

## SENIOR CENTER MENU

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

<p><b>Monday, March 3</b> Turkey Ala King Buttermilk Biscuit Broccoli Rice Pilaf Apricots &amp; Fresh Pears Oreo Cookies</p>	<p><b>Tuesday, March 4</b> Beef Nacho Casserole Refried Beans Spanish Rice Orange Spinach Salad Seasonal Fruit</p>	<p><b>Wednesday, March 5</b> Pork Tenderloin Beans w/Bacon Potato Salad Honey Dijon Vegetables Spring Salad Tropical Fruit</p>	<p><b>Thursday, March 6</b> Swedish Meatballs Red Potato Mash Scandinavian Vegetables Fruited Yogurt</p>	<p><b>Friday, March 7</b> Lemon Baked Fish Peas Brown Rice Wheat Bread Tossed Salad Grapes</p>
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### FALLON DAILY BREAD

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

<p><b>Monday, March 3</b> Chicken Fried Steak Mashed Potatoes Vegetables</p>	<p><b>Thursday, March 6</b> Rotary Night</p>	<p><b>Monday, March 10</b> BBQ Pork Sandwich Potato Salad Baked Beans</p>	<p><b>Thursday, February 13</b> Lemon Pepper Fish Rice &amp; Vegetables</p>
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**Volunteer groups needed to help serve once per month, 3 p.m. until 6:30 p.m. Call for information.**

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

# County Commission Approves Local Projects

The Churchill County Commission met last week to discuss several local projects, funding agreements, and share community updates. Topics ranged from infrastructure improvements and housing assistance to the expansion of public health services.

### VERTEX DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT EXTENSION

Commissioners approved a short extension for Vertex’s development agreement on the Coleman Road apartment project, giving the company until March 6 to finalize details with the county. Reno-based attorney Garrett Gordon spoke on behalf of Vertex Fund 3, saying negotiations were moving forward, despite a few remaining issues. The company has already invested about \$1.8 million in the project. The extension keeps the original terms in place while allowing more time to work out final details. See “Coleman Road Apartment Project Faces Crunch Time,” in this edition, or online at thefallonpost.org.

### ELKS LODGE PARKING LOT AGREEMENT

The county is partnering with the Elks Lodge of Fallon to improve the lodge’s gravel parking lot, making it more accessible for both local businesses and county events. Randy Hines of Churchill County Public Works presented the plan, which is expected to cost about \$211,000, covering engineering and construction. Commissioners approved the agreement, noting the project would benefit downtown traffic flow and parking availability on Center Street and the surrounding area.

### SOCIAL SERVICES FUNDING FOR HOUSING ASSISTANCE

Churchill County Social Services Director Shannon Ernst shared updates on funding agreements aimed at helping residents in need. The board approved allocations of \$6,282.67 from the Welfare Set-Aside Grant and \$21,700 for housing support through Winged Wolf Innovations and the Rural Nevada Continuum of Care Coordination. These programs provide emergency assistance and long-term housing support for vulnerable Churchill County residents.

### NEW PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY APPROVED

Chris Frost requested approval to solicit bids for building out the laboratory at 270 South Main Street. The lab will improve access to timely testing for flu and other illnesses, supporting local healthcare efforts. Commissioners gave the green light on the project, which is estimated to cost \$233,171, with partial grant funding already secured.



NV Energy’s 400-megawatt solar field project. Photo courtesy of NV Energy.

### NV ENERGY ROAD ABANDONMENT FOR SOLAR PROJECT

Commissioners unanimously approved abandoning Road 3 in support of NV Energy’s 400-megawatt solar field project, a move that will help keep construction on schedule. According to meeting documents, NV Energy has met all regulatory requirements, and the change will prevent unnecessary delays in the project’s development.

### COMMISSIONER UPDATES AND COMMUNITY EVENTS

Commissioners also shared community updates:

- Commissioner Matt Hyde reported record attendance at the state wrestling tournament held at the 3C Event Center in February.
- Commissioner Eric Blakey provided updates from the Fire Board and upcoming Nevada State Firefighters Association (NSFA) Conference in June.
- County Manager Jim Barbee spoke about the economic impact of recent events, including the Bellamy Brothers concert and the bull sale at 3C Event Center. He estimated the state wrestling tournament alone brought about \$1 million to the local economy.
- Churchill County Clerk/Treasurer Linda Rothery discussed legislative tracking and updates on the election process.

The meeting wrapped up with the approval of consent items and discussions on future agenda topics.

For more information or full meeting minutes, visit [churchillcounty.org](http://churchillcounty.org)

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**SILVER PEAK RESTAURANT**

**MARDI GRAS**

**WINE TASTING**  
with Raffles and Auction

**March 1, 2025**  
**6:00-10:00PM**

**\$25 per person**  
Price includes engraved wine glass

**St. Patrick's Church**  
850 W 4th St, Fallon, NV 89406

No one under 21 will be admitted.

## CHURCHILL COUNTY COURTS

## Tenth Judicial District Court

Tuesday, February 18, Judge Thomas Stockard Presiding

By Teresa Moon

Randy Scott Ollar pleaded guilty to the Gross Misdemeanor of Engaging in Business or Submitting a Bid Without a License, a Second Offense punishable by up to 364 days in the Churchill County jail and a mandatory minimum fine of \$4,000. As multiple individuals have submitted claims against Ollar, a Sentencing and Restitution Hearing will be set administratively to allow time for all restitution requests.

Carl Wayne Sampson did not appear for a Sentencing Violation and is believed to be in custody in Washoe County. The court set a Status Hearing for Apr. 1.

Amber Dawn Dittmer appeared for sentencing on the Category D Felony of Embezzlement of a Value of \$1,200 to \$5,000, to which she pleaded guilty last May. Senior Deputy District Attorney Chelsea Sanford reported that Dittmer has paid restitution in full per the plea agreement. Churchill County Alternate Public Defender Wright Noel requested probation.

"I just want to thank you for arresting me when you did and taking me to jail," Dittmer told the court. She said she is now "nine months and three days clean" and "doing good."

Judge Stockard granted Dittmer probation on a suspended 12–36-month sentence, requiring her to obtain and follow the recommendations of a substance abuse evaluation.

Nicholas Pierre Ashley, in custody, appeared for a Status Hearing after pleading not guilty in December to two Category D Felony charges: Battery Causing Substantial Bodily Harm to a Victim, which Constitutes Domestic Violence, and Battery by a Probationer, Parolee, or a Prisoner in Lawful Custody.

Churchill County Public Defender Jacob Sommer told the court that Justice Court had initially set Ashley's bail at \$5,000, which was later questioned. He requested a bail reduction or an OR release, arguing that Ashley has a place to stay, no prior Failure to Appear charges, and has cooperated with all hearings.

Deputy DA Priscilla Baker objected, stating, "The state has huge concerns for an



Tenth Judicial District Court Building.

OR release and feels bail is appropriate." She cited Ashley's criminal history, failure to comply even under supervision, and continued offenses. "He committed a horrendous crime against the victim in this case," she said.

Brenda Ingram with Court Services confirmed Ashley's housing arrangements but noted that his Risk Assessment classified him as High Risk to re-offend.

Judge Stockard ruled that court documentation set Ashley's bail at \$70,000 for both counts. He modified it to \$20,000 bondable per count, totaling \$40,000. Ashley must check in daily and undergo random testing through Court Services if released. His Criminal Settlement Conference is set for March, and trial is scheduled for July 14–18 if both parties cannot reach a resolution.

Dylan Dennis, in custody, pleaded guilty to Burglary, a Category B Felony punishable by 1–10 years in prison and a fine of up to \$10,000, and Battery by a Probationer, Parolee, or a Prisoner in Lawful Custody, a Category B Felony punishable by 1–6 years. Sentencing is set for Mar. 25.

Joseph Alcaraz III, in custody, pleaded guilty to Category D Felony Failure to Stop on the Signal of a Peace Officer While Under the Influence, punishable by 1–4 years in prison and a fine of up to \$5,000, and Category B Felony Battery with a Deadly Weapon, punishable by 2–10 years and a fine of up to \$10,000. Judge Stockard

ordered a Pre-Sentence Investigation (PSI) and set sentencing for Apr. 22.

Kenneth Lee McDougall, in custody, pleaded guilty to two Category C Felonies: Burglary of a Business and Grand Larceny of Personal Goods or Property Valued at \$5,000–\$25,000, both punishable by 1–5 years in prison and a fine of up to \$10,000. PSI ordered; sentencing set for Apr. 22.

Terral James Meisenheimer, in custody, pleaded guilty to Possession of a Stolen Vehicle, a Category C Felony punishable by 1–5 years in prison and a fine of up to \$5,000, and Category D Felony Burglary of a Motor Vehicle, a Second or Subsequent Offense, punishable by 1–4 years in prison and a fine of up to \$5,000. PSI ordered; sentencing set for Apr. 22.

Jordan Adam Cunningham, in custody, pleaded guilty to the Category C Felony of Non-Support of a Spouse, Former Spouse, or a Child, punishable by 1–5 years in prison and a fine of up to \$10,000. The matter continued until Feb. 25, after Cunningham requested additional time to review the plea agreement.

Selma Christina Sampley, in custody, admitted to a second Technical Sentencing Violation for violating controlled substance conditions. Judge Stockard temporarily revoked her probation for 90 days, granting 15 days credit for time served and remanding her to Churchill County Sheriff's Office custody.

## Hicks Released Under Supervision Ahead of April Sentencing

By Teresa Moon and Leanna Lehman

Taylor Jeffery Hicks, in custody, appeared in Tenth Judicial District Court on Tuesday, Feb. 18, before Judge Thomas Stockard. Hicks pleaded guilty to a Gross Misdemeanor charge of Open or Gross Lewdness, which is punishable by up to 364 days in the Churchill County jail, a fine of up to \$2,000 and requires registration as a sex offender. The offense is probation-eligible only if Hicks obtains a Risk Assessment and is not found to be at risk of reoffending.

The charge originated in Justice Court after an arrest warrant was issued last November. The Justice Court Criminal Complaint initially charged Hicks with Category D Felony Open or Gross Lewdness, alleging that on Oct. 3, 2024, at or near Schurz Highway, he inappropriately grabbed a female victim and engaged in other lewd conduct. The complaint also stated that Hicks had been convicted of the same charge on Feb. 27, 2024, in Eighth Judicial District Court in Clark County.

Hicks was arrested on the lewdness charge and taken into custody on Jan. 29. Upon his arraignment, Justice Court Judge Ben Trotter

appointed Churchill County Public Defender Jacob Sommer to represent him before transferring the case to District Court, where the charge was later reduced to a Gross Misdemeanor.

During the Feb. 18 hearing, a factual basis was presented stating that Hicks exposed himself in front of an adult woman and allegedly grabbed her breast without consent.

In addition to this case, Hicks has a Reno Justice Court case for Home Invasion Domestic Violence. He was also sentenced in Washoe County in 2020 to 24–72 months in prison for Coercion with Force or Threat of Physical Force. He was released in April 2022, with his probation expiring on Jan. 8, 2024.

Sommer requested that Hicks be granted an OR release under Court Services Supervision while awaiting completion of the Risk Assessment. The state did not object, provided Hicks has no contact with the victim named in the complaint.

Judge Stockard granted Hicks an OR release with conditions, including daily check-ins and random testing with Court Services, no new criminal violations, and no contact with the victim. He also ordered a Pre-Sentence Investigation (PSI) and scheduled sentencing for Apr. 22.



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BUSINESS

# Ribbon Cutting and Grand Opening of Bayou Bites



Jeremy and Lyric Morrow.



L-R: Front row: Becca Hembel, Ava Case, Fallon Chamber of Commerce Director, Scott Jones, Sue Jones, Jeremy Morrow, co-owner of Bayou Bites, Lyric Morrow, Co-Owner of Bayou Bites, Maria Jones, Lyla Rintoul, Cindy McGarrah, Fallon Chamber of Commerce, President, Merlene Ward, Fallon Chamber of Commerce, Director, Celeste Blakey, Eric Blakey, County Commissioner, Crystal Bowman, David Anaya. Back Row: Ian Mitchel, Scott Johnston, Fallon Chamber of Commerce, Ambassador, Kim Klenakis, Alex, Chef Bayou Bites, Rhys Pasalich, employee, Scotty Jones, Uncle Don and Larry Cooper.

Story and photo by Nancy Chapman

*Bayou Bites celebrated its grand opening and ribbon cutting on Saturday, February 22. The father-daughter duo, Jeremy and Lyric Morrow, tested their cuisine at the Fallon Cantaloupe Festival last year. The festivalgoers received their food well, prompting the Morrrows to take their idea to the next level and open their own local eatery.*

Jeremy is a chef who has worked in Portland, Oregon, and high-end restaurants in the Los Angeles area. According to Jeremy, their menu items are all made daily from fresh ingredients. They take the time to hand-chop lettuce and even remove the white membranes and seeds from lemons for the best flavor added to the food.

Bayou Bites gravy is always homemade, and nothing is prepackaged. Their motto is good food fast, not fast food, and with great attention to detail.

Bayou Bites is open six days a week, 11 a.m. – 8 p.m. Stop by and see them at The Grid Market Place at 2030 Reno Highway in Fallon.

EDUCATION

## CCSD Cool School News

Compiled by Kaitlin Ritchie with photos courtesy of CCSD.



CCHS NJROTC Cadets Kato and Humphrey at Chamber luncheon.

**CCHS**

NJROTC students presented at the Fallon Chamber of Commerce monthly luncheon, sharing about their program with local business and community leaders. Cadet Lieutenant Commander Keileen Kato, NJROTC Commanding Officer, and Cadet Lieutenant Humphrey Arata, Executive Officer, led the presentation, showcasing the leadership, dedication, and hard work they and their fellow cadets put into their program. They shared how they develop discipline, teamwork, and NJROTC leadership skills. The luncheon allowed students to strengthen and make new community connections. For those interested in inviting the NJROTC to volunteer or present at events, contact CMDCM (EWS/SW/AW) James Walker, USN, RET at [walkerj@churchillcsd.com](mailto:walkerj@churchillcsd.com), [walker.james.nsi@navyjrotc.org](mailto:walker.james.nsi@navyjrotc.org) or 775-423-2181 ext. 4120.

**CCMS**

Students had the exciting opportunity to take on staff members in the annual Students vs. Staff volleyball game. The staff started strong, defeating the seventh graders in three games. The eighth-grade girls then won a competitive match against the eighth-grade boys.



Numa fifth graders show off their guitars.

The boys bounced back and ended up defeating the staff. The staff and eighth-grade girls went head-to-head in the final game and split wins. This fun, exciting tradition is one that students and staff look forward to every year.

**NUMA**

Jeremie Sorensen's 5th-grade art students designed their guitars inspired by Pablo Picasso. From 1901 to 1904, Picasso entered a period of his life called the Blue Period. All his paintings from this time were primarily blue mixed with other colors. Students mixed the hue blue with white and black to make different shades. They also added pastel chalks and embellished their guitars with yarn and plastic gemstones, adding a unique touch to their projects.

**E.C. BEST**

Students had an exciting opportunity to participate in Agriculture Day on Wednesday, February 19. Hosted by CCHS FFA, the event allowed students to learn about various aspects of agriculture. Angies Heck's students were excited to learn how to milk a cow and how milk gets from the cow to the grocery store. Students got to milk "Moolissa," making it a memorable experience. A special thank you to the CCHS FFA members for dedicating



Angie Heck's ECB class on Ag Day.

their time and to E.C. Best teacher, Melissa Humphrey, for organizing the event.

**LAHONTAN**

Crystal Cabral's LES students recognized Presidents' Day by learning more about the holiday. They wrote speeches on why they could be president and then presented their speeches to the class. "It also got students thinking about leadership and what it takes to be a leader, all while learning about some of the great leaders of our country," Cabral said.



Cabral's LES class showing off their president drawings.

EDUCATION

# Bighorn Bulletin

By Angela Viera with photos courtesy of Oasis Academy.

## SENIOR SPOTLIGHT: LORENA RIOS



Senior Lorena Rios.

Have fun and experience high school. That's graduating senior Lorena Rios' advice for future students.

"Go to the dances, sign up for clubs and athletics, dress up and take pictures with your friends or your parents," Rios said.

"Be dedicated to experiencing school. You'll meet so many new people, have good and bad experiences, and some days you just wish you could graduate already. But take it in and live in the present moment because time slips away," she said.

Looking back, Rios said she was grateful to have participated in everything Oasis had to offer.

"I've met so many creative people and made connections my freshman self couldn't even think of doing thanks to these fun clubs and events," she said.

Rios has been active in Oasis activities, including softball, FFA, floriculture and student council.

"I started playing on the Bighorns softball team my freshman year as first base," Rios said. "My sister Eneyde played second base, so it was always special whenever we got an

out together. This will be my last year playing, and I will be sad at my last game, but I've had an absolute blast every year."

"One of my favorite memories was when the Oasis softball team beat Smith Valley and made it to state in Las Vegas," she said. "Being escorted out of town, feeling all the energy from the students, reminded me why I love to play."

Rios also competed in floriculture, placing third in the 2023 Nevada State FFA Convention.

"Getting to play around with flowers and see how each student creates a piece so uniquely designed for them is beautiful," she said.

She also thanked Western Nevada College communications instructor Joelle Olson.

"I immediately loved Mrs. Olson's vibe, her look and the way she presented herself," Rios said.

Rios will graduate in May with a high school diploma and an associate of arts degree. She plans to attend the University of Nevada, Reno, to major in Spanish and hopes to use her degree to travel and work in education or international relations. For Lorena's full Senior Spotlight, see the story online at thefallonpost.org.

## NATIONAL FFA WEEK AND OASIS AG DAY

By Taylor Sowersby

February 16 to February 22 was National FFA Week, and as tradition, Oasis FFA planned several engaging school activities to celebrate and bring awareness to the organization and agriculture.

The week included Drive Anything but a Car to School Day, a pie eating contest at the high school, reading agriculture-based books to younger students, dress-up days, and closed with Ag Day.

In the first pie-eating contest, Junior Matthew Bird easily finished his chocolate



Thurman Hiskett.

cream pie before the competition.

All middle and high school FFA members participated in Ag Day and the themed dress-up days. Kindergarten through high school students walked through Ag Day animal exhibits on Thursday, including horses, donkeys, rabbits, sheep, goats, pigs, and a llama. Also displayed were agricultural equipment, plants, fishing demonstrations, hunting demonstrations, cement and dirt demonstrations, and more.

High school members also visited K-3 classes to read the agriculture-themed book, "Potatoes for Pirate Pearl" by Jennifer Concepcion, to classes.

"Ag Day is a great way for our chapter to teach the younger students about agriculture and the role it plays in our lives," said Oasis FFA Chapter President Grace Laca. "We all enjoy talking about the livestock or equipment we bring to Ag Day and answering the many questions we get."

The week's activities would not have been possible without the dedication of Oasis Academy High School FFA Advisor Jackie Bogdanowicz and Middle School Advisor Jenna Whitaker. Special thanks to the Fallon Police Department for helping coordinate Drive Anything but a Car to School Day.

# Logos' Got Talent

Story and photos courtesy of LCA



The 7th Annual Logos Talent Show was a tremendous success. The talent displayed by our students was truly remarkable. The audience enjoyed a variety of acts, including comedy, dancing, karate, skateboarding, dog tricks, and singing, all hosted by the best MCs one could ask for, complete with sequined jackets and witty banter.

One highlight of the evening was the performance by three dancing dinosaurs, which had the audience in stitches. Maddie, Rachel, and Zoey delivered an impressive dance routine, showcasing their amazing moves despite the challenges of performing in inflatable dino suits.

A particularly touching moment was when one of our new students, Rose, sang "Big Enough" by The Clark Family. Rose is a delightfully quiet student and somewhat shy, but when she started singing, you could see her bloom on stage. Her song choice was superb, and her voice was breathtakingly beautiful. Honestly, there wasn't a dry eye in the house.

We extend a special thank you to The Fallon Theatre for allowing us to host this incredible event in their gorgeous, historically preserved venue. Their volunteers were invaluable. The beautiful setting and UPLIFT parent volunteer group's commitment to excellence created a truly unique and joyful evening.

To everyone involved, thank you for your hard work and dedication. Without you, this event would not have been possible. And to our talented student performers: Wow... Just wow!

Don't forget that enrollment is currently open at Logos Christian Academy. "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change." James 1:17

# Veritas Preparatory School – Classical & Christian Tea Party and Talent Show

By David Ernst, Assistant Headmaster

This past week, Veritas first-grade students enjoyed a "Teddy Bear Tea." Students brought "tea friends," whom they introduced to their classmates. They enjoyed snacks and drinks while celebrating together as a class.

Veritas students also participated in the annual Talent Show in preparation for the upcoming Night Under the Stars. Fourteen acts showcased their impressive musical, dramatic, and comedic talents to a crowd of parents and fellow students. Performances included instrumental and vocal pieces, ballet, a comedy sketch, and even a science demonstration on how to make a lava lamp!

The students will perform their acts again on Friday, March 7, from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. during the Night Under the Stars event at Rafter 3C Arena. The community is invited to come and support these talented students. Tickets for the event are \$10.00 and will be available at the door.

Open enrollment for Veritas begins Monday, March 3, 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).



# SPORTS ROUND UP

## State Semifinal Loss: Just a Beginning for Greenwave Girls

Story and photos by Robert Perea

Kevin Wickware stood talking somberly with his assistant coaches in a hallway behind the bleachers at Clark High School last Friday night, moments after his team lost 48-43 to Mater Academy East in a 3A state semifinal game. Music was blaring over the speakers as the Fallon players trickled out of the locker room one by one, many of them with tears in their eyes. Across the court, the Mater East players and coaches exchanged hugs with family and fans.

The loss ended Fallon's 12-game winning streak and its hopes of a state championship, but Wickware chose to see it as a beginning rather than an end.

"This is a big step forward for our program," he said. "The way that we've been going the last couple of years, to really have this kind of success is a big deal for us and I'm looking forward to what we build on after this."

A year ago, the Greenwave finished third in the Northern 3A and lost 61-40 in the regional semifinals to Fernley. But halfway through this season, the Greenwave found the winning formula and rolled through the regular season and regional tournament with 12 straight wins, with five of those coming over Fernley and Lowry, the two teams that had represented the league in the state tournament both of the past two seasons.

But nothing the Greenwave saw this season prepared them for the speed on the perimeter Mater East brought into Friday's semifinal game, and the Knights opened up an 8-0 lead less than two and a half minutes into the game.

Even after Wickware called a timeout to settle his team, the Greenwave's next three possessions resulted in a traveling violation, three seconds in the key, and then two missed free throws.

"The thing coming down here is you can only see what you see on film, and I think their speed was a little more than we were



Karlle Simper drives between Mater East defenders Aa'Ziah Frazier (11) and Victoria Rubio-White (4).

anticipating," Wickware said. "I knew we might have this problem, so I knew we were going to have to settle down at some point. I wasn't worried about the score because we've shown how resilient we are in the past, so I knew we were going to close that gap, it was just a matter of how long it was going to take us to kind of calm our nerves a little bit."

Janessa Bettencourt finally got the Greenwave on the scoreboard with 3:49 left in the first quarter, and although they trailed 13-4 heading to the second quarter, the Greenwave had shaken off those early jitters. Fallon opened the second quarter with a 10-1 run to tie the game at 14-14, then Amillya Bishop gave Fallon its first lead at 17-15 with a 3-pointer with 1:58 left in the second quarter.

Mater East outscored Fallon 7-2 to end the first half and added the first four points of the third quarter to go up 26-19, but again Fallon rallied. A basket by Reagan Johnson pulled the Greenwave within 26-26 with 4:19 left in the third quarter, then another three by Bishop to open the fourth quarter put Fallon up 34-33.

After five straight Mater East points, Vernitta Fillmore hit a pair of 3-pointers, the first pulling Fallon within 38-27 and the second tying the game at 40, then Bettencourt

scored on a spin move in the lane with 3:48 left in the game for a 42-40 Fallon lead.

But Mater East closed the game with an 8-1 run, with all their points coming on free throws. With the game tied at 42, Johnson blocked a shot, and Mater East's Victoria Rubio-White committed a foul, giving Fallon the ball. However, the Greenwave turned the ball over on the inbounds pass, and Amija Macon made two free throws for Mater East and a 44-42 lead. An exchange of free throws left Mater East up 46-43, but the Greenwave lost the ball out of bounds on the next possession, and another free throw by Macon put her team up 47-44. One last free throw added to account for the final score as the Greenwave came up empty in their final two possessions.

"I think it boiled down to we just didn't make shots," Wickware said. "We had a lot of opportunities, a lot of good shots, the ball just didn't fall for us, but we know we'll learn from it and that's what our goal was."

Wickware said he doesn't want the loss to obscure the progress the Greenwave made this season and all they've accomplished. He credited the leadership of seniors Megan Johnson, Brynlee Nichols and Bettencourt.

"They set the bar high for us this year and we're hoping the next years down the road we're going to live up to what we established this year," Wickware said. "We just played for one another, we didn't worry about who was successful, we worried about our total success. So, I thought that was big time for us."

The team had to adjust early because of injuries to Jada Anastacio, last year's leading scorer, and Dylan Faught, who were expected to be major contributors this season.

"We had to kind of find ourselves, step up into other areas and it was just a whole building process from the beginning, and that was our approach," he said. "We were going to build along the way and eventually, hopefully, getting the success that we had getting to the state tournament."

## Fallon Outlaws Shine in Winnemucca



Photos courtesy of Fallon Outlaws.

Staff Report

The Fallon Outlaws had an outstanding Winnemucca tournament earlier this month, taking first place in Freestyle on Saturday and first place in Folkstyle on Sunday. Last year, the team finished third in Freestyle and did not place in Folkstyle, so they set a goal—and achieved it.

Several wrestlers had standout performances, including Harleigh, who earned four medals, Alessa, Hudson, Kaidan, Carter, Zayden, Anthony, Marco, Westin, Bradley, Lucas, Raymond, Ava, Connor, Kypton, Landon, Jazmine, Emmett, Bartell, Alexa, Breyson, Tyrese, Finn, Zack, Braxtyn, Wyatt, Liam, Atticus, Lincoln, Nihoa, Christian, Peyton, Cyrus, Clay, Remi, Ethan, Cole, and Honey.

Great job, Outlaws. Keep up the great work.

**CCHS Safe and Sober Grad Nite**



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**Drawing will be at the  
DONKEY BASKETBALL GAME  
March 15th  
CCHS Gym @ 6:30**

Need not be present to win

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**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



## COLUMNS

## What's Cooking in Kelli's Kitchen

# Chicken and Sausage Gumbo

By Kelli Kelly



February is a month for simple dinners and dining out. With the cold weather and the Valentine's Day celebrations, we all know that we don't have the energy to cook much, and that's okay.



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

That's why during this time of the year; many people gravitate to their air fryers for fast and simple meals. But let's have a quick conversation about air fryers: they are nothing more than a convection oven, and they are a pain in the butt to clean.

While the air fryer has made it easier for busy people to eat during weeknights, they don't produce meals that people actually want to eat. So now, as we are reaching the month of March, it's time to break up with your air fryer.

For this week's recipe we have a Cajun classic: Gumbo. A dish that requires technique, patience, and a whole lot of love. We are going to cook the heck out of the okra to help thicken the stew and reduce the sliminess, so please trust me and don't omit it. If you can resist the temptation to eat it right away, it tastes even better the next day.

### Chicken and Sausage Gumbo

By Erik Jimenez

#### Ingredients:

- 2 tbsp. Extra virgin olive oil
- 3/4 cup Vegetable oil, plus a few extra tablespoons for searing.
- 3/4 cup All-purpose flour
- 4 Boneless, skinless chicken thighs, cut into manageable pieces

- 1 lb. Andouille sausage, sliced on a bias into slices
- 1 Yellow onion, small dice
- 1 Green bell pepper, small dice
- 2-3 Celery ribs (depending on size), small dice
- 4-5 Garlic cloves, minced
- 1 qt. Low-sodium or homemade chicken stock
- 2 tbsp. Cajun seasoning
- 2 Bay leaves
- 2-3 Sprigs fresh thyme
- 12 oz. Okra (fresh or frozen), sliced into 1/2 inch rounds
- 2 tbsp. Worcestershire sauce
- Louisiana-style hot sauce, to taste
- Kosher salt, to taste
- Freshly cracked black pepper, to taste
- Scallions, thinly sliced for garnish
- Parsley, finely chopped for garnish

#### Directions:

1. Mise en place: Before searing the meat and cooking the roux, it's imperative that you get your ingredients prepped ahead of time.
2. Season the chicken thighs with a small amount of the Cajun seasoning. In a skillet over medium-high, add some oil and sear the chicken thighs briefly on both sides until brown. Once browned, set aside.
3. Add the andouille sausage to the skillet and brown, about 5-6 minutes. Set aside with the chicken.
4. Drain some of the excess fat from the skillet and use a little bit of water to scrape the fond of the bottom of the pan. We will use these beautiful meat juices later!
5. Now, we tackle the roux. In a Dutch oven add the vegetable oil and heat over medium heat, until just before the oil starts to smoke. Slowly incorporate and whisk in the flour to avoid lumps. I like to use a combination of a whisk, wooden spoon, and a silicon spatula to stir roux almost constantly until it turns to a chocolate brown color. Don't walk away from the roux, you will burn it. Also, don't let it get too dark, since it will continue cooking in the next step.
6. Once roux is nice and dark, lower the heat to medium-low, and add the onions, bell pepper, and celery with a pinch of salt and cook for 10 minutes, stirring frequently.
7. Add in the garlic with about 1/3 of the remaining Cajun seasoning and cook for about a minute or so.
8. Whisk in the chicken stock to avoid lumps, add bay leaves and thyme and heat to a boil. Once at a boil, reduce to a simmer and cook uncovered for 1 hour, stirring every 15 minutes or so.
9. After an hour, add in the okra, chicken, and sausage with the remaining bit of the Cajun seasoning. Simmer for about 2 hours longer. With about 20 minutes left, add in the Worcestershire sauce and hot sauce to taste.
10. Season to taste with salt, pepper, and remaining Cajun seasoning. Remove from heat, remove bay leaves and thyme. Let cool and refrigerate overnight. The next day, remove the congealed fat from the surface and gradually reheat the gumbo until hot. Serve with cooked white rice and garnish with scallions and parsley.

## Allison's Book Report

# "This Spells Love"

by Kate Robb

Back in the late 1900s, I was a teenager who loved the fun, witchy shows that were so popular at that time. "Charmed" and "Sabrina the Teenage Witch" were at the top of my "must-watch" list back then. I often daydreamed about being able to cast a quick spell to fix sticky situations like Sabrina or the Halliwell sisters did. Despite the spell casters' best intentions, those spells often backfired and didn't turn out how they thought they would. This week's book is "This Spells Love" by Kate Robb, and it is a light and magical friends-to-lovers romance that has those same witchy vibes. If you're anything like me, it will bring you right back to those witchy classics.

Gemma Wilde has officially had it with bad breakups. After yet another failed relationship, she's done with heartbreak, regrets, and the whole messy business of dating. So, in a wine-fueled moment of frustration, she agrees to try a spell—a little magical experiment to erase all memories of her exes. Harmless, right? Sure.... Except when she wakes up the next morning, things are... different. Really different. Not only are her past relationships wiped clean from her memory, but her entire life has shifted into an alternate reality. Her job isn't quite the same, her friendships have taken unexpected turns, and—most shocking of all—her best friend, Dax, is now her boyfriend. Dax has always been her rock, the guy who knows her better than anyone. But in this version of her life, their relationship has evolved into something deeper, something real. As Gemma stumbles through this new reality, she starts to wonder: has she been looking for love in all the wrong places? And is this magical do-over giving her a glimpse of the life she was meant to have all along?



With equal parts humor, heart, and a touch of magic, "This Spells Love" is a feel-good romance about second chances, unexpected twists, and discovering that sometimes, the love you've been searching for has been right in front of you the whole time.

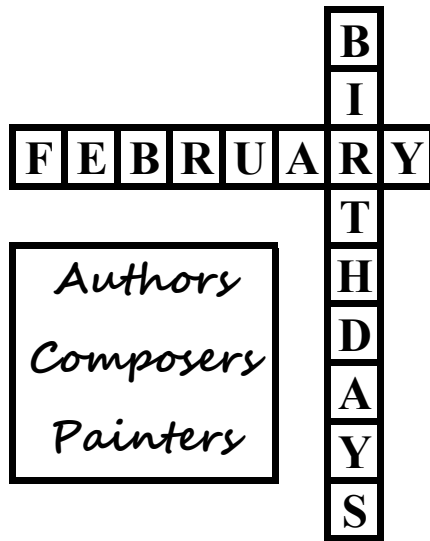
"This Spells Love" is a light and easy read, chock full of the fun and witchy magic charm of the original Sabrina or the sisters from Charmed. I know it will hit the spot with magical realism and rom-com fans alike. Grab a copy this week, and when you're done, pop over to my Instagram @allison.the.reader and let me know what you think.

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.

COLUMNS

Crossword

By Peanut



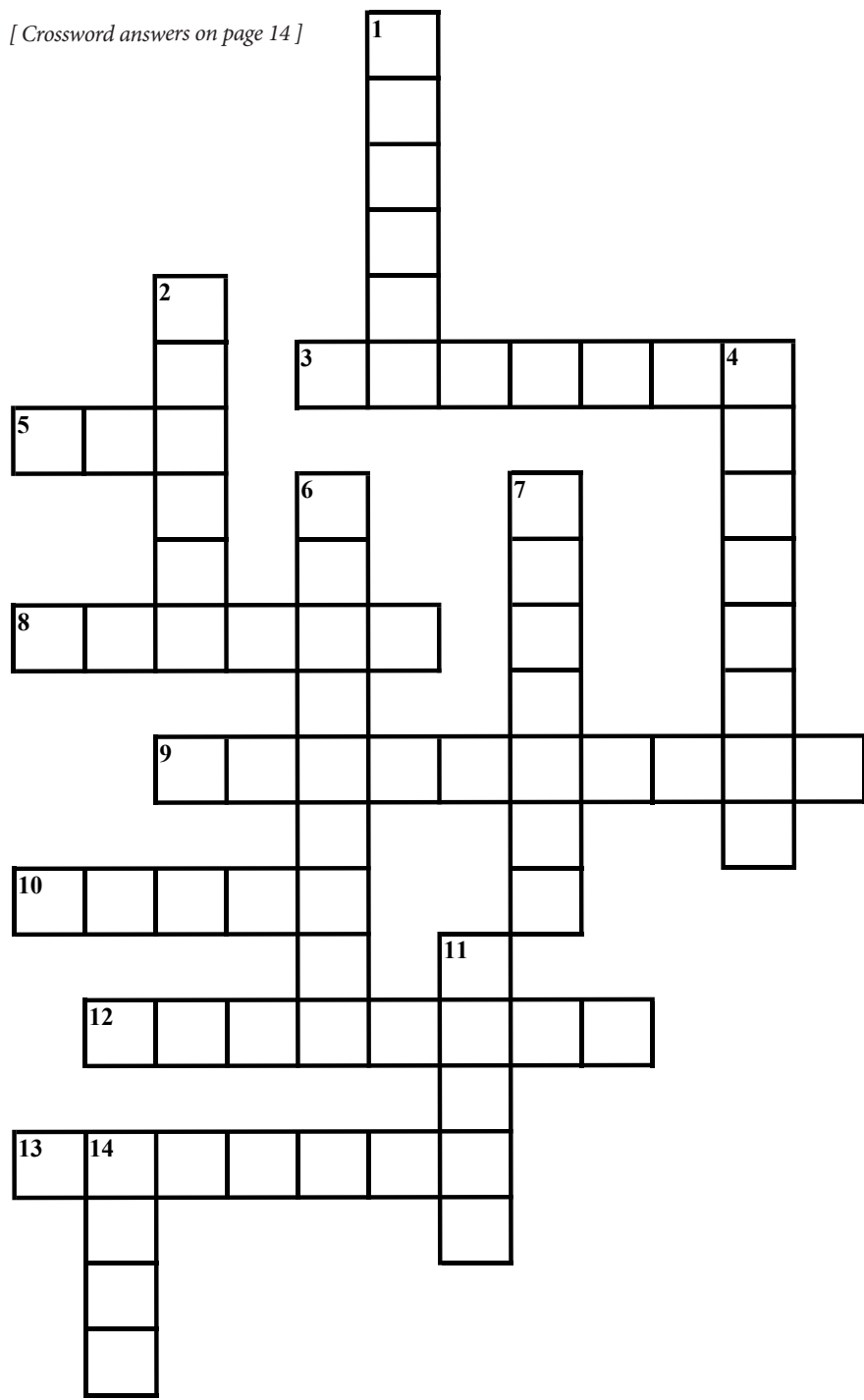
Across

- 3. Pelican Brief
- 5. Joy Luck Club
- 8. Color Purple
- 9. Evangeline
- 10. Are You There God?
- 12. Freedom From Want
- 13. Bloodline

Down

- 1. La Loge
- 2. Messiah
- 4. Bluest Eye
- 6. Tortilla Flat
- 7. Oliver Twist
- 11. 20,000 Leagues
- 14. Les Misérables

[ Crossword answers on page 14 ]



**CITY OF FALLON NOTICE OF DEPOSIT OF COPIES AND PUBLIC HEARING TO ADOPT BILL NO. 802**

Notice is hereby given that the Honorable City Council of the City of Fallon will hold a Public Hearing on Wednesday, March 12, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. in the City Council Chambers, City Hall, 55 West Williams Avenue, Fallon, Nevada 89406, to consider possible adoption of Bill No. 802.

Bill No. 802, if adopted as an Ordinance, will accomplish the following: An Ordinance amending the City of Fallon Municipal Code, Title Five, Chapter 5.52, "Gaming Licenses," by amending Section 5.52.040 by removing the no fewer than sixty guestrooms requirement before the issuance of a nonrestricted gaming license and related exception provisions thereto; amending Section 5.52.050 to address the effect of discontinuation of nonrestricted gaming for twenty-four months; amending Section 5.52.060 by removing the process that allows a restricted or nonrestricted gaming license to be transferred by making an application to the Chief of Police and requiring the application to be approved by a majority vote of the city council; amending other terms to create consistency throughout; and other matters properly related thereto.

Notice is hereby further given that copies of Bill No. 802 have been deposited with the City Clerk, City Hall, 55 West Williams Avenue, Fallon, Nevada 89406, for public examination and distribution upon request. Members of the public may request a copy of the Bill by contacting Elsie Lee, Deputy City Clerk, at 775- 423-5104 or elee@fallonnevada.gov.

Published in  
The Fallon Post  
February 28, March 7, and 14, 2025  
Ad #6294

**CHURCHILL COUNTY CNHD TENANT IMPROVEMENTS PWP NO. CH-2025-158 FALLON, NV INVITATION TO BID**

Separate sealed Bids for the construction of the Churchill County CNHD Tenant Improvements will be received by Churchill County, the Owner, at their office located at 155 N. Taylor Street, Suite 110, Fallon, Nevada 89406 until 2:30 p.m., local time, on Thursday, March 6, 2025, at which time the Bids received will be publicly opened and read aloud.

The Work consists of performing or providing all labor, services, and documentation necessary to produce such construction and furnishing, installing, and incorporating all materials and equipment into such construction, all as required by the Contract Documents.

The Work generally includes but is not limited to: Interior demolition of main floor and mezzanine in existing space. Existing basement improvements will be limited to mechanical and electrical replacement only. Existing empty basement space to remain as is. First floor remodel includes space for: main public reception area, public restrooms, pharmacy office, 2 clinic rooms, break room, storage and stairway to mezzanine. The remaining first floor area remains open for future buildout. The existing mezzanine area will have new restrooms, a breakroom, and open office space. A new mezzanine walkway will be built to access the existing exterior patio area. Space will need to include a new fire sprinkler service and an elevator.

The Contract Documents may be examined and obtained after Monday, February 10, 2025, at the following locations:

Sierra Contractors Source,  
860 Maestro Drive, Reno NV 89406  
Phone: 775-329-7222  
www.scsplanroom.com

Bid security shall be submitted with each bid in the amount of five percent (5%) of the bid amount. No bids may be withdrawn for a period of sixty days (60) after the opening of bids. The owner reserves the right to reject any and all bids to waive informalities and irregularities. A mandatory pre-bid conference will be conducted on Tuesday, February 18, 2025, at 2:30 p.m. local time, at 290 S. Maine Street, Fallon, NV. Prospective bidders are required to attend.

The Owner will not award the Contract to a Bidder who, at the time of submitting a Bid, was not properly licensed under the provisions of Chapter 624 of NRS or if the Contract would exceed the limit of the Bidder's license. Bidders shall submit proof of qualifications to perform the Work as described in the Instructions to Bidders.

Owner: Churchill County  
By: Jim Barbee  
Title: County Manager  
Date: February 6, 2025

Published in  
The Fallon Post  
February 14, 21, and 28, 2025  
Ad #6290

**IMPORTANT TAX NOTICE**

The Fourth (4th) Installment of the 2024-2025 FISCAL YEAR taxes will be due and payable on or before March 3, 2025. If not paid on or before March 13, 2025, delinquent charges will be applied in accordance with NRS 361.483. Failure to receive a tax bill does not excuse the taxpayer from the timely payment of taxes in accordance with NRS 361.480. If you have recently refinanced, purchased, paid off your mortgage, moved, or not yet received your property tax bill, please contact the Clerk/Treasurer's office or visit our website at: www.churchillcountynv.gov for current tax information and/or online payment options.

Linda Rothery  
Churchill County Clerk/Treasurer  
775-423-6028  
Office/Mailing Address:  
155 N. Taylor St., Suite 110  
Fallon, NV 89406

Published in  
The Fallon Post  
February 28, 2025  
Ad #6295

**Truckee-Carson Irrigation District Notice of Claims Approved by Board of Directors November 2024**

Notice is hereby given by the Truckee-Carson Irrigation District (TCID), duly organized and existing pursuant to Chapter 539 of the Nevada Revised Statutes, of the following list of claims allowed during the month of November 2024; that this list is made based upon NRS 539.485.

Operating Expenses	November
Operations and Maintenance	236,897
Carson Lake Pasture	4,491
Administration	154,040
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>395,428</b>
Other Expense	8,833
Depreciation Expense	53,160
<b>Total Other Expense</b>	<b>61,993</b>
<b>Total Expense and Other Expense</b>	<b>457,421</b>

Dated this 13th day of January 2025  
/s/ Benjamin Shawcroft, General Manager

Published in  
The Fallon Post  
February 28, 2025  
Ad #6293



Send us your sports stories and photos.

admin@thefallonpost.org

COLUMNS

# Late Winter Seeds that Can Be Planted Now

By Nancy Chapman

*When spring finally arrives, the seeds germinate when the soil temperatures warm naturally. You don't have to worry about timing, and you get well-adapted seedlings that often perform better than those transplanted from indoors.*

This method also frees up space on your countertops and ensures your seedlings are tough enough to handle whatever the environment throws at them. You probably already have most of the materials you need to start—seeds, some potting mix, and plastic containers to create your mini-greenhouses.

You can sow most seeds, but some are considered safer bets than others due to their cold tolerance. Whether you need to fill a gap in your garden with perennials or annuals, winter sowing is a great way to get a head start.

Keeping them outside means they'll emerge when temperatures are just right, establishing strong roots and flowering as soon as possible. From cottage garden classics to frost-tolerant favorites, these flowers make seed-starting in winter feel effortless.

Black-eyed Susan is an excellent go-to if you're looking for a sun-loving perennial that fits into just about any garden style or design. The bright yellow petals scream summer, but the seeds don't mind frosty conditions.

Coneflowers are tough in many ways, including in the face of cold. They don't mind temperature dips, ready to pop up as soon as spring arrives. Once they mature, the flowers add amazing texture and color wherever they are planted while attracting a range of pollinators at the same time.

Like coneflowers, yarrow is no stranger to tough conditions. It may look delicate, but yarrow can handle drought, poor soil, and even cold quite well.

Cold stratification for about a month is recommended, making them a great choice for winter sowing. Cold stratification is a process that exposes seeds to cold, moist conditions to soften the seed coat and activate germination. This process mimics the plant's natural growing cycles, providing the conditions to boost germination when temperatures increase. A great place to start is with yarrow seeds. Place them on the surface of a well-draining mix, keep them slightly moist, then let them chill outdoors all season long.

If you care about butterflies (especially monarchs), milkweed is a must-have. These plants produce clusters of delicate flowers that are crucial nectar sources for pollinators. Their leaves are also the only food monarch caterpillars can eat.

Cosmos, marigolds, calendula, sea holly, sunflower, Salvia, Snapdragons, Delphiniums, and Love-in-a-Mist are also easy to sow in late winter.

Vegetables have a variety of seeds that can handle the cold and like the cooler months. Spinach is the standard cool-season green, thriving in temperatures other veggies can't handle. Whether tossing the leaves into salads or soups, fresh homegrown spinach tastes much better than anything store-bought.

Sow your spinach seeds in a protected container in late winter. As the weather fluctuates, the seeds will remain in the soil until they sense the warmth of spring. Once germinated, give seedlings partial to full sun and steady moisture.

Kale's cold hardiness is well-known among gardeners (it even tastes sweeter after a frost). That's why it's no surprise that this seed-starting process sets this leafy green up for success. Grow kale if you want a hearty green loaded with vitamins and can handle temperature swings better than most leafy veggies.

The colorful stems and glossy leaves of Swiss chard are both decorative and delicious. They are a great nutrient-packed addition to salads or stews, fitting well amongst other cool-season leafy greens in the garden, too.

Broccoli is a nutritional powerhouse, but that's not all it's appreciated. It is surprisingly easy to grow and adaptable. This process produces strong seedlings that know how to handle the outdoors from day one. This gives you large green heads for harvesting, plus plenty of side shoots.

Broccoli and Brussels sprouts do not mind the cold, so don't be afraid to plant outdoors, even if it's snowing. By the time spring arrives, the seedlings will emerge tough and ready.

Winter-sown broccoli and Brussels sprouts often thrive as the natural chill helps seedlings develop into sturdy young plants that can handle variable spring weather. Roast them, drizzle with olive oil and salt lightly. Add a topping of bacon if you're feeling adventurous, and you'll quickly convince any guests at your dinner table.

Beets are one of the easiest crops to grow. Their compact size means they're easy to squeeze into small gaps in the garden between other veggies or even in containers if they're deep enough.

All these seeds, along with many others and a full array of supplies, can be found at The Village Nursery and Garden Center in Fallon, 2975 Reno Highway, Fallon. The gracious and friendly staff is never too busy to answer questions in person or on the phone; please call 775-867-GROW.

*Shared by: The Village Nursery and Garden Center, Winter Seeds to Sow Now, February Newsletter.*

**For obituaries please call 775-426-4545  
or email [admin@thefallonpost.org](mailto:admin@thefallonpost.org)**

**CROSSWORD ANSWERS**  
*Crossword found on page 12*

BLUME	LONGFELLOW	STEINBECK
DICKENS	MORRISON	TAN
GRISHAM	RENOIR	VERNE
HANDEL	ROCKWELL	WALKER
HUGO	SHELDON	

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