

THE FALLON POST



KEEPING YOU POSTED ON LOCAL NEWS

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\$1.00 | The Week of January 10, 2025



Commissioner Eric Blakey.



Judge Tom Stockard administers the oath of office to Commissioner Matt Hyde.



Judge Ben Trotter.

Churchill County Elected Officials Take Office

Staff Report

The swearing in ceremony for newly elected officials for Churchill County took place on January 6, at the County Commission meeting.



Trustee Celestia Blakey.



Trustee Gregg Malkovich.



Trustee Kathryn Whitaker.

Taking their oath of office were Matt Hyde, Commission District 1; Eric Blakey, Commission District 3; Judge Ben Trotter, Justice of the Peace New River Justice Court; Churchill County School District Board of Trustees, Wendy Bullock, Gregg Malkovich, Kathryn Whitaker, and Celeste Blakey; Mosquito, Weed, & Vector Abatement District, Marion Jonte and David Brown.



Trustee Wendy Bullock.



Board Member David Brown.



Board Member Marion Jonte.

TCID Opens Canal to Boost Lahontan Storage Levels

By Robert Perea

With the level of water stored in Lahontan Reservoir barely a little more than half of the level from a year ago, the Truckee-Carson Irrigation District began releasing water into the Truckee Canal on January 1.

TCID announced it was turning on water into the canal at 7 a.m. Jan. 1 to help supplement the reservoir until snow levels in the Carson watershed increase. With Lahontan Reservoir holding just over half the water it did a year ago, the Truckee-Carson Irrigation District began releasing water into the Truckee Canal on January 1.

The canal will be unchecked, meaning all gates in the check structures will be fully open. With the gates unchecked, water in the canal will be flowing at faster rates compared to checked operations during the irrigation season, and TCID Director Davy Stix advised that everyone should be careful near the canal, especially around the lined section.



Truckee Canal after lining project.

[Canal continued on page 2]



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FROM THE PUBLISHER

Captain's Log

Stardate 58,000.0



"Follow the rainbow," they said. There'll be gold, they said... " Even the rainbow knows where the money should be. Photo by the captain.

By Rachel Dahl

I remember the very first time I ever wrote a Captain's Log. It was November 6, 2020, and I needed to fill one last spot before we printed our very own, first copy of *The Fallon Post*. We thought it would be fun to document what it was to produce and build a local, community paper and I wrote something about the overwhelm and the gratitude.

Every week I feel the same — complete overload and deep gratitude.

We have the craziest little batch of people all working together from here on Maine Street, out on Allen Road, over off Stillwater, out in Fernley, up in Lovelock, down in Phoenix, and our Wendy who runs some serious interference for us in Las Vegas at the printer. She takes care of all our scheduling of the three papers. Deadlines on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays. She runs interference for us over the mailing lists, and she watches our invoices with something nearing magic assisting in the balancing act of getting all those paid.

Sometimes she goes on vacation and invoices will get charged to our card in rapid succession. When she returns she hollers at whoever the responsible party is, explaining, "Don't you understand what these people are trying to do??? They're up there trying to squeeze every nickel until the buffalo farts and you just run their card Willy-Nilly."

I certainly don't mean to be lacking in manners, it was a direct quote. And when she explained it over the phone, apologizing for making my plate spinning more difficult, I'm pretty sure I snorted orange juice out my nose all over my keyboard. Never had I heard such an accurate description of how we pull this off every week.

There never will be an accurate way of thanking all the people who help us work this magic — or thanking all of you who support us and make this possible. But we will continue to make our feeble efforts. We appreciate it all so much.

So while we walk our tightrope, spin the plates, keep the proverbial balls in the air, we'll always still be right here...

...Keeping you Posted.

— *Rach*

[Canal continued from page 1]

Even though this is typically the off-season for irrigation, Fernley Mayor Neal McIntyre was happy seeing water flowing through the canal.

"Anytime there's water in that canal I'm pretty happy about it because it does help replenish our aquifer," he said.

Many Fernley residents, particularly those with private wells near the canal, are still feeling the effects of water being shut off for a year in 2023 while TCID and the Bureau of Reclamation constructed a concrete lining on a portion of the canal. Once the construction was completed, the canal was reopened for part of the irrigation season last year, but was closed at the end of the irrigation season.

During the time the canal was dry, many private well owners along the canal saw the level of water in their wells drop significantly.

"Multiple residents along the canal had to redrill their wells," McIntyre said. "A lot of those wells were drilled years ago and were only 80 feet deep, and when the canal was

shut off, it cost them \$20,000 to \$25,000 to have the wells redrilled around 300 feet."

In addition, water rights holders who irrigate using canal water saw pastures go fallow and trees and other vegetation die.

McIntyre said the city did see a slight drop in its well levels, but not enough to cause any harm. But he said it's too soon to say whether water flowing through the canal this summer, and again now, is enough to raise the groundwater level.

"It's going to take a couple of years to figure out if the aquifer is going to replenish," McIntyre said. "It will be a while to have any data to show what the effects are."

Meanwhile, he hopes there won't be any other interruptions in the normal operations of the canal.

"That's definitely our hopes, unless BOR comes up with a whole lot of money to do any more sections," he said.

FEATURES

Rough and Tough Bulls Give Cowboys a Wild Ride on New Year's Eve

By Leanna Lehman with photos courtesy of Rafter 3C.

For the packed house at Rafter 3C Arena on New Year's Eve, fun and adrenaline were in full supply at the Roughy Top Gun Invitational Bull Riding. Brought to life by Nevada native and retired National Finals Rodeo bull riding qualifier Chad Denton, the professional Xtreme Bulls competition was a rough-and-tumble showdown where the bulls fared better than most of the cowboys. That didn't dampen the audience's excitement—or the tenacity of some of the best bull riders in the world.

This year marked Denton's third Top Gun bull riding event and his first as a Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association (PRCA) production. "We were not a professional event before, but we had professional bull riders, of course," explained Denton. "The money just didn't count toward the NFR." Denton is thrilled that this year's bull riding was a fully sanctioned PRCA Xtreme Bulls, and the points on qualified rides will help riders make their way to the National Finals Rodeo in Las Vegas. The event featured 35 competitors, with the top eight advancing to the final round. However, with the bulls outmatching most of the riders, only seven cowboys made qualifying rides.

If the cowboys were looking for some rank bulls to test their mettle, they got their wish. PRCA stock contractors Legacy Pro Rodeo, Western Rodeos, and Four Star Rodeo brought top-notch stock, dismounting several riders in the first few seconds while a few just missed the whistle.

Luck wasn't on the side of T.J. Gray, 23, Fallon resident and the world's top-ranked bull rider heading into the NFR last December. Gray, who finished the 2024 season with \$244,844 in earnings,



made an eight-second ride on his first bull but couldn't cover his second in the final go-round.

Gray was disappointed in his score, saying that while his first bull didn't perform as he had hoped, "I could have done better." Despite his 70-point ride, the points earned will help keep him on track for the 2025 NFR. With an entire season ahead of him, Gray will undoubtedly make his way to Las Vegas again this year.

Gray and a few others were on hand to help aspiring youth bull riders for the bull riding clinic held in conjunction with the event on December 28. Gray said it took him a bit to get in the groove, but he enjoyed helping young riders learn the fundamentals and develop their skills. He noted that Fallon's Rostin Snow, who won the junior bull riding world championship in December, showed great promise and could be on his way to becoming a professional bull rider.

Gray wasn't the only Fallon cowboy in the arena on New Year's Eve. Colten Fritzlan turned in a 79.5-point ride in the first round, earning a fourth-place slot. Like Gray and the rest of the riders on the roster, Fritzlan didn't cover his final-round bull.

In the first round, Scott Wells made 83.5 points on Legacy Pro Rodeo's Don Juan, earning him the No. 1 slot. Wade Tuni scored 81 for No. 2, Scottie Knapp came No. 3 with an 80-point ride, Colten Fritzlan scored 79.5 for No. 4, Jate Frost ranked No. 5 with 78 points, Dalton Rudman came in No. 6 with 74 points, and T.J. Gray ranked No. 7 with 70 points.


It wasn't just the bulls and cowboys making the night memorable. Rodeo announcer Garrison Allen kept the action moving, while rodeo clown and barrelman Tate Rhoads had the crowd in fits of laughter.

Troy's Double Shot Bar provided drinks and VIP catering, with concessions from The Grid. After the dust settled, award-winning country artist Chad Bushnell took the stage, kicking off a night of music and dancing.

The event was made possible by sponsors including Roughy (the rough stock branch of Hooley action sports and western wear), the City of Fallon—instrumental in helping the event achieve PRCA-sanctioned status—The Grid, Boot Barn, A&K Earthmovers, Peek Construction, Cheek Construction, Hoof Beats Corrals, Hot Wire Electric, Les Schwab, Tedford Tire, and many more.


For those who spent their New Year's Eve at Rafter 3C, it wasn't just about the scores—it was about the ride. Whether they hit the dirt or the scoreboard, the cowboys put on a show proving why bullriding is one of the most dangerous sports on earth. As the arena lights dimmed and the last notes of music drifted into the night, one thing was clear—Fallon rang in 2025 the cowboy way, with rank bulls, tough rides, and a whole lot of heart.





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ANNOUNCEMENTS



PETS OF THE WEEK

FAWG – Cat O’ the Week

Meet Big Gato, the gentle giant with a heart as big as his name! After six wonderful years of love and companionship, Big Gato recently lost his human and is now looking for a new home to share his cuddles and affection.



At first glance, his size and intense face might seem intimidating, but don’t let that fool you—Big Gato is all about love, snuggles, and lap time. However, he’s carrying a little extra fluff these days and could use a dedicated human to help him get back in shape with a healthy diet and some fun exercise.

If you’re ready to welcome this sweet, oversized lovebug into your life, Big Gato promises to fill your home with purrs and warmth. Will you be his next best friend?

FAWG Fallon Animal Welfare Group
 4629 Reno Hwy, Fallon
 775-217-4745
 For barn cats call Pat 775-217-7248

Maggie is Available for Adoption



Maggie is a playful, happy three-year-old Retriever mix with a heart full of energy and love. She loves to stay active and would thrive in an active household that can keep up with her

playful spirit. Whether it’s fetching a ball, splashing around in the water, or learning new tricks, Maggie is always ready for some fun! While Maggie is great with people and select dogs, she’s not a fan of cats or chickens, so a home without them would be ideal. Maggie is currently in training and eager to find her forever family.

Let’s take the opportunity to thank the amazing staff and board members who come in everyday to ensure the animals are fed, watered and loved. As well as the wonderful NAPS Top Fun School Age Care, who created toys for both our cats and dogs.

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

Cash is Available for Adoption



This is Cash (D-6). The City of Fallon Animal Shelter staff was told he is a 2-year-old lab mix. He is an affectionate boy who gets along with everyone!

If you think he would make a good addition to your household, come check Cash out. Visit the City of Fallon Animal Shelter 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

Movies & More at the Historical Fallon Theatre
 January 17 & 18

By Kelli Perez

Here’s to hoping that the first week of the new year has been kind to everyone! Was your New Year’s resolution to catch more live music? If not, it should’ve been, and we have just the thing to help you meet and keep that resolution this weekend.

Kicking off both Friday and Saturday evenings at 6 p.m., we’re showing the 2010 animated adventure that established Gen Z’s obsession with little yellow minions, *Despicable Me*, rated PG. Gru, a criminal mastermind, adopts three orphans as pawns to carry out the biggest heist in history. His life takes an unexpected turn when the little girls see the evildoer as their potential father. This film has a runtime of 1 hour and 35 minutes.

On Friday evening at 7 p.m., we’re welcoming the Reno-based dark folk duo, *Sweet Decay*. They describe their music as gothic country with a touch of spice, and the heart of their sound is soulful, with strong lyrics of resilience, vulnerability, and humor. We’re excited to have them on our historic stage for the first time ever—don’t miss them! Admission is \$10.

On Saturday night at 7 p.m., we’re showing our annual homage to the epic winter of 1948-1949, when eighteen snowstorms in 27 days hit the area of Eastern Nevada, threatening the livestock industry. Hay was loaded into C-82 planes in Fallon and Minden, which was then flown to Ely and the surrounding areas to drop feed on stranded cattle and sheep. The docudrama of *Operation Haylift* was released in 1950 and has a runtime of 1 hour and 13 minutes. Join us for this traditional, epic rural Nevada tale.

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.

Sweet Decay

Reno Based Dark Folk Duo

2 hours of All Original Music at the Historic Fallon Theatre

Coming 10th of January 7pm

Visit: sweetdecaymusic.com for more details

December Marriages

- 12/2/2024 Michael Bryson Johnson, 30 to Amethyst Lynn Hennon, 29, both of Fallon
- 12/2/2024 Nicholas Angelo Stevens, 27 to Bridget Maura Dooley, 25, both of Fallon
- 12/3/2024 Connor Scott Nelson, 26, to Aurora Lena Stamps, 23, both of Fallon
- 12/11/2024 Noah James Heintz, 29, to Maisy Sienna Simon, 25, both of Fallon
- 12/10/2024 Thomas Shelton Paul, 46, to Aubrey Marie Giovanetti, 43, both of Fallon
- 12/16/2024 Lordrianna Savannah Manning, 19, of Fallon to Isiah Matthew Moccio, 19, of Anchorage, AK
- 12/19/2024 Brent Alan Perazzo, 31, to Alice Mae Horton, 29, both of Fallon
- 12/19/2024 Jacob Edwin Eugene Webber, 24, to Vivian Marie Jusino, 26, both of Fallon
- 12/20/2024 Caitlyn Rose Turner, 33, to Joshua Luke Perrodin, 44, both of Fallon
- 12/20/2024 Austin John Mackintosh, 33, to Cassandra Lee Ann Huber, 35, both of Fernley
- 12/23/2024 Nesly Joselyn Guadalupe Robles, 24 to Francisco Cazares Madrigal, 24, both of Fernley
- 12/23/2024 Brooke Ellen Loper, 32, to Tyler James Christopher Williams, 32, both of Fallon
- 12/26/2024 Joshua Alexander Bush, 41, to Emiley Elena Sibilia, 33, both of Fernley
- 12/27/2024 Savannah Danielle Jaramillo, 30, to Chance Douglas Malloy, 31, both of Fallon
- 12/27/2024 Arthur Clay Andregg, 75, to Sharon Sue Bradley, 77, both of Fallon
- 12/31/2024 Tylen Deondre Potts, 28, to Briawna Nicole Kelly, 26, both of Fernley
- 12/31/2024 Kenneth Del Gehrke, 39, to Emily Nichole Weber, 30, both of Fallon
- 12/31/2024 Charles Dean Bagley, 45, to Janet Bautista Bulosan, 48, both of Fallon

OBITUARIES

JACK ELMER BARNES

May 28, 1931 – Dec. 30, 2024



Jack Elmer Barnes passed away peacefully at home with his loving wife, Joyce, at his side on December 30, 2024. Jack was born to Samuel and Bernice (Norwood) Barnes on May 28, 1931, in Washington, Kansas. Shortly after his sister,

Patricia, was born in 1933, the Barnes family moved to Oakdale, California, where Jack's younger brother, Denny, was born in 1939. Jack went on to attend schools in the area and graduated from Oakdale High in 1949. Jack married his first wife and started a family in 1951. Jack and his family of four children, Don, Larry, Shellie, and Jackie, moved to Nevada in the early 1960's, eventually settling in Fallon in 1970. Jack met and married the love of his life, Joyce, in 1973 and adopted Joyce's young daughter, Bridgette, and later, her children, Carl and Zoie. Jack and Joyce have called Fallon home for the entirety of their 51-year marriage.

Jack became employed at Kennametal Inc. in 1972 and retired in 1993, to farm full time, while Joyce continued to teach English at the high school, until she retired in 2007.

Jack always had a passion for his family, home, and community. A close second to family was the passion for his cattle. Starting early in life, Jack had a keen interest in the American Milking Shorthorn breed. He purchased his first purebred heifer at the age of 13 at a California breeder's sale. He owned a small herd of milk cows during his high school years and sold milk to cover his expenses, including a car. He was active in the Future Farmers of America and earned the prestigious American Farmer award in 1950. He grew and developed his herd, showing at county fairs, as well as at the California State Fair, prior to moving to Nevada. Jack maintained his herd of Milking Shorthorns throughout his life – reluctantly, selling his last prized bull earlier last year. During his career with Milking Shorthorns, Jack served on the Association Board of Directors and was recognized as National Breeder of the Year in 2015.

Jack was a member of St. John's Lutheran Church. He enjoyed attending family reunions, class reunions, and family vacations to Yachats, Oregon, where he loved to walk the beach and dine at local seafood restaurants. Jack also had a passion for general aviation, and owned a Cessna 172 for several years, and developed, Fallon Southwest Airpark, on his property on Solias Road. He and Joyce were season ticket holders for the 49ers and really enjoyed getting away to San Francisco for games and restaurant visits. He always appreciated a good joke or story and loved retelling them to family and friends. Near the end, Jack remarked that he enjoyed a great ride during his life and felt blessed. He will be greatly missed by all his family and friends.

Jack is survived by his wife, Joyce; sister-in-law, Esther Barnes; children Don (Chris) Barnes, Larry (Annette) Barnes, Shellie (Roy) Walker, Jackie (Kevin) Baily, Carl (Megan) Barnes, and Zoie Barnes; six grandchildren, 13 great-grandchildren, 1 great-great-grandchild, and numerous nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents, his sister, Patricia Titchenal, brother, Denny Barnes, and daughter Bridgette Barnes.

A Celebration of Life will be arranged at a later date this coming summer. In lieu of flowers, the family invites you to make a donation in memory of Jack to St. John's Lutheran Church at 1170 S. Taylor St. Fallon, NV 89406.

ROBERT A. PARRISH

November 19, 1940 – Dec. 28, 2024

Robert A. Parrish was born on November 19, 1940. He was raised in Fallon, Nevada and resided there most of his life.

After high school, he was drafted into the army where he worked as a radar control man in Germany. Following service to his country, Robert worked as a surveyor for NDOT until his retirement.

Fishing, hunting, and fast cars were his passions. As a very talented craftsman and mechanic, he was always tinkering on projects, even building his own home. Robert was a strong believer in God and attended two church services every Sunday. Later in life, he met and married his love, Patty, and gained three children, Marvin, Laura, and Mike. Robert was a wonderful father and was very involved in their lives. They



had many adventures together; camping, fishing, hunting, and riding quads.

After a short illness Robert, surrounded by family, went home to be with Jesus his savior on December 28, 2024.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Fred and Thelma Parrish, twin sister Barbara, and wife, Patty. Robert is survived by three children: Marvin Reynolds, Laura Davis, and Mike Cate; his brother and sister-in-law, Jim and Marsha Parrish; along with numerous nieces, nephews, and cousins; Scott, Mitch, Shelly, Frank, and many other great-nephews, nieces, and cousins.

Robert's life will be honored on January 18, 2025, at 10 a.m. at New Beginnings Church in Fallon, Nevada. All are welcome to attend.

In lieu of flowers please consider a donation to: Springs of Redemption Recovery Ranch, Box 5971, Fallon, Nevada 89407.

RAMONA RAE NANCE

August 3, 1956 – December 15, 2024



Ramona Rae Nance, loving mother, sister, Gramma, Great Gramma and friend, passed on December 15, 2024, in her home.

Ramona was born on August 03, 1956, in Sacramento, California. She lived out her youth in Angels Camp, California, eventually graduating from Brett Hart High School. She initially moved to Fallon in 1986 while temporarily moving back to Angels Camp for a few years she permanently resided in Fallon in 1993. While living in Fallon she spent most of her working life as a security guard for the Naval Air Station.

Ramona was a loving and hard-working mother of three daughters, Shyanna Nance-Wehe, Sarah Nance, and Sharlena Kurpiewski. She served as a pillar of strength and resilience and moved through the obstacles in her life with fluidity. Her

empathy was boundless, often finding herself drawn to the endless (and often unsettling) curiosities of the world. She was a collector of many oddities and held a deep fondness for all things strange and unusual.

She loved the outdoors and would always bring a little bit of that outdoors back indoors with her every time she came home. She will be lovingly remembered for her wild personality and her heart that could never be caged. She loved family time, music Friday's, sitting outside listening to the crackling of her bonfires, making memories with her grandbabies, going to Indian Lakes to camp or just take the kids driving.

She is joined in rest by her mother, Darlene Faull and her father, Vent Waterberry Fiscus II.

She is survived by her three daughters as well as her sister, Lorena Darby, and her three brothers, Vent "Sonny" Waterberry Fiscus III, Ronald Faull, and Phillip Faull, as well as many nieces, nephews, grandchildren, her only great grandchild Axel Brock and many fantastic friends.

KEN PIRKLE

September 13, 1950 – Dec. 25, 2024

It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of Kenneth Edwin Pirkle, 74, of Fallon, Nevada, who passed away on December 25, 2024, after a long battle with cancer. Ken was born on September 13, 1950, in Portales, New Mexico, to his parents Carroll and Laura June Pirkle. He spent his childhood in Castle Rock, Colorado, before moving to Fallon, Nevada in 1963 with his parents and his two brothers, Gary and Randy Pirkle.

Ken was preceded in death by his beloved wife, Pam Pirkle, and his parents. He is survived by his brothers, Gary and Randy (Carole), two children, Tami (James) Richardson, and Kenny (Shannon) Pirkle, and his four grandchildren, Connor and Brock Richardson, Broden and Kenlie Pirkle, who were the light of his life.



Ken had a deep love for the outdoors, particularly hunting, fishing, and camping which he enjoyed with his family and friends. He was known for his patriotism, strong beliefs, and his love for his family and friends. He was especially proud of his grandchildren.

A service to honor Ken's life will be held on January 11, 2024, at 1:00 PM at the Garden's Funeral Home. In a tribute to his love of hunting, the family invites friends and family to wear Camo Casual attire.

In lieu of flowers, the family kindly requests donations be made to the Fallon Nevada Big Horns Unlimited P.O. Box 2308, Fallon, NV 89407, in Ken's memory.

Ken will be deeply missed by all who knew him, and his memory will live on in the hearts of his family and friends.

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COMMUNITY

Concealed Firearms Permit Class Coming Soon



Staff Report

Volunteers with the Stillwater Firearms Association will hold a concealed firearms permit class at 325 Sheckler Road on Saturday, January 25, 2024, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. This is the required training necessary to obtain a Nevada Concealed Carry Weapon permit in accordance with NRS Chapter 202.

Pre-registration for the class is requested. The Nevada permit initial training is \$60, and renewal training is \$40. The club requests cash or checks only; it does not accept credit cards.

Qualifying with either a semi-auto or a revolver makes you eligible to carry any semi-auto or revolver.

The mandatory training requires a demonstration of safe and competent

firearm handling skills. Please bring 30 rounds of factory-produced ammunition for your firearm, a strong-side holster, and eye and ear protection.

Shoulder or cross-draw holsters are not allowed.

SFA volunteers recommend speed loaders for revolvers or spare magazines for autoloaders. Please dress according to the weather, and bringing extra ammunition is recommended.

The course consists of classroom instruction, a written proficiency test, and a live-fire qualification segment. The class is not a basic firearms handling/safety course of instruction. You must demonstrate safe and competent firearm handling skills to pass.

For more information or to register, call 775-750-3373 or visit SFA online at stillwaterfirearms.org

Reservations are highly recommended to ensure a seat. Please arrive at 7:30 a.m. and do not bring guns or ammunition into the classroom portion of the class.

CCHS Intern of the Week Garrett Payne

By Sue Segura

This week's Intern of the Week is Garrett Payne, a senior at Churchill County High School, who hails from a fourth-generation Nevada livestock-producing family. Raised in Fallon, Garrett has become an integral part of his family's operations, working alongside his mother Rachel, father Jack, and sister Emily on their ranches and in the livestock business.

Garrett has aspirations of becoming a certified welder, a skill he plans to use to stay busy on the family ranches. He will take his CDL exam on June 2 at the Western Nevada College campus and will continue his education in the fall, attending a welding certification program in Missouri at the same school his mother attended.

"He does everything on the ranch including working cattle and helping at the sale yard," his dad, Jack said. "Garrett knows cattle, and he is really good at sorting and classing cattle for the livestock auction and he does a great job working the ring, sorting cattle as they sell for the buyers."

In his spare time (which is rare, as anyone who knows the Paynes can attest), Garrett enjoys snowboarding. He was also selected as an All-State Offensive Lineman of the Year during his time playing football at CCHS.



SENIOR CENTER MENU

WILLIAM N. PENNINGTON LIFE CENTER 952 S. MAINE STREET, FALLON, NV | 775-423-7096

Lunch Served Monday - Friday 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. | Lunch is \$6 for those under 60 and a suggested donation of \$3 for those 60 and older.

Monday, January 13
Chicken Nugget Bowl
Mashed Potato w/Gravy
Black Bean & Corn
Cheddar Cheese
Dinner Roll
Diced Peaches

Tuesday, January 14
Spanish Omlet
Onion Roasted Potatoes
Mixed Vegetables
Bran Muffin
Apple Crisp

Wednesday, January 15
Meatloaf
Scandinavian Vegetables
Pear Slices
WW Roll

Thursday, January 16
Lemon Baked Fish
Buttered Peas
Brown Rice
Tossed Salad

Friday, January 17
Beef Barley Bean Soup
Turkey Swiss Bacon Salad
WW Bread
Fruited Jello

FALLON DAILY BREAD

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

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

Monday, January 13
Vegetable Beef Soup
Bread

Thursday, January 16
Spaghetti & Meat Sauce
Salad & Bread

Monday, January 13
Meatloaf
Mashed Potatoes
Vegetables

Thursday, January 16
Tahitian Chicken
Rice & Vegetables

*All are
Welcome!*

EDUCATION

Veritas Preparatory School Classical & Christian

By David Ernst with photos courtesy of Veritas.

Veritas Preparatory School kicked off the final week of school before Christmas break with an amazing Advent Breakfast hosted by teachers and parent volunteers.

Throughout the week, the school held daily chapels presenting the story of Advent from different perspectives. Students learned about the shepherds, the wise men, and Mary and Joseph. They were even treated to a special performance of "Mary Did You Know" from local artist Annabelle.

On Thursday, the 3rd - 6th graders dressed as shepherds and held a "Shepherd's Feast" where they ate "under the stars" like the shepherds who first received the good news of Jesus' birth long ago. The school then followed an "angel" to find Joseph, Mary, and baby Jesus at a nearby stable, where there was much rejoicing. Students ended the week with a carol sing-along with families and friends in attendance.

Veritas is looking forward to a year of learning, growth, and Christ-centered teaching in 2025.



CCHS SAFE AND SOBER GRAD NITE PRESENTS

Father-Daughter DANCE

Denim & Diamonds

FRI **17** JAN 6PM-9PM

Rafter 3C Arena in Fallon
 Tickets: \$20 per couple +\$10 additional person

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 JEFF'S DIGITEX & BIGHORN
 ATV - CONTACT STAR 775-217-4506

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risepilates.squarespace.com

Group Classes

- MONDAY 6 am, 9 am, 4:30 pm, 7 pm
- TUESDAY 6 am, 8 am, 9 am, 5:30 pm, 7 pm Men's
- WEDNESDAY 6 am, 8 am, 9 am, 5:30 pm
- THURSDAY 6 am, (7 am), 8 am, 9 am, 4:30 pm, 5:30 pm
- FRIDAY 6 am, 8 am, 9 am, 5:30 pm
- SATURDAY 7 am*, 8 am, 9 am, 10 am

Underlined class times are JUMP classes.
 *Mat class

95 Whitaker Lane, Fallon

LOGOS CHRISTIAN ACADEMY'S
 25TH ANNIVERSARY

Silver Linings

FUNDRAISING GALA

March 15, 2025

Save the Date!

SILENT AUCTION DINNER LIVE AUCTION

CHURCHILL COUNTY COURTS

Fernley Murder Suspect Adam Miller to be Evaluated for Competency

By Leanna Lehman

Adam Elijah Miller, 19, appeared via Zoom from the Lyon County Jail in Canal Township Justice Court in Fernley on Tuesday, December 31, before Judge Lori Matheus on multiple serious charges, including murder.

Miller, who led law enforcement on a 30-hour manhunt after he stabbed his parents, fatally killing his father, is charged with Open Murder with the Use of a Deadly Weapon, a Category A Felony. In Nevada, "open murder" is a general allegation that could include first- and second-degree murder, as well as voluntary and involuntary manslaughter. Murder in the First Degree is a Category A Felony and may call for the death penalty if the "aggravating circumstances outweigh the mitigating circumstances." Otherwise, First-Degree Murder is punishable by life in prison, with or without the possibility of parole after 20 years, or 50 years in prison with the possibility of parole after 20 years.

According to the criminal complaint (Case 24CR-00421), on or about December 18, in Lyon County, at his residence on Farm District Road in Fernley, Adam Miller did, "with malice, aforethought, deliberation, and premeditation, kill and murder Lance Miller, 73, with the use of a deadly weapon."

Count I of the complaint alleges Adam Miller used a knife to stab Lance Miller in the neck and/or chest, thereby inflicting mortal injuries.

Count II alleges that on the same date and location, Adam Miller committed Attempted Murder with the Use of a Deadly Weapon, which is a Category B Felony punishable by 2-20 years in prison. For an attempted murder charge to be applied, there must be the intent to kill, direct steps toward carrying out the act, and the victim must have survived. According to the complaint, Adam Miller "with the intent to kill, attempt to kill and murder Elizabeth Miller, 61, with the use of a deadly weapon, namely a knife, but failed to accomplish it." Court documents indicate that he brandished a knife and proceeded to attack Elizabeth Miller, stabbing her in the neck.

Count III charges Adam Miller with Battery with a Deadly Weapon Causing Substantial Bodily Harm to a Victim 60 Years of Age or Older, which is punishable by 2-15 years in prison. The complaint alleges that Miller, on the same date and location, did force violence



Adam Miller. Photo courtesy of LCSO.

upon another person, over the age of 60 years, with the use of a deadly weapon, which resulted in substantial bodily harm when he attacked Elizabeth Miller with a knife, "stabbing her in the neck and/or back and/or arms, causing injury which constitutes substantial bodily harm."

In Nevada, when defendants commit crimes with the use of a deadly weapon, a sentencing enhancement may apply, potentially doubling the sentence. Similarly, if the victim is over 60 or is considered a vulnerable person, and the defendant is found guilty, a one to 20-year sentencing enhancement may apply.

Count IV further alleges that Adam Miller, on the same date and location, intending to conceal the commission of a felony, destroyed or concealed the knife used in Counts I-III.

A second case against Miller (Case 24 CR-00398) charges him with Carrying a Concealed Pistol, Revolver, Firearm, or other Deadly Weapon, a Category C Felony punishable by 1-5 years. On November 21, Adam Miller, at or near Stillwater Way in Fernley, is alleged to have had a .380 handgun concealed in his waistband underneath his shirt, without having a permit. Court documents also list an additional charge for giving a false statement or obstructing a public officer.

Patrick Mansfield, Esq., appointed to represent Miller, also appeared by Zoom during Tuesday's proceedings and informed Judge Matheus that Miller wished to waive his right to a preliminary hearing within 15 days on Counts I-IV. Mansfield requested the case be waived up to the Third Judicial District Court so that a competency evaluation could be conducted. With no objection from the Lyon County District Attorney's Office, the court scheduled a Competency Hearing for January 13.

Mansfield waived a formal arraignment on Miller's behalf regarding the concealed weapon charge. No further action will likely occur on either matter until Miller's competency is determined.

Miller was placed on probation on October 10, 2024, under the supervision of the Nevada Department of Public Safety Probation and Parole at the time of his arrest. A revocation hearing was also slated for Tuesday's docket regarding Case CR-00398 but was trailed and will be addressed by the court at a later date.

Miller remains in custody in the Lyon County Jail on a no-bail hold.

Preliminary Hearing Set for Filiatraut Murder Case

By Leanna Lehman

Robert Matthew Richards, currently in custody at the Lyon County Jail, appeared in Canal Township Justice Court in Fernley on Tuesday, December 31, before Judge Lori Matheus on charges of First-Degree Murder.

Richards is alleged to have killed 25-year-old Sara Filiatraut, pictured right, who went missing from Fernley last March. Upon receiving a missing person's report in April, Lyon and Churchill County Sheriff's Offices began searching for Sara, which ultimately led to the discovery of her body, which had been left in a remote pit area in the desert east of Fallon.

In Nevada, Murder in the First Degree is a Category A Felony and may call for the death penalty if the "aggravating circumstances outweigh the mitigating circumstances." Otherwise, First-Degree Murder is punishable by life in prison, with or without the possibility of parole after 20 years, or 50 years in prison with the possibility of parole after 20 years.

Denied bail during his November 29 court appearance, Richards and appointed public defender Patrick Mansfield were present via Zoom for a status hearing. Mansfield told the court he was waiting on reports related to the case and requested that the court set out a preliminary 90 days. Richards previously waived his right to a preliminary hearing within 15 days.

During his November 29 appearance, Lyon County District Attorney Stephen Rye referred to a pending sexual assault case (24CR-00152) involving Richards. According to court records, Richards was booked into the Lyon County Jail on April 8 for sexual assault unrelated to the alleged murder. The December 31 Justice Court calendar did not include an appearance for that charge. However, case 24CR-00151 was on the calendar, citing a charge of Engaging in or Soliciting Prostitution in connection to that case. The court took no action on that matter during the proceedings.

Judge Matheus scheduled Richards' preliminary hearing for April 3, which will likely take most of the day. The court also set a status hearing for March 18 to review the matter before Richards' April 3 appearance.

Richards remains in custody at the Lyon County Jail in Yerington on a no-bail hold.



Robert Richards. Photo courtesy of LCSO.

Annulments / Divorces

- | | |
|---|-------------------|
| Lucero, Rachel vs. Lucero, Bobby | Decree of Divorce |
| Williams, Brock vs. Williams, Devin | Decree of Divorce |
| Nelson, Ilianne Mishelle vs. Nelson, Tyrail Derail | Decree of Divorce |
| Browne, Alfred vs. Browne, Nancy | Decree of Divorce |
| Zakour, Ziyad vs. Amaro, Giselle Soriano | Decree of Divorce |
| Catterall, Donna vs. Catterall, Timothy Ray | Decree of Divorce |
| Mitchell, Gregory vs. Mitchell, Tia | Decree of Divorce |
| Egger, Cori Nowalk vs. Egger, Hilliard Robert | Decree of Divorce |
| Atienza, Margie vs. Ortiz, Richard | Decree of Divorce |
| Gomez, Marco vs. Gomez, Maria A. | Decree of Divorce |
| Weber, Christopher E. vs. Weber, Michelle M. | Decree of Divorce |
| Dong, Meiling vs. Li, Qiantuan | Decree of Divorce |
| Gable Jr., Don Ray vs. Gable, Patricia | Decree of Divorce |
| McNulty, Kyle vs. Currier, Breanna | Decree of Divorce |
| Grieve, Erin N. vs. Edmund, Dane | Decree of Divorce |
| Shirazi, Michael vs. Qin, Qiuling | Decree of Divorce |
| Storey, Keith vs. Storey, Elizabeth | Decree of Divorce |
| Payne, Asia Renita vs. Tijerina, Chance Daniel | Decree of Divorce |
| Cochems, Shellie vs. Cochems, Geoffrey David | Decree of Divorce |
| Thomas, Larae M. vs. Thomas, Michael D. | Decree of Divorce |
| Davidson, Gwendolyn vs. Davidson, Bradd | Decree of Divorce |
| Henderson, Gary P. vs. Henderson, Silvana D. | Decree of Divorce |
| Desomber, Nicholas Frederick vs. Cael, Catherine Miriam | Decree of Divorce |
| Basak, Robin vs. Delacruz, Melissa Gabriela | Decree of Divorce |
| LaFleur, Jake vs. Levy, Bridgitte Olivia | Decree of Divorce |
| Dudley, James Allen vs. Bennett, Laneal Christine | Decree of Divorce |
| Herwick, Kelly Garcia vs. Favstritsky, Lisa Marie | Decree of Divorce |
| McNally, Kaylynn M. vs. McNally Jr., Dale J. | Decree of Divorce |
| | Default |
| Gill, Harbaltar Singh vs. Kaur, Gaganpreet | Decree of Divorce |
| Wilson, Michael Clinton vs. Cristando, Jessica | Decree of Divorce |
| Klein, James vs. Klein, Kellie | Decree of Divorce |
| Njoku, Vicente Ike vs. Cox, Dama Osheona | Decree of Divorce |
| Montgomery, Michelle Dodd vs. Montgomery, Aaron Demetrius | Decree of Divorce |
| | Default |
| Algrisi, Liron vs. Sappard, Juliette Audrey Dora | Decree of Divorce |
| Larsen, Lindsay vs. Larsen, Colton Lee | Decree of Divorce |
| Morrow, Cheryl vs. Morrow, Christopher Cole | Decree of Divorce |
| Allen, Christopher vs. Allen, Katherine | Decree of Divorce |
| Short, Nicole L. vs. Short, Robin T. | Decree of Divorce |



CHURCHILL COUNTY COURTS

Tenth Judicial District Court

Tuesday, December 31, Judge Jim Shirley Presiding

By Teresa Moon

Matthew P. Beyer appeared for sentencing on the Category D Felony of Third-Degree Arson, to which he pleaded guilty in October per Alford. An Alford Plea allows defendants to accept the full ramifications of a guilty plea without admitting guilt.

Churchill County Alternate Public Defender (APD) Wright Noel told the court his client has been a longtime resident of Fallon and has had no criminal issues. He explained that Beyer has some problems that require intervention and would benefit from the Western Regional Specialty Court Program. "I think he is someone that this program was set up to help," said Noel, who asked for Diversion and the court to allow him to continue his progress.

Deputy District Attorney (DDA) Priscilla had no objection and requested restitution of \$169 for Banner Churchill Community Hospital and \$220 to Churchill County for damage to the jail. Judge Shirley deferred the matter and placed Beyer in Specialty Court.

Chad Levi Downs, in custody, pleaded guilty to the Category E Felony of Possession of a Controlled Substance (methamphetamine), punishable by 1-4 years in a Nevada State Prison and a fine up to \$5,000, and to the Gross Misdemeanor of Intimidating a Public Officer without Threat or Force, punishable by up to 364 days in jail and a fine up to \$2,000. Judge Shirley ordered a Pre-Sentencing Investigation (PSI) and set sentencing for March 4.

Richard Edward Wayne Harrison, in custody, appeared for sentencing on the Category D Felony of Reckless Driving Causing Death or Substantial Bodily Harm, to which he pleaded guilty in October.

Senior Deputy District Attorney (SDDA) Chelsea Sanford presented five exhibits: four photographs and a receipt for extradition. Sanford asked the court to sentence Harrison to 24 to 72 months, with "no probation, no more leniency, or chances." Sanford argued, "The law does not require an individual to be a good person, or even a decent human being in most circumstances." However, when someone is involved in a car accident, even if they feel they are not at fault, they have a duty to stop and call law enforcement to render aid. "This defendant chose to leave the scene; he left this young man who looked up to him as an uncle," Sanford said, noting that another motorist with no connection to the victim stopped and called for aid.

According to Sanford, Harrison has 27 prior convictions. "He flees, he does not comply, he does not show up," she said. Further, Harrison was extradited from Oregon at a cost of \$3,725 and has no driver's license or insurance. This is his fourth documented accident. The victim in the case was care-flighted to UCC, and permanent injuries forever changed his life, said Sanford.

Churchill County Public Defender (CCPD) Jacob Sommer stated his client feels "absolutely terrible" for not stopping and calling at the time of the accident. "These two young men were riding motorcycles faster than they should have been... and it resulted in an accident, Sommer said. "Mr. Harrison recognizes that his conduct constituted a breach of the law, and he recognizes that those consequences are ones that are heavy indeed."

Harrison addressed the court, stating, "I would never want anything to happen to [the victim]... I was in the wrong for leaving, and I know that... Then I panicked... I also stopped and told [the victim], 'Hey, I'm going to go call your mom.' And I went to the library and called her... I do feel remorse for the situation... I wanted to let her know from my mouth versus an officer showing up or someone else showing up and telling her."

Judge Shirley told Harrison, "Mr. Harrison, your criminal history works against you," and sentenced him to 20 months to five years in prison. Shirley ordered restitution to be paid upon his release and remanded Harrison to the custody of the Churchill County Sheriff for imposition of the sentence.

Jacob William Kolwyck, in custody, admitted to a Non-Technical Sentencing Violation regarding Parole and Probation's controlled substance prohibition and out-of-state travel conditions.

SDDA Chelsea Sanford requested revocation, stating Kolwyck had not conducted himself in a manner to earn reinstatement.

CCPD Jacob Sommer told the court that addiction is "not a light switch we can flip on and off at will," adding that his client is ashamed of his actions and understands the seriousness of his violations. Sommer acknowledged that reinstatement was unlikely and requested a dishonorable discharge, an extended probation period with additional custody time, or reinstatement with a modified sentence of 12 to 36 months.

Kolwyck addressed Judge Shirley, saying, "Whatever happens today, this is the first time I've been clean off any opiate in a long time. So, if I go to prison or if I get reinstated, I'm just thankful..."

Judge Shirley revoked Kolwyck's probation and modified the sentence to 12 to 36 months, telling him, "I'm sorry because it sounds like you did make some changes; they just didn't take; you still have the problem." Shirley suggested Kolwyck seek counseling while in prison and continue upon release. He remanded Kolwyck to the sheriff's custody for imposition of the sentence.

Carl Wayne Sampson, in custody, appeared for a Sentencing Violation Hearing regarding the conditions of his probation, including failure to report to Parole and Probation, residence reporting, employment, fines, and substance abuse evaluation requirements. Judge Shirley ordered Sampson to obtain his evaluation and continued the case until January 7.

Rene Lucio Williams, in custody, admitted to two Sentencing Violations regarding probation conditions, including performance directives, conduct, fines and fees, controlled substance prohibition, and an order to complete the Western Regional Drug Court Program.

SDDA Sanford asked the court to revoke Williams' probation without sentencing modifications. "If he was a cat, he would've already gone through his nine lives. He's been given an abundance of understanding and second chances," Sanford argued.

APD Wright Noel stated that his client recognized he had wasted an opportunity but had also shown some positive changes, though "obviously not enough." Noel did not request reinstatement but asked Williams' sentences to run concurrently rather than consecutively.

Williams addressed the court, taking full responsibility for his actions and requesting concurrent sentences. Judge Shirley revoked Williams' probation with some modifications and remanded him to custody for imposition of the sentence.



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LOOKING BACK

Farewell 2024

By Leanna Lehman

Hello, 2025! As we step into a new year, it's natural to look ahead at what's to come. But reflecting on the past year is just as important. Taking stock of the events of 2024 helps us appreciate the challenges we've faced, the good we've experienced, and everything in between. After all, history is a community's greatest teacher.

Last year was a busy one for our community. There was much to celebrate, changes to navigate, hardships to endure, and justice to be served. All in all, Fallon did a bang-up job navigating quite a bit of it.

Here's a look back at some of 2024's most notable news.



Fallon's Search and Rescue team giving Santa an aerial tour of Fallon on December 19. Photo courtesy of NASF.

NAVAL AIR STATION FALLON

One of the most alarming moments in 2024 came on August 16, when ten Navy sailors were injured during a training exercise involving two MH-60S Knighthawk helicopters at NAS Fallon. The injured sailors were airlifted to Reno, where the pilots landed in an unusual location—Pickett Park, not far from downtown. With a police escort, the sailors were transported to Renown Medical Center for treatment. Fortunately, all injuries were non-life-threatening.

In December, NAS Fallon welcomed a new command master chief, CMC Monica Kuhl of Cheyenne, Wyoming. She arrived just in time for Santa to join the Naval Aviation Warfighting Development Center (NAWDC) and NAS Fallon's Search and Rescue team. Is there anything as cool as Santa in Seahawk flying over Fallon just before Christmas?



FPST Mobile Clinic. Photo by Leanna Lehman.

FALLON PAIUTE SHOSHONE TRIBE

The Fallon Paiute Shoshone Tribe had an eventful year. One of the most exciting highlights was the arrival of a modern mobile clinic, purchased with the help of a USDA Rural Development Grant. The state-of-the-art medical clinic will help bring much-needed healthcare services to some of Nevada's most remote communities.

2024's Coming Together Pow Wow started with TikTok sensation, bronc rider, and bucking horse stock contractor Dancin' Dougie Hall, who shared some of his famous cowboy wisdom with the crowd. Hall, known for his daily messages of encouragement to young followers on and off the reservation, kept it simple: "If you woke up this morning, the Creator ain't finished with you." The two-day Pow Wow was a tribute to the Native culture, showcasing glorious color, movement, and tradition, helping Fallon honor its connection to Nevada's Native American heritage.

Tribal elections were held last fall. Chairman Cathi Tuni was reelected with 61.46% of the vote. Philip Johnson was elected as tribal secretary, while Sandra Hicks and Crystal Allen won seats on the Tribal Council.

STATE AND NATIONAL ELECTIONS

We would be remiss not to mention that former President Donald Trump was reelected, defeating Vice President Kamala Harris, who served under President Joe Biden. Trump will serve alongside Vice President-elect J.D. Vance over the next four years.

In Nevada, Sen. Jacky Rosen (D-NV) and Rep. Mark Amodei (R-NV) retained their seats in Washington. Fallon's Greg Koenig

also held his seat as the Nevada State Assembly District 38 representative.

Several ballot measures passed, including one requiring photo identification to vote and another establishing a constitutional right to abortion in the state.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND ELECTIONS

Fallon's governing bodies were busy last year, especially with the elections largely determined by June's primaries. Churchill County Commission saw several candidates enter the race, with Eric Blakey of the Planning Commission and Matt Hyde from the school board elected to fill the seats of Commissioner Dr. Justin Heath and appointed Commissioner Bus Scharmann.

The Mosquito, Vector, and Noxious Weed Abatement Board saw Marion Jonte and Cynthia McGarrah lead the race, with both sworn into office this week.

Mayor Ken Tedford, who has served as Fallon's mayor since 1995, secured another term in office, taking the lead over two challengers. Karla Kent retained her position on the City Council, running unopposed.

The most contentious race in the last election was for Justice of



Christmas Tree Lighting, 2024. Photo courtesy of City of Fallon.



New addition to the fleet, Engine #4 with FCVFD firefighters. Photo by Victoria Crystal.

the Peace. Incumbent Judge Ben Trotter won the election with 61% of the vote. Late last year, Trotter announced a transition to a four-day, ten-hour workweek for the court clerk's office. The change received pushback from several corners, but it is set to take effect in February.

The Churchill County School Board of Trustees race was also decided by voters in the primaries, with Gregg Malkovich and Kathryn Whitaker retaining their seats. Newcomer Wendy Bullock earned a board seat as well.

The Central Nevada Health District celebrated the grand opening of its new location on Maine Street, now situated alongside Churchill County Social Services. Additionally, the county consolidated Public Works & Planning

with the County Building Departments, relocating to Maine Street.

The Churchill County Library experienced an unusual upheaval that led to a week-long closure and the removal of the former Library Director C.L. Quillen. Carol Lloyd, Quillen's much-admired predecessor, stepped in to assist over the summer. With Cathy Thorson as the new director, most of the library's issues have been addressed.

LOOKING BACK

[Farewell 2024 continued from page 10]



Central Nevada Health District and Social Service celebrate ribbon cutting at new Maine St. location. Photo by Leanna Lehman.

A series of threats against schools caused serious concern for Churchill County School District and local law enforcement shortly after the 2024-25 school year began. Oasis Academy also reported a threat. Fortunately, most threats were unfounded. However, at least one arrest was made.

The City of Fallon had a strong year, boosting tourism through the support of local events. Fallon On Ice, the seasonal ice-skating attraction, returned for its second year, much to the delight of area youth. The 2024 Christmas Tree Lighting drew thousands of attendees, making it the city's most popular social event. The city also said goodbye to Public Works Director Ryan Swirczek, who retired after 25 years of service.

After four years of planning, the Fallon/Churchill Volunteer Fire Department (FCVFD), with assistance from the city and county, took possession of two new fire trucks, Engine 2 and Engine 4. FCVFD held a Push-In Ceremony and a street dance to mark the occasion.

The Churchill County Sheriff's Office (CCSO) mourned the loss of K-9 Bear, who passed away due to a large tumor. Bear served as a narcotics detection K-9 with Deputy Noel Ugalde. "He was an outstanding narcotics detection K-9," said Sheriff Richard Hickox. The department, however, welcomed a new addition—K-9 Tokos, who joined the ranks on October 29 and will also work with Deputy Ugalde.

Adding to the department's good news, a local supporter known as Miss Margie made an extraordinary contribution. A longtime advocate of K-9 programs, she called to tell the sheriff's office she was donating \$20,000 to support CCSO's K-9 program. Thank you, Miss Margie!

CRIME AND COURT

Crime remained a significant issue in Churchill County last year, with several high-profile cases making headlines.

One of the most tragic cases of 2024 was the murder of Sara Filiatraut, 24, which occurred in Fernley in March. However, Robert Matthew Richards, 40, who is accused of the killing, allegedly left her body in a remote pit in the desert east of Fallon. Sara was located through the joint efforts of Lyon and Churchill County Sheriff's Offices and Washoe County Sheriff's Office's Forensic Investigation Section. Richards is in custody in Lyon County on a no-bail hold and will appear for a preliminary hearing on April 3.

More recently, longtime Fallon resident Daniel Lee Munoz, 71, was accused of killing Xiaoxia Zhang, 40, in Reno last November and burying her body under a trampoline at their Fallon home on Del Rio Drive. Munoz remains in custody in the Washoe County Jail with bail set at \$5 million and is scheduled to appear in Reno Justice Court on January 15.

Kayden John Kelly, 19, was sentenced to 10 to 25 years on December 13 for a violent attack on his grandmother. Kelly was convicted of battery with a deadly weapon causing substantial bodily harm to a victim 60 years or older.

Several assault cases against children were heard in Fallon's courts last year, with no leniency for those found guilty. Some cases remain pending, with defendants set to face jury trials or sentencing in 2025.

ODDS AND ENDS

Sheriff Richard Hickox reported in July that mountain lions in the Harrigan Road and Drumm Lane area had killed multiple goats. Last fall, Powerline Road residents reported a mountain lion in their area, which they believed killed a deer and some neighborhood chickens.

A "Last Mile" Amazon Distribution Center is under construction and plans to bring 25+ permanent positions and 40 contract delivery jobs to the area. The project is slated for completion within

the next year and a half and will deliver within a 60-mile radius.

The Fallon Youth Club opened the Little Clubhouse Childcare Center in May. As an offshoot of the Fallon Youth Center, the facility aims to help address the serious need for infant and toddler childcare in Fallon.

The Pregnancy Care Center, formerly Care Net, relocated to Auction Road. The faith-based center provides a welcoming environment where women can seek help, education, and support during and after pregnancy.

Several new businesses opened in Fallon throughout the year, contributing to the city's growing economy. Many of these can be found on the Fallon Chamber of Commerce website for those looking to explore new local offerings.

THE FALLON POST: A YEAR IN REFLECTION

At The Fallon Post, we've had our share of adventures while bringing you great stories and engaging content—from Rachel and Leanna's "Great Pinenut Caper," (full story coming when we have time to write it) to traipsing across county and state in search of that next great story.

Along the way, we've expanded our scrappy little press, launching the Silver State Chronicle and The Pershing Post. Most recently, we began printing The Fernley Reporter in collaboration with owner Robert Perea.

Such a venture wouldn't be possible without our many advertisers, fantastic contributors, dedicated volunteers, and, most importantly, our readers. You are the reason we do this. Thank you for your support and belief in hyperlocal community news.

We wish you a wonderful new year filled with many adventures of your own – Your devoted Fallon Media crew that runs on caffeine, commitment, and an unshakable love for our little Nevada Oasis—few in number, unstoppable in spirit.



New Library Director Cathy Thorson. Photo courtesy of CC Library.



Deputy Ugalde with his new partner, K-9 Tokos. Photo courtesy of CCSO.



SPORTS

SPORTS ROUND UP



Congratulations to Tommie Fitzeron her 2nd place finish at the Sparks Invitational Wrestling Tournament.

The CCHS Girls Basketball team had a good opening weekend, coming away with two wins against strong teams from Elko and Spring Creek.



The Fallon Outlaws came in first place at the Sierra Nevada Classic with a total of 329.5 team points.

2025 Fallon Youth Baseball Registration is Open

The New Registration site is up and running, and the league will be using the website sportsengine. Please go to the link provided. <https://fallonbrl.sportngin.com/register/form/922715516> to sign up your athlete. Please bear with us on the new site and reach out if you need any help. It's very important that we get all accurate sizes for players on the registration forms. There are also still some volunteer spots available. Registration will begin Jan. 6, and the cut off is Feb. 21, 2025. Opening day will be Mar. 29, 2025.

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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

Truckee-Carson Irrigation District
Notice of Claims Approved by Board of Directors
October 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 October 2024; that this list is made based upon NRS 539.485.

Operating Expenses	October
Operations and Maintenance	404,014
Carson Lake Pasture	6,142
Administration	162,892
Total Expense	573,048
Grant Expense	
Depreciation Expense	53,160
Total Other Expense	53,160
Total Expense and Other Expense	626,208

Dated this 24th day of December 2024
/s/ Benjamin Shawcroft, General Manager

Published in
The Fallon Post
January 10, 2025
Ad #6279

NOTICE
CHURCHILL COUNTY BOARD
OF EQUALIZATION

NOTICE is hereby given that the Churchill County Board of Equalization will meet during the month of February 2025. The meetings will be held in the Churchill County Commission Chambers, Churchill County Administration Complex, 155 N. Taylor Street, Suite 145, Fallon, Nevada.

Persons wishing to appear and be heard at these meetings for the purpose of seeking adjustments on assessed valuation must obtain a Petition for such with the Churchill County Assessor at the Churchill County Administration Complex, 155 N. Taylor Street, Suite 200, Fallon, Nevada and return the petition to the County Assessor on or before 5 p.m. on January 15, 2025. The County Board of Equalization shall conclude business on or before February 28, 2025.

Published online at
www.TheFallonPost.org
on Jan. 2, 2025
and in print in *The Fallon Post*
January and 10, 2025
Ad #6280

Case Number 24-10DC-1420
NOTICE OF HEARING
ON PETITION TO CONSTRUE
GENERAL DURABLE
POWER OF ATTORNEY

In The Tenth Judicial District Court in and for the State of Nevada in and for the County of Churchill, in the matter of the Petition to Construe the Power of Attorney of VIRGINIA ELIZABETH AUSTIN (principal), and PAUL R. YOUNG (Agent), Petitioner.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on the 3rd day of February 2025, at the hour of 1:30 p.m. in the Tenth Judicial District Court, 73 North Maine Street, Fallon, Nevada 89406, a hearing on a petition in the above-captioned matter, will be conducted to construe the General Durable Power of Attorney of VIRGINIA ELIZABETH AUSTIN (Principal) and Paul R. Young (Agent). Any person interested may, on or before the day fixed for the hearing, answer the petition. Failure to answer the petition shall be deemed to be an admission of the material allegations thereof.

DATED: This 31st day of December 2024.

Taylor Clark, Clerk of the Court
Rusty D. Jardine, Esq.
824 Timothy Way
Fallon, Nevada 89406
775-666-9026
Rustyjardine1930@gmail.com

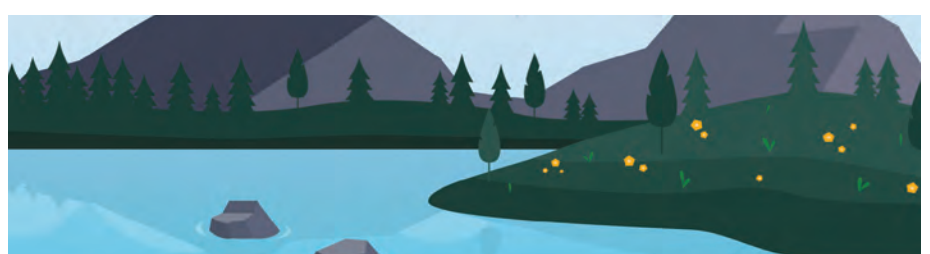
Published in
The Fallon Post
January 10, 17, and 24, 2025
Ad #6281

PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Fallon City Council will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, January 21, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. in the City Council Chambers, 55 West Williams Avenue, Fallon, Nevada in order to consider a zoning change at 210, 220, 230, 250-252, 270 and 298 South Taylor Street from R-2 Limited Multiple Residence District to the proposed C-1 Limited Commercial District

Published in
The Fallon Post
January 10, 2025
Ad #6282

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WATER LEVELS

Measurements Taken January 7, 2025 at 3:50 a.m.

Lahontan Reservoir	130,100 af
Carson River Below Lahontan	1.52 cfs
Truckee Canal at Wadsworth	198.0 cfs
Truckee Canal at Hazen	128.0 cfs
Carson River at Ft. Churchill	142.0 cfs

Dec. 8, 2024	Dec. 8, 2023	Dec. 8, 2022
220,719 acre feet	56,665 acre feet	72,532 acre feet

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

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MEETINGS

January 13 – 17, 2025

County Meetings 155 N. Taylor Street	Regional Transportation Commission Wednesday, January 15 Room 102
Sending Site Review Committee Monday, January 13 Room 102	
Board of County Commissioners Tuesday, January 14 Commission Chambers	



COLUMNS

Thrive On Purpose – Make your Life Epic

By Natasha Bennett

An Epic is a long poem that tells a narrative of the deeds and adventures of a hero or legend. How epic is your life right now? Who could you influence with your deeds and adventures?

I'll let you in on a little secret—being Ethical, Powerful, Intelligent and Compassionate is the way to have an E.P.I.C. life.

E.P.I.C. is a great tool for adults and children. As a homeschool mother of 3, I realize that children often know the difference between right and wrong without us needing to lecture them. In fact, the lecture rarely changes the behavior. The only way to change the behavior is to upgrade the pattern of thinking with questions and guidance. Once children and adults can learn and think thoughts that are beneficial, they have beneficial behaviors. E.P.I.C. thoughts lead to E.P.I.C. behaviors.

ETHICS: “IS WHAT YOU’RE DOING RIGHT OR WRONG?”

Most of us would define ethics somewhere along the line of having good morals, and we would be right. Webster defines ethics as the study of standards of conduct and moral judgement. I love this definition because the use of the words “study” and “judgement” shows that ethics can be observed, and we can decide for ourselves if something is right or wrong. A way to know our personal ethics is via our values. For example, if we value human life, to see someone abusing another human would go against our values and we would find the behavior unethical. Once we study and set standards we develop ethics. This allows us to set boundaries for peace within our inner circle and maintain space for what we truly value.

POWER: “HOW CAN I USE MY PERSONAL POWER IN A POSITIVE WAY?”

The scientific formula for power is work done over time. Work is using force to push or pull something from point A to point B. When we push or pull for the things we value, we are using personal power- even if it's in a negative way. We are all probably aware that the only person we truly have power over is self. To take someone's power would be unethical. Growing in power alongside building and maintaining healthy ethics is the part of our narrative that makes us the hero and legend because of our deeds and adventures that happen over time.



INTELLIGENCE: “WHAT IS THE MOST INTELLIGENT WAY TO MOVE FORWARD?”

Intelligence is the ability to learn and acquire information followed by understanding and retaining for the use of knowledge. Knowledge alone doesn't make us intelligent. It's our ability to learn and grow that produces intelligence. How you use your intelligence to change your life, community, or even the world is what makes you powerful. Knowledge is the information gathered and retained over time, usually with experiences. So as long as you never lose your ability to seek, learn, and understand information, you will forever be an intelligent person. Your style of seeking, learning, understanding is what makes you unique or as Jesus might call you, “The salt of the earth” (Matthew 5:13).

Have you ever said or done something without thinking and totally embarrassed yourself? Knowing if you had paused to think, you probably would have spoken or acted more intelligently. Here is another secret to help you avoid that frustrating mistake: pausing 5-7 seconds before responding is the difference between acting and reacting. Acting is from a place of higher thinking aka intelligence. Reacting is doing again or repeating what someone did to you. For example, something as simple as “how are you” and having a reaction response of “I'm fine” without actually scanning if you are truly okay. Pausing a few seconds allows time for the mind to power up and bypass the auto-responses of the brain. If you are having an emotional moment that needs to pass, allowing yourself 45-60 seconds allows the moment and emotions to settle. If someone rushes you, make them wait longer. These seconds of micro-meditation stop us

from saying and doing things that we may regret. Instead, let us become the people who have an intelligent response for almost everything because we have given our brain a moment to access the mind. Intelligence is the difference between surviving and thriving.

COMPASSION: “HOW CAN I SHOW COMPASSION?”

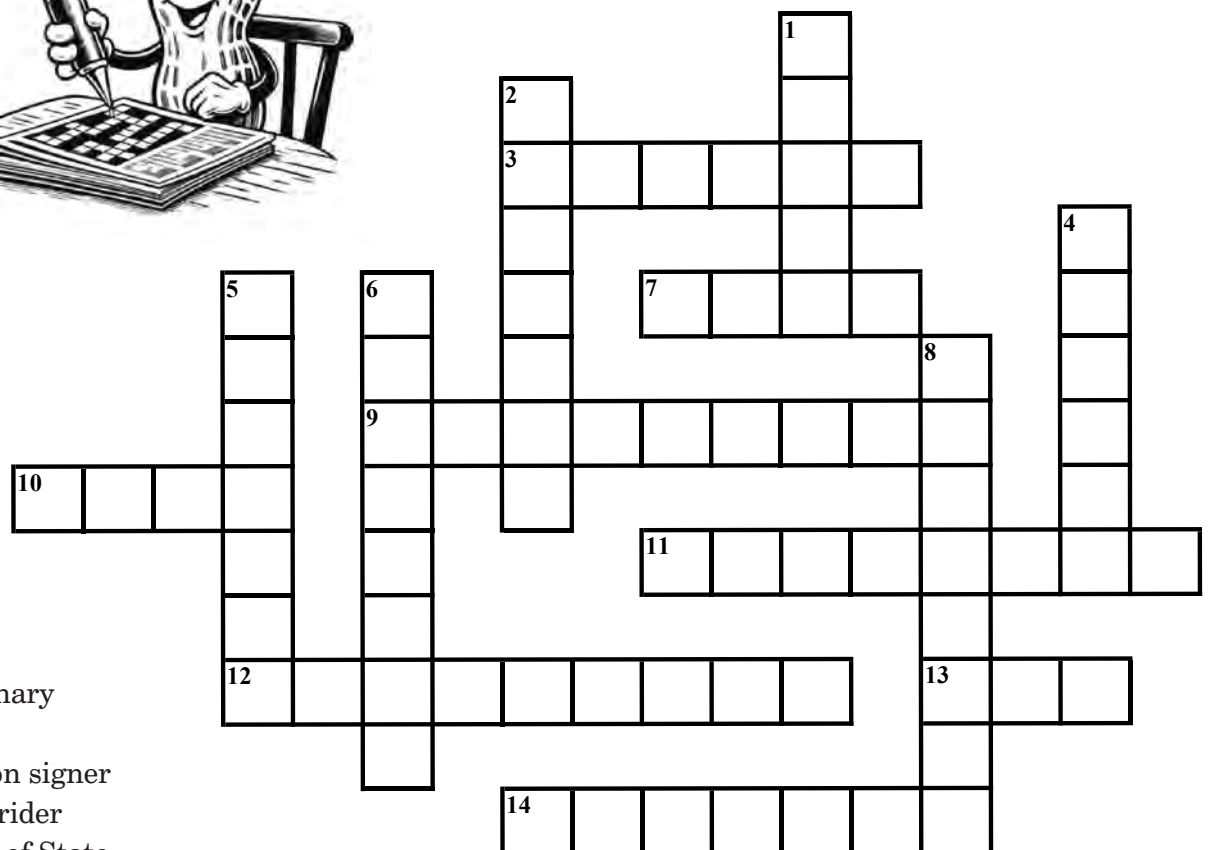
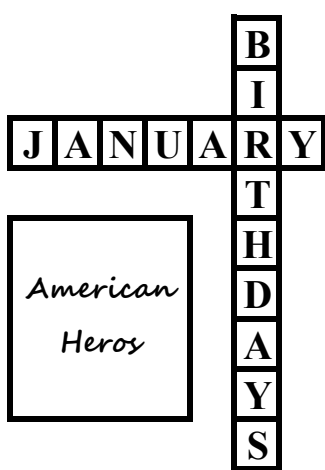
This final piece is what makes the difference between an egopath and an empath. Empaths have compassion and empathy for others, egopaths (commonly known as narcissists) don't. The truth is we need both ego and empathy in order to have balanced compassion. People with too much ego take advantage of empaths, who lack a strong ego. Having a balance of ego and empathy allows us to have compassion for ourselves and others. It's the “how-to” for the second greatest commandment: “Love your neighbor as yourself” (Mark 12:31). Balance allows our standards, power, and intelligence to be used for the good of ourselves and others. Compassion is the fuel that empowers us to choose intelligent behaviors that could change our lives and the world for good.

Make the story of your life E.P.I.C. by observing how to use your personal power to create an intelligent and poetic narrative for your life. Do the deeds. Have the adventures. Be the legend.

Natasha Bennett is a veteran and homeschool mom of three, who is currently stationed in Nevada's Oasis with her husband of 15 years at NAS Fallon. Natasha is also a Specialist for healing symptoms of mental and emotional trauma, receiving her training with Adapt Masterclass through MindFreed founder Roman Zaroni.

Crossword

By Peanut



Across

- 3. Revolutionary War traitor
- 7. Civil rights leader
- 9. WWII General
- 10. Ships' colors seamstress
- 11. Assassinated president
- 12. Longest serving president
- 13. USA and CSA leader
- 14. Confederate Stonewall

Down

- 1. Revolutionary War hero
- 2. Declaration signer
- 4. Midnight rider
- 5. Twice Sec of State
- 6. First Sec of Treas
- 8. Inventor, statesman

COLUMNS

Allison's Book Report



There's not a lot of things that I love more than reading, but I would definitely say that travel is on that list. In 2023, my husband and I decided that we wanted to try doing Christmas a little bit different for our teenagers. We decided that we would minimize the standard gifts and use our airline points to give them (and ourselves) the gift of a trip to Maui after Christmas. So we bought them each a bathing suit and a pair of flip flops, and set out for an adventure in paradise. Little did we know, we were starting a tradition of sorts, and for Christmas 2024 we went the same route. Traveling with teenagers has its challenges (are they ever actually having fun? We are still unsure.) but they are mostly overshadowed by the concentrated time together and break from the winter at home. Maui was the perfect spot to ring in the New Year, and I still have a few days left to soak up a winter's worth of vitamin D before I return home to my little library at the top of the stairs. Until then, enjoy these shots of paradise – and don't forget to pop over and visit my Instagram @allison.the.reader to follow along on all of our adventures!

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.

What's Cooking in Kelli's Kitchen

By Kelli Kelly

I have never really been one for New Year's resolutions; they feel like half-hearted promises that most folks abandon by mid-February—get back to the gym, watch less tv, give up this “bad” thing, or start this “good” thing. Then I got to thinking about being “resolute” in my intentionality. To be resolute is to be determined, purposeful, and unwavering. To be intentional is to be deliberate. In my professional space, I spend a lot of time teaching others about strategic planning, goal setting, resource allocation, and how to measure progress. Generally, these tactics are employed in business planning but also have value when applied personally. Like most, I have limited resources regarding my time, talent, and treasure. I want to utilize those resources strategically so that I make progress toward creating the life that I want to live in—seems like the perfect opportunity for setting some intentions.

HERE'S MY PLAN FOR 2025:

On Friday afternoons, I will allocate time for some structured reflection before I sit down to write this column.

- Who or what am I grateful for?
- What was the most valuable lesson I learned?
- What am I most proud of?
- What inspired my curiosity?
- What did I do to make my community better?

And some time for looking forward:

- What am I most excited about?
- How can I nurture my relationships with people I care about?
- What will I do for me?
- How will I nourish my body?

I hope that the ritual of writing Kelli's Kitchen continues to be a tool of accountability as I move through the coming year strategically and with resolve.

Another piece of my plan for 2025 is to share some cooking essentials that I strongly believe should be in the wheelhouse of every one of you in your kitchens. I have long proclaimed that a basic culinary skillset should include proficiency with a handful of dishes—and that these recipes and techniques equip individuals with the core knowledge that they need to ensure they can take care of themselves. So, each month, I will dive into one of the basics with the hope that this effort will help make my community better and maybe will help you answer the question of how you will nourish your body.

KELLI'S KITCHEN BASICS:

- Roast chicken
- Fresh pasta
- Meatballs / meatloaf
- Red sauce (tomato and bolognese)
- Salad dressing (how to make a salad)
- Soup and stew
- Beans and chili
- Baked potato
- Rice
- Roast vegetables
- Baked fish
- Steak



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

To be honest, I had a hard time keeping my list to twelve so you will likely also learn about macaroni & cheese and three ways to cook eggs – I'm just getting started!

Since there is no better way to ring in the New Year than with a toast, here is a decadent cocktail recipe worth celebrating.

Frozen Brandy Alexander

Ingredients:

- 1/2 cup Good quality vanilla ice cream
- 1 1/2 oz. Brandy
- 3/4 oz. Creme de cacao – white or dark
- 1/4 cup Crushed ice (optional)
- Ground nutmeg, for garnish

Directions:

1. Place ice cream, brandy and creme de cacao in a blender and process until mixed.
2. Add ice (if using) and process until smooth.
3. Pour into an individual martini or coupe glass. Sprinkle top with ground nutmeg and serve immediately.



CROSSWORD ANSWERS

Crossword found on page 12

- | | |
|----------|-----------|
| ALLEN | LEE |
| ARNOLD | MACARTHUR |
| FRANKLIN | MCKINLEY |
| HAMILTON | REVERE |
| HANCOCK | ROOSEVELT |
| JACKSON | ROSS |
| KING | WEBSTER |



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