

KEEPING YOU POSTED ON LOCAL NEWS

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School Board Unanimously Names Blakey to Fill Hyde's Vacancy

By Rachel Dahl

Celestia Blakey was unanimously chosen by the Churchill County School District Board of Trustees at their last meeting, after interviewing four candidates, to fill the seat being vacated by Matt Hyde as

dates, to fill the seat being *Celestia Blakey.* vacated by Matt Hyde as he takes his new position on the county commission next week.

Trustees failed to fill the vacancy in November during their first process when Keith Boone, Joe Frey, and Darin Hammer applied. The board locked in a tie vote—first over Boone, and when that failed, Frey was nominated, but that vote also resulted in a tie. Under Nevada Revised Statute, the outgoing trustee (Hyde) is prevented from participating in the process to fill the seat he is vacating, which leaves six trustees to vote. The board then decided to reopen the process.

In this round, there were six applicants, with Boone and Hammer staying in the process and being joined by Steve Russell, Rick Martin, Eileen Haugen, and Blakey. Russell withdrew his application prior to the board meeting, and Boone was traveling and unable to attend the meeting when interviews were held.

Blakey is a small business owner who runs Dandelion Express and Hotwire Electric with her husband, Eric, who was elected to the county commission and will begin his term next week along with Hyde. She previously worked for the school district in the middle school office and was the secretary/dispatcher for the transportation department, also working in education services, where she gained experience with grants and budget preparations.

"My interest in this position is derived from the desire to help build upon the strong foundation that the current School Board of Trustees has created over recent years," Blakey said in her application.

Hammer has served for the past 25 years as the senior deputy at the Churchill County Juvenile Probation Department, involved with many programs that serve the youth of the community. He has taught classes at several schools, led community service projects, and speaks regularly in Career and Technical Education classes, sharing information about careers in law enforcement.

"I bring knowledge from a different perspective and have a vested interest in improving positive student outcomes," he said.

Haugen is retired with 30 years of teaching experience in the district and has continued as a substitute teacher for the past seven years. She has contracted with the district on several special projects, remaining connected to the district and working with new initiatives, including Modern Teacher and the new Savvas curriculum. Haugen is familiar with district policies and understands their essential role as the foundation for a teacher's responsibilities.

"I was pleased to see the adoption of several new policies and many much-needed revisions. The updates reflect the board's commitment to addressing the evolving needs of the district, staff, and students while also aligning with state and federal regulations," she said.

Martin is retired, with 20 years in the casino industry and over 20 years in administrative positions with the Washoe County School District, where he had oversight of multiple operational divisions. He has done consultant work with the Churchill County School District and was involved with local Boy Scout Troop 1776. He has lived in Fallon for the past 18 years.

"My interest in this position is based on one premise: how can we better engage our students in appreciating learning through critical thinking, innovation, and community collaboration, while helping them to be well above proficiencies in their math, verbal, and written skills?" he said in his letter of interest.

After interviews, with each candidate being asked five questions in a 12-minute period, board President Gregg Malkovich asked each board member to rank their top two choices in no order. Joe McFadden, Kathryn Whitaker, and Julie Guerrero-Goetsch all chose Blakey and Martin as their top two, with Amber Getto, Wendy Bullock, and Gregg Malkovich choosing Blakey and Haugen. After some discussion, Blakey was nominated and unanimously chosen as the new trustee.

Whitaker expressed gratitude to all the candidates, saying, "We received excellent insight and perspective from all the candidates, and I appreciate your willingness to serve. I want to remind you that the election is in two years. If you really want to commit, we always need good members of the community and hope you'll consider that when filing opens."

Driven Off-Road Building Fun Vehicles for Fallon and Fernley

By Nancy Chapman

If you take a kid raised on a ranch in Elko County and give him a lawn mower, his mom's to be specific, he may take that mower apart piece by piece, setting each piece out as it was disassembled and carefully screwing the hardware into the ground in their order. After carefully removing each screw, bolt, nut, wire, plates and disassembling the lawn mower, that kid may take these same screws, bolts, and nuts and

then reassemble the motor of the lawnmower making it run just as well if not better than before.

All because he wanted to know what it took to make the lawn-mower work. This may be a good indication that this kid will grow up to be a motorhead of some kind, with a love of motorcycles, go karts, and race cars of any kind.

That is the case with Jeremy Porter, owner of Driven Off-Road



along with his wife Heather. After graduating high school, Jeremy joined the Navy and retired with an MA rating. At that point he decided that working for someone else was not how he wanted to spend his time.

With the help of his wife, they enough

With the help of his wife, they opened a garage in Fernley, focusing on vehicle customization on UTV/SXS, offroad vehicles, service, repair, race preparation, welding and fabrication. Which of course is all centered around racing, but their focus is on off-road racing. Jeremy and

Heather team-drive with vehicle owners from California and Florida in the Pro UTV Class Championships. Heather is their navigator and Jeremy either relief drives or is a support technician during the racecourse. The Floridian vehicle is maintained and housed in Arizona. When it is time for a race the owner travels from Florida to the race location. Jeremy and Heather travel from Fernley, where

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FROM THE PUBLISHER

Captain's Log

The Pecking Order

By Rachel Dahl

I got new chickens. Ten of them. Hens from one of Josi's friends. We're now at 23.

So far in this new batch we have Denise – the spicy redhead who just hangs out with me all the time. Pretty sure she's really an Edgmon. Then there is Rose, the sweetest, prettiest little fluffy head, and Blanche of the silver feathers, and Sophia who is all white and also has a fluffy head. Dorothy is white with black tail feathers and seems to be the wisest of all of them, hanging out most of the day in the tamaracks. I don't know who the other five are yet - but they're all fairly friendly and are settling in quite well.

It appears that the Boyer Bunny Ranch is becoming the rescue of choice for urbandwelling chickens in Reno. Let's face it, if you were a chicken, you probably wouldn't want to live in Reno either.

Larry came from a gal in South Reno who discovered she was he after binging chicks at the hardware store. Apparently, her neighborhood has a strict "No Rooster" policy and she needed him gone before anyone figured it out.

Chester the Fabulous came from Lemmon Valley. A guy posted on Facebook that his neighbor was threatening to shoot him – the rooster not the guy – and he needed him gone that very day. I met him and his kids at a Starbucks off the freeway and send them pictures from time to time of Chester with his harem.

He settled in fast - we had lost our original rooster to the owl, and the minute I let Chester out of the carrier into the yard, Goody claimed him for her very own. Love at first sight, quite literally. They are inseparable. But he has also turned out to be the most amazing protector of all his girls, patrolling the yard, getting in between them and whatever, including me. He regularly attacks my lower legs as I go in and out of the shed getting them food and checking for eggs. Ungrateful rascal.

At first, I had a little PTSD from the horrible rooster we had as kids at Yeoman Lane. The one who eventually met his demise at the end of a polo mallet when he attacked my mom as she was carrying a brand-new Harvey across the yard. That creature was the reason I hadn't become a crazy chicken lady until this late stage in life.



Posing with my new gal Rose.

When he first got here, I wasn't sure Chester and I were going to make it. He would relentlessly fly at me and grab or spur or peck or whatever in a great display of bravado, sending my heart racing and offending my delicate sensibilities. Until one day when I was out in my barn boots and heavy leggings and realized it didn't really hurt, it was just intimidating. Now I just let him have at it and walk through the bluster. I'm actually so impressed by his protectiveness that I wouldn't want to do anything to discourage him.

It's been really interesting to watch all of them interact with each other and the cats and the Great Dane. Each one of them has a distinct personality and there really is a pecking order and they establish it fast. Pretty glad the cats were kittens at first because they are firmly at the bottom of the pecking order. And no one has any use for Clio unless they've gone wandering off and she gently trots off to round them up.

So while we revel in our chicken-lady-ness and hunt the yard for wayward eggs, we'll be right here...

...Keeping you Posted.

_ Dach

[Driven Off-Road continued from page 1]

once on location she will be the race navigator, and he will be team support for whatever is needed.

Heather will also navigate for Driven Off-Road racing vehicle driver Tim Fitzpatrick, owner Chad Thornton, as well as the California team. She is responsible for knowing the course and being able to navigate her teams throughout a race which can be upwards to 585 miles, such as the race that starts in Las Vegas and culminates in Reno. Each vehicle must be technically inspected, making sure all the racing requirements are met. For the Las Vegas to Reno race, this inspection is done on Fremont Street in Las Vegas.

During the desert race in March, the Driven Off-Road team had traveled about 250 miles into the race, when the UTV lost its brakes. Asking Jeremy, "How did they navigate the course with no brakes?" He said, "When Tim knew there was a turn or dip in the course, he would run into a brush to slow their vehicle down." He said, "when Tim knew there was a turn or dip in the course, he would run into a brush to slow their vehicle down." Tim would have to hit the brush so as not to stall the vehicle or create major damage that would take them out of the race completely. After racing 10 hours, one minute, and 42 seconds, team

Driven Off-Road ended the race in Reno in

9th place, with no braking system and after starting in 30th place.

Team Driven Off-Road, in the Pro UTV Class, have won two championships, with a third upcoming if they can complete the race, for the 2024 season championship. In these races the vehicle can reach speeds of up to 120 MPH and over. Jeremy says the Utah races are very technical and are his team's favorite because the technical side is where the team really shines. These races most often are 700 to 800 miles long, with a staged start, four vehicles start every 30 seconds, to keep the start from being to accident prone.

Jeremy and Heather and the Driven Off-Road team all have great respect for their sport and their fellow competitors. After one Nevada race the team discovered a cattleguard that was damaged and out of respect for the sport, Jeremy repaired the damage to the cattleguard for future races.

Both Jeremy and Heather are quick to give their support team the most credit. The support vehicles are staged somewhere between 80 and 100 miles for fueling, tire repair, or maintenance of any type. Many thanks were also given to Laura Butcher who does all the permitting with the Bureau of Land Management for the Nevada races that take place each year. Without these permits these races could never take place.

Driven Off-Road can be reached at Jeremy@drivenoffroad.net or by calling 775-217-3839.

FEATURES

Coalition Recognizes Community Champions

By Rachel Dahl

Churchill Community Coalition recently recognized Community Champions for their prevention efforts and support they have provided our community throughout the 2024 year. Nominated by community members for their work and dedication, awards were presented at the December Quarterly meeting. Not necessarily members of the Coalition, those recognized made a difference in Churchill County by their efforts or collaboration.

Coalition Board Member Ellen Johnson with Shannon Hooper. Photos courtesy of CCC.

Shannon Hooper is a youth advisor and has been volunteering in the community for the past fifteen years. She has formed a powwow club at the Fallon Paiute Shoshone Reservations and helped teach several people how to construct moccasins. She recently spoke at NAS Fallon about the Native American culture and spoke and sang a traditional song at a local veterans' event. She also spoke recently at the Ralph Lauren team event for Native Heritage Month. Shannon has always shared her talents and shared her culture, not demanding any payment, all while attending her college classes. She was nominated by Francine Tohannie.

Raymond Allen goes above and beyond to help support his community, family, and friends. Every Native American Heritage Month, Raymond is the storyteller and presents to all the schools in the Churchill County School District. He also does guest speaking for events with opening prayers. When the community needs volunteers



Board member Johnson with Raymond Allen.

at the after-school program and the Fallon Paiute Shoshone Tribe education department, Raymond is there helping with the youth and attending the field trips. While doing all these activities, he also has a senior who attends Churchill County High School who he actively supports as well. He has been working hard within his community, "He is the kindest person with the biggest heart." He was nominated by Lisa Bedoy.



Coalition Board President Steve Russell with Lucy Carnahan.

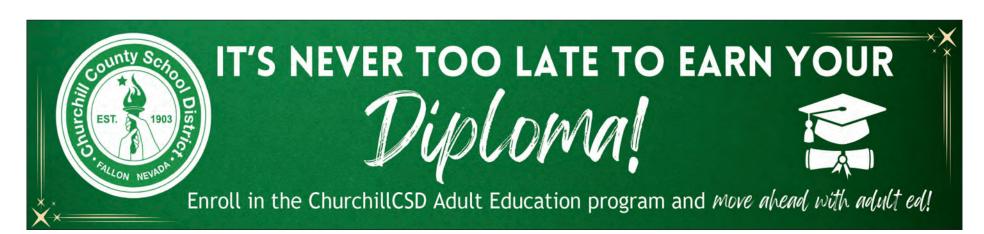
Lucy Carnahan has been the Fallon Chamber of Commerce Executive Director for the past nine years. She is an active supporter and volunteer, helping with numerous activities in Fallon and Churchill County, going above and beyond to support small business. Not only does she work tirelessly for her own organization, she is also active with events held by the city and the county. Her weekends are filled with events and attending ribbon cuttings or supporting organizations and fundraisers. "I do not think she gets enough recognition for how she supports and loves this community," said Ava Case who nominated Lucy.



Board President Russell with Wendy Bullock.

Wendy Bullock was nominated by Brenda Ingram who said, "Wendy serves as an outstanding example of commitment, responsibility, compassion, and selflessness through her professional role and her extensive volunteer work." In her professional role at Court Services, Wendy shows a combination of compassion, empathy and diligence which fosters an environment where defendants feel supported while being held accountable. She has also been an exceptional leader in youth sports, as the president and director of the Greenwave Youth Wrestling Club. She has impacted hundreds of young lives, providing not only athletic training but also the valuable benefits of participating in sports. She is dedicated to ensuring that every child, regardless of financial circumstances, has access to the club. Wendy also serves on the Churchill County School Board, volunteers at the No Hill 100 bike races, and supports the Downtown Spooktacular. "She is always willing to lend a hand wherever needed," Ingram said.

The Coalition is a non-profit organization that has been actively engaged in the prevention of alcohol, tobacco, and other drug use for over 20 years. Their website is Churchill-coalition.com.



ANNOUNCEMENTS



PETS OF THE WEEK

Willy is Available for Adoption

Meet Willy, the sweetest, most resilient lap cat you'll ever know! Willy is a handsome boy with a heart of gold. While he may have some issues with his hind legs, you'd never



know it by the way he lives his life. Willy doesn't let anything hold him back, embracing every moment with joy and curiosity.

What sets Willy apart isn't just his determination, but his incredibly loving nature. He's a true cuddle bug who adores being close to his humans. Whether he's curled up in your lap or nestled beside you on the couch, Willy will shower you with purrs and affection, reminding you just how much he cherishes your company.

His favorite activities? Long snuggle sessions, basking in sunny spots, and watching the world go by from the window. Willy is proof that a cat's spirit knows no limits, and he brings endless love and warmth to everyone he meets.

FAWG Fallon Animal Welfare Group 4629 Reno Hwy, Fallon 775-217-4745

Loise is Available for Adoption



Meet Louise, a sweet and shy 1 year old kitty who is looking for a calm home where she can take her time adjusting to her new family. She came from a hoarding situation and is still warming up to the world around her, but once she feels comfortable, Louise is full of love and will be a quiet, affectionate companion.

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

Joeanna is Available for Adoption



This week's pet is Joeanna (D-809). She is the silliest, sweetest girl. She is super submissive and looking for her forever home.

If you think she would make a good addition to your household, check her out. Visit the City of Fallon Animal Shelter at 1255 Airport Road or call 775-423-2282. Hours are Monday - Friday, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. and Saturday, 9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

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

Cattlemen's Update 2025



Cattlemens Update photo by Jack Payne.

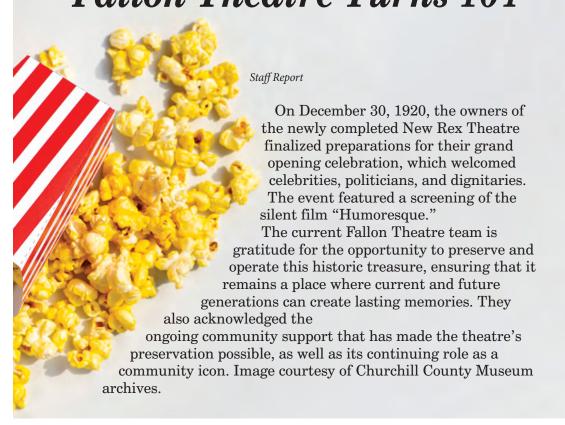
Staff Report

The University of Nevada will host the annual Cattlemen's Update in person and virtually January 13-17, 2025, in several locations across the state. The presentation will be in Fallon on Tuesday, January 14 at 5:30 p.m. at the Fallon Convention Center, with dinner provided.

For more than 40 years, the University has held updates across Nevada in January of each year to provide ranchers with current research-based information about issues that may affect the efficiency, productivity, profitability, and sustainability of their businesses and the Nevada cattle industry.

Cost of the workshop is \$20 per ranch. For additional information contact Jamie Lee at 775-426-8299 or jamielee1@unr.edu.

Fallon Theatre Turns 104



Justice Court New Four-Day Week Effective February 3

Staff Report

Fallon's New River Township
Justice Court will change its hours
effective February 3, 2025. The
court will be open Monday through
Thursday from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30
p.m., without closing for lunch.
This change will add three hours
per week of public access and at
least two hours each week for
criminal trials.

Justice Court's criminal calendar schedule is set at the request of, and to accommodate the needs of, the parties in a

criminal case, specifically defendants, attorneys, witnesses, and victims.

The new schedule removes the most under-utilized day of the work week - Friday.

Most criminal trials are held in the afternoon. The adjusted hours will add five additional afternoon trial hours per week. These extra hours are available on the weekdays most preferred by these parties.



Photo by Leanna Lehman.

OBITUARIES / ANNOUNCEMENTS



GEORGE FRANK GHIGLIA

Mar. 27, 1941 - Dec. 23, 2024

George Frank Ghiglia, born on March 27, 1941, in Los Angeles, CA, passed away December 23, 2024.

George grew up in Southern California with his parents Frank and Eleanor Ghiglia and his younger brother, Frank Ghiglia. After three years at Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo, George

married his high school sweetheart, Barbara Stevens. They began their family in Santa Barbara before moving to Reno in 1967.

In 1971, George and Barbara settled in Fallon, NV, where they purchased 50 acres and embraced the farming life. Together, they raised four children, providing them with room to breathe and deep roots in the community.

Never one to be idle, George contributed to his community in countless ways. He was an active member with the Optimist club, served on the Churchill County School Board, and held positions on the boards of several banks. George also coached youth football and baseball, owned a clothing store, developed several neighborhoods in Fallon, and pursued his passions for hunting, fishing, world travel, and riding his Harley. Above all, he loved spending time with his grandchildren.

George was preceded in death by his beloved wife of 55 years, Barbara, in 2017. He is survived by his children, Jeffrey Ghiglia; Jennifer (Paul) McFadden; James (Lori) Ghiglia; and Jessica (Jesse) Nuckolls. He was blessed with and deeply loved his 12 grandchildren and cherished his 11 great-grandchildren.



VIOLET JOYCE CASEY-MILLER

February 8, 1949 - December 26, 2024

Violet Joyce Casey-Miller, born February 8, 1949, to Michael Patrick Casey and Margaret Joyce Davis Casey in Fallon, Nevada lost her life after a battle with cancer. She was raised mostly on their river ranch in Fallon, and spent summers buckarooing in Fallon, Dixie Valley, Horse Creek, Pierce Ranch and Bench Creek on ranches owned by her parents. She graduated from Churchill County High School and from WNCC. Violet married Dennis Rechel, and had

five children together. She was a stay-at-home mom until she was 30 and went to work for Motor Supply company for 10 years before she went to work at Kennemetal in their marketing department where she worked for eight years. She then managed Country Homes until she retired.

After retiring, Violet was a substitute teacher for the school district and taught at a church school. At 50, she married Mick Miller and his 4 children. They were strong members of the Fallon Family Church and taught Sunday School for 15 years.

Violet was preceded in death by her parents, half-sister Patty Casey, stepsons John and Richie, Step-granddaughter Macie Rae, and greatgranddaughter Marley Grace. She is survived by husband, Michael G. (Mick) Miller; sons, Dennis Rechel (Kim), Jeff Rechel (Jodi), Tim Rechel; daughters, Kimi Melendy (Jesse), and Michelle Rechel (Eric) all of Fallon; stepchildren, Scot Miller (Lori), and Ashley Delgado (George) of Houston, TX, Michele Miller (Jason) of Fernley; brother, Michael A. (Mick) Casey (Claudia) of Fallon; half-brother, Marvin Casey (Edie) of Denio; half-sisters, MaryLin Casey of Portland, OR and Anita Hinchliff (Alan) of Virginia; 14 grandchildren, 11 great grandchildren, five step grandchildren, and many nieces and nephews who were so important to her.

Funeral Services will be held on Thursday, January 2, 2025, at 11:00 am at Smith Family Funeral Home, 505 Rio Vista Dr. in Fallon.

Interment will follow at the Churchill Public Cemetery.

Amodei Assigned to Serve on Natural Resources Committee

By Robert Perea

With the city of Fernley still hoping for the passage of a lands bill proposed in the U.S. House of Representative by Rep. Mark Amodei, the city welcomed news last week that Amodei was granted a waiver by House leadership to sit on the Natural Resou Committee.

The waiver allows Amodei to serve on the Natural Resources Committee as well as the House Committee on Appropriations.

"I think that's very beneficial considering how landlocked we are and as we move forward," Nick Vander Poel, the city's lobbyist, said during the Dec. meeting of the Fernley City Council.

A bill sponsored by Amodei in the U.S. House of Representatives that would give Fernley the right to purchase more than

12,000 acres of federal land within the city was passed through the Committee on Natural Resources on Nov. 20, but didn't make it into the government funding bill and must be re-introduced next year.

"I see a really good opportunity for that to go through a lot quicker under his guidance serving on that committee," Vander Poel said,

Amodei said it's imperative for Nevada to have strong representation on the Natural Resources Committee, given Nevada's wealth of natural resources and the fact that 85% of the state is federally owned.

"Securing a waiver from leadership is no easy task, especially when you are chairing a key Appropriations Subcommittee, such as Homeland Security," Amodei said. "There is no stronger position to advance Nevada's needs than serving as the Vice Chair on the

Appropriations Interior Subcommittee while also being a member of the Natural Resources Committee. I look forward to hitting the ground running regarding federal land management policy in the 119th Congress."

The House Committee on Natural Resources considers legislation about American energy production, mineral lands and mining, fisheries and wildlife, public lands, oceans, Native Americans, irrigation and reclamation.

Amodei is the only Republican member of the Nevada Congressional delegation. He served on the House Natural Resources Committee in the 112th and 113th Congress, helping pass Nevada lands bills and introducing the National Strategic and Critical Mineral Production Act. He has served for more than 10 years on the Interior Appropriations Subcommittee.



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

Monday, January 6 **Breakfast Sandwiches** Fruit

Thursday, January 9 BBQ Pork Sandwiches Celery & Carrot Sticks

Monday, January 13 Vegetable Beef Soup **Bread**

Thursday, January 16 Spaghetti & Meat Sauce Salad & Bread

All are Welcome!

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COMMUNITY

Community Survey on Art and Tourism

Staff Report

The University of Nevada Center for Economic Development has launched a Resident Sentiment Survey for the Nevada Department of Tourism and Cultural Affairs. This survey is live and available online at https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2024NVRSS and will close on January 24, 2025 at 11:45pm.

The survey has been designed to gather perspectives and opinions from Nevada residents on tourism, the arts, and culture in their community. The team at UCED is working to make sure there is strong representation from each community across the state, with a special effort to encourage rural community members to respond. Please feel free to share the link and encourage friends to respond.

The survey will take roughly ten minutes to complete and is designed to gather a wide variety of perspectives and opinions from Nevada-based residents regarding tourism, the arts, and culture in their community.

Once completed, the information will be used to help decision makers at the Department of Tourism and Cultural Affairs make decisions for where they will make financial investments. The information will help the department as well as its many partners throughout Nevada in the state's tourism and hospitality industry as they make decisions on resource allocations.

Tourism is Nevada's single largest industry sector, and includes the development of arts and culture resources, including museums, programs, and projects designed to preserve and promote the unique cultural heritage of communities across the state.

Employment Data for November Released by DETR

By Rachel Dahl

According to the Nevada Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation's (DETR) November 2024 economic report, the state's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 5.7 percent in November 2024 which was unchanged from October 2024. Seasonally adjusted estimates account for regularly seen economic patterns, with the following estimates not seasonally adjusted.

In the three Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSA), the unemployment rates were 5.9 percent in the Las Vegas area, 4.3 percent in Reno, and 4.8 percent in the Carson area in November 2024.

In Nevada's counties, the lowest unemployment rate was in White Pine County at 3.2 percent, and Nye County had the highest rate at 6.8 percent. The Churchill County unemployment rate is 4.4 percent,



with 11,432 people in the labor force and 501 people being reported as unemployed. There are 10,931 Churchill County individuals employed, which includes those who commute out of the community.

DETR data lists 612 establishments in quarter 2 of 2024, with 621 in the previous month. One year ago there were 624 establishments. Average employment in those establishments is 8,875 individuals, which is down from

last year when there were 8,977 individuals working in local establishments.

There were 91 people in November with ongoing unemployment claims, and 16 people who filed a new claim. That is up from last year when there were 64 ongoing claims, and 17 new claims filed.

Employment information for the entire state, including more data on Churchill County can be found at NevadaWorkforce.com.

University Beginning Farmer & Rancher **Certification Class to Start**

Courtesy UNR Cooperative Extension

University of Nevada, Reno Extension's Herds & Harvest Program is providing a certification program Jan. 22 - March 19 geared toward new or up-and-coming ranchers and farmers that will allow them to obtain a Nevada Beginning Farmer & Rancher Level 1 Small Acreage and Farm to Fork Certification. The classes will take place 6 – 8 p.m., Wednesdays, Jan. 22 – March 19, with additional field trips touring small-acreage farms and ranches in Washoe and Douglas counties.

The program's courses will be conducted via Zoom and will draw upon the knowledge and experience of established Nevada agriculture producers and University of Nevada, Reno experts. Participants who complete the course, attend a tour or one of the spring Nevada agriculture conferences, and complete a business plan review will receive their Level 1 Certification. Course topics include:

- Jan. 22: An overview of small-acreage and farm-to-fork production, including identifying resources, understanding jurisdictions, developing a business plan and setting goals.
- **Feb. 5:** Soil health and livestock grazing, focusing on plant needs and how to determine the best plants for a given land space. This will include an overview of how plants grow, nutrients and day length requirements, and soil basics.
- Feb. 12: Value-added programs in Nevada and where and how to market products,

including farm stands, direct market sales, sale yards, using Nevada Grown and social media. Participants will also learn how to develop a marketing plan.

• Feb. 19: Livestock production focuses on needs and requirements, including basics of livestock and poultry nutrition, feed management, reproduction and the Quality Assurance Program.

- Feb. 26: Meat quality, processing and training, including the characteristics of meat based on nutritional management and an overview of meat regulations in Nevada and the statewide meat program.
- March 5: Understanding Nevada water, focusing on the basics of water rights and water law in Nevada.
- March 12: Farm financial management in the 21st century, focusing on financially building a farm, building business skills and assets, estate planning, and balance and cash flow basics.
- March 19: Partners and funding, including an overview of opportunities and resources available to Nevada producers.
- **Field Trip** (dates to be determined): Field trips touring local farms and ranches in Washoe and Douglas counties will be available to participants, who can choose to attend either a tour or one of the Extension's Agricultural Conferences to receive certification in the course.

The cost for the program is \$60 per person, and registration can be completed online. For more information, email Staci Emm, Extension professor, or call her at



775-312-0424; or email Kaley Chapin, Extension outreach specialist, or call her at 702-467-2668.

Persons in need of special accommodations or assistance should email Paul Lessick, civil rights and compliance coordinator, or call him at 702-257-5577 at least five days prior to the scheduled event with their needs or for more information.

The Extension Herds & Harvest Program combines a series of workshops on different topics and provides educational business management and mentoring skill building to support Nevada agricultural producers. The project is supported by the Beginning Farmer and Rancher Development Program of the National Institute of Food and Agriculture.



GOVERNMENT

School Board Bids Farewell to Hyde and Evaluates Superintendent

By Rachel Dahl

At their last board meeting, Churchill County School District trustees recognized departing Trustee Matt Hyde, who was elected to the Churchill County Commission, for his dedication to the board and the students of the district over the past ten years. Hyde will take his seat on the commission on Jan. 6.

Trustee Kathryn Whitaker, who served with Hyde for ten years, said he was instrumental in steering the board's direction and focus to where it needed to be.

"The decisions he made impacted students' lives. He understands good governance," she said.

Hyde became the board president in January 2020, a role Whitaker described as, "The toughest two years a board president has ever had to serve."

"There was chaos in the surrounding communities, and we weathered a difficult storm in pretty good shape considering what was going on around us, and that had a lot to do with Matt's leadership," Whitaker said.

Trustee Julie Guerrero-Goetsch praised Hyde's involvement in youth sports and the NIAA (Nevada Interscholastic Activities Association), saying, "He has definitely been an example to the rest of us, and I appreciate his leadership and dedication."

Wendy Bullock, the newest trustee and an employee of Churchill County Court Services, said she was excited to have Hyde as part of the county team and looked forward to new changes.

Trustee Amber Getto said Hyde had been a great mentor and sounding board, offering invaluable advice.

Superintendent Derild Parsons also

recognized Hyde for his assistance in establishing his role as superintendent.

"I value the knowledge you have and the wisdom you bring to this board. You say the things that need to be said, and I look forward to working with you in your new capacity," Parsons said.

Sharla Hales, the district's attorney, added, "You have been a conveyor of wisdom and calm, a steady hand, and you leave a big hole to fill."

Board President Gregg Malkovich reflected on his time working with Hyde as both an administrator and board member.

"You always knew what to say and when to say it. Sometimes you were better at not saying a word. Your timing is perfect. You knew when to put it in perspective or calmly grab the mic and change the flow of the discussion," Malkovich said.

Hyde expressed gratitude for the recognition.

"I have been blessed to work with amazing board members. One person cannot get anything done, so everyone I've served with has had a big hand in what we've done," Hyde said. "Some people say this is a thankless job, but when you get to sit up there and watch kids graduate who you've seen grow up and you get to hand awards out like we did tonight, what more thanks can anyone want? It's a wonderful job."

Hyde also offered advice to new board members.

"I've told new board members, 'You're going to think you came in and made a great decision, but someone will be standing there pointing a stick at you. You'll never make everyone happy, but if you keep students at the center, you'll be just fine.' I've had some great mentors, and I've learned from every one of you. Thank you to the community

for putting me in this seat for ten years," he said.

In other business, Parsons recognized the transportation department during his super-intendent report.

"Last year we bussed an average of 1,287 students per day, and this year we are serving 1,424 per day. Natasha (Domes, Transportation Supervisor) has done a great job of shoring up transportation. We're serving 137 more kids, and there are no blackouts scheduled. Kudos to their hard work and creativity," Parsons said.

Trustees also approved the evaluation of Superintendent Parsons. The evaluation tool is a three-part process: Part I is based on standards and professional practices, Part II is based on local priorities of the district aligned with the strategic plan, and Part III is the final performance summary sheet.

Parsons received an overall rating of 2.99, which included a self-assessment process and supporting evidence. The process requires a discussion of the evaluation results during a regular public meeting.

Guerrero-Goetsch thanked Parsons for his effort in the self-evaluation.

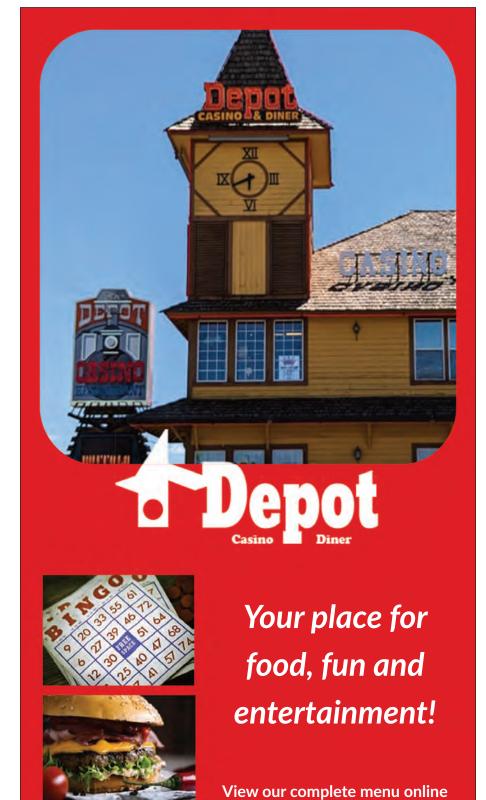
"You went above and beyond with examples and evidence. This is not an easy process; this is a really detailed evaluation tool. Thank you for your honesty and effort," she said.

Whitaker noted that she had discussed the results with Parsons.

"I fully support Derild and hope we can continue to improve as a governance team. I'm expecting more honest NEPF (Nevada Educator Performance Framework) evaluations, so I was a little more honest with this one. If I expect that, I've got to give that," Whitaker said.







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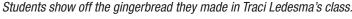
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775-423-2411

EDUCATION

CCSD Cool School News







Students in Octavia Merritt's class decorating cookies that Santa brought them.

CCHS

Last week, the staff at CCHS had a "Staff Underground" spirit week to celebrate the holiday season and the end of the first semester. Vice Principal Reema Pulsifer planned five dress-up days that were festive and fun. Monday was Unity Day where staff united in all-black attire. Tuesday was Santa Hat Day and staff came wearing Santa hats. Wednesday was Flannel Frenzy Day where staff wore some cozy plaid to school. Thursday was Anything But a Cup Day where staff members brought a unique item to drink out of that was not a cup. Friday the school held an ugly sweater contest. This was the grand finale as staff came to school wearing the the most outlandish holiday sweaters they could find. "I want to give a huge shoutout to our incredible crew for making our first Underground Staff Spirit week an absolute success. Thank you for putting up with my wild and holly-jolly ideas," Pulsifer said.

CCMS

On Friday, December 20, CCMS celebrated their students who achieved perfect attendance during the first semester with a pizza party. "We had 44 students who made it to school every single day during the first semester. We could not be more proud of this huge accomplishment and wanted to be sure they were celebrated before leaving for Winter Break," Principal Victor Schoenfeldt said. As an extra reward, all perfect attendance students were entered into a drawing for a \$25 Amazon gift card. Sixth-grade

student Emerson Weldon Word was the lucky winner. Each quarter, the reward for perfect attendance will grow bigger. In the final quarter, students who have perfect attendance will receive a reward and have the chance to win a \$100 Amazon gift card. "We want to encourage our students to keep up the great work. We are so proud of all of you for making it to school every day. Way to go," Schoenfeldt said.

NUMA

Students in Aspen Johnson's 5th-grade class held snowflake races the week before Winter Break. Students received a paper that said "slow" or "fast" and had to create a snowflake that either fell slow or fast. Students also had an opportunity to select an extreme design challenge that added another specification to their snowflake, such as, "design a 12-sided snowflake" or "cut a starshaped hole in the middle of your snowflake." Students had 20 minutes to design and cut out their snowflakes before they were called up to race them. In the fast category, Cash Craig won with his six-pointed snowflake. In the slow category, Gio Martinez won with his large and rectangular snowflake.

E.C. BEST

For the last three weeks, students in Melissa Humphrey's class have been learning how to write an informative text by researching an animal they chose from the National Geographic Kids website. Using their note taker they had to find out their animals habitat, appearance, diet, and adaptations they have in order to live in their habitat. After obtaining information on their animal students had to put the facts into a five-sentence paragraph using a topic sentence, three strong sentences, and a closing sentence. The next step was to draw a diagram of their animal and label their body parts. The finished product was a poster with their animal diagram and report. Students completed the project and practiced their speaking standards by presenting their animals to their classmates.

LAHONTAN

Kindergarten students in Traci Ledesma's class enjoyed hearing several versions of the gingerbread man story. The gingerbread man even visited their classroom each morning. "The kids were so excited to come in, find his hiding spot, and see if the gingerbread man had left a treat or tricked them," Lesdema said. To end the gingerbread unit each student created their own giant gingerbread boy or girl.

NORTHSIDE EARLY LEARNING CENTER

Before Winter Break Octavia Merritt's class had a visit from Santa Claus and got to practice their cookie decorating skills by decorating cookies he brought for the students. "This was such a fun day for the class. They really enjoyed seeing Santa and each of them got to tell him what they wanted for Christmas and got peppermint candy from him," Merritt said.



Left to right, VFW Patriot's Pen Winners Zoey Lougheed, Gwen Ludlow and Ander Fisher.

LCA Students Shine in Patriot's Pen Essay Contest

Logos Christian Academy is thrilled to celebrate the achievements of three remarkable students who excelled in this year's VFW Patriot's Pen essay contest. The annual competition encourages students across the country to reflect on America's history and share their unique perspectives on a chosen theme. This year's topic, "My Voice in America's Democracy," inspired thoughtful and creative essays from our students.

Eighth-grader Zoey Lougheed took home 1st place with her essay titled "Freedom of Speech." In her essay, Zoey emphasized the importance of the First Amendment, writing, "Protecting our First Amendment is crucial because it allows for information and the sharing of ideas, which is the foundation of critical thinking and individual liberty."

Zoey will now go on to the State Finals. Seventh-grader Ander Fisher earned 2nd place with his essay, "Why We Need Guns." Ander outlined three key reasons why he believes gun rights are essential, stating, "First, the Second Amendment was promised to us by our founding fathers. Second, many American citizens would not be able to protect themselves. Third, the many people who depend on hunting will slowly perish."

Sixth-grader Gwen Ludlow placed 4th with her essay, "YouTube's Content Problems." Gwen tackled the issue of inappropriate content on the platform, explaining, "YouTube needs restrictions against what is appropriate, profile pictures included."

Logos Christian Academy is so proud of Zoey, Ander, and Gwen for their hard work and for using their voices to address important issues. Their accomplishments are a testament to their talent, passion, and dedication. Congratulations to these young leaders for making us all proud!

SPORTS

Boys Basketball

Photos and story by John Baker

The boys basketball team spent their Winter Break at Sparks High School playing in the Nelson Electric Rail City Classic. They opened the tournament against the Reed Raiders.

The Raiders came out strong and had the halftime lead of 19 - 24. The Greenwave fought back in the third quarter and that ended with everyone knotted at 36 points. The fourth quarter went back and forth, and Reed had the upper hand late into the game. Churchill kept fighting back and with two seconds left, captain and senior Trevor Hyde was fouled while putting up the game-tying shot. Trevor completed the three-point opportunity by making the free throw to put the Greenwave up 55 - 54. Reed was unable to score so Churchill opened the tournament with a win.

During the final round of pool play, the Greenwave took on the Lakers of Pyramid Lake and easily won 67 - 48.

For the seeding round, Churchill took on Dayton and lost putting them in the 3-4 game where they would face Lowry. Unfortunately, it seems the luck ran out for the Greenwave as they lost to the Buckaroos 63 - 66 and took fourth place for the tournament.



Calin Anderson.



Wyatt Peek.



Trevor Hyde shooting game winning freethrow.



Photo courtesy Greenwave Wrestling.

Greenwave Wrestling

Congratulations to Carson Melendy on a 5th place finish at the Sierra Nevada Classic. There were 90 teams at this tournament, held in Reno, this year. With coaches Dan Shaw and Trevor deBraga.

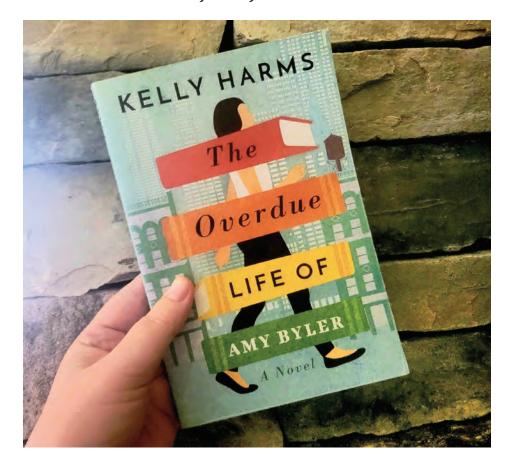


COLUMNS

Allison's Book Report

"The Overdue Life of Amy Byler"

by Kelly Harms



My little library at the top of the stairs is busting at the seams with books I haven't read yet. I'm always hoping to chip away at my to-beread list, but that's the thing about being an avid reader – the new books just keep coming and the list never gets any shorter, no matter how much we read. I always joke that reading books and acquiring books is two different hobbies, and I happen to excel at both. The one thing that never loses is luster for me is books about book people. I never get tired of reading about readers, authors, libraries, publishing houses, and anything else that falls into the bookish realm! The tagline on the back of this week's book, The Overdue Life of Amy Byler by Kelly Harms, is, "Life is like a book: to get to the good stuff, you have to turn the page" – and I promise that it will have you doing just that.

Amy Byler is an overworked and underappreciated single mom, and she needs a break. When the husband who abandoned her shows up again, guilt-ridden and offering to take care of their children all summer, Amy accepts his offer. She decides that a change of scenery might help her get out of this funk, and v she leaves her home in rural Pennsylvania for the exciting city Life of New York City. Amy is usually grounded and mild mannered, but she let's her hair down in the city that never sleeps. She discovers a life in the city filled with culture and sophistication. With a little bit of encouragement from her friends, Amy even ventures out on a few blind dates. When her interest is peaked by one man in particular, she risks completely losing herself in her attraction to him and the glow of her new life. As summer comes to an end and Amy is faced with an impossible decision: to stay in this exciting new chapter of her life, or return to the life she left behind. Before she can choose, a crisis forces the two worlds together, and Amy must stare down a future where she could lose both sides of herself, and every dream she's ever nurtured, in the beat of a heart.

The Overdue Life of Amy Byler is a laugh-out-loud funny love letter to moms everywhere – especially single moms. I acquired my copy of The Overdue Life of Amy Byler a while back at a used bookstore, and the person who had it before me had actually made annotations throughout the book. The note on the inside cover that reads, "Humor of absurdity, like Seinfeld – also kinda Irma Bombeck-ish" and I honestly couldn't have said it better myself.

That's all I have for this week, readers – don't forget to pop over to my Instagram @allison.the.reader and let's talk about books together!

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.

Movies & More January 3 & 4

Happy New Year! We hope everyone had a safe and enjoyable Christmas season and as we look ahead, we wish you all a blessed and prosperous start to the new year, with new opportunities, growth, and much happiness in the year to come. May it be a time of peace, success, and fulfillment for all. Here at the theatre, we're welcoming 2025 with a couple of legendary nostalgic adventures.

On both Friday and Saturday at 6 p.m., and in honor of the new film adaptation of Wicked, we'll be showing the original 1939 musical, The Wizard of Oz, starring Judy Garland. Young Dorothy Gale and her dog Toto are swept away by a tornado from their Kansas farm to the magical Land of Oz and embark on a quest with three new friends to see the Wizard, who can return her to her home and fulfill the others' wishes. This movie is rated G and has a runtime of 1 hour and 42 minutes.



At 7 p.m. on both Friday and Saturday, we have the 2005 Joss Whedon space Western adventure, Serenity, rated PG-13. This film is a sequel to the much acclaimed but short-lived TV series, Firefly, from 2002. The franchise is set in the year 2517 and follows the adventures of the renegade crew of Serenity, a "Firefly-class" spaceship, as they try to evade an assassin sent to recapture the telepath, River Tam. The Firefly series is often humorously said to create a lifetime of withdrawal as its one brief 14-episode season and single film leave fans yearning for more stories from the universe. This movie is celebrating its 20th anniversary in 2025 and has a runtime of 1 hour and 59 minutes.

Coming up next weekend we'll have Sweet Decay on stage. The Reno-based dark folk duo will be performing on Friday the 10th at 7 p.m. with a \$10 admission. Their music combines gothic country with a touch of spice, and we can't wait to welcome them to Fallon.

In addition to our free movies and fun events, we also offer our beautifully refurbished marquee for special event messages. If you would like to book a Marquee Message or reserve an auditorium for a party, please leave us a message at 775-423-6210 or email us at thefallontheatre@gmail.com.

Crossword

By Peanut

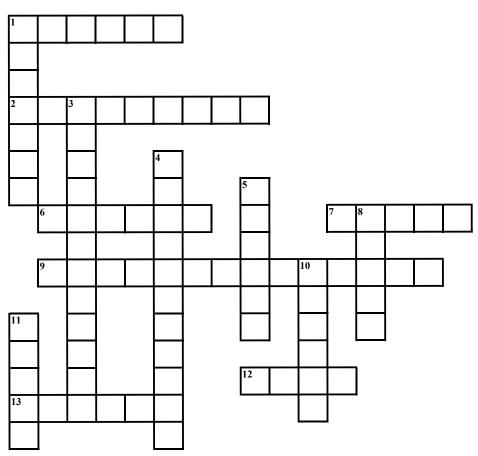
Across

- 1. Juice
- 2. Green
- 6. Stalk
- 7. Distilled beverage
- 9. Sauce
- 12. Citrus
- 13. Stuffed

Down

- 1. Hot pepper sauce
- 3. Sweet pepper
- 4. Spicy
- 5. Blue
- 8. Pickled
- 10. Crustacean
- 11. Pigmeat





[Crossword answers on page 13]

Kelli Kelly, Slinger of Produce.

Slurper of Dumplings.

Person of the Bean.

What's Cooking in Kelli's Kitchen

By Kelli Kelly



Whenever I sit down to write a column, I send a message to the future. Most of the time, I write to a future self that is only four days away-today, I am projecting a message into a new year. What is time if not a cycle (wheels, clocks, circles) constantly moving forward yet returning to familiar moments from the past? New Year's is perhaps the most poignant of these hallmarks-a moment to reflect on the past and cast a hopeful eye toward the future.

For me, 2024 was a year of ritual and change. I started a new job that enables me to have a statewide impact in building our Nevada food system, compensating for that effort in a way that makes me feel validated. I stepped away from roles where I was no longer effective, stepped into new places where I was welcomed, and directed my energy to where I found resonance. I read 77 books and wrote 50 columns—a weekly practice that kept me feeling grounded. I leaned into community-built connections with friends and "found family." My top priorities in 2025 include growth & personal development (grad school), balance (work, life, school, advocacy), and cheese. I want to eat more cheese.

I hope you take some time to reflect on the past year (What were the things that brought you joy? What lessons did you learn? What made you the most proud?) and to set your intentions for the next wheel (of time and of cheese).

There are many food traditions associated with the New Year. There are special desserts, noodles (long life), pork (abundance & good luck), field peas (coins), and greens (money). While the particulars differ depending on location and culture, the theme is the samefood and drink as a ritual to set intentions for the New Year.

Considering my status as a "Person of the Bean," you might be surprised to learn that I was slow to cultivate a love for field peas. They were not a favorite and I struggled every year to find a tasty use for the bag of "Super Lucky Black-eyed Peas" that arrives in every December Rancho Gordo Bean Club Box. I tried Hoppin'

John (black-eyed peas & rice) and Black-eyed Peas with Collard Greens-but neither got me hooked. Frankly, the black-eyed peas took a backseat to smokey bacon or pork belly, and I was more likely than not to substitute some other ingredient from my bean stash. Then came Marcus Samuelsson, an Ethiopian-born Swedish American chef, with the dish that changed my perspective on BEP and now I can eat my way to prosperity with the best of them!

Black-Eyed Peas with Coconut Milk

Adapted from Marcus Samuelsson by KDub

Ingredients:

Dried black-eyed peas 1 lb. Kosher salt Unsalted butter 4 tbsp. Large red onion, chopped

1 1/2 tbsp. Fresh ginger, minced Garlic cloves, minced 3 1 Habanero chili, seeded and minced

1/2 tsp.Cumin 1/2 tsp. Coriander 1/4 tsp.Cardamom

Dash Fenugreek (optional) Dash Nutmeg 1/2 tsp.Cinnamon 1 tbsp. Smoked paprika

Mild chili powder 1 tbsp. 1 tsp. Ground turmeric 1 can Peeled and diced tomatoes

1 can Coconut milk

Chicken stock or low-sodium broth 1 cup

1/3 cup Chopped cilantro 2 Scallions, thinly sliced



- 1. In a large saucepan, cover the peas with water and bring to a boil. Simmer over moderately low heat until tender, about 1 hour. Add a generous pinch of salt and let stand for 5 minutes, then drain well.
- 2. Meanwhile, in a large saucepan, melt the butter. Add the onion, ginger, garlic, and chili and cook over moderate heat, stirring occasionally, until softened and just starting to brown, about 10 minutes. Add the dry spices and cook, stirring, until fragrant, about 2 minutes. Add the tomatoes and cook, stirring, until softened, about 5 minutes. Stir in the coconut milk and stock and bring to a boil. Simmer over moderately low heat, stirring occasionally, until the tomatoes break down and the sauce is thickened, about 20 minutes.
- 3. Add the peas to the sauce and cook over moderately low heat, stirring, until the peas are lightly coated, about 10 minutes. Fold in the cilantro and scallions and serve.

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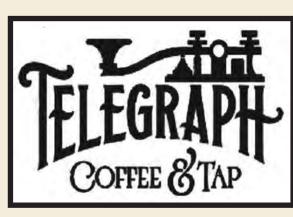


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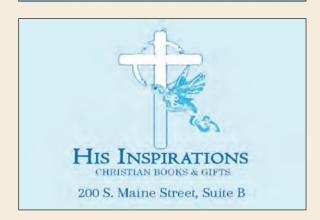




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LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING PROPOSED WATER FEE CHANGES

Notice is hereby given that the Lovelock Meadows Water District will hold a public hearing on the 13th day of January, 2025 at 6:15 pm during their regular meeting at the City Hall, 400 14th Street, Lovelock, Pershing County, Nevada.

The purpose of said hearing is to receive any and all public input to the proposed 3% rate increases for the commodity/overage fee and the non-potable/construction water fees.

Fee	Current Rate	Proposed Rate
Commodity/Overage Fee	\$3.23/1,000 gallons	\$3.33/1,000 gallons
Well 6 Water	\$5.67/1,000 gallons	\$5.84/1,000 gallons
Hydrant Water	\$6.80/1,000 gallons	\$7.00/1,000 gallons

All interested persons are invited to attend in order to express their views regarding these proposed changes and/or rate increases.

Published in

The Fallon Post and The Pershing Post
December 27, 2024, January 3 and 10, 2025
Ad #6275

MEETINGS

January 6 – 10, 2025

Fallon City Council Meeting Tuesday, January 7 at 9 a.m. City Hall Council Chambers 55 W. Williams Ave.

> County Meetings 155 N. Taylor St.

Board of County Commissioners Monday, Jan. 6 at 8:15 a.m. Commission Chambers

Highway Commission Monday, Jan. 6 at 1:15 p.m., Commission Chambers

> CC Communications Monday, Jan. 6 Canceled

Parks & Recreation Tuesday, Jan. 7 at 7 p.m.

Planning Commission Wednesday, Jan. 8, at 6 p.m. Commission Chambers





Dec. 9, 2024 121,535 acre feet

Edison Electric

Edward Jones

Family Dentist

Frontier Liquor

Fox Peak

Fallon Livestock

Family Pet Connection

Galdarisi Heating and Air

Dec. 9, 2023 208,684 acre feet Dec. 9, 2022 22.793 acre feet

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

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a public hearing will be held in the Churchill County Administrative Complex, 155 North Taylor Street, County Commission Chambers, Fallon, Nevada, at approximately 1:15 PM on Wednesday, January 15, 2025, on the proposed Ordinance:

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

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

If you cannot attend the meeting, written comments may be submitted to the Clerk/Treasurer's Office, 155 N Taylor St, Suite 110, Fallon, NV 89406, before 4:00 p.m. on January 14, 2025. A copy of the ordinance is on file and available for public inspection at the Churchill County Clerk/Treasurer's Office. A scanned copy of the ordinance will be posted on January 9, 2025 with the Agenda Packet on the county's website at https://www.churchillcountynv.gov/10 81/Agendas-Minutes.

Dated: January 3, 2025. Pamela D. Moore Deputy Clerk to the Board

Published in The Fallon Post January 3, 2025 Ad #6278



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CROSSWORD ANSWERS

Crossword found on page 10

ASPARAGUS
BACON
CELERY
CHEESE
HORSERADISH
LIME

OLIVES

ONION
PEPPERONCINI
SHRIMP
TABASCO
TOMATO
VODKA
WORCESTERSHIRE





Jerry's Restaurant

Mackedon Law

Mane Attraction

Momma's Meats

My Gypsy Soul

Nugget Maine Office

Museum

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