

# THE FALLON POST



The Local Community Newspaper Fallon Churchill County

Friday, April 1, 2022

\$1

## Long Term Planning Provides Needed Water Supply

By Rachel Dahl

Churchill County, not unlike the rest of Northern Nevada is experiencing unprecedented growth, driven by the expansion of the Tahoe Reno Industrial Center, as well as mission expansion at NAS Fallon. According to local officials, and anyone who has tried renting a house lately, the housing supply has not kept up with demand for several reasons including the cost of building materials, availability of labor, and the suitable property being tied up in old projects that haven't been developed.

According to Chris Spross, Churchill County Public Works Director, current customers of the county water system are only using about 30% of the total capacity. While the hydrology studies from 2007 and the 2019 Water Conservation Plan Update show the water resources available to support the Sand Creek Water Treatment Plant and its expansion.

The primary source of water for Churchill County is drawn from an intermediate aquifer beneath the Lahontan Valley, which the Nevada State Engineer has designated Hydrographic Basin 101. Recharge of the aquifer is reliant on seepage from the Carson River, leakage from the canals and drains in the Newlands Project, and irrigation application of surface water to farm ground. The county requires that all new developments dedicate water rights to the county so that the aquifer can be maintained, and the water supply is not impacted. Any parcels not connecting to the county water system, must dedicate two acre-feet of surface water rights or provide a payment-in-lieu of \$3,276 per dwelling.

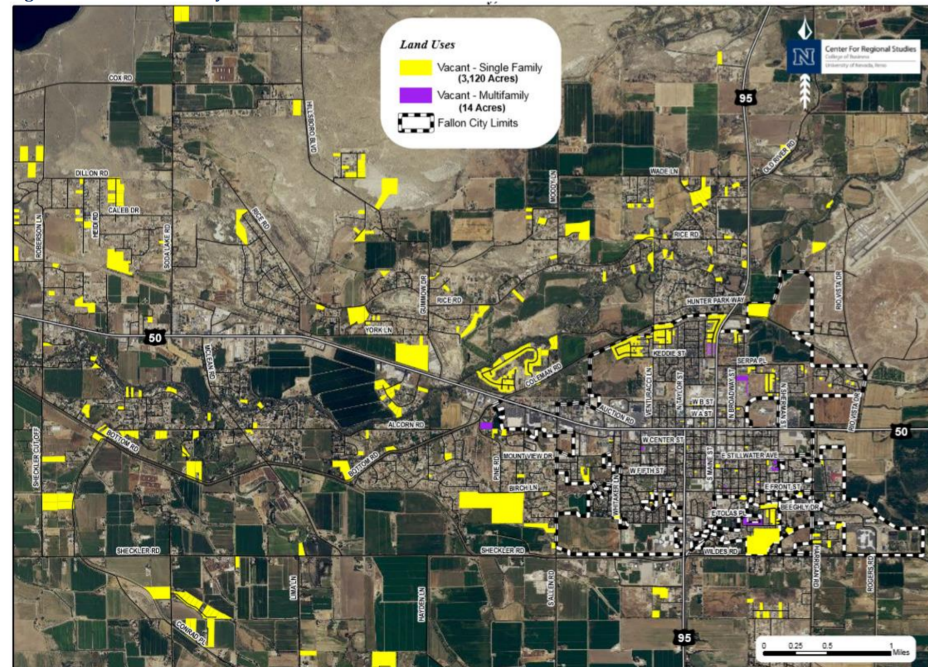
The City of Fallon wells, that serve city residents through the city municipal system are located in the Basalt Aquifer. The Fallon Post will provide a separate story on the City of Fallon water supplies in the near future.

In the county subdivision process, Equivalent Dwelling Units (EDUs) are used as the unit of measure for planning

Housing Needs Assessment-Churchill County, Nevada

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Figure 20. Churchill County Vacant Residential Land<sup>57</sup>



<sup>57</sup> Churchill County parcel base data. Analysis by CRS.

EKAY ECONOMIC CONSULTANTS

Center For Regional Studies  
College of Business  
University of Nevada, Reno

the capacity of the water and wastewater facilities. Currently, Churchill County has on the books several EDUs that have been purchased over the years and are not being used, and were never developed. "We have old developments and hookups that tie up our capacity. We have to make sure that those EDUs are available if they are called on," said Spross. The result is that should a developer come to the table ready to build there may not be the additional capacity for the project that is ready to go, based on the number of EDUs that are currently being held and not put to use.

In a January 2022 commission meeting, Spross explained that the capacity of the water treatment plant is 1,449 EDUs, with 454 current online customers. There are 79 EDUs reserved for developments that have already been started and 970 that are sitting. "Some

projects are in the planning stages, such as the county development on Coleman Road. Altogether if they all went online today there would not be enough EDUs to fully function within the capacity of the plant," said Spross.

The county will be putting out a Request for Proposals on the 35-acre parcel owned on Coleman Road that is planned for 420 units of private, high-end apartments. County Manager Jim Barbee said there is a huge demand for that type of product, especially with the shortage of housing available for Navy personnel. "It becomes a supply and demand issue if we put more supply out there to help us address the huge demand we have, then hopefully it will have a cascading effect on some of the prices that are coming to bear on lesser-quality property."

*Continued on page 20...*

## Captain's Log --

### *International Have Fun at Work Day*

In case you haven't noticed, we never have any fun around here while we're working. Bahahahah.

But today apparently, we actually celebrate and practice the concept with the designation of "International Have Fun at Work Day" on April 1. Weird. That we have to make a day for that.

There's a line in my favorite show, "if you do what you love, you'll never work a day in your life." And I'm a true believer. Laura and I were up until 9 p.m. last night "working" away on the paper until we realized it would be an early morning and we should probably get some sleep.

Today it will be all hands on deck to print and crease and label and do dots. We hate dots. Dots are not fun. Dots go on the mail copies to satisfy the U.S. Postal Service and keep the paper from getting stuck in their machines. But we still have a lot of fun doing the dots. Each one of us has our own little system for dots if we're the one who draws short straw, but honestly the fastest person we have on dots is Jo. That girl finesses the dot contraption like no other.

Me, I hate dots so if I get stuck doing dots you can straight forget about Have Fun at Work Day and you all are getting scotch tape.

Yesterday I was having fun at work in spite of the non-designated nature of the day. I was writing stories at my south facing window and I was also playing with the bunnies. These ladies in the bunny forums on Facebook are crazy and they say you have to handle the baby bunnies every day starting when they're born. So they like you when they get bigger and they've grown out all this fiber for your sweaters and you have to groom them. (Read that as pluck out all their hair).

So of course, I had to force myself to get a couple of bunnies out of their cubby to hold on my lap. And let run across the keyboard. Yesterday they were 11 days old and their eyes were open and instead of curling up in a pile of eight furballs, a couple of the bigger ones actually were hopping around.

I feel like if everyone had baby bunnies, we probably wouldn't need International Have Fun at Work Day.

Speaking of which, I've gotta get to chorin' so while I go check the little fur balls, you stay right here and I'll be...

...Keeping you Posted.  
Rach



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Volume 3, No. 25  
April 1, 2022

Location  
2525 Reno Highway  
Fallon, Nevada 89406

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*The Fallon Post* (ISSN 2767-6234) is published weekly, on Friday, by The Fallon Post, 2525 Reno Highway, Fallon, NV 89406.

Periodical Postage is paid in Fallon, NV  
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Fallon Post, 2040 Reno Highway #385, Fallon, NV 89406.

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## \$750,000 Bail for Naomi Irion Kidnapping Suspect

By Robert Perea

Canal Township Justice of the Peace Lori Matheus set bail Wednesday afternoon of \$750,000 for Troy Driver, who is accused of kidnapping Naomi Irion.

Matheus also set conditions that if Driver posts bail, he will not be released until a GPS monitoring device is set up and installed, there is to be no contact with the alleged victim or her family, he must stay out of Fernley, except for court appearances, there must be no further arrests or violations of the law, and no possession of alcohol, drugs or drug paraphernalia and that he makes all required court appearances and check in daily with court services. He will be subject to random alcohol and drug testing and not discuss the case with anyone.

Matheus set a pretrial hearing for 10 a.m. April 5 and a preliminary hearing on April 12.

Driver appeared for the hearing via video from the Lyon County Jail in Yerington, where he is being held. He is charged with kidnapping in the first degree. The criminal complaint filed against him charges that Driver did “abduct Naomi Irion and did hold or detain her for the purpose of committing sexual assault and/or for the purpose of killing her.”

Arguments regarding the bail amount will be held at a later date, as requested by Driver’s attorney, Mario Walther, citing Nevada Supreme Court Rule 230. Walther said his office was not notified of the presence of the media at the hearing.

Nevada Supreme Court Rule 230 requires news reporters desiring to provide electronic coverage of a court proceeding to file a written request with the judge at least 24 hours before the proceeding. However, the judge may grant the request on shorter notice or waive the requirement for a written request.

“We’ve not gotten any notices of who is in the courtroom and at this juncture, our concern is that already Rule 230 may be violated,” Walther said.

He said he believed the Lyon County Sheriff’s office may be live-streaming the hearing on Facebook. And that by releasing the Zoom meeting to the public, the court may have lost control of who is recording the proceedings and who has provision to use the recordings afterward.

Walther reported his office did not receive the probable cause complaint and risk assessment until the day of the hearing. The attorney stated the defense needs a private investigator to determine

if there is probable cause and past criminal history to properly address any bail arguments or motions.

Walther requested bail be set in the amount listed on the probable cause sheet, which was \$750,000, and that further arguments regarding bail under *Valdez-Jimenez v. Eighth Judicial District Court* be reserved for a later date.

Lyon County Deputy District Attorney Samantha Edmondo said Walther’s concerns about the media and Supreme Court rules were under the purview of the court and arguments regarding the PC complaint and the timing of the appointment of counsel are procedural arguments to be made at a later date.

“Mr. Driver was on notice at the point of his arrest what the charges are. As long as he has been notified of what the charges are, none of his rights have been violated,” Edmondo said.

She also said the state does not object to his bail remaining at \$750,000, but she said she has arguments to put on record if needed after the court addresses the media issues.

Justice of the Peace Matheus read Rule 230 for the record and said the written request requirement was waived by the court.

“All press that is present in this court today has been authorized by the court through the court’s bailiff,” Matheus said. “There is no requirement under 230 to notify defense or prosecution of the court’s decision on whether or not media will be present in the courtroom.”

She then ordered the bail be set and the Valdez hearing be held at a later date.

Matheus said the victim or family members have a right to make a statement regarding bail or release, but after Edmon-



Troy Driver, accused of kidnapping Naomi Irion, appears for a bail hearing in Canal Township Justice Court via video from the Lyon County Jail in Yerington. (Photos by Robert Perea, The Fernley Reporter)

do conferred with Irion’s family, she said the family had elected not to make any statement.

After the hearing, Irion’s brother, Casey Valley, said the family would like to convey the importance of Troy Driver’s safety if he is released on bail.

*Continued on page 9...*

### Messiah in the Passover

A CHOSEN PEOPLE MINISTRIES EXPERIENCE

**MESSIAH IN THE PASSOVER**, a vivid and exciting demonstration showing how Jesus fulfilled the ancient feast of Passover, will be held on, April 6, 2022. This visual presentation will be conducted by Dr. Rich Freeman of Chosen People Ministries.

**MESSIAH IN THE PASSOVER** begins with the traditional Passover Seder table – complete with all the articles of this important Jewish celebration. The speaker will explain the symbolic meanings of the various items of the Passover feast and highlight their relationship to the Last Supper that Messiah celebrated with the disciples, giving special emphasis on the redemptive significance of the crucifixion.

**MESSIAH IN THE PASSOVER** gives the Christian community insight into Jewish traditions so that the Jewish roots of Christianity can be better understood. This program also helps the Jewish and Christian communities understand their common heritage.

This meeting is open to the public. Both the Christian as well as the Jewish community are invited to attend. An offering will be received. For more information, please contact below.

Chosen People Ministries is over 128 years old, an evangelical mission that was founded in 1894 by Leopold Cohn, a Hungarian rabbi who came to believe that Jesus is the Messiah promised by the Hebrew Scriptures. From humble beginnings in Brooklyn, New York, Chosen People Ministries has grown into a worldwide ministry to “the Jew first and to the Gentile.” More information is online at [chosenpeople.com](http://chosenpeople.com).

**“MESSIAH IN THE PASSOVER”  
EXPERIENCE IS  
COMING TO FALLON CHRISTIAN LIFE CENTER April 6, 2022 At 6:00pm  
1435 KAISER STREET, FALLON, NV**

Contact: Cathy Strasdin Email: [cathy@ccomm.net](mailto:cathy@ccomm.net)

## Purple Up! April is the Month to Recognize Military Families

By Rachel Dahl

To celebrate and honor the Military Child along with their families, the Churchill County School District along with Oasis Academy will hold several activities during the month of April. The Month of the Military Child is part of the legacy left by former Defense



Secretary Caspar Weinberger. He established the Defense Department commemoration in 1986, underscor-

ing the important role military children play in the armed forces community.

The Churchill County School Board will lead out with the Purple Up! School board meeting on April 4, and the City

of Fallon will dye the fountain on Main Street purple. That event date and time is yet to be announced.

Numa Elementary will Show support for military families on Friday, April 8. According to Noreen Swenson, school counselor, who is planning the day, "everyone who wears purple that day earns a point for their tribe. We are also working to put up world and US maps in each hallway, and then having students make dots in the places they have lived. Military families will be noted in purple and all others in green. This recognizes our military families and also gives all students the chance to show their diversity in places they have lived."

Lahontan, and E.C. Best Elementary will honor military families on Wednesday, April 20 by wearing purple in support of military families, and the Middle School will hold a week of fun events an activities from April 18 to 22. At Churchill County High School there



will be a Military Connected family breakfast held on April 20 and the Boys Golf Tournament on the 19th is themed Purple Up!

There will also be a National Honor Society 5K Fundraiser - "Purple Up for Military Kids!" held on April 30, beginning at Veterans Park (behind City Hall) at 10am. The fee is \$20 per person and includes the official PURPLE T-Shirt if registered by 4/13. Registration forms are on the high school website at: [cchs.churchillesd.com](http://cchs.churchillesd.com).

## 84th Annual Livestock Show and Sale Coming Up – Get your Freezers Ready

By Rachel Dahl

The Churchill County Jr. Livestock Show and Sale, one of the community events of the year is just around the corner. Held this year on April 21 – 23 at the Churchill County Fairgrounds there will be 110 4-H and FFA youth participating to exhibit their beef, sheep, swine, goats, rabbits, and poultry market and breeding project animals. The sale will be held on Saturday, April 23, beginning at 1 p.m.

"This is your opportunity to purchase locally-raised animals that will yield high-quality meat," said Karen Bogdanowicz who facilitates the Churchill County 4-H program.

The CCJLS will consist of market animal classes, showmanship classes, and all the breeding stock classes as well. The event allows youth to exhibit skills they have learned in their various projects including project management, decision-making, and project evaluation. The Show and Sale allows the community to encourage and reward these youth who are engaged in positive and productive efforts.

According to Bogdanowicz, there are two ways to participate in the sale, attending the sale in person, enjoying

the excitement of the event, the drama of the auctioneer's cry, with the auction committee and ring men on hand to assist. Or, if unable to attend in person, "a simple call to the 4-H office at 423-5121 and we'll do the rest," she said.

There are also several other ways for the community to get involved and show support for these programs. In addition to the auction on Saturday, there are sponsorship opportunities for awards, or a contribution can be made to the CCJLS.

Costs for a steer including the slaughter/processing fee are about \$3,000, while pigs are \$1,300, and lambs are right at \$850. Bogdanowicz suggested that sometimes a better way to par-



ticipate is teaming up with a neighbor, co-worker, or friends and family to split the cost of an animal. There is also the option to resell the animal and only pay the difference between the "gavel" sold price and the resale price.

The sale is for market animals only and the order of the sale will be determined by the show committee with the animals placing highest in the market show being sold first, followed by those placing progressively lower. Buyers are encouraged to pay for their animal at the sale and the cost of processing is the responsibility of the buyer.

Bogdanowicz reminds the community the auction purchases finance and support these goal-oriented young people and helps them invest in other animals for future projects. Additionally, the purchase of these animals brings better food to the consumer's table as well.

For more information contact Karen Bogdanowicz at 775-427-2480 or [kbogdanowicz@unr.edu](mailto:kbogdanowicz@unr.edu).

*Macady Bogdanowicz with her first place chicken at the 2020 CCJLS.*

## Kids Interact in 1950s Kitchen Just Their Size

By Jo Petteruti

There's a cool space in the Churchill County Museum where kids can interact in a fully stocked 1950s kitchen complete with appliances, tables and chairs all in their size, plus period wall hangings, and black and white television shows. It's the perfect place for spending time with your kids or grandkids, especially with spring break coming up.

Gretchen Felte, Education Curator at the Museum came up with the idea a few years ago with Dan Ingram, Museum Director at the time and who has since passed. "I toured a Children's Museum in St Louis, and inside there was this wonderful little city. It had a post office where the kids could deliver mail to places in the city, which had a store, a house, a television place, and a newspaper place where they could actually run prints. We were there for hours, and my kids just loved it. So that provided ideas for this kitchen, especially because of the experiences I had with my children spending time there together. Parents will come out with some silly stories too, about the things they did when they were that young age, and the laughter that comes about is contagious. That's one of the biggest benefits for me, hearing people's stories. Our community, our stories. The joy and the laughter. One little boy just came running down here giggling the whole way. He was delighted."

Gretchen went on to say, "This was so fun to do. It took about three weeks to actually set up the kids' kitchen in the Museum, but that was after a few years of thought, and collecting things I wanted to see in there." She refers to that as collecting with a purpose.

"The wall panels tell all about that time period. I've had parents and grandparents come in, and they sat and reminisced about those days, remembering the TV dinners." Kids can build their

own TV dinner at one table that has an old tray painted for each seat. The kids have to find the right food pieces to fit in their trays. "Some of the food pieces are kind of disgusting, but that's how they looked to us back then. This was before fast food, and parents and grandparents can share their childhood with the kids. And that was a benefit that I didn't see coming, the history that's being shared between the generations."

Gretchen's husband, Cal Felte owns Richard's Maytag and he was able to pull together the right handles, decals, and knobs for the appliances. The stovetop came from an old kitchenette that had actually been in use. It has two electric burners sitting right next to this little sink with an oven beneath it. Water and electricity side by side. They picked the colors and fabrics to design the layout,

silverware, the telephone, they can play with everything. Kids don't even know to use a rotary phone these days. Some don't even believe we used phones like that, they are so foreign to them. It's a great history lesson while being fun."

The kids' kitchen was supposed to be a temporary display, but Gretchen said they would be holding it now until November. She's been in conversations with a couple of teachers, suggesting school trips to the Museum for the displays. "The goal is to create more hands-on displays for kids in the Museum."

The next project for families is the "War Comes Home" exhibit that will include a letter-writing campaign for children where they can write letters to soldiers on the desks that will be set up for them. "We're working in conjunction with the Library, and I'm also trying to



Fully stocked kids-size kitchen filled with things to play with. Pantry cabinet containing all the essentials for cooking or baking. Refrigerator and freezer items to prepare TV dinner trays where kids can build their own TV dinners. Wall display of kitchen play items decorated with lighted hanging

then Cal built the appliances, and other items for the exhibit. Gretchen has been clever with the decorations too, with decorative, lighted hanging colanders. "Talking this through with Dan, it was that creative thinking that he'd always challenge me with, to go further. He'd plant an idea and let me take off with it. Teri is a lot like that too, so when I did this she was amazed, and asked me to do even more."

"I put as much stuff as I could into each area so that the kids could play with them all. The food (not real), dishes, pans,

get in with the School District for that too. That one will be fun. There will also be an 1860s theme for the Pony Express, the telegraph, the railroad, and statehood. That will be in the fall, and we're hoping that teachers will take advantage of using it to teach Nevada history. The history is all right here, so why not take advantage of it."

More information about the Museum, its exhibits, and its hours of operation can be found on the website, [ccmuseum.org](http://ccmuseum.org), or by calling 775-423-3677.

# BLOOD DRIVE

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Churchill Community Hospital

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## City Council Takes Corrective Action in Special Meeting

By Jo Petteruti

On Friday, March 25, the Fallon City Council held a 9 a.m. special meeting. The members reviewed and approved corrective action be taken to correct and prevent further violations of the Nevada Administrative Code and the Nevada Revised Statutes. A violation of each state codified regulation by the city was reported in Note 2 of the city's 2021 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report.

According to NAC 354.750, an inventory of all equipment and other personal property constituting capital assets of the city must be conducted every two years. Last year, the inventory was not completed in time. City staff with expertise in their respective areas are in the process of conducting the physical inventory to ensure its accuracy. An overall count will then be presented to the Clerk/Treasurer and Chief of Staff for review and inspection, targeting its completion in May 2022.

Per NRS 354.626, during fiscal year 2021 the city's Electric Enterprise Fund

and Landfill Enterprise Fund both had expenses that exceeded their budgeted appropriations.

It was noted in the city's plan of correction that the Electric Fund's purchase costs have increased significantly due to market and climate conditions. The billing to purchase energy runs two months behind, so May and June have to be estimated to meet the budget augmentation fiscal year deadline. Even though that augmentation was approved, it was not enough to meet actual cost increases for those two months. The plan of correction calls for staff to be more conservative with the May and June estimates.

The Landfill Fund exceeded its appropriation for the landfill closure cost liability which is updated annually by the city's landfill consultant. Here too, cost calculations are not completed until months after the end of the fiscal year. This past year actual calculated costs went beyond the budgeted amount due to inflation and the number of tons received at the landfill. The plan of correction stated the city staff to be more

conservative with the landfill closure cost estimates.

City Clerk/Treasurer Sean Richardson addressed the Council to discuss the corrective actions the city is taking to ensure these violations do not occur again saying, "The enclosed memo to the mayor and council outlines the details of the plan of correction for each violation. If approved, this plan of correction will be forwarded to the Department of Taxation to comply with the statutory requirement."

Councilwoman Karla Kent asked, "The plan states that staff will be more conservative with their estimates. But would it be conservative as the word, or would it be more liberal? I think they need to be higher with their estimates." Richardson replied, "Yes, higher is what I was going for, and before I send it over to the Department of Taxation, I can change that."

The council unanimously approved the corrected plan of correction to prevent any further violations.

## Contract Negotiations Began Monday for Local Teachers -- *The second rule of negotiations: You do not talk about negotiations*

By Rachel Dahl

In closed-door negotiations, the Churchill County School District and the Churchill County Education Association were set to meet Monday to begin discussions on the 2022-23 contract for the next school year. According to those involved in negotiations, both parties must agree to ground rules in order to proceed with negotiations, one of which is that there is no publicity, no talking to the media, and no discussion outside the negotiations.

According to Superintendent Summer Stephens, who responded to email, the last contract between teachers and the district did not have a COLA (cost of living adjustment). In the contract for this school year, 2021-22 which was approved in January of 2022, she said all teachers got step increases for years of service, column movement for education, and the district continues to pay their full PERS, which now, between employees and employer is 29.75% of their salary. The district also paid insurance increase of 8% to continue paying fully

for employee coverage.

"We did not have a COLA this year or last year," she said.

The last COLA was 1.5% that was given during the 2019-20 school year when Governor Sisolak pushed the legislature to include a 3% raise for teachers in the state budget.

"All staff who returned this year also got \$1500 retention stipend and all new staff and subs who worked 500+ hours last year got \$1000," said Stephens.

Although teachers get step increases for their years of service as well as education, once a teacher reaches 26 years with the district and maxes out the education increases, or they do not continue with their education, they no longer receive salary increases, leaving the most experienced teachers in the district with no financial improvement.

During the last school board meeting, held on March 23, high school special education teacher Bonnie Hargis spoke during public comment and reminded board members that the retention stipend does not go toward helping fund teachers' retirement in PERS (Pub-

lic Employees Retirement System) and those teachers who have topped out on the steps due to their commitment and longevity to the district are not getting step increases, which also affects their PERS.

Jennifer Gehant who teaches first grade and is serving as President of the CCEA also spoke during public comment. She said going into the first negotiation session Monday she wanted to put it out there that with social security increasing 5.9 percent and the CPI increasing 8.1 in the past 12 months, with rents soaring and gas prices doubling, Churchill is the only district in the state of Nevada that hasn't offered pay increases.

"As the negotiations chair, I put out a survey to staff regarding what their objective would be going into this with one salary and two language options. The overwhelming vitriol and frustration is with us being the sole district that has not offered additional pay increases when people are struggling to make ends meet," she said. "People are leaving the district."

# Election

## Myles Getto Runs for County Commission

By Rachel Dahl

Myles Getto is a local businessman who has a strong sense of community and has served on the Churchill County Planning Commission for the past two years. With roots deep in the Lahontan Valley as a fourth-generation farmer, Getto has made a go with his father growing teff, an Ethiopian grain that takes less water to grow than alfalfa, retailing flour and grain locally along with wholesaling to the high-end cereal and flour markets across the country.

What began as an experiment in growing alternative crops has become Desert Oasis Teff and Grain, a company that grows ancient, gluten-free grains for modern tastes.

Taking risk is in his DNA and as the youngest candidate on the ticket at age 21, Getto is no stranger to rolling the dice. He leased his first farm ground when he was 16 years old, 100 acres that as he explains, “got my foot in the ground.” When he was 17 he went in on the Body Shop gym with his brother Wyatt and now continues to expand his own farming operation.

Serving on the planning commission and getting involved in the community has been important to Getto who said it has given him a perspective of what the important issues are. He sees housing as the number one issue along with water which goes hand in hand with supplies for the community as well as the rights

owned by agriculture users, leading to his third issue being preservation of the agriculture economy.

“Being on Planning Commission I realized that all of these positions in Churchill County have a huge influence on the way Churchill County is going to move,” said Getto. “We are at a unique point in time right now, we have to guide ourselves to economic success, but we also want to maintain our small town, rural feel. Farming is the backbone of Fallon, that’s what makes Fallon, Fallon.”

He believes in growth, “I like slow, controlled economic growth. We can’t just stop in our tracks because we lose to surrounding areas and eventually, we’re just going to be covered in houses and no one is even going to work here.” He said it’s important for people to speak up who want amenities and want to see local services. “Allowing growth brings prices down and means our local contractors can compete with the DR Hortons of the world.”

He has also talked to local contractors about why they aren’t building houses here. They tell him they just don’t have the help, the manpower, they can’t get workers. “How do you fix that, you bring people to Fallon, you expand what we have here. People love Fallon, why not share that with the rest of the world,” he said.

Getto said he is running because the decisions being made now will affect his generation for the rest of their lives.



“Churchill County is very, very important to me, it’s my whole life and I want to make sure I’m a part of that,” he said. “I have good ideas and I want to bring them to the table.”

Getto is running in the seat that will be vacated by Pete Olsen who has reached the limits of his term, serving as Churchill County Commissioner for the past 12 years. Getto faces three opponents in the Republican Primary; Tanya Freeman, Kenny Harmon, and Tom Riggins. The primary will be held on June 14 with early voting starting on May 28.

*Getto can be reached at: mylesgettofarm@gmail.com and encourages voters to reach out with any questions.*

## Sheriff Draws a Challenger – Daniel Sharp Running in Opposition



By Rachel Dahl

Daniel Sharp, a five-year resident of Churchill County and newcomer to local politics has thrown his hat in the ring to challenge Churchill County Sheriff Richard Hickox.

“When Hickox didn’t stand with the other sheriff’s and declare our county a second amendment sanctuary it made me mad because you’re sworn as the sheriff to uphold the constitution first and foremost,” said Sharp. “We need someone in there who knows at least a little about the constitution and can hire people, at least an undersheriff and some captains who know what they’re doing.”

Describing himself as a businessman, farmer, and handyman, Sharp said he buys and sells property and has rentals. He grew up in Louisiana and was raised to be a minister. His family moved

to California where he got into construction and built swimming pools.

Sharp is currently involved in a criminal case that he said is nearly resolved and that he cannot discuss on the advice of his attorney. According to documents in the 10th Judicial District Court, Sharp was scheduled to appear in court on March 29, however, his case was continued to next week.

He was arrested last April on a warrant, and according to the District Court docket, charges against him are Assault with a deadly weapon, Burglary with a deadly weapon, and Coercion with the use of physical force. According to the docket, the event occurred on January 6, 2020.

*Sharp encourages voters to contact him by email at corruptionfightersharp46@gmail.com*



KIDNAPPING continued from page 3...



Naomi Irion's brother, Casey Valley, addresses the media after the bail hearing for Troy Driver.

"He's the only one who can help us bring Naomi home, he's the only one that we know about," Valley said. Valley said he was neutral on the pos-

sibility of Driver being out on bail. "I'm surprised that there was bail at all, but if I was in that situation, I would have a hard time posting that," Valley said.

Regarding Driver's possible ability to post bail, Valley said, "He does own expensive trucks, that's all I know about him."

Valley said seeing Driver's face on the courtroom video was a little bit of a shock.

"He's just a human," Valley said. "We don't know very much about him and he's a suspect, and if he did what he's suspected of doing, then he's not a very good human."

He said seeing Driver charged and appearing in court does not give the family any sense of justice.

"Because I don't have my sister back," he said. "We don't want anything except for Naomi to come back home."

Valley was also asked what he would say if he could talk to Driver.

"I would ask him to put himself in our shoes, and what he would want a suspect to do if it was his daughter that was missing," Valley said.

*Shortly after this story was completed, the body of Irion was found. See below.*

## Press Release -- Kidnapping

Joint Press Release from Lyon and Churchill County Sheriff.

On Tuesday, March 29, 2022 Investigators from the Churchill County Sheriff's Office along with a Detective from the Lyon County Sheriff's office responded to a remote part of Churchill County following a tip regarding the disappearance of Naomi Irion. Their investigative actions led them to a possible gravesite, Washoe County Sheriff's Office Forensic Investigative Services team was contacted and responded to assist in processing the scene.

The body of an adult Caucasian female was recovered from that gravesite,

the body was transported to the Washoe County Medical Examiners Office for an autopsy and to confirm identification. On March 30, 2022 the remains were confirmed as those of Naomi Irion, the family has been notified.

No further information can be released at this time as this is still an open and active investigation.

*We would like to extend our sympathy and condolences to the Irion family and thank all the volunteers for their hard work in trying to find Naomi and bring closure to the family. The Churchill County Sheriff's Office and the Lyon County Sheriff's Office will continue to work closely on these cases.*





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## District Court News

By Leanna Lehman

The Tenth Judicial District Court convened Tuesday, March 29, 2022, with Judge Thomas Stockard presiding.

Derrick Carlyle Alexander, in custody, appeared without counsel on a charge of Failure to Appear After Admission to Bail, a Category D Felony, punishable by 1-4 years in prison. On March 17, 2022, the case was referred to the Nevada Department of Indigent Defense Services because the Churchill County Public Defender's Office had to withdraw as counsel. The DIDS was just able to appoint Paul Yohey, Esq., to represent Alexander. The hearing was continued until April 19 to grant Yohey time to meet with Alexander, who is currently serving 90 days in the County Jail on a previous unrelated charge.

April Nadine Baldwin appeared for sentencing. According to Justin Oakes, Esq., defense counsel for Baldwin, his client was operating a dispensary without a license. Oakes stated that Baldwin had been doing well during her provisional placement in the Western Regional Specialty Court program. Judge Stockard suspended proceedings and placed Baldwin on probation and is requiring her to successfully complete the Specialty Court program, after which the charge will be reduced to a misdemeanor.

Denny Tony Benka, in custody, pled guilty to one count of Second-Degree Arson, a Category B Felony punishable by 1-10 years in prison. According to CCPD Jacob Sommer, on January 23, 2022, Benka did set fire to his own home. The Court set sentencing for June 21.

Brandiblu Elquist pled guilty to Residential Burglary, a Category B Felony punishable by 1-10 years in prison. According to her court-appointed attorney, Moria Desmarias, Esq., between January and June 2021, Elquist did enter a residence on Santa Fe Drive in Fallon with the intent to commit larceny. Per the terms of her plea agreement, all other charges related to this incident will be dropped. The court scheduled sentencing for June 21.

Kayla Renee Pierson appeared for sentencing on a gross misdemeanor charge of Conspiracy to Possess a Schedule III, IV, or V Controlled Substance. According to her attorney Justin Oakes, Esq., Pierson has been doing well during her provisional placement in the Western Regional Drug Court program. Judge Stockard suspended a sentence of 364 days in jail and officially placed her in Drug Court.

Kristina Marie Reeves, in custody, appeared on a probation violation. According to Parole & Probation, Reeves failed to comply with the controlled substances provisions of her release. Additionally, she is facing multiple other criminal charges in Justice Court. Reeves admitted that she failed to meet the performance requirements of Parole & Probation. Her attorney, CCPD Jacob Sommer requested to continue the proceedings to address the other charges and come to a global resolution. Judge Stockard agreed to continue the matter until May 10.

Earl Thomas Smith pled guilty to Failure to Stop on the Signal of a Peace Officer, a Category B Felony punishable by 1-6 years in prison. According to Churchill County Public Defender Wright Noel, his plea agreement states if Smith successfully completes probation, the charge will be reduced to a gross misdemeanor. Smith is to appear for sentencing on June 21.

Trevor James Nady, in custody, appeared for sentencing with his attorney, Charles Woodman, Esq. Woodman requested a continuance until July 12 to allow for a global resolution to be negotiated as Nady has other pending cases in Justice Court. Stockard continued as requested.

Ronald Gene Renzulli, in custody, appeared on two sentencing violations. According to his attorney, Justin Oaks, Esq., his client has been unable to comply with the terms of Drug Court and probation. He requested the court order a sanction of six months in jail and reinstate on probation. ADA Chelsea Sanford asked for prison for Renzulli, stating that he was given extraordinary opportunities to turn things around. Judge Stockard revoked Renzulli's probation and imposed the underlying sentences. On Count (1) Offer, Attempt, or Commission of Unauthorized Act relating to Manufacture or Compounding of Certain

Controlled Substances, Renzulli was sentenced to 24-60 months in prison. On Count (2), Low-Level Possession of a Controlled Substance (14-28 grams), he was sentenced to 24-60 months.

Daniel Ray Sharp appeared for a pre-trial evidentiary hearing. The hearing was vacated and will be rescheduled to allow the parties to appear via Zoom.

Logan Wade Thomas appeared for sentencing on a single count of Burglary of a Structure, a Category D Felony punishable by 1-4 years in prison. According to the criminal complaint, on December 28, Thomas entered the old Cock'n Bull Restaurant on South Taylor with the intent to commit larceny. Churchill CCPD Jacob Sommer asked the Court to consider probation, stating that since his arrest, his client has maintained his sobriety, gained employment, and complied with the terms of his release. Thomas received probation on a suspended sentence of 19-48 months. Judge Stockard also ordered Thomas to maintain full-time employment and avoid contact with anyone else involved with the burglary.

Autumn Rae Yungk pled guilty to one count of Possession of a Controlled Substance, a first or second offense, and a Category E Felony punishable by 1-4 years in prison. According to Assistant District Attorney Chelsea Sandford, Yungk admitted that on December 19, at or near 198 W. Williams Avenue, she knowingly possessed approximately five grams of a Schedule I controlled substance, mainly methamphetamine. Judge Stockard granted Yungk probation on a suspended sentence of 12-32 months in prison.





**NEVADA LEGAL SERVICES**  
I N C O R P O R A T E D

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Nevada Legal Services (NLS) is a non-profit organization providing free legal services to low income Nevadans in all counties. We provide legal assistance to eligible clients with legal matters, such as bankruptcy, unemployment, housing, public benefits, family law, all claims, debt collection, simple estate planning and Criminal Records Sealing (Nevada Only). We also provide community clinics, classes, outreaches, and Ask A Lawyer events throughout Nevada.

Servicios Legales De Nevada (NLS) es una organización sin fines de lucro que brinda servicios legales gratuitos a los residentes de Nevada de bajos ingresos en todos los condados. Brindamos asistencia legal a clientes elegibles con asuntos legales, como bancarrota, desempleo, vivienda, beneficios públicos, derecho familiar, pequeños reclamos, cobro de deudas, planificación patrimonial simple y sellado de antecedentes penales (Solo en Nevada). También ofrecemos clínicas comunitarias, clases, actividades de divulgación y eventos Ask A Lawyer en todo Nevada.



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# Agriculture

## Local Dairies Strong Segment of Ag Economy



By Rachel Dahl

Given a \$151 million agriculture economy in Churchill County, 14 local dairies play a major role in economic output and employment. County Commission Chairman and owner of Hillside Dairy, Pete Olsen said there are roughly 14,000 dairy cows in Churchill County, the care and feeding of which provide nearly 210 jobs.

All of the local milk produced in Churchill County supplies either the Dairy Farmers of America powdered milk plant located on Wildes Road, or Model Dairy in Reno which was recently purchased by Producers Dairy from Fresno, California. Olsen said since the DFA milk plant came online in 2012, the plant is now nearly at capacity, processing 2 million pounds of raw milk daily and producing 250,000 pounds of dried dairy ingredients daily for domestic and

global customers.

Originally built to supply dry powder milk to China, the plant now serves customers in Mexico, Columbia, the Middle East, and North Africa, including Nestle, Unilever, and some domestic candy producers.

In addition to the on-farm dairy employees, Olsen said there are 45 employees at the milk plant,

along with the employees who handle the logistics of hauling the dry powder to the port at Oakland. "In addition to that there's all the money that flows through the community to Big R, Louie's, Kent's, buying local hay, and all the rest of what we buy," he said.

Although milk prices are high right now, at \$24.38 per hundred-weight (100 pounds of milk which is 11.63 gallons) in April of 2022, Olsen said all the costs of farming and running a dairy are up accordingly. "You may have heard of this little thing in Ukraine," he said. Ukraine is a huge producer of grain, along with corn and wheat and with the unrest, exports to European countries have been interrupted. Additionally, fertilizer exports from Russia have also been impacted, driving up costs but also severely impacting availability. Olsen says costs have tripled since last year, and that's if you can even find products, many of which

are not even available.

And like a broken record, local dairies are also experiencing a shortage of labor. "We are always looking for people," said Olsen.

Despite the challenges, dairy farming in Churchill County continues to be a strong segment of the economy, with expansion coming from third-generation families who have decided to preserve their legacy and way of life. Several of the Olsen boys are running their dairies now as are the Whitaker, Sorensen, Perazzo, Mills, and Gomes families.

Not only do local dairies serve the DFA, but there is has also been creative value-added agriculture with Isidro Alves expanding Sand Hill Dairy into producing cheese, heavy cream, and world-famous chocolate milk.



Top left Isidro Alves with Make-A-Wish Annie, courtesy Kelli Kelly. Above photo of Hillside Dairy by Randy Wellnitz.

## Bighorn Bulletin-- FFA Does Well at State



FFA students at the state convention, left to right, Ruby Hiskett, Hunter Arends, Aubrey Vaughn, and Joshua Bloomfield.

Before Spring Break Oasis FFA attended the state convention in Reno. This year's event saw schools attending from throughout the state.

The Oasis team placed third in Conduct of Chapter Meetings, Sophomore Hunter McNabb placed first with his Agriculture Fair project, Ag Sales placed third, and the Novice Parliamentary procedure placed third. Wilhelmina Albaugh, Hunter Arends, and Eddie Morrow were awarded the state FFA degree. There have only been two other Oasis students to earn this distinction.

Junior Eddie Morrow performed guitar and sang one night for all the Nevada Chapters and received a standing ovation.

"The students worked really hard and represented Oasis FFA very well. It was a great experience, they were able to compete in a variety of contests, attend workshops, meet students from across Nevada, and have a lot of fun," said Oasis FFA Advisor Jackie Bogdanowicz.

## Bighorn Bulletin

### Senior Spotlight: Kailyn Sorensen



Senior Kailyn Sorensen will complete her high school diploma and Associate of Science degree from Western Nevada College in May.

“After I graduate, I will go on to BYU Provo and study either Optometry or Psychology,” says Sorensen.

Attending Oasis since third grade, Sorensen has a lot of great memories from school. “One of my favorite memories at Oasis though is going to Disneyland for the Student Council Leadership Retreat with all my friends,” she explains.

“I have had good teachers and good friends.

I would like to thank the school counselors for helping me through college applications, scholarships, and any problems I encountered.”

Along with participating in Student Council, she has participated in We the People and is currently the Oasis Chapter of National Honor Society’s President.

Throughout her Oasis time, she has always loved her math classes and the many projects she worked on in science and social studies.

Her favorite projects were her World War II Museum Project, the Refrigerator Box Solar System Project, and the Rock Cycle Musical.

*“The advice I would give to future students is to work hard, keep track of due dates, and find time to have some fun,” notes Sorensen.*



## Students Receive Perfect Scores on State Civics Test

Four Oasis students, Kennedee Irving, Natalie Jaques, Thanh Nguyen, and Hunter McNabb received perfect scores on the State Civics Test.

The Nevada Legislature passed NRS 389.009 which states that a Nevada High School must determine how, when, the number of questions (not less than 50), and the passing requirements for the civics examination to be given.

Teacher Eric Grimes took the lead for Oasis and made questions from the Federal Citizenship and Naturalization Test based on the example provided by the legislature. Some questions are straightforward, but several make the students think deeper about how our government works, the branches of government, and their respective roles and powers.

The test has been administered for three years now. This year is the first year any perfect scores have been earned.

“These students worked hard to understand the information and the results show that. I was hoping to have one perfect score this year but to have four was incredibly rewarding,” explained Mr. Grimes.

“Education is about empowerment, about cultivating a human being to the highest possible potential — a tool for fulfilling the immensity of Being.”

~ Sadhguru



### Make your next move to Highland Estates of Fallon!

The housing market continues to be a seller's market. Now might be the time to make your move to Highland Estates and experience Simply the Finest in retirement living.

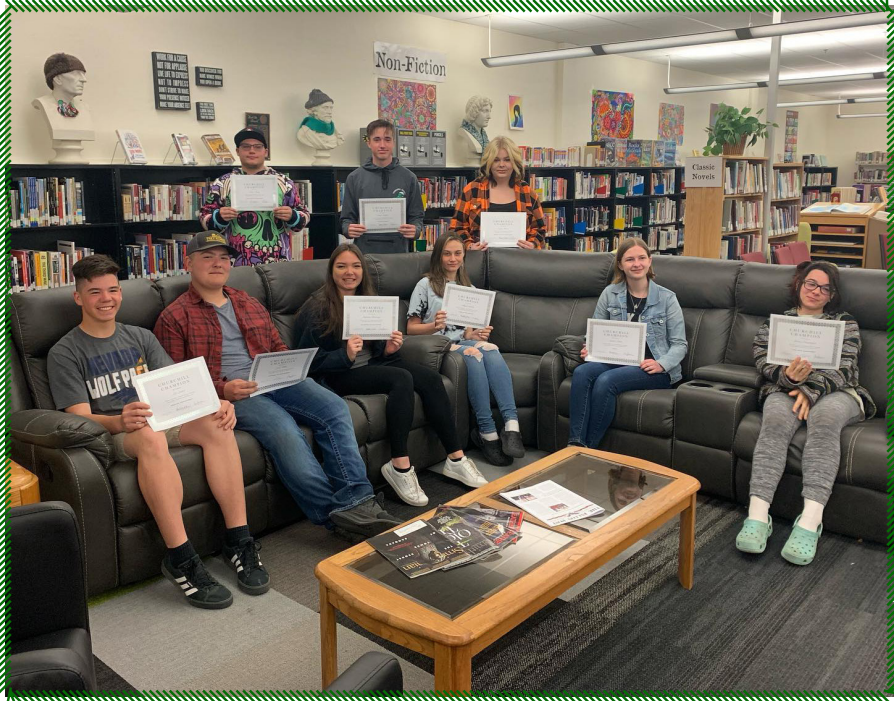


**HIGHLAND ESTATES**  
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# Education

## Churchill Champions for March



Alec Lecker, Josh Willis, Stephanie Karaway, Aaliyah Galindo, Andrea Lattin, Donna Dearing.  
Back row, standing: Colton Marty, Caleb Proffen, Emma Watson.



Daniel Madera with Chief Keith Bryska

## Logos Christian Academy -- Speech Winners

### Kindergarten (Picture Below):

1st Place - Evva Brown  
2nd Place - Charley Frey  
3rd Place - Brinlee Garcia

### 1st Grade

1st - Mercedes Martinez  
2nd - Raegan Amerine  
3rd - Victoria Lenwell

### 2nd Grade

1st - Madison Evans  
2nd - Riata Ethridge  
3rd - Adriana Over

### 3rd Grade

1st - McKynlee Amerine  
2nd - Emma Slentz  
3rd - Sara Allen

### 4th Grade

1st - Gary Over  
2nd - Payton Sowersby  
3rd - Autumn Thomas

### 5th Grade

1st - Zoey Lougheed  
2nd - Jace Slentz  
3rd - Rachel Williams and  
Jesse Richardson (tied)

### 6th Grade

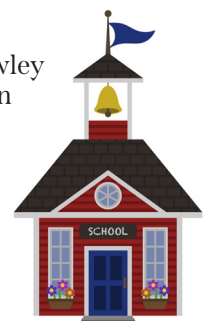
1st - Grace Dunkin  
2nd - Ben Hallquist  
3rd - Isaac Frederick

### 7th

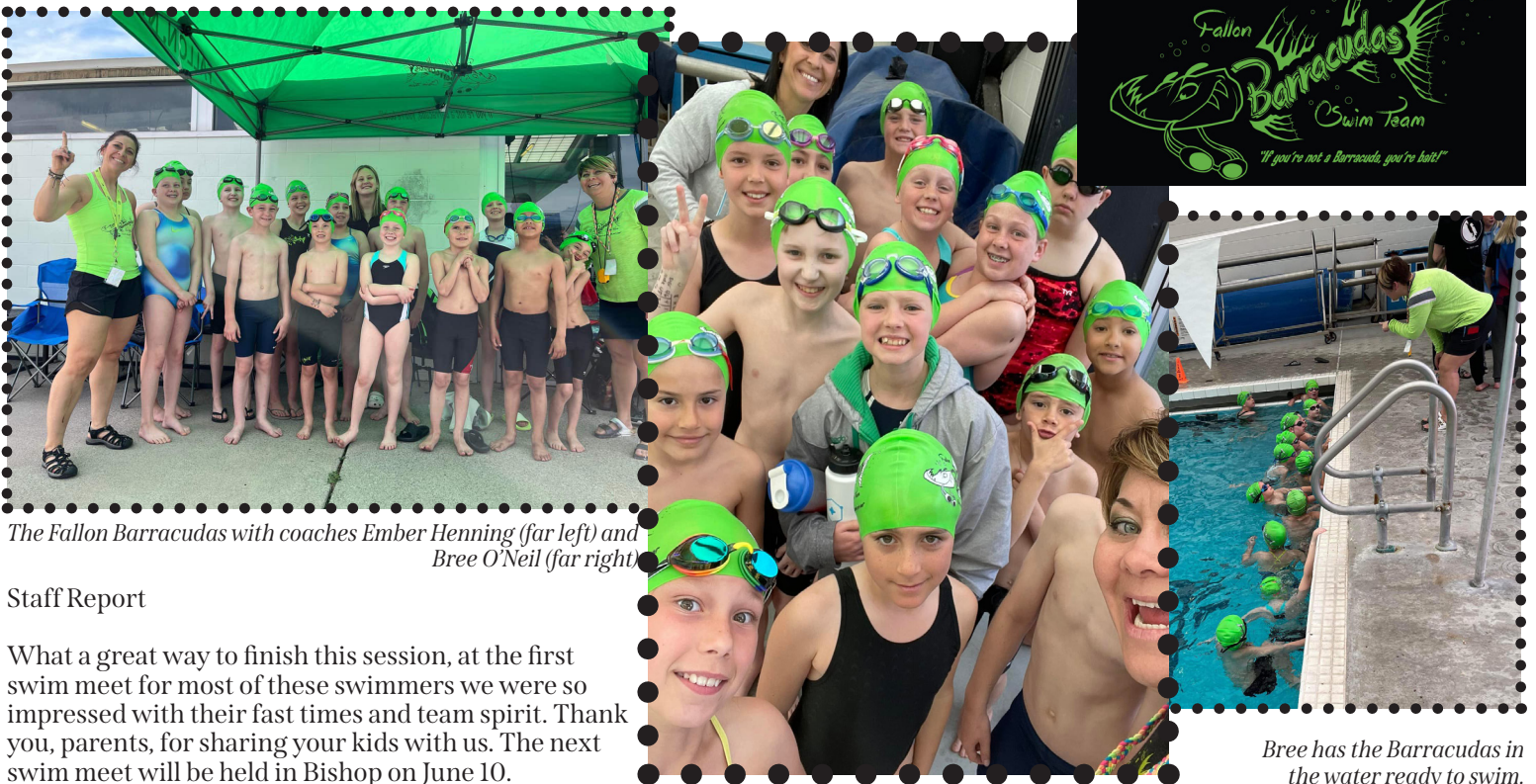
1st - Abigail Gilman  
2nd - Ava Bunyard  
3rd - Taylor Sowersby

### 8th

1st - Genna Ernst  
2nd - Kayden Crowley  
3rd - Talon Johnson



## Fallon Barracuda Swim Team



The Fallon Barracudas with coaches Ember Henning (far left) and Bree O'Neil (far right)

### Staff Report

What a great way to finish this session, at the first swim meet for most of these swimmers we were so impressed with their fast times and team spirit. Thank you, parents, for sharing your kids with us. The next swim meet will be held in Bishop on June 10.

Bree has the Barracudas in the water ready to swim.

## Travel Ball -- Under the Lights

As our boys patiently awaited their shot under the lights, they were rewarded with a magnificent sunset at the Big League Dreams complex in Manteca, CA. Playing together since T-Ball, this group of ball players is very confident that the future is bright for Fallon baseball. Our boys went on to win a 5-3 game for the ages against an incredibly talented team from Oakley, CA. Led by an outstanding pitching performance by Carlos Carreon Jr., the Hornets went on to win the next three games and returned to Fallon with a well deserved second place finish.

This is a special group of kids that love the game, hustle their tails off and play every game like it is their last. To quote the great Jimmy Mackedon, our boys "leave their guts on the field" every pitch. If you haven't had an opportunity to get out and see them in action, make it a priority. We are truly fortunate to have built an incredible team of coaches - Anthony Juarez, Carlos Carreon and Garrett Llamas.

We have not shied away from competition this year, we have traveled to play the best of the best in order to prepare for the grand finale. The culmination of our season lands us in Fallon during the week of July 17th, when the City of Fallon will host the 12U Regional Cal Ripken

Tournament. The finest teams from Hawaii, California, Arizona, Utah and Nevada will all assemble to sort out who is the best of the best from the Pacific Southwest Region.

None of this would be possible if not

for the generosity of our incredible community. The 12U Fallon Hornets thank you from the bottom of our hearts for allowing us to make such memories.

**GO HORNETS!!!**



From Left to Right - Alijah Juarez, Zane Ketner, Lincoln Neumann, Christian Benham, Mason Llamas, Jesse McCuller, Landen Wolf, Camo Richardson, Carlos Carreon Jr., Braylon Byrd, Cooper Gubler, Kelton Rowland, Bodie Henderson, Kylend Powell. Photo by Lori Ketner.

# Local Columnist

## High Desert Dirt -- The Raven's Rant



It is a very pretty time in Fallon, we're blooming all over town. The white blossomed, ornamental pear trees (*Pyrus* species) are in gorgeous full display down Maine street and at Oats Park in front of the Churchill Arts Council. They are such an iconic part of the town and a current favorite social media post (keep posting everyone, love those beautiful pictures) I sure would like to see them cared for a little more. Rant time, as new businesses pop up on Maine Street (hello No Filter Fitness) and the town continues to develop and beautify, we need to keep those trees looking their best. I know I have probably said already but at the very least removing and replacing the ones that need it. Not to mention, taking out the stakes and ties that are hindering growth and giving them much-needed fertilizer to keep these city sidewalk trees the trending post for years to come. While doing some volunteer time at the Churchill County Cemetery last week (more on that in a future column),

the flowering pears, sometimes called Callery or Bradford pears were practically vibrating, they were packed full of buzzing bees and other pollinators. Truly music to this beekeeper's heart. While it might seem taboo, I highly encourage you to take a walk through our cemetery grounds. As the town grows and changes, I am grateful for the "old Fallon" acres of many species of gorgeous, historic trees that are well cared for by the hardworking men seen in the photo, Claude Parsley and Aaron de la Cruz. The last few years have been challenging for us all, these guys have stepped up for the town. Now is a great time to plant if you're considering adding a tree to your landscape this year. If you want to see a mature example of a tree you're thinking about, I bet you can find one out at the cemetery. A gentle reminder if you do visit, out of respect for the people resting there please leave your four-legged friends at home.

Flowering/ornamental pears or the red-leaved, pink-flowered ornamental plum *Prunus* species are super easy to find at our local nurseries. Both are relatively easy to grow, small to medium height trees that are tolerant of our challenging climate. I should note, they are sometimes described as fruitless trees, but the pears develop a small pea-like hard fruit and the plums often make a small plum. Interestingly many places on the east coast describe the flowering pear as invasive and are mounting large eradication efforts as the trees make their way into the native landscape. Here in our water-challenged climate, however, most of the trees stay where you have planted them.

If you have not started yet, you can start pruning back perennials and

shrubs. Now is the time to prune grapevines as well if you haven't already. There are many different styles and methods for pruning grapes. If you get overwhelmed remember, grapes bear fruit on the green stems of one-year-old canes and like your fruit trees, they need adequate sunlight and air circulation. For maximum fruit production, you can remove the canes that brought you fruit last year, they won't produce grapes again. On fully established vines it might feel like you are removing a lot of plant material, but you will be rewarded with better fruit in the long run. Remove small and weak canes now as well. If your goal is to cover an arbor or pergola for shade, prune for shape as needed. I would recommend a light fertilizer right now; seaweed is my go-to or anything around the 10-10-10 range.

*Jaime Sammons carries a pair of pruners in her glove box - just in case, and believes you can be a gardener even with a single plant container on your porch.*



*Claude Parsley and Aaron de la Cruz keeping the grounds beautiful at the Churchill County Cemetery.*

## Maliah's Minute -- The Best Kind of Music



Something I really wanted last year was a piano. I practiced piano for over a month while I was in Hawaii and was really into it. I wanted to learn to play an entire song on the piano. I told my mom the only thing I wanted for Christmas was a piano. After months of waiting, my mom told me she couldn't find any good ones online, I looked, too, and none of them had the best reviews. She told me she'd keep looking and would get me a piano when she could. I felt very sad that I couldn't go into the new year learning to play the piano. On Christmas Day, I was surprised to receive a huge present from

my grandparents. When I opened it, I was so excited when I saw a piano. I was so grateful for my grandparents. Now I'm learning to play. I hope by the end of the year I can play proficiently. Playing piano and making jewelry are now my favorite hobbies. I have been playing classical music and found it helps me concentrate and even fall asleep easier. A piano, in my opinion, makes the best kind of music.

*Maliah Harris is a twelve-year-old entrepreneur and goofy pre-teen with big opinions. She attends Churchill County Middle School.*



## What's Cookin' in Kelli's Kitchen -- *Healthy Endeavours*



*Kelli Kelly - Slinger of Produce. Slurper of Dumplings. Person of the Bean.*

Well, folks, my spring break is over, and my nose is back to the grindstone. I am already fully engaged in a new round of classes—I am pleased to report that each class seems to be interesting and challenging. I did read a passage in one of my texts this week that hits close to home and is, frankly, a little terrifying. In

their book, “The Adaptation Advantage,” Heather McGowan and Chris Shipley write “the slowest rate of change for the rest of your life is right now.” That quote hit me right in the gut. I don’t know about you, fair reader, but I feel like time is speeding by at an almost unfathomable rate. It’s just going to get faster.

This last week, the unending passage of time hit my house with a wallop. Due to some unanticipated health changes thanks to the progression of age, Ned and I are embarking upon a diet-change voyage. Specifically, we are reducing or eliminating the vast majority of saturated fats that we regularly consume. I’m sure you can imagine the sort of wrench this throws into my usual happy-go-lucky, “make what sounds good” approach to dinner preparations. But my man is down for the change, and I am well-qualified for the challenge. So low-fat diet, here we come.

Fortunately for all involved, beans are allowed. But there are several Kelli’s Kitchen staples that are going to be relegated to cameo roles as we move forward

including avocados, cream, olives, butter, and Isidro’s amazing chocolate milk. The consummate optimist, I would rather focus on all of the things that are still okay to eat regularly or in moderation...



like mayonnaise. Seriously though, cooking meals that are low in saturated fats doesn’t have to be a tedious endeavor. Tonight, for example, we are going to enjoy Smoked Swordfish Tacos with Mango and Pineapple Pico de Gallo.

I hope that you will join us on this journey—finding explosively flavorful dishes that are as good for your gallbladder as they are for your taste buds.

### Grilled Swordfish Tacos

#### INGREDIENTS

2 t paprika  
1/2 t dried oregano  
1/2 t dried thyme  
1/4 t onion powder  
1/4 t garlic powder  
1/4 t freshly ground black pepper  
Large pinch cayenne pepper  
Salt and black pepper  
1 T light oil  
2 swordfish steaks  
1 mango, peeled & diced  
1/4 c pineapple, peeled & diced (optional)  
1 tomato, seeded & diced  
1 jalapeno, seeded & minced  
1/2 bunch of cilantro, minced  
2 T pickled onions, diced (or regular red onion)  
1 lime, juiced  
1 T extra virgin olive oil  
Flour tortillas or crunchy taco shells (or both)  
1 c cooked beans, mashed (optional)  
2 T sour cream or Greek yogurt  
1/2 t ground cumin

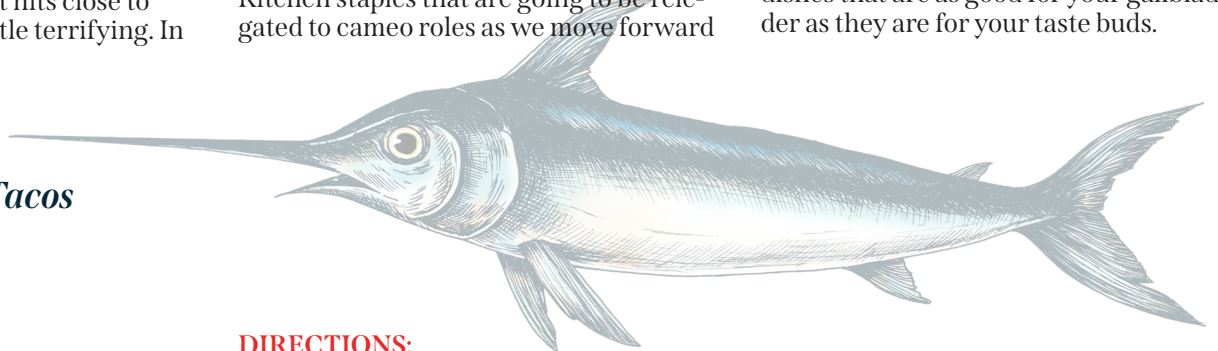
#### DIRECTIONS:

1. Combine paprika, thyme, oregano, onion powder, and garlic powder.
2. Rub fish steaks with seasoning mix, drizzle with just a little oil, and season with salt and pepper.
3. Grill over medium heat (or smoke on a pellet grill) until the fish flakes easily.
4. Meanwhile, combine mango, pineapple, cilantro, tomato, jalapeno, onion, and lime juice. Add a small glug of evoo and season to taste with salt and

pepper. Stir together sour cream and cumin, season to taste with salt & pepper.

5. To assemble: flake some swordfish into your tortilla or taco shell. Top with a dollop of sour cream sauce and a hefty spoonful of mango pico de gallo.

6. In Kelli’s Kitchen we are creating DOUBLE DECKER tacos. Begin by spreading a layer of mashed beans on a flour tortilla, then wrap around the crunchy taco shell. Then follow the directions in step 5.



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## Carol Recommends -- *"The Plot" a Novel by Jean Hanff Korelitz*



Once promising novelist Jake Bonner is washed up and looking for ideas. He remembers a story Evan, a dead student, told him years ago and decides to make it his own.

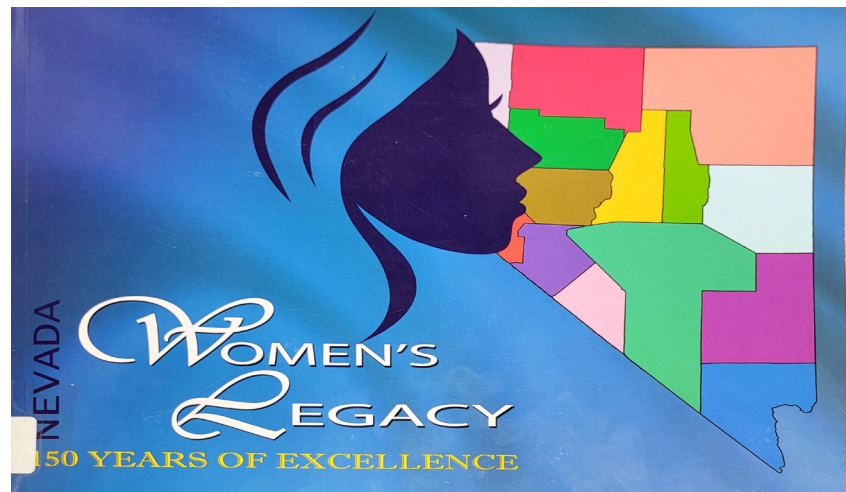
The book becomes a runaway bestseller and Spielberg makes it into a blockbuster movie, just like Evan promised it could be. Jake begins getting messages from someone who knows the plot is not Jake's work and the sender is not happy with Jake. Things begin to unravel and Jake scrambles to manage the unfolding events.

This is a real page-turner with well-developed characters. And it offers a look into the publishing industry which always interests me.

*This title is available in print at the library and downloadable eBook and eAudio through Overdrive/Libby.*

*Carol is the Director of the Churchill County Library. She is looking forward to *The Latecomer*, a new book by Korelitz coming out in May.*

## Museum Treasures - Nevada Women's Legacy



*Nevada Women's Legacy: 150 Years of Excellence* highlights various women from all over Nevada who share their stories of living in this great state. Many of the women featured here are from Churchill County and Fallon.

Feel free to come to the Museum and look at it in our reference library yourselves, and you might see someone you know.

## Movies & More

We have some great movies coming your way this week. Starting Friday, April 8th at 6:30 is the 2012 movie "Pitch Perfect." A wickedly funny tale of Becca, a college freshman, who is cajoled into joining The Bellas, the school's all-girls singing group. Injecting much-needed energy into their repertoire, The Bellas take on their male rivals at the campus competition. Starring Anna Kendrick, Brittany Snow, Rebel Wilson, and Adam Devine.

Saturday, April 9th starting at 6 p.m. is the 1956 sci-fi classic "Forbidden Planet." In this great movie, a starship crew in the 23rd century goes to investigate the silence of a distant planet's colony, only to find just two survivors, a powerful robot, and the deadly secret of a lost civilization. Stars Walter Pidgeon, Anne Francis, and Leslie Nielsen. Starting at 6:30 Saturday evening we have the 2016 family comedy "Zootopia." An incredibly fun and entertaining film following the story of a rookie bunny cop and a cynical con artist fox who must work together to solve a mysterious case. Starring the voices of Ginnifer Goodwin, Jason Bateman, Shakira, Idris Elba, and JK Simmons.

Join us Monday, April 18th at 6 p.m. for our annual meeting at which we will share the improvements that have been made, meet those who work behind the scenes and share the goals we have for the future. Hope to see you all there.



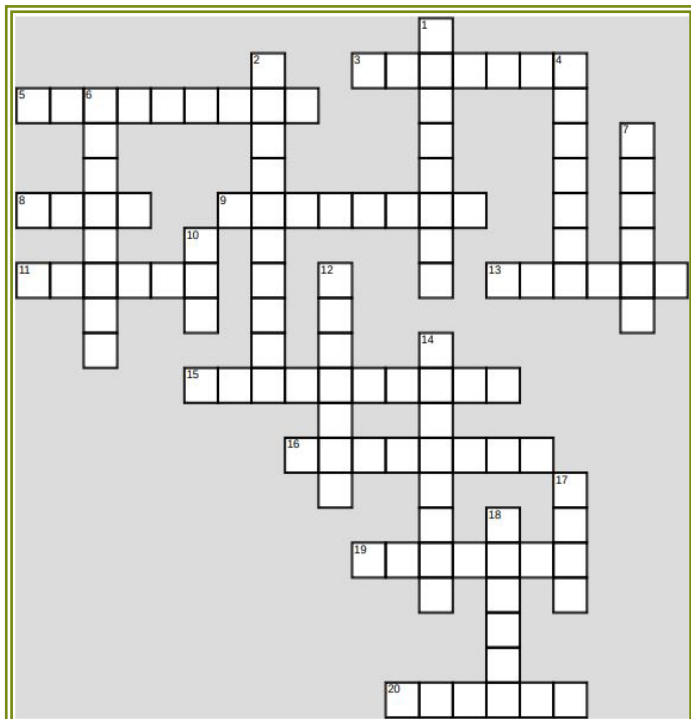
# April Movies

<p>Friday 4/1 @ 6:30pm</p> <p>Friday 4/8 @ 6:30pm</p> <p>Friday 4/15 @ 6:30pm</p> <p>Friday 4/22 @ 6:30pm</p> <p>Friday 4/29 @ 6:30pm</p>		<p>Saturday 4/2 6:00 &amp; 6:30pm</p> <p>Saturday 4/9 6:00 &amp; 6:30pm</p> <p>Saturday 4/16 6:00 &amp; 6:30pm</p> <p>Saturday 4/23 6:00 &amp; 6:30pm</p> <p>Saturday 4/30 6:00 &amp; 6:30pm</p>
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## All movies are free!

## Crossword -- April Songbirds



### ACROSS

3. Tie a Yellow Ribbon 'round the Old Oak Tree
5. The Way We Were
8. Coal Miner's Daughter
9. Here and Now
11. No Me Queda Mas
13. I Love How You Love Me
15. I Taught Him Everytihng
16. I'm in You
19. All of Me
20. Georgia on My Mind

### DOWN

1. Breakaway
2. Viva Las Vegas
4. Only the Lonely
6. Tammy
7. Daddy Don't Walk So Fast
10. Que Sera, Sera
12. Mama Tried
14. Rhinestone Cowboy
17. Let's Get It On
18. Out of Your Mind



# Commentary

## Churchill County School District -- *The Only District In The State To Not Give COLA Adjustments*

My name is Monica Blumhagen and I'm a teacher at E.C. Best. I'm not one to talk at meetings but have come to the conclusion that if I don't speak about topics that I and my fellow teachers feel strongly about that we're not going to be heard. Nevada, Churchill County, and most of the U.S. are experiencing inflation at an alarming rate. Many employers are recognizing this and building incentives and higher wages for their employees. They want their employees to stay and feel appreciated and quite honestly have the ability to provide for their families.

The average rent has soared to \$1,300 to \$1,700 for a three bedroom in Churchill County. Groceries have increased and we are all aware of our gas prices. Social Security has given a cost-of-living adjustment of 5.9% to the population. They, along with other companies are realizing that with higher prices on everything wages need to go up as well.

I know that I'm preaching to the

choir when I tell you that we deserve more. I know that your funds are dictated to you, and I know that you pay for benefits but I also know that we are losing fabulous teachers to other school districts in Nevada that are paying more and I know that teachers are leaving the profession because they can't provide for their families. They have to choose what bills to pay which month, and which bills not to pay.

There is a national teacher shortage and it is hitting our small district. I constantly see jobs popping up in my email. I know you have a hiring bonus for new teachers and staff for the district, but what about the teachers who have stayed. The teachers who have worked more hours than is required by contract, the teachers who have adapted during the pandemic and the teachers who have stayed through it all. We feel left out and underappreciated.

There are teachers on this board,

spouses of teachers on this board, and retired teachers on this board. You guys know how much teachers put in. So when the topic of budget or raises come up for your following year, please think of that. Think of your teachers who have stayed. Think of how much prices have gone up and think about the teachers who have to supplement their income with other jobs just to make ends meet.

You know teachers are in this profession because of their love of teaching. Their love of the light bulb moment. And to make a difference. Their love for the profession though, isn't going to pay for all the increases that we are experiencing, and they are going to be forced to choose another district or another profession.

*Transcribed from the March 23, 2022 Churchill County School Board workshop and used with permission.*

*WATER continued from front page...*

The plan is for the Coleman Road property to be bought by a private developer through the RFP process and then developed with certain "clawbacks" built in for performance.

There are currently several future water treatment plants named in the 2019 plan that will eventually be developed and then tied together in one looped system, with one of those currently in the works. Commissioners recently agreed to move the treatment plant that had been planned for county property at the corner of Rice Road and Moody Lane. Because of its proximity to the Carson River and the possibility of eventually using surface water, along with the best

ability to get houses built, officials are looking to place the next treatment plant closer to the golf course.

Once that location is firmed up, engineering will begin which then positions the county for future funding. "We are looking to get in front of these projects through the infrastructure funding at the federal level," said Barbee. The funding for that Preliminary Engineering Report has been secured through a federal earmark in the amount of \$300,000.

According to Barbee the legal needs of the state also require the county to build and pay for redundant backup wells for every water treatment plant in the community. "Every water plant we build, we have to have a redundant well," said

Barbee. "The idea being that if one of the primary wells goes down, we have to be able to flash over to the redundant well to continue to provide quality water." The Sand Creek redundant well was recently completed and is located off Casey Road. The well, along with the water line to tie the well into the water treatment plant will cost a total of nearly \$1.5 million.

The long-term plan for future water supply for Churchill County consists of both approximately 13,000 Dixie Valley groundwater rights as well as surface rights owned by the county. Officials recently toured the City of Fernley water treatment plant that is designed to use surface water and are looking at the long-term plans for that possibility.

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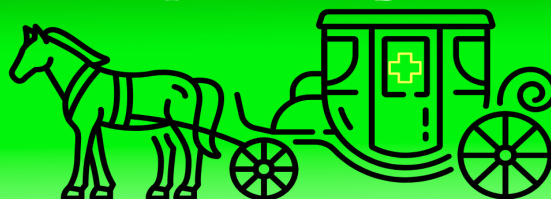
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Senator Jacky Rosen  
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(775)-337-0110

Congressman Mark Amodei  
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Governor Steve Sisolak  
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State Capitol Building  
101 N. Carson Street  
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Senator James A. Settelmeier  
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DESTRUCTION OF SCHOOL RECORDS  
NOTIFICATION  
Churchill County School District maintains records in compliance with the Individual with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

Please be advised that all personally identifiable information collected, maintained, and used by Special Education and Psychological Services for students born during the year of 1994 and 1995 will be destroyed in accordance with state requirements. If a former student or parent would like to pick up or access these records prior to destruction, please contact Churchill County School District Inclusive Services Office, at 690 S. Maine Street, Fallon, NV (775) 423-5187  
**No later than April 15, 2022.**  
Office hours are 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Monday – Friday.

Published in *The Fallon Post* Mar 18, 25, Apr 1, & 8. ad #6016

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Gregg Malkovich  
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## Crossword Answers

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ANNMARGRET	FRAMPTON	NELSON	SELENA
CAMPBELL	GAYE	NEWTON	STREISAND
CLARKSON	HAGGARD	ORBISON	VANDROSS
DAY	HOLIDAY	ORLANDO	VINTON

## THE FALLON POST



<p>Pennington Life Center April Menu Lunch served between 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. in dining room 952 S. Maine Street 775-423-7096 Age 60 and over \$3 suggested donation Under age 60 \$6</p>	<p>4 Hawaiian Meatballs Pineapple Rice Green Bean Almondine Asian Fruit Cup 9-grain Bread</p>	<p>5 Tuna Casserole Colorful Salad French Dressing Mango Cubes WW Bread Smart Blanc ADSD #177</p>	<p>6 Birthday Lunch Chicken Cordon Bleu Clazed Carrots Carlic Mashed WW Roll Pina Colada Fruit Salad</p>	<p>7 Burger Stew Brown Rice Steamed Broccoli Cornbread Tropical Fruit Salad ADSD #143</p>	<p>8 Chicken Enchiladas with Salsa Verde Ranch Style Beans Chuckwagon Corn Strawberry Yogurt</p>
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