

THE FALLON POST



The Local Community Newspaper

Fallon Churchill County

December 4, 2020

Price \$1.00

There is a plan for the tree lighting – COVID forces creativity



By Rachel Dahl

Photo provided by Christine Mori

City of Fallon Mayor, Ken Tedford, announced Monday morning that the annual Christmas Tree Lighting will take on a whole new look this year. Started in 1929, Fallon's most beloved tradition will not include the customary large-scale festivities. However, a host of other events are in store to perk up everyone's holiday spirit.

The towering 65-foot white fir Christmas tree will be lit by city crews sometime late in the afternoon on Friday, December 4th. Drive-by hot chocolate and cookies will be served at the City Annex building on Carson Street from 6:00-8:00 p.m. The City has also organized a Christmas light tour of locally decorated homes. And for the finale, an extended firework show is scheduled at 8:00 p.m., at the Fair Grounds with KVLV broadcasting Christmas carols.

According to Mayor Ken Tedford, the intent is to still celebrate, but differently and to do some new things the public can enjoy. "I know there will be people who are upset and people who understand," said Tedford, "but no one will be surprised." He explained that his number one job as may-

or is public safety and it wouldn't be right to hold a "super spreader" event. "After the County Board of Health meeting last week," stated Tedford, "we learned that the hospital was 140% capacity and the Reno hospitals are not taking patients because they don't have enough personnel. Ultimately, we have to take care of everyone in Fallon."

The City will provide a list of addresses for the many homes decked out in lights and holiday cheer. Also, for an added bit of merriment, the City is accepting ornaments from residents to be displayed on the Christmas Tree. If you would like to have one of yours included, drop off your ornament in the box outside of the west doors of City Hall before Christmas. They ask that you include your email when you drop off your ornament. They will email you a picture of your ornament on the tree, but they will be unable to return your ornament to you.

Mayor Tedford and the City of Fallon hopes many residents will get out and enjoy the evening.

Rachel's Report

Captain's log – December 4th...

The Fallon Post will now have three separate products: online, print, and a monthly magazine called – (drum roll, please...) *The Fallon Magazine*. Our readers will have the option to subscribe to one or all of these products using the "Subscribe" button on our website at www.TheFallonPost.org

With any luck, by the time you're reading this we will have overcome the four-hundred-and-thirty-seven challenges that plagued our efforts over the past two weeks to develop our online subscription page. For those of you who experienced our embarrassing stumbles, and the false start on Monday, thank you for your patience. And for that one lady who got so mad at me because it was all too complicated, I hope you come back and try again. It wasn't nearly as complicated for you as it has been for us.

Of course, we do have the old-school form here in the paper for those of you who do not want to use our painfully produced, fancy, pay-online-service, and for those of you who took advantage of the November early signing special, thank you so much.

We know some of you prefer the online edition and some of our readers only want print, and then there are some of you, like me, who love every piece of news we can get our hands on, so we're hoping we can meet your needs and get the news out to as many people as possible.

We are really excited about the magazine which will be a feature of our community rather than regular news. We will have longer stories about our history, our culture, our local artists and musicians and writers. We will also be featuring longer pieces on local businesses and stories about the industries that support our community. The first edition is planned for December 28th and will be available where you buy the weekly paper.

As you know, we started *The Fallon Post* by making it free to everyone and relied on contributions and advertising to make the business end work. After much deliberation and soul-searching it has become clear that we have to do something different if we're going to keep this thing alive and keep providing the community with the news we need to function properly in our representative democracy.

With that in mind, we are hoping you will support our decision to shift to a paid subscription for both print and online. Starting today, (God willing and the creek don't rise – if you go online and there is no paywall you'll know we were not successful again) most of the website stories will be located behind a paywall and will require a subscription to read them. As we work through this transition please be patient, there may be other tweaks we will still need to make. If you have any questions after reading this or as we go along, please just contact me and we will make it right. Publisher@TheFallonPost.org

Additionally if you have made an online contribution to the paper in the past two years, we used your email and created an account for you and you will have a month of access to the online paper (if you pay by the month this gives us the opportunity to shift your payment to the new system), along with the printed version we've been sending you. Each of you should have gotten an email last Sunday with your login and password and you will get a reminder the last week of December to renew your subscription. At that time, you can decide which products you want and can do your subscription then.

If you sent us a contribution through the mail at any time during the past two years, we may not have your email address and we did not create an account for you. If you let me know with a phone call or email that you would like a free month of online access, I will create an account for you for the month of December and send you the login information.

This was a really difficult decision to make, but we're hoping you will understand. We have decided to keep basic access to the paper open to everyone for obituaries, community announcements, the event calendar, and the classifieds. We are also shifting the COVID news to its own section and that information will be open to everyone as well.

Additionally, everyone will have access to one free article a day so if you're scrolling through Facebook and a story catches your eye, you can read that one and then hopefully, you will see more news that you can't live without and will subscribe.

When it comes right down to it, we know the community needs to know what is going on with our local government, our local organizations, elections, and in this time of COVID, the latest in the local decisions that impact us in terms of public health. It takes resources to produce this news and over the past two years we have developed a reputation of providing timely, relevant, coverage of the community. We hope you agree, and we hope you will support us so we can keep doing that.

Again, to subscribe go to the webpage and click on the "subscribe" button. (I'm praying that thing is going to work right this time)

Thank you so much for your continued support, and as always, please send suggestions, ideas, tips, and leads to us at admin@thefallonpost.org.

Keeping you posted,

Rach

Subscription orders can be placed online or by mail or phone. Single copies may be purchased for \$1.00 at local merchants.

Subscribe online at: www.theFallonPost.org.

Subscription rate is \$9.95 monthly, or \$119.49.

The Fallon Post

Volume 2, No. 4
December 4, 2020

Location
152 Industrial Way
Fallon Nevada 89406

Mail
1951 W. Williams Ave. #385
Fallon, Nevada 89406

(775)-423-4545

Publisher/President
Rachel Dahl

Editor
Leanna Lehman

Education Editor/Advertising
Susan Weikel

Staff Writer/Design
Viviane Ugalde

Contributors
Don Dike-Anukam
Billy Baker
Dawn Blundell
Joe Dahl
Doug Drost
Scott W. Elliot
Robby Johnston
Carol Lloyd
Michon Mackedon
Edith Isidoro-Mills
Kathleen Williams Miller
Jo Petteruti
Ty O'Neil
Jeanette Strong
Carry Thibaut
Anne McMillin
Kathryn Whitaker

Proofreaders
Jennie Norcutt
Teresa Moon

A special thanks to Jewel Fain for her creative touches with the owl tracks and barbed wire fence posts.

Table of Contents

In this issue...



Education

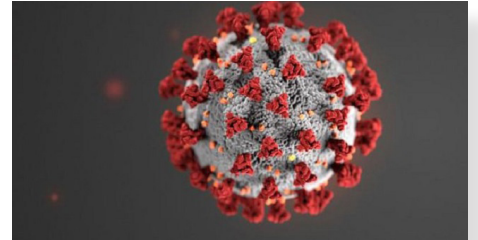
Latino Outreach at WNC (23).

ACTE awards to district members (20).

Public Health

Warm Springs has an outbreak (24).

Updates on a possible COVID vaccine (25).



Features

Arena dedicated to Tammy Lee (5).

A tasty pie recipe from our editor (26).

Local Government

Construction continues on South Maine (19).

Diesel Tax moves forward (18).



Organizations

The NFR moves to Texas (16).

Nevada Caregivers work in the community (15).

Features

Tammy Lee arena dedication – “To a great lady”



Friends and family of Tammy Lee gather to dedicate the Tammy Lee arena at the Churchill County Fairgrounds. Rachel Dahl/ The Fallon Post

By Leanna Lehman

On November 21st on behalf of the Nevada Paint Horse Club (NPHC), Parks and Recreation, Churchill County Commissioners, and the family of Tammy Lee dedicated the auxiliary green arena at the Fair Grounds to beloved local ranchwoman, Tammy Lee. Lee was killed in a ranching accident on July 10th.

Roy Boch, on behalf of the NPHC, addressed area residents, friends, and family that gathered for the dedication. According to Boch, upon Tammy’s passing in July, the Club wanted to honor her in a way that would stand the test of time. The Club also sought to show their appreciation for Tammy and the many years the Lee family donated the use of their cattle for roping classes and various events. And the idea was floated for the Tammy Lee arena dedication in the town she loved and called home all her life.

Jim Moore, former director of Churchill County Parks and Recreation, hand-crafted the new arena sign and then donated it to the County for the dedication, saying

“I’m a friend, I’m a neighbor, and I have known Tammy for a long time.” Moore felt that donating the sign was something he needed to do.

The new sign was erected at the arena during the dedication. Boch shared that Tammy was born in Fallon on June 8, 1962 and spent her early years competing in rodeo events like goat tying, barrel racing, pole bending, and team roping. “She lived for branding, ranch rodeos, and showing her horses and working dogs. We can all agree that she was one of the best people we knew.”

Bus Scharmann, County Commissioner, and former dean of Western Nevada College stated, “When the idea was brought to us at the county, this was a slam dunk. We all knew Tammy and we thought it was very appropriate to name the arena after her.” According to Scharmann, Kenny along with her husband Tommy, spent many years raising money and supporting the Western Nevada College rodeo team. “She was a great person, and I would classify her as a great lady.”

Locals respond to National Finals Rodeo moving to Texas

By Susan Weikel

As the National Finals Rodeo readies to ride into the 10-days of events in Arlington, Texas, regular attendees from the Fallon area vary in their reactions to the changes this year.

The National Finals Rodeo began its story in Dallas, Texas in 1959, and was held there for two years, when it left Texas and traveled a dusty road with several stops along the way before it landed in Las Vegas, Nevada in 1984. There, the prize money grew and ancillary events were added, turning the first two weeks of December in Las Vegas into the home of much excitement for locals and travelers from around the world.

Added to the general excitement is an economic boost that has grown to approximately \$200 million for the area. Although the rodeo is still under contract to Las Vegas until 2025, many wonder what challenges the State may face in order to keep this annual event in Las Vegas.

Amy Jo Grissom, owner of Double Heart Healing Massage and Body Salon, would normally find herself on the way to Las Vegas by now. She would set up and provide massages to injured contestants, family members of contestants who may also book a great massage, and she would enjoy the time visiting with family. Grissom is a cousin to Jade Corkill, a former Fallon resident and a world champion team roper. She loved the opportunity to gather with family during the rodeo, watching Jade and other Nevada contestants, enjoying the Christmas shopping, and the time to just visit. This event also offered her an opportunity to increase her business revenue as well as share in a heritage she greatly enjoys. With the move to Texas, she will not be able to participate this year. Not only is it too far to travel, but she also has some concerns about the seriousness of the COVID-19 issues. The missing Vegas income will affect her business, but Amy Jo is positive about all the good things she has to be thankful for. Amy Jo does wonder if Nevada will be able to hold onto the finals in the years to come and shares a concern with many Nevadans as to how that may affect several different economic sectors of the state.

In contrast to Grissom staying home this year, local residents Darcie Spero and Ty Skiver, hit the road and are currently setting up the Skiver Bootmakers booth at the American Paint Horse Headquarter in Fort Worth, Texas. Spero shared that at first, they were really disappointed at having to change plans. "I guess it's like everything else in 2020, we're just sort of learning to go with the flow and figure it out." She said they had been building up stock for the year and Skiver was making chaps for Kaycee Feild and Mason Clements, top NFR athletes, when one after another, events they would normally go to were shut down. Although they had the inventory there were no places to "peddle the wares," so Spero and Skiver decided they just had to make the trip to Texas.

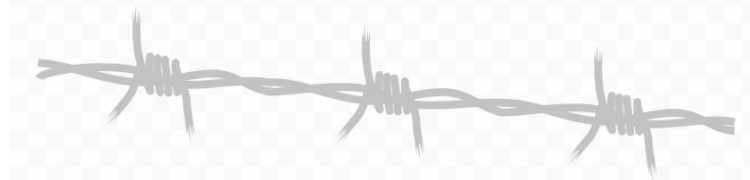
It's been a great deal of work for the two, according to Spero, but a great deal of fun at the same time. They are finding positives for sure – great food, nice people, and Cowtown Christmas is setup this year in a beautifully restored historic area.

As a lifetime Nevadan, Darcie wonders, "Maybe it's going to be better here. The thing that I am afraid of is, I



The Skiver Bootmakers booth is set up in Fort Worth at the APHA Corporate Headquarters in the Stockyards at the NFR this year. Photo provided by Darcie Spero

don't know if it will go back to Las Vegas after this. It's kind of the same as the Reno Rodeo. They let the BFI (Bob Feist Invitational roping) go, and it's never coming back. We lost the Snaffle Bit from what it used to be... That will affect a lot of people."



Community

Marriages

The following marriage licenses were issued by the Churchill County Clerk during the month of November.

11/02
Dannal Zebulan Beach, age 44 to Wendy Irene Lattin, age 32 both of Fallon.

11/03
Cory Lee Miller, age 30 to Maday Quesada, age 18 both of Fallon.

11/06
Matthew Richard Turner, age 39 to Kate Elizabeth Maloy, age 32 both of Fernley.

Raphael Lashawn Dewberry, age 44 to Danielle Lashaunda Guy, age 40 of Dallas Texas and Fallon.

11/10
KCorina Jean Waltman, age 29 to Paige Anne Olivo, age 30 both of Fallon.

William Tyler Donovan, age 22 to Kelsey Marie Hill, age 22 both of Fallon.

11/12
Ernest Clark Valenzuela, age 40 to Ileana Francine Henry, age 37 both of Fallon

Joshua D'Mon Bendy, age 26 to Angelica Cathy Cruz, age 30 both of Fallon.

11/13
Cody Justus Marlow, age 25 to Destinee Rose Souza, age 21 both of Dayton.

11/17
Brandon Lui Sanchez-Rehkop, age 19 to Samantha Dawn Thompson, age 17 both of Fallon.

11/18
Jackie lee Raymond, age 51 to Alana Kristen Rogne, age 38 both of Fallon.

11/19
Gavin Lee Rhodes, age 31 to Cassidy Ann Moore, age 25 both of Fallon.

11/23
Miles Anthony McClanahan, age 31 to Morgan Taylor Neighbors, age 28 both of Fallon.

Kevin Stanley Wickware, age 41 to Jessie Louise Kroshus, age 38 both of Fallon.

Patrick Donald Pratl, age 28 to Amy Louise Mlynarski, age 28 of Fallon and Plainfield Illinois.

11/24
Mathew Christopher Ogle, age 20 to Mercedes Angel Russel-Hurley, age 20 both of Fallon

Quentin Cooper Owens, age 26 to Lizette Martinez Gonzalez, age 23 both of Fallon.

Jordan Lance Day, age 20 to Shaylyn Jerri-
rice Marion, age 20 of Oceanside California and Fallon.

11/30
Patrick Jason Come, age 28 to Rebekka Elizabeth Girouard, age 23 both of Fallon.

Ronald Anthony Cardinal, age 64 to Darlene Marsha Holseth, age 60 both of Vacaville California.

Divorces

The following were granted in the 10th Judicial district Court during October 2020

Abdullaev, Elgiz v Mozhegova, Kseniia Decree of Divorce 11/13

Ambriz, Mercedes Arroyo v Martinez, Juan Antonio Nova Decree of Divorce 11/4

Arakelian, David v. Khalatian, Liana Decree of Divorce 11/30

Barilla, Candice M. v Barilla, Dominic M. Decree of Divorce 11/12

Barrenchea, James Connley v Keen, Ellie May Decree of Divorce 11/16

Bautista, Maria Lourdes E. v Sam, Fernando F. Decree of Divorce 11/3

Bernardo, Florlita Dumlaio v. Bernardo, Manuel Balan Decree of Divorce 11/18

Blanchard, Krista Rochelle v Blanchard, Thomas Leon Decree of Divorce 11/19

Cochran, Michael Benjamin v Cochran, Sydnee Hambrick, Decree of Divorce 11/16

Collins, Caitlin Rose v Johnson, Austin C. Decree of Divorce 11/13

Cruz, Larry v Cruz, Ana G Decree of Divorce 11/4

De Sena, Jami Ivan v De Sena, Sylvia Lee Sanchez Dree of Divorce 11/4

Duncan, Douglas Paul v Duncan, Kelli Re'Nae Decree of Divorce 11/9

Eliason, Misty Dawn v Eliason, Matthew Allen Decree of Divorce 11/3

Foley, Kimberly Dawn v White, Adam E Decree of Annulment 11/5

Freeman, Jason L v Bessey, Megan S. Degree of Divorce 11/10

Goldstein, Diane Marie v Goldstein, Barry Michael Decree of Divorce 11/30

Golubeva, Kseniia v Farmer, Faraji Tau Dashae Decree of Annulment 11/17

Goodman, Chalan Nicole v Goodman, Michael Benjamin Decree of Divorce 11/30

Grewe, Toalei Kulu v Kulu, Sitenili Decree of Divorce 11/30

Henry, Linda v Henry, Marquise Decree of Annulment 11/30

Holder, Angela Marie v Holder, Joshua L. Decree of Divorce 11/10

Johnson, Jennifer L. v Johnson, David Negron Decree of Divorce 11/4

Kasztelan, Zofia Zuzanna v Ramirez, Christian Isai Decree of Divorce 11/30

Kinsey, Derrick T. v Kinsey, Emily E. Decree of Divorce 11/30

Le, Minh Quy v Lona Vo, Uyen ToThi Vo Aka Decree of Divorce 11/17

Lepe, Susana v Soltero, Rodrigo Lepe Decree of Divorce 11/3

Marin, Aeleen v Marin, Jesus L Decree of Annulment 11/4

Mason, Seandale Glenn v Mason, Josephine A. Decree of Divorce 11/30

Montgomery, Kimberly Lavettra Tavah v Montgomery, Joshua Paul David Decree of Divorce 11/30

Moore, Daisy v Skipper, Daron Decree of Annulment 11/13

Nolan, Gina Marie v Nolan, Joseph Lawrence Decree of Divorce 11/12

Nunez, Tamer Mohsen v Nunez, Jesse Rafael, Decree of Annulment 11/30

Olivier, David Phelston v Edwards, Brook Ashley Decree of Annulment 11/30

Pesonen, Matthew Forrest v Smith, PsaTo-sha Jayden Decree of Divorce 11/17

Pinto, Noam v Smith, Claudia Monet Decree of Divorce 11/30

Roque, Angel Erick v Roque, Jael Aide Decree of Divorce 11/16

Ruiz, Noe v Cruz, Alma Delia Decree of Divorce 11/4

Rybak, Pavlo v Rybak, Anush Decree of Divorce 11/30

Samayoa Moranda A. v Sevillano, Daniel J. III Decree of Divorce 11/4

Weber, Anthony Andrew v Ma, Carmela Decree of Annulment 11/13

Births

Babies born at Banner Churchill Community Hospital during the month of November 2020

Colt Justin Lorow To Dylon Lorow and Daniella Miller on November 10, 2020 at 4:19 PM
Weighing 6 lb. 14 oz., measuring 19 1/2 inches

Edward Abe Herrera To John Andrew and Amanda Fozia Agha Herrera on November 12, 2020 at 2:44 PM
Weighing 7 lb. 8oz., measuring 20 inches.

Remy Anahi Martinez To Ramon Munoz and Gudalupe Martinez on November 16, 2020 at 4:18 PM
Weighing 7 lb. 8oz., measuring 19 inches.

Anthony Michael Dellratta Jr. To Anthon M. and Kortney A. Dellaratta on November 19, 2020 at 3:03 AM
Weighing 8 lb. 7 oz., measuring 21 inches.

Sadie Marie Hitchcock To Robert and Harley Hitchcock on November 23, 2020 at 8:43 PM
Weighing 7 lb. 12 oz., measuring 21 1/4 inches.

If your baby is born at another hospital, please email the announcement to admin@TheFallonPost.org

Faith & Life

Once per week or so, Fallon's faith leaders offer their thoughts on faith and life. Any church or faith community of any kind is welcome and encouraged to participate. If you have ideas for topics we should write about, or if you or your pastor or faith leader would like to participate, please call Pastor Dawn Blundell at Epworth UMC, 775-423-4714. If you'd like to talk more about anything you read here, or if you would like prayer or a listening ear, we hope you will reach out to one of us. If you don't already have a church home, you are invited to join us for worship, too! You'll find contact information and worship times below.

WHAT DO WE MOST APPRECIATE ABOUT A CHRISTMAS TRADITION?

Brad Barton, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints Elders Quorum President, Fallon 5th Ward For more info, please call 775-742-9040 or visit www.churchofjesuschrist.org
Christmas traditions provide sweet memories that strengthen family bonds and reinforce our faith in Christ. This year in particular we eagerly anticipate that our Christmas traditions will again remind us of the most important things in life. We will be reminded which of our actions have eternal significance bringing peace and happiness and others we should perhaps give less attention to. Christmas family traditions are more special than other family traditions because homes are filled with more love as we celebrate the birth of Christ. We hope all will feel the healing, peaceful, renewing love of the Savior this Christmas

Adam Bayer, Fallon Naval Air Station Command Chaplain The NAS Fallon chapel holds a Sunday night Dinner & Discussion with Sailors who live on base at 6:00pm. For more info, please call 775-426-9189 *The views or opinions expressed herein are solely his, and do not necessarily reflect those of the Department of the Navy, Department of Defense or the United States government. My wife (and many others) calls me Scrooge. Even so, my childhood neighborhood practiced a Christmas tradi-

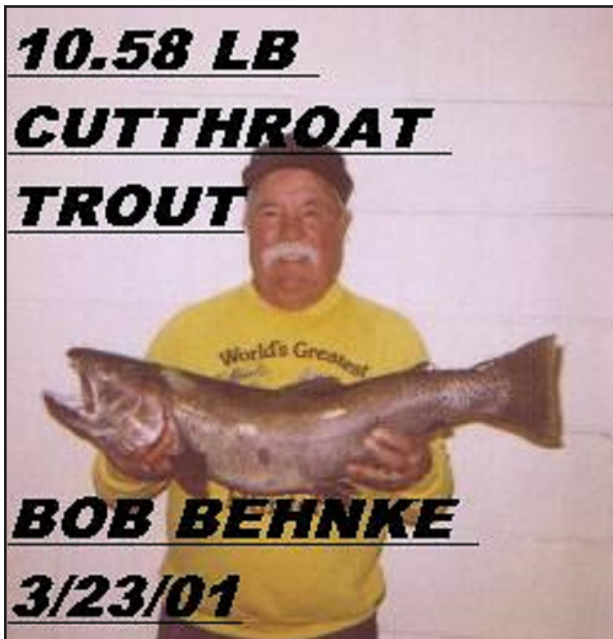
tion I appreciate: luminaries. Nearly every household put out brown lunch bags, sand, and a candle. Come Christmas Eve, beautiful lights lined our streets. I always enjoyed fire, but I also appreciated that everyone came together to light the neighborhood. Years later, after committing to follow Jesus, I still appreciate those luminaries. They symbolically announced we were preparing the way for Jesus' birth, but when everyone participated, they also represent that Jesus came to rescue all who call on him—my family who raised me in church, my childhood best friend's Jewish family who still lit luminaries, and everyone else. This Christmas, may Christ be welcomed into our hearts.

Trudy Erquiaga, Holy Trinity Episcopal Church Senior Pastor In-person worship services suspended for the month of December. Prayer services via Zoom Sunday morning at 8:30am, Tues and Thurs at 6:00pm For more info or to join the Zoom prayer services, please call 775-423-3551

The tradition of celebrating Jesus' birth at Christmas is a reminder of Christ's presence in our world today and the numerous gifts received by God's grace. "Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received." (1 Peter 4:10) Aunt Della's knack for kneading yeast and flour into plump, savory cinnamon rolls demonstrates how one expresses their love for others by offering their best during the holiday season. Inherent in the Episcopal tradition is making 'holy' the 'common.' Everyday bread/wine become the Body/Blood of Christ within Holy Eucharist...as Aunt Della's tasty treat drew folks together to share space/story. Traditions that engage in sharing individual talents (making holy the common) express our faith and appreciation for the many gifts bestowed upon us by God, and our delight in pleasing others.

Obituaries

Robert Wallace Behnke



Robert Wallace Behnke, 90, of Fallon, NV, passed away on November 29, 2020. He was born to Albert and Helen Behnke on November 11, 1930, in Fullerton, CA. He graduated from Fullerton High School in 1948. He married Doris Ann Phillips on June 17, 1949. He worked in the California oil fields until 1961, when he and Doris bought a small motel and moved to Crowley Lake, CA. There, he worked as a contractor and heavy equipment operator. He built several houses throughout Mono County. Around 1981, Bob and Doris moved to Fallon. He worked for several years as a civilian contractor at the Naval Air Station. For at least 10 years, Bob was an active member of the Fallon Volunteers in Police Service and received the Volunteer of the Year award several years in a row. He was a Grand Master in the Winnedumah Masonic Lodge in Bishop, CA, and was an active member of the Shrine for many years. Bob is survived by his wife, Doris; daughter, Susan Moore; son, James Behnke and his wife, Chris; four grandchildren, and one great-grandchild. He is predeceased by his parents and his brother, Albert.

A graveside service will be held on Monday, December 7, 2020 at 1:00 pm at the Churchill County Public Cemetery in Fallon.

Arrangements are with Smith Family Funeral Home in Fallon. 775-423-2255.

Cynthia L. Fudge



Cynthia L. Fudge, age 63 passed away in Fallon, Nevada November 4 at Saint Mary's Hospital in Reno.

She was born in the United States Army Hospital in Landstuhl, Germany to Walter and Alice Edwards.

She is survived by her husband, Alan Fudge of Fallon, mother, Alice Edwards of Hawaii, brother Don (Shirley) Edwards of Arizona, brother, Lewis (Tracy) of Reno and sister, Candice Kaiawe of Hawaii. She is preceded in death by her father, Walter Edwards.

Cindy was a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, Fallon 3rd Ward, a member of the Fallon Lions Club and participated with the Lahontan Valley Choir in Christmas pageants. She was accomplished in cross stitching creating many beautiful pictures.

Funeral arrangements were made under the direction of the Smith Funeral Home. Services will be scheduled at a later date.

Virginia “Ginny” Dugan



On Sunday, November 22, **Virginia “Ginny” Dugan** passed away at Renown Regional Memorial Hospital after a three-week battle with pulmonary hypertension.

Born in Buffalo, New York in 1946 Ginny was the loving wife of the late Michael A. Dugan to whom she was married for 39 years. She is the daughter of the late Chester and Isabelle Kurnik and the sister of the late Richard Kurnik. She is survived by her sister, Margaret Mannoni, brother-in-law, Aldo Mannoni, Godson, Errico Mannoni, cousins, friends and special friend, Frances Atkinson.

Ginny graduated from Buffalo Academy of the Sacred Heart in Buffalo in 1964 and earned a Bachelor’s degree in Political Science from Marymount College, Tarrytown, NY in 1968. She taught elementary school in the Sloan School system and worked at Canisius College, all in Buffalo. She continued her education just short of writing her thesis for a Masters degree in Public Administration.

Ginny married Michael Dugan in LeMoore, California where he was stationed with the United States Navy in 1979. They were then sent to Naval Station Adak in the Aleutian Islands where Mike worked as a traffic controller and Ginny in Civilian Personnel. While in Adak she learned photography, developing film and making prints. After serving three and a half years on Adak they were sent to Naval Air Station Fallon, Nevada where she worked in the Personnel Department. Ginny went on to become an Administrative Assistant at Western Nevada Community College until she retired.

Ginny was an avid reader, had a talent for writing, and in using her photography skills she coordinated newsletters for family and various volunteer organizations including the Churchill County Senior Center and St Patrick Church. She was a contributor to The Fallon Post. She also was

skilled at writing grants proposals while at WNCC and volunteered as a recorder for several committees including the Democratic Party, Restore Our College Campus Committee, Fallon Golf Association and was on the Board of the Churchill County Museum. Ginny also sang for a time with the Lahontan Valley Concert Choir.

Ginny loved dogs, adopting Muffin, Shadow, Lucky and Gracie through the years and even adopting a wolf in the wild for a time from a wildlife organization.

A celebration of Ginny’s life will take place on Saturday, December 5 at 11 a.m. at St Patrick Church, Fallon, Nevada. Due to COVID we are sorry to say no reception will follow. In lieu of flowers a donation may be made in her memory to the Michael Dugan Memorial Scholarship, WNC Foundation, Western Nevada College, 2201 West College Pkwy, Carson City, NV 89703

Arrangements are with Smith Family Funeral Home in Fallon. 775-423-2255.

Sex offender facing new charges – report from District Court

By Leanna Lehman

Tenth Judicial District Court convened December 1st with Judge Tom Stockard presiding.

Christopher Michael Schneider appeared for sentencing on charges of allegedly failing to have a fixed address as a sex offender and failing to notify law enforcement of changes in residency within 30 days. Schneider failed to appear (FTA) for sentencing on September 11th after being released on his own recognizance (OR). Bail was set at \$40,000 cash only for the FTA. Sentencing was postponed until January 5th as Schneider is scheduled to appear in Justice Court on December 2nd after being arrested last week on an alleged charge of sexual assault. Schneider has a previous conviction for statutory sexual seduction which the statute defines as intercourse by a person 18 years of age or older with a person under the age of 16 years old.

Jamarr Antwan Smith appeared for a status hearing after he failed to appear (FTA) for two previously scheduled hearings in District Court. He is facing charges of assault with a deadly weapon, a category B felony that carries 1-6 years in prison for which he previously entered a not-guilty plea. A jury trial is slated for June.

Michael Orlando Cagle failed to appear (FTA) for a status hearing on first offense charges of possession of a controlled substance for the purpose of sale and for having an explosive or incendiary device in or near certain public or private areas. Cagle pled guilty to both charges in September, each of which carries a penalty of 1-4 years in prison. Judge Stockard issued a warrant for his arrest.

Matt Charles Lane appeared on four charges relating to the exploitation of an elderly or vulnerable person. According to the allegations, count (1) of the charge sheet includes the exploitation of an elderly person for an amount over \$5,000, a category B felony that carries 2-20 years in prison. Count (2) is for larceny of personal goods or property over \$3,500 from an elderly person and carries 2-20 years in prison with an additional 1-10 years for a crime against the elderly. Charges (3-4) include two counts of unlawfully attaining the personal identifying information of an elderly person to harm them or for other unlawful purposes.

Each count carries 3-20 years in prison with fines up to \$100,000 each. Lane used his 83-year-old grandmother's debit card information to make purchases at X-Box and Game Stop and is looking at over \$29,811.68 in restitution. Lane entered a guilty plea on count one and per the terms of his plea agreement, counts 2-4 will be dismissed at sentencing in March.

Gregory Lane Miller appeared for sentencing on charges of unlawfully taking a motor vehicle. According to Wright M. Noel, defense counsel with the Churchill County Public Defender's office, Miller thought he had explicit permission to take his friend's car at the time. ADA Priscilla Baker argued that Miller took the vehicle while his friend was in the hospital in Elko, effectively stranding him, leaving him without his personal belongings and work tools. Miller received probation on a suspended sentence of 364 days in jail and was ordered to pay \$165 in restitution for vehicle impound fees.

Trampus Allen Bell appeared for sentencing on charges of battery with a deadly weapon, a category B felony that carries 2-20 years in prison. According to Chief Deputy District Attorney Lane Mills, Bell allegedly stabbed another individual and left him for dead. "This conduct cannot be tolerated in our community," stated Mills. He also reported that Bell has a prior misdemeanor battery charge from 2018. "I know how serious the charges are. I know I made a very big mistake," stated Bell when he addressed the court. "I would like a chance to move on from this mistake and prove I can be in the community without causing problems." Judge Stockard considered probation but ultimately sentenced Bell to the minimum term of 2-5 years in prison.

Phillip Michael Wilcox received probation on a suspended sentence of 180 days in jail for the abuse, neglect, or endangerment of a child -not causing substantial bodily harm. According to the Churchill County public defender, Jacob Sommer, Wilcox did not physically harm or touch the victim, though while he was under the influence of alcohol, he was at risk to do so. Wilcox stated to the court, "I understand the severity of my case and take it very seriously. I believe alcohol is what brought me here. I am looking forward to making sure I never stand in this courtroom again." Wilcox was also ordered to obtain a substance abuse evaluation and follow all recommendations therein and must complete a parenting and domestic violence class.

Tyler Dean Moore appeared for sen-

tencing on charges of driving under the influence -causing death or substantial bodily harm. According to Charles Woodman, Esq., defense counsel for Moore, he had recently lost his brother and began drinking heavily regularly. At the time of the incident last May, an accident occurred while Moore was driving under the influence. Woodman stated that Moore's uncle, Mike Gauthier, who was in the vehicle at the time, wanted his nephew to receive the minimum sentence, however, Gauthier did not provide victim impact testimony to the court. Moore addressed the court stating, "I am sorry and I know that I messed up. I did learn a big lesson. It will not happen again and that is a promise." Moore received a sentence of 24-70 months in prison and must pay restitution of \$113,000.

Timothy Joseph Miller (in custody) appeared for sentencing on charges of possession of a controlled substance, a category B felony. According to Assistant District Attorney (ADA) Chelsea Sanford, this is Miller's 15th felony conviction. Judge Stockard sentenced Miller to 16-48 months in prison stating that he considered probation but did not find it appropriate in this case.

Enrique Michel Campos (in custody) was arraigned on charges of burglary of a business, a category C felony that carries 1-5 years in prison, and for possessing stolen property valued over \$5,000, also a C felony carrying 1-5 years. According to the allegations, on October 23rd, Campos broke into the StorWise storage facility on Grand Avenue with the intent to commit larceny. Campos was later found with a 26-foot travel trailer in his possession that had been stored at StorWise. Campos pled guilty on both counts and is to appear for sentencing on February 23rd.

Matt Marcel Sladariu appeared for sentencing on charges of possession of a stolen vehicle, a category C felony that carries 1-5 years in prison, and a misdemeanor charge of damage to prison or jail. According to Woodman, Sladariu unlawfully stole a vehicle and fled to Nevada to escape threats against him in Oregon. Further, while in custody, he did damage to the county jail. He received suspended sentence of 19-48 months on the stolen vehicle charge, 180 days in jail for the damage, and must pay \$113 in restitution.

Driver of vehicle in fatal Indian Lakes crash appears in Justice Court

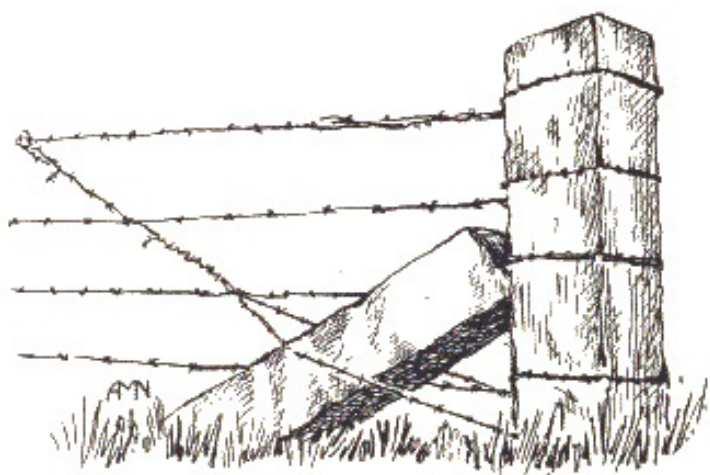
By Leanna Lehman

Brent Smith appeared before Judge Trotter on Thursday, December 3rd, represented by Jacob Sommer with the Churchill County Public Defender Office. Smith is facing charges of driving under the influence causing injury or death.

Sommer requested a six-week postponement to review the extensive discovery on the case so that he can adequately prepare to address the seriousness of the charges. Smith waived his right to a preliminary hearing within 15 days. Chief Deputy District Attorney Lane Mills, stated that while under the influence of marijuana, Smith was driving the vehicle during the accident that resulted in the death of Miya Bentsen, age 18, of Fallon.

According to a report provided by the Churchill County Sheriff's Office, on September 20, 2020, at approximately 12:25 a.m., deputies along with fire/rescue and Banner medics, responded to Indian Lakes Road north of Leter Road for a report of a single-vehicle accident with a victim pinned under the vehicle. Bentsen was pronounced dead on the scene. Smith was transported by medics to Banner Community Hospital and later to Renown Medical Center in Reno.

Sommer argued for Smith to be released on his own recognizance (OR). "The state is adamantly opposed to an OR release or bail," stated Mills. "This case occurred while the defendant was on parole for burglary and domestic battery by strangulation." Judge Trotter denied the OR release and set bail at \$5,000 bondable. A status hearing was set for January 14th.



WNP LIFE CENTER LUNCHES
SERVED WEEKDAYS

952 S. Maine Street (excluding holidays)
Monday - Friday 11:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m.

Under 60? Want a tasty lunch without leaving your vehicle? Come join us!
Cost for under 60 years old is \$6.
60 years and over? Suggested donation of \$3.

Each week a picture menu lunch game sheet is provided with clues to the following week's lunch game. Those with the correct answers will be entered into the weekly drawing for a prize.

All lunches will be provided with the usual love and care of the kitchen and will be delicious!

Features

Vonda Norcutt wins quilt raffle supporting foster kids

By Leanna Lehman

Thanks to a generous community that donated and purchased tickets for the Mary Sauer Memorial “Toy Klostet” quilt raffle. The toy closet, operated by CASA, Fallon’s Court Appointed Special Advocates, assists area children who are in foster care.

The raffle raised funds to provide Christmas gifts to the more than 50 children currently in foster care in Churchill County. According to Carry Thibaut, a long-time CASA volunteer, the raffle raised over \$2,000. In addition, Starr Friedenthal and the wonderful ladies of the Hearts of Gold Quilting Club made the raffle prize quilt as well as handmade quilts for each child in the program.

“We are so blessed to have such an amazing community filled with so many giving hearts,” stated Thibaut. “You made it possible for every one of the foster kids in our community to receive an amazing Christmas Gift of their choosing.”

Photo provided by Carry Thibaut





 **DOOR BUSTERS**

KENT'S SUPPLY CENTER
260 N. MAINE ST.
FALLON, NV 89406
(775) 423-2126

DECEMBER 2020

Quantities are limited. While supplies last.

16⁹⁹
16-in. Tool Box
Organizers on top lid for small parts. Removable tray allows space for larger tools to be stored underneath. Extra-wide soft grip handle.
0558746



10⁹⁹
Turbofold Camo Utility Knife
5 position locking, quick blade release dial, easy press lock button and thumb press. Includes 5 extra blades.
1604404





Fallon Rotary gathers Christmas cheer for homebound seniors



By Rachel Dahl

Once again, the Fallon Rotary is holding their annual Christmas Drive for Local Homebound Seniors. Rotary has taken on this project for the past eight years, helping over 200 local homebound seniors in the community who receive services through the Pennington Life Center.

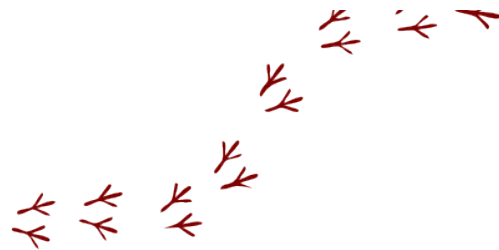
Community members wishing to participate with the Christmas Drive can drop off items before December 9th at Kent's Supply Center, 260 N. Maine Street. The gifts should be unwrapped.

Suggested items that are most needed by seniors include toilet paper, paper towels, hand soap, lotions, toothpaste, toothbrushes, laundry soap, shampoo, conditioner, crossword puzzles, word searches (large print), magnifying glasses, wet wipes, dish soap, disposable undergarments, canned food, throw blankets, small laundry baskets, and anything else that one might need this time of year.

"It is an awesome thing they are doing," said Buster Pearce, program services director for the Life Center. "It is just amazing what personal care items mean to them. They can't afford things like that. There are always tears, it will tear your heartstrings." Pearce organizes his staff and several Rotary volunteers to make the deliveries, using the senior center vans. "We give everyone sheets with names and addresses and out we go. All 200 seniors will get something."

Any questions can be directed to Pearce at 423-7096. "This is just a wonderful thing that we can do for our seniors," said Pearce.

Donna Wassmuth, Karla Kent, Doug Drost, Buster Pearce, Lisa Erquiaga collecting for the Christmas Drive.
Photo provided by Fallon Rotary



Homemaker Program

The Homemaker Program is designed for qualified seniors over the age of 60. Services may include light housekeeping, shopping, and Rx pick-ups. Call today for more information!



952 South Maine St.
Fallon, Nevada 89406
(775) 423-7096



Organizations

It's service above all else at the Public Library

By Rachel Dahl

Library Director Carol Lloyd presented the annual report of the Library Board to the County Commissioners on Thursday, saying in spite of the impacts of COVID, library staff continues to provide services to the community in the most creative of ways.

In a phone interview Lloyd shared an example of this creativity. "People will call the library and let us know what they are looking for, 'I have a four-year old and a seven-year old,' and we'll put together a bag for them. What it does is gives us the opportunity to turn someone onto something they never would have tried for themselves; and it's free so if they don't like something it's no big deal when they bring it back."

When COVID hit in March, Commissioners supported Lloyd's decision to close the physical library, shifting to 24/7 access via the website and then curbside pickup in May. Library by Appointment began in June and continues via curbside service. Story time has been produced by video and is available on social media; and staff has also produced videos to help students learn coding.

Lloyd also explained the latest idea floated by her staff -- window shopping at the library. "Call us and tell us what you're looking for and we'll bring books to the window and show you the options." She said people love browsing the library shelves as well as the DVD selections. This is one way they can still have that flavor. She said the library has several patrons who used to come in the library once or twice a week to browse. "We know what they like, so now we just hold up the selections for them to choose."

Additionally, the library has rolled out a new service called "hoopla" which offers over 800,000 titles to choose from, covering audiobooks, video, music, and e-books. "We are very enthusiastic about hoopla," said Lloyd, "there are so many things in here it's just awesome. We've never been able to offer music before, and there is no waiting."

Over the past few years the library has offered several different streaming/access services through their data base. "We are trying to offer the most content for the best value, this is taxpayer money so we are trying to get the biggest selection for the price," said Lloyd.

In addition to their flexibility and agility at providing the biggest bang for the buck for the community, library staff has worked hard to maximize their resources, receiving over \$16,000 in funding from the Library Services and Technology Act through the State of Nevada. The Library Association, a separate organization in the library wheelhouse, provided over \$8,500 in funding for the Summer Reading Program, STEAM Programs, Books for Babies!, and hosting the Claire Watkins author event.

The library patrons borrowed 121,406 items during the past year through 80,217 visits. There are 7,872 library card holders in the community. The Library Board of Trustees is appointed by the County Commission and is currently made up of Marilyn Hedges-Hiller, Kelli Kelly, Denice Pinder, Bill Williams, and Jo Petteruti.



First Responders

of Churchill County
Holiday Food Competition.
Donate any food item to the
agency of your choice.
The agency that receives the
most food in weight wins!!!



Date: December 6th from
11:00am to 4:00 pm

Location: Fallon Walmart



Fallon locals recognized as valuable caregivers

By Rachel Dahl

Three Fallonites were recognized last month by the Nevada Caregivers Coalition during their Caregiver Recognition Virtual Event. The Coalition honored 56 caregivers across Nevada in the 15th annual recognition ceremony held during National Family Caregivers Month. For the first time the event was held virtually to accommodate COVID restrictions.

According to the media release announcing the event, a study completed by AARP says 330,000 family caregivers in Nevada provided unpaid care to adults in their families 18 years and older in one month for a total of 280 million hours. At an economic value of \$14.01 per hour, those caregivers provided service with an economic value of \$3.9 million.

Recognized for “Caregiver for Youth with Special Needs” were Angie and Veronica Thomson-Crew. Angie grew up in Fallon and is the daughter of Scott and Pam Thomson. Angie taught school in Fallon for several years in Fallon before moving to Reno.

LeAnn Stands is a nursing student in Reno who also grew up in Fallon and is the daughter of Ray and Rulan Stands. She was recognized as a “Facility Caregiver.”

Blaine Buer currently lives in Fallon and was recognized for “Family Caregiver.” He is currently caring for his wife.

“The commitment and compassion of caregivers is often overlooked,” said Marta Malone, event chair. “It is our mission in the Nevada Caregivers Coalition to



honor these silent heroes who are dedicating their lives to help others in a very important, personal way.”

The Nevada Caregivers Coalition is a group of organizations, agencies, businesses and individuals working in the field of caregiving for adults, youth and children.



Local businesses band together against COVID mandates



By Leanna Lehman

The newly formed Churchill County Business Owners Alliance (CCBOA) met last week to discuss the increasingly restrictive mandates on businesses coming out of Governor Sisolak's office. Everyone is wondering how – and if, they will endure this latest blow. Millions of small American businesses did not survive the early months of the COVID-19 shutdown and millions more are on the verge of insolvency.

Jesse Segura, owner of 3-Dimension shipping and Fallon Glass & Sign, along with Paul Picotte and his wife Tiffany, owners of The Grid, discussed how the new restrictions have a chokehold on the livelihood of nearly every restaurant and retail shop in town. Shelly Gallagher, owner of the Running Iron Cafe, addressed the impact on restaurants stating, "Operating at 25% capacity means operating at 75% loss." Both Gallagher and Picotte have had to send employees home on alternate days to prevent implementing layoffs. "The restrictions are crushing businesses and crushing employees," said Picotte.

Reaching out to state representatives like Robin Titus for help, the Picotte's reported that according to Titus, the mask, social distancing, and capacity mandates tied to Sisolak's emergency declaration are legal. This has many Silver State business owners nervous as there is no specified date for the order to be lifted. "He can legally do this indefinitely," stated Picotte.

Small business owners no longer see Nevada's Occupational Safety Health Administration as the regulatory entity keeping employees safe at work, but as a weaponized agency also regulating the behavior of their patrons. Further, business owners fear exorbitant fines and forced closures. Several businesses in Fallon have reported having multiple visits from OSHA and are now feeling that OSHA is using intimidation tactics to enforce Sisolak's mandates. Kathy Fouss of Memorie Boutique on Maine Street reported that she had a compliance officer from OSHA in her boutique that threatened to fine her for not having posted a mask requirement on her door. The officer could not show Fouss where it was mandated that she post such a notice when she inquired, however, he remained in the store observing her and her customers for a prolonged period.

"We are afraid of OSHA shutting down our businesses," stated Segura, "but we shouldn't have to be."

Many bars, restaurants, hotels, and retailers around the state have taken a stance against the broad scope of restrictions and have begun to file lawsuits against the State. It has become untenable for small business to continue to be financially exsanguinated and remain open. The Picotte's reported that they have been in contact with Joey Gilbert, Esq., in Reno to discuss a lawsuit of their own and proceed even if they must do it on their own. The hope, however, is to rally local businesses to the cause and create power in numbers. The more members, the more influence will be at the ready when the Alliance meets with local and city government, as well as behind any potential legal action. With everyone at the meeting reporting substantially decreased revenue across the board, members agreed that something has to be done before Fallon suffers any more layoffs and permanently closed doors.

Another topic broached by the group was the \$300,000 small business COVID support grant distributed to local businesses this Fall. As part of a CARES-Act relief package, the City of Fallon and Churchill County dispersed \$131,000 in funds to 28 area businesses. The grant funds were capped at \$10,000 per applicant, however, no one at the meeting reported receiving the whole amount. Some business owners said that they inquired about applying for more funding through the Churchill Economic Development Authority (CEDA), who administered the grant, but were told that the period for applying had closed. The City of Reno, who also received CARE-Act funds, awarded \$1.4 million in grants up to \$20,000 during their first-round and is set to disperse an additional \$2.55 million. Members of the CCSBA are concerned that if the balance of the grant money is not distributed by the end of the year, the desperately needed funds will be returned to the state.

The CCSBA is urging local small business owners to join the organization. Annual member dues are \$100, but Segura encourages businesses to join even if the fee is not possible right now. "Any contributions are welcome," stated Segura, "but the priority right now is members."

For more information or to join the Churchill County Business Owners Alliance (CCBOA), email CCBOA2020@gmail.com

James H. Olson, MD

Fellowship trained
spinal and board
certified orthopedic
surgeon

Justin Starling, PA-C

6630 S. McCarran Blvd. A2
Reno, NV 89509
775-507-7201
775-657-6666




**Now seeing patients in Reno
and Fallon**

Call 775-507-7201 to be seen at Fallon Physical Therapy



UNWRAP THE GIFT OF

NEVADA



We live in the state where the sagebrush glistens, and this holiday season is the perfect time to share some shining Silver State spirit. Need some inspo? Check out our inspired gift ideas—from wrappable, made-in-Nevada goodies to mappable, only-in-Nevada excursions—for foodies, adventure junkies, history buffs, and all the other Nevada-lovers in your life. This year shop small, dream big, and create some unforgettable home-state memories.

Because home means Nevada for the holidays.

Please mask up in all public areas in Nevada. For current guidelines, visit TravelNevada.com/Covid-19.



DiscoverYourNevada.com/Gifts

 PLANET X POTTERY, GERLACH

Local Government

Commissioners pass five cent diesel tax

By Rachel Dahl

County Commissioners passed a five cent per gallon diesel tax at their meeting this week, which will go into effect February 1, 2021. The tax can only be used on roads and bridges throughout the county and will be distributed by formula through the Regional Transportation Commission to both the City of Fallon and the county. The commission previously adopted a business impact statement finding no significant impact on businesses. Vehicles and equipment using red dye diesel will be exempt from the tax.

Kip McCoy, a resident from Churchill County spoke during public comment on the issue, asking commissioners, "Why are we doing this tax and how long will it run?"

Chairman Pete Olsen explained that the tax, once implemented will not sunset. He said that the gas tax has been flat for ten years and there currently is no diesel tax. Anyone driving a vehicle running diesel has not been contributing to the maintenance of community roads. "The fuel tax is not pegged to inflation like equipment and the other costs of maintaining road," said Olsen. "Right now, diesel pays nothing toward maintaining county roads and no one has paid anything toward inflation for the past ten years."

Also during public comment, Geoff Knell, a resident of the city, chastised commissioners for trying to implement the tax saying, "I'm going to make you accountable," said Knell, "What you are doing today, I don't want you to do. The expenditures being presented in my opinion are totally uncontrollable, people are suffering and you are going to hurt businesses."

Incidentally, Knell attended several City of Fallon council meeting over this summer, asking the city to install a stop

sign at an intersection near his home. The city did recently install the stop sign, expending revenues for a traffic study and staff time, as well as the equipment needs for the sign.

Gary Fowkes is the county road supervisor and he said, "I don't like taxes any more than anyone else, I have two diesel trucks so this will cost me about \$30 a piece for this nickel, but its going to help us do about 50% more work."

The road department expends roughly \$400,000 a year on repair supplies, completing seven to ten miles of road a year. This tax will allow the department to expand their maintenance program. According to Fowkes there are a total of 250 miles of paved and 250 of gravel roads. "To do the maintenance on just our equipment is about \$100,000 a year. We need the money," he said.

Commissioner Carl Erquiaga said that as long as he has been on the commission, "We have not adjusted any highway taxes at all in the past 12 years and haven't raised property tax either...If you do simple math, for a diesel pickup, this nickel will cost you seven bucks a month."

Although several people have told Erquiaga that they will just drive to surrounding communities where the fuel prices are cheaper, "That's false economy, you spend six gallons driving to Carson to fill your tank when that six gallons here would have cost you 30 cents. If someone has a better idea of where we can get the money to maintain our roads..."

Olsen pointed out that the legislature authorized the implement of this tax a year ago. The tax was authorized by the legislature during the 2019 session and so far, six counties have implemented the tax in their communities, including Lyon and Carson. Churchill County anticipates receiving approximately \$300,000 in additional revenue from the \$.05 tax.

Sheriff's Department and Fallon Tribe work together

By Rachel Dahl

Last week the Churchill County Sheriff announced that his department will be assisting the Fallon Paiute Shoshone Tribe with law enforcement services. The Tribal leadership also announced to members that because their law enforcement department is extremely short staffed, and for their concerns for the safety of tribal members, they had formally requested law enforcement assistance from the local sheriff's department.

Sheriff Richard Hickox reported that his office had received the request and is pleased to help a sister agency. "We were asked by the local tribe to cross-deputization just for offering them emergency protection. We did respond to several calls out there, which worked out fine," said Hickox. "That is just an extension of our current MOU (Memorandum of Understanding)."



Thank You OPI
Office Products, Inc.

FOR HELPING US MAKE THIS DREAM
OF LOCAL, COMMUNITY NEWS COME
TRUE. WE LOVE WORKING WITH YOU
AND WE LOVE BECKY - OUR
KONICA MINOLTA C3080

Maine Street Phase IV improvement

By Leanna Lehman

Construction on Phase IV of the Maine Street streetscape project is finally underway. Crews broke ground on November 16th after the Nevada Department of Transportation (NDOT) added \$280,000 in funds to the project in August.

Plans have been underway since 2017 when the City received \$900,000 in NDOT funds for the much-needed improvements on south Maine Street. Lumos & Associates completed the engineering and design work in 2018 for approximately 1,000 linear feet of streetscaping at the edge of Fallon city limits. The work extends from the intersection of Front Street and Maine, south to the intersection of Maine Street and Tolas Place.

Construction was originally scheduled to begin last January; however, groundbreaking was delayed due to a funding shortfall. "We were fortunate in that NDOT came up with essentially all of the funding," stated Brian Byrd, City public works director, after the City received the additional funds in August. "We did not have to come back and think about our policy to not improve properties that are not in the City."

The streetscape project, contracted to A&K Earthmovers includes new asphalt, car ramps, curbed and guttered sidewalks, storm drains, and street parking at the Pennington Life Center. Additionally, the decades-old underground infrastructure is being replaced and includes water lines, sewer lines, and City utilities.



Photo provided by A&K Earthmovers

According to A&K foreman Todd Lehman, Phase IV of the Maine Street project is on schedule to be complete by Spring 2021. Phase V of the improvement project is due to start next week. The Front Street reconstruction project, separate from the Maine Street project, and is also contracted to A&K. According to Lehman, that work extends east on Front Street from Maine Street to Humboldt Street. They will also be continuing improvements from Front Street onto Churchill Street as far as Douglas, and onto Esmeralda Street as far as Fairview Street.

A&K advises drivers to use alternate routes as traffic control is in place and to expect road closures, heavy equipment, and work crews in the area.

Looking for a Posting Agent

- * Part-time Process Server Position
- * Pay is \$20 per file and mileage - typically 2-3 postings a month
- * Responsibilities will include posting foreclosure notices on properties in Fallon. Also, conducting sales at the courthouse at 11:00 AM on Wednesday (not every Wednesday)
- * Properties also in Fernley if interested
- * Must have reliable transportation and a printer to print the documents that are posted on the properties
- * Must be able to pass a background check (No Felonies)

To apply please call Heather Ebnetter at 702-408-6750
or email at heather@nvjss.com



THE FALLON POST

Principals report on student achievement

By Susan Weikel

At the recent school board of trustees meeting, school principals each presented their School Performance Plans. When making the presentations, “proficient” refers to “being skilled or competent in doing or using something”.

Principal Scott Winter presented on the high school’s latest data, saying that the ACT assessments over a 3-year trend show a steady decrease in the number of students who are proficient in math (23%, 20%, 16%), with Science remaining stagnant (17.7%, 19%, 18.5%). WIDA (World-Class Instructional Design and Assessment) assessments show that out of 55 English Learners students, 0 met the exit criteria. Over the past two years, CCHS has added NAA (National After-School Association) instruction to help students attain the Alternative diploma. All special services will provide learning guides and co-teaching to further assist our most at-risk population. It is the goal of Churchill County High School, over the next three years, to raise growth in Math from 14.9% and Science from 18.5% proficiency to 50% proficiency, as measured by the ACT assessment, and to increase achievement of the CCR (College and Career Ready) diploma from 12.55% (class of 2020) to 25%, as measured by the Nevada Report Card. Principal Winter also shared comments regarding the positive attitudes he has seen from students as they have adjusted to the hybrid system. Students are enjoying the smaller classes and only having two classes to concentrate on.

Churchill County Middle School Principal Word explained to the Board that CCMS did not participate in SBAC (Smart Balanced Assessment System) testing in the 19-20 school year due to Covid-19. The last SBAC testing demonstrated a decrease in the percentages for proficiency and growth in math on the exam (2019). In addition, the ELA (English Language Arts) data showed lack of growth, but little change in the proficiency percentages on the exam (2019). The data also remained unchanged for EL students participating in the WIDA Access exam, or lack of growth.

Principal Word stated that she believed CCMS would have reported a decrease in chronic absenteeism from the 18-19 school year to the 19-20 school year if the data was collected and reported. In the 18-19 school year, 99 students were reported as chronically absent. At the point school was excused in the 19-20 school year, the number was 49 students. Efforts to meet with families experiencing frequent absences and a school wide effort to build relationships with students in advisory are believed to be a big part of this change. The series of interventions is: 9 day letters, 9 day meetings, 15 day letters, Pre student Attendance Review Board Meetings, 18 day letters, attendance contracts, and truancy referral. Of the 68 families attending the 9 day absence meeting, 56 families did not need further intervention.

Behavior data also reflected positive changes. In the 18-19 school year, 2,279 events were reported and recorded. In the 19-20 school year that number decreased to 1,141 events. Word and the CCMS staff were especially proud of the in-class behaviors reducing from 817 events in 18-19 to 595 in 19-20, demonstrating the first year of PBIS (Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports) implementation is having an impact on classroom referrals and distractions. Teachers are reporting with more specificity, 428 more events submitted contained details about time and place.

The three goals for 2020-2021 are one, to have life ready



E.C. Best principal Keith Boone. Photo provided by E.C. Best

learners who demonstrate growth and proficiency as measured by Learner Centered Framework Data Tracking Tool for students using MAP and SBAC on the math and reading exams/course work; two, engaged citizens shown by implementing PBIS as measured by Infinite Campus and school reports on attendance and behavior; and three, to increase Communications and Parent Involvement.

Principal Shawn Purrell, from Numa Elementary shared his school’s data with the Board. The comprehensive analysis of assessment data (CRT-NSPF-MAP) and teacher instructional efficacy data (Learner Centered Framework and Administrative Classroom Observations) shows the current model of instruction and data analysis, resulting in typical growth for many of our students, is not effective enough to create growth for some of the students and is not closing the gap for subgroup populations. Some students, including English Language Learners, Individual Education Plan, and Free and Reduced Lunch populations, who are not proficient, are not responding to current instruction and are not on track to become proficient.

Purrell said with these students the type of growth needed for these students is not occurring. Based on the data analysis, two needs are clearly and strongly identified: a need to increase the efficacy of teacher instructional strategies and the need to monitor standards-based progress to ensure academic growth.

Purrell identified two major goals for his school’s plan. First, from Fall 2020 to Spring 2021 Numa Elementary will increase the School-Wide Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (SWPBIS) Tiered Fidelity Inventory (TFI) from 50% (2019-20 score) to a minimum of 70%. A score of 70% in two of the three TFI data collections during the year will advance Numa from Tier 1 to Tier 2. Second, increase student proficiency and growth rates in math and ELA, with 50% of the student reaching the 60th percentile in the reading and 40% of the students will reach the 60th percentile in math as measured by the NWEA MAP from Fall to Spring.

E.C. Best Principal, Keith Boone shared that the staff at E.C. Best Elementary School had met to analyze data and identify their goals and objectives for the 2020-2021 school year. The Tiered Fidelity Inventory Score showed

CCSD discusses school funding under state shortfalls

By Susan Weikel

Superintendent Summer Stephens informed the Board of Trustees at their last meeting, that the Commission on School Funding will be meeting soon to look at how to set up funding for the upcoming year, what the weighted formula will look like, and how “at risk” will be defined. She asked for input from the trustees regarding any thoughts or concerns they might have so that she can share them with the commission.

Stephens took the opportunity to share with the Board some ideas about “optimal funding” and what would be required so that every student is college and career ready. At this point, funding will need to be restored to adequate first, and then the state can look at how to get to optimal. With the pandemic, loss of economy, and drops in enrollment, districts are concerned about how the new biennium will look in terms of revenue streams along with maintaining the capability to fund the current Hold Harmless numbers.

According to email correspondence with Christi Fielding, the Churchill County School District comptroller, the Hold Harmless Provision in Senate Bill 543 indicates that if a school district experiences a decrease in funding due to a decline in enrollment, the legislature will determine how to mitigate the impact; it does not provide further specifics. Currently, if a district experiences more than a 5% decrease in enrollment, the next quarter’s enrollment will be based on the prior year’s enrollment (Hold Harmless) for that quarter, and there is no end of quarter true up to actual. The end

of quarter actual will then be compared again to see if there was more than a 5% decline, and if there is again, the following quarter will again be placed in Hold Harmless status.

Dr. Stephens said the concern is how will the state protect education at this time, referring to the upcoming legislative session. She is willing to go to the table and say that education must be first, but she is asked for ideas from the Board that reflect their goals.

Trustee Buckmaster stated that he would like to see the Legislature push back the new funding model, and that he does not support, in any way shape or form, that the counties that receive the mining tax money that goes towards education should not be put into general funding and shared with all other districts. The counties with the mines are impacted by those mines and that money should stay in those counties and not distributed out to other counties.

Trustee Whitaker asked if the idea was to say that education is important and should not be touched, and we need to go back to where we were; and yet, when you look at the whole picture of where the state is, that is very difficult to do. She is not opposed to going with the new funding model, but there must be the Hold Harmless for all districts.

Trustee Strasdin asked how other districts are addressing this issue.

Dr. Stephens said that there is support to continue pushing for optimal funding and for the Legislature to work to find the necessary revenue streams to make that happen. The impact that everyone has felt due to the drops in enrollment has made the Hold Harmless one of the top priorities.

Continued on page 29

Continued from page 20... Principals report

that EC Best is at 37% of implementation of Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports. Based on the 2019-2020 Winter MAPs data, 50% of 2nd graders were proficient and 51% 3rd graders were proficient in Reading; 47% of 2nd graders were proficient and 54% of 3rd graders were proficient in Math. Due to COVID-19, the school was not able to establish Spring MAP data or SBAC data for the 2019-2020 school year. Principal Boone identified the need to provide all students a learning environment that is safe, inclusive, respectful, positive, and culturally responsive. He also plans to improve achievement in the areas of literacy and math as related to the Nevada State Literacy plan and the Nevada grade level content standards.

Principal Kimi Melendy shared data from Lahontan Elementary data along with the school performance plan. Melendy stated that children come to Lahontan Elementary School at varied developmental levels. Data will be used to help students move along the developmental continuum. Due to COVID-19, assessment data was not able to be collected. The Advisory Team met to analyze data and identify goals and objectives for the 2020-2021 school year. The Tiered Fidelity Inventory for Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports showed that LES has a 40% implementation rate and has a goal to be at 70% to be at the Tier II level for the next school year. 81% of licensed staff are trained in Tribes and 13% are currently in training, 6% need to take training. Based on the 2020 Fall MAP data, Kindergarten students proficient on the NWEA MAP assessment for Math were 61% with traditional 55% and remote 81%. Kindergarten students proficient on the NWEA MAP assessment

for Reading were 38% with traditional 26% and remote 77%.

First Grade students proficient on the NWEA MAP assessment for Math were 39% with traditional 31% and remote 63%. First Grade students proficient on the NWEA MAP assessment for Reading were 32% with traditional 24% and remote 54%.

The school plan will increase the number of students proficient in the areas of literacy and math on the NWEA MAP assessments and provide a high quality learning experience for all students in a safe, equitable, inclusive, respectful, positive, and culturally responsive environment. Melendy thanked her staff for all their hard work in doing what is best for kids. Trustee Pinder applauded the training efforts being used to share professional development concepts with her staff.

Trustee Schank thanked all the principals for sharing/explaining their plans and the work that they are putting into their schools.

Trustee Strasdin commented on the consistency that stands out in hearing reports from all the sites, the commonality in the verbiage used, the shared goals, and the attention to learner agency. As a Board member, she sees the connection this makes to their goals and the incredible amount of work this has taken has not gone unnoticed.

Trustee Whitaker seconded what Strasdin had said. With all that has been asked of staff this year, the extra work that people are putting in to put kids first is definitely something she feels staff should be proud of.

The presentations are available online at the district webpage.

Education

CCHS artists show well at competition



Macall Brown
Among the Flowers
PrismaColor



Tully Burton
Ceramics

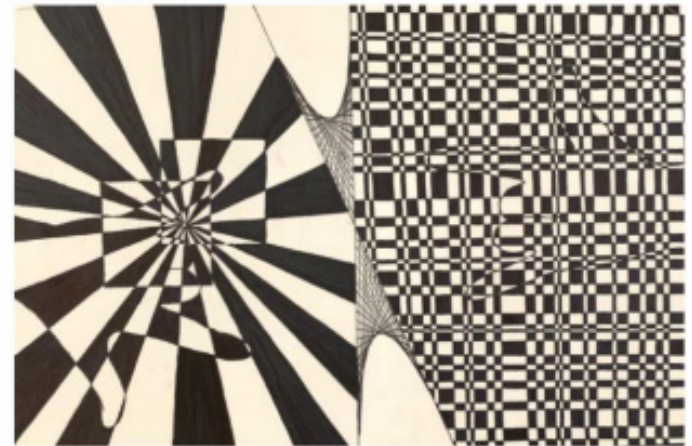
Tierney Hutchcraft



Makayla Marie Shawcraft
Worlds Connect
Sharpie Marker
Not for sale



Meeka Erwin
Title: "Firefly"
Medium: Colored pencil
Not for sale



Breanna Busby
Sea turtle
Color pencil



Artwork provided by Churchill County High School Art Teacher
Jamie Shafer

By Rachel Dahl

Jaime Shafer, art teacher at the high school announced that six of her students have won awards from the prestigious Inova Art Contest. The contest opened up in March and is an initiative of the Inova Apartment partnership that provided an opportunity to showcase the resiliency and creativity of artists all over the United States.

There were ten prize winners, 20 student prize winners, and 42 honorable mentions. Organizers said they received over 850 beautiful works of art for the various categories in this competition. Participants ranged from pre-teens to adults in categories involving fashion, sculptures, and different styles of painting/drawing.

"Each artist took time to create or share an existing piece that meant the most to them personally, while unknowingly capturing a collective moment in time," from the media information regarding the contest.

Shafer's students Breanna Busby and Tully Barton (both recent graduates), Tierney Hitchcraft, Makayla Showcraft, Macall Brown, and Meeka Erwin were all CCHS winners in the contest.

Normally, outside of COVID, Shafer presents student work on display at Banner Churchill Hospital and the Churchill County Administration building.

WNC starts Latino Leadership Academy on Fallon campus

By Kathryn Whitaker

For the past decade, Western Nevada College has provided a cohort for Latino students on the Carson campus. This fall, the Fallon campus presented its inaugural cohort of the Latino Leadership Academy, under the direction of Lupe Ramirez, coordinator of Latino Outreach at WNC.

Ramirez said WNC recognized it was not serving rural areas like it should be, so Ramirez reached out to Churchill County School District Superintendent Summer Stephens and Churchill County High School Principal Scott Winter to see if WNC could do more to support Latino students in making the transition from high school to college. Ramirez noted that she's developed a "wonderful collaboration with the high school."

The goal of the Academy is to help Latino students graduate on time from WNC, which means completing 15 credit hours per semester for four semesters. Nationally, Latinos fall 10 percentage points behind their white counterparts in graduating from college.

Ramirez met with interested CCHS seniors to tell them what the program could offer and what the Academy would require of them. A parent information night also helped parents understand what the program was and what support it could offer. Ramirez also met individually with each prospective student and his or her parents to explain how the academy works and to answer any questions they had.

"We work with the family, which is critical," explained Ramirez.

The support Ramirez provides is like a one-stop shop for

the new students. Ramirez guides the students through admissions, financial aid, and the counseling process.

"Because they're first-generation students, they don't know what to do and what to ask for," Ramirez said. "They're coming into a completely different world and they don't know how to navigate. We're here to support them through the process. We establish a sense of trust."

The support for the new students continues beyond the initial application and registration process. The students are placed in a cohort where they take many of their classes together. This cohort model allows the students the opportunity to support one another and engage with their peers who are experiencing many of the same challenges.

The students are also supported by a cohort coach who is a WNC Latino student who has completed two semesters at the college and earned a "B" or better in English 101 and Math 126. The coach must be someone who understands the challenges the new students face and who can relate to them. The cohort coach for the Fallon campus academy is Lupe De Santiago.

"Lupe is super proactive in helping the students get the support that they need," Ramirez said. "Individual support is what they rely on heavily."

De Santiago explained, "As a coach, I follow students, take notes in their classes and help them find resources, and I also help them learn how to connect with their instructors. It's a relief for students to learn the shortcuts and resources."

As a first-generation college student, De Santiago understands the hurdles the new students face, so she does what she can to help them avoid the pitfalls that she encountered as a first-semester student.

"I was terrified of being responsible for others' grades as well as my own, but I thought of how I felt when I first started, so I wanted to be there for them with all the challenges they'd face, especially with COVID," De Santiago said. "I wish I'd had it to keep me on track my first semester."

De Santiago said she meets with the cohort twice a week. At the beginning of the semester, they could meet in person, but with the new, stricter restrictions set by the state, they now meet together on an online platform. De Santiago checks their grades, answers questions about course material and helps them find online academic tutoring and support. She also encourages study groups, and helps them apply for scholarships.

The cohort has provided the students in Fallon with more confidence in their coursework and better understanding of how to manage their time, according to De Santiago. Holly O'Toole, WNC's Fallon Campus and Rural Outreach director, is excited about the program and what it can offer Latino students as they attend WNC.

"I love these students," O'Toole said. "They become generational life-changers. They help break the poverty cycle and once they start college, their family members start coming, too."

If there are any Latino students who are interested in the Academy, they can contact Lupe Ramirez at 775-445-3215.



**OPEN ENROLLMENT
WINDOW FOR GRADES K-12
FALL 2021
DEC 7, 2020 - FEB 18, 2021**

**APPLICATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY 5 PM FEBRUARY 18TH
LOTTERY WILL BE HELD FEBRUARY 19, 2021**

**APPLICATIONS ARE AVAILABLE IN BOTH ENGLISH AND SPANISH ON OUR
WEBSITE ~ WWW.OASISACADEMYFALLON.US
AND AT THE FRONT DESK M-TH 8AM - 4 PM**

**APPLICATIONS ARE SUBMITTED IN PERSON AT THE FRONT DESK
M-TH 8AM - 4 PM**

**CONTACT SCHOOL FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION 775-423-5437
920 W. WILLIAMS AVENUE, FALLON**

State and county COVID update – record highs



By Leanna Lehman

Record high positive test cases were reported on Monday, November 30th, during the regularly scheduled COVID-19 Update call. Caleb Cage, statewide COVID-19 response director, stated that there are 152,169 confirmed cases to date. The current positivity rate (over a seven-day average) is at its highest since the onset of the pandemic at 17.3% with approximately 277 new cases reported each day.

Nevada has a total of 1,405 confirmed COVID hospitalizations statewide. Northern Nevada reported an increase of 250% in hospitalizations within the last 30 days. Fortunately, according to Cage, the State's healthcare infrastructure has enough elasticity to absorb the increased cases, even though some facilities are at critical limits. A total of 1,638,099 tests have been administered since March, bringing the overall positivity rate to 9.29%.

In Churchill County, community testing has been expanded to daily testing at the Fair Grounds to help accommodate the increased testing demands stemming from the rising number of exposures and individuals experiencing symptoms. As of December 2nd the county reported the number of positive cases at 360.

Banner Churchill Community Hospital reported that as of December 2nd, there were 15 COVID-positive patients with three of those in ICU. Banner also indicated that the ICU was at 125% capacity.

The possibility of COVID reinfection is becoming an increasing area of concern. According to the University of Michigan Health Lab (UMHL), one individual in Hong Kong and another in Reno reportedly contracted the coronavirus twice, with many more individuals believing they had it before news of the pandemic broke last spring. The UMHL study concluded that if these patients' initial immune responses to their first infection weren't robust enough, they could be susceptible to getting infected again.

The Hong Kong man's case was detected during a routine border screening; however, he was asymptomatic at the time. In the case of the Reno man, the first U.S. reinfection case reported last June, the reverse was true—his symptoms were more severe during the second infection. According to genomic reinfection data, both tests produced genetically different strains of the virus thus contracting the virus may not provide total immunity against future COVID-19 infections.

Interestingly, northern Nevadan's are contracting a mutated strain of the virus. As reported by Dr. Subhash Verma, Associate Professor with the UNR School of Medicine, "Northern Nevada somehow has a unique mutation which is in one of the proteins which make the virus replicate." More research is underway to understand how this could impact the efficacy of vaccines as well how the strain is related to the severity of symptoms experienced in northern Nevada. While researchers are not currently able to conclusively predict the degree of protective immunity developed after contracting the virus. However, data is beginning to emerge that indicates many people are developing robust antibodies against the virus, effectively creating the same immune response as a vaccine might.

In Governor Sisolak's statement to the press on December 2nd, he stated that Nevadans should continue to be vigilant in their efforts to prevent the spread of COVID. Additionally, the first dispatch of vaccines should arrive mid-month. If you are experiencing symptoms or believe you may have been exposed to COVID, please visit <http://www.churchillcountynv.gov/816/Public-Service-Announcements> for information on testing.

This could be your sweet bottom banner ad

OH SNAP

8.5" x 3" for only \$109 per week

Local Plan for the COVID vaccination

By Rachel Dahl

Although the local COVID-19 vaccination plan has not been approved at the state level, Shannon Ernst, director of the county social service department, reported at the board of health meeting last week she has submitted the draft plan to the state, and her staff is working to be ready to receive the vaccine in the next couple of weeks, as soon as one is approved.

Governor Sisolak announced this week that while the vaccine has not been approved yet, the Nevada Department of Health and Human Services is on standby and prepared to distribute the initial allocation, and has developed priorities for immunization focusing first on Nevada's essential health care providers.

"We are meeting weekly and looking at how our testing pod is set up and we will utilize that same format for the

vaccination," said Ernst. "We are working on Tier 1, which is focusing on our health care workers and first responders because it could be limited." Depending on how many vaccines are available, the program would be expanded into Tier 2, 3, and then 4.

One of the equipment requirements for the vaccine program is a refrigerator and a freezer to properly store the vaccines. Ernst is expecting delivery of these pieces of equipment next week prior to the first shipment, which she is expecting will be the Pfizer vaccine and then the Moderna vaccine will come later. At the time the vaccines are delivered, both Ernst and the Governor say by the middle of December, the vaccine program will be implemented with an invite to the vaccination "pod."

"I just urge anyone who is looking to obtain the vaccine," said Ernst, "will be

required to have had the flu shot at least two weeks prior," to the administration of the COVID vaccine. "With that being said, we are putting on another flu pod at the beginning of December and we will be getting that information out so they can prepare," said Ernst.

Dr. Tedd McDonald is the county health officer and leads the county board of health meetings. He said, "I'm hoping that at our pods and future vaccination clinics we have the word out that when the vaccine does come out it is imperative that people have the flu shot ahead of time. That should drive a lot more interest and drive folks to receive the flu vaccine at this point," he said.

The county is sponsoring free drive-thru flu shots with the option to test for COVID on December 6th at the Fairgrounds from 3:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Continued from page 7... Faith and Life

Dawn Blundell, Epworth United Methodist Church Senior Pastor *Worship Sunday mornings online at 9:30am on Facebook Live and KVLV AM980 For more info, please call 775-423-4714 or visit www.epworthfallon.org*

There is a whole lot of nostalgia and hope wrapped up in Christmas for me, personally. As I think about all of the music, the cooking, the decorating, the gift-giving, the special events, the candlelight Christmas eve...I think the tradition I most appreciate is just gathering. Togetherness. From Christmases past I don't think I remember a single gift...but I remember the feeling of being together with family and friends. Midnight church services. Singing loud and deliberately artless Christmas songs with my sisters. Though carols and pageants tell it differently, Jesus was likely born in a crowded home, surrounded by food and stress and people with all of their complicated relationships...right in the middle of ordinary life, really. And that's where we most often encounter him now, too.

Stephen Duarte, Parkside Bible Fellowship Director of Student Ministries *Sunday School at 9:00am, worship services Sunday mornings at 10:15am and 6:00pm*

For more info, please call 775-423-3855 or visit www.parksidebible.com One of the most beneficial Christmas traditions is doing daily Advent readings. Families are pointed to what is truly important when parents lead their children in the reading of God's Word. God came down to our world and became a man. The one promised in Genesis 3:15, the one who would crush the power of sin and death has come. Jesus Christ, the King of kings, was born as a babe that he might live a perfect life, the life we haven't, to die in the place of all those who have placed their faith in him alone so that they might have his perfect righteous account. The tradition of doing Advent reading can point us to the one we need most, Jesus.

Newlands Project Water Levels

*Measurements taken
December 2nd at 5:30 p.m.*

**Lahontan Reservoir
55,910 af**

**Truckee Canal at Hazen
207 cfs**

**Truckee Canal at Wadsworth
210 cfs**

**Carson River Below Lahontan
2.51 cfs**

**Carson River at Ft. Churchill
68.9 cfs**

cfs - Cubic Feet per Second
af - Acre Feet

The Fallon Vipers move forward – focus on the fundamentals



Photo provided by Coach Miguel Orduna

By Viviane Ugalde

The Fallon Vipers club all-girl soccer organization started in late 2018 with five players on the roster, which eventually grew to fourteen.

Their leader, Coach Orduna, began this club not only to teach kids about futbol (commonly known as soccer in the U.S. and Canada) but to share his philosophy on the fundamentals of playing. “Our club focuses on the development of the players. Our coaching philosophy is completely different than most. Our fundamentals are the three C’s of futbol: cognition, competence, and character. The reason I wanted to bring this club to Fallon was because I saw the need to bring a different level of soccer to our community. We have a lot of kids in our community who love to play and a lot of kids looking to expand their soccer experience.”

While many were excited for professional baseball and college football to return, youth sports teams like The Fallon Vipers utilized out-of-the-box practicing methods during the entire period of uncertainty.

The club soccer team, with 14 girls on the roster, are training, practicing, and building as a team in the hopes of coming out strong during their 2021 season. The coach kept the organization of players and parents at ease for the entire process.

“As coaches, we faced many challenges throughout our journey... we definitely didn’t expect to deal with not being able to practice and play,” Orduna said.

Fortunately, the team found ways to continue to stay in shape, train, and connect with one another. The club follows

the governor’s safety guidelines while customizing practices to meet their needs.

“There are too many risks right now in dealing with COVID-19 and having guidelines and a safety plan makes our jobs as coaches much easier,” Orduna said.

Over many zoom practices throughout the summer, the team bonded and became strong as a group and have since begun scrimmaging at the Reno Sportsdome. According to Coach Orduna, the Sportsdome is where nearly every club soccer team participates in recreational leagues as an opportunity to stay fit while they continue to work on team and player development. Orduna said he notices the team’s growth in bonding and work.

“My goal once I knew we would be losing our season was to find ways to motivate my team. Our girls have built strong relationships among themselves and love and care for each other so much. I am truly amazed of all the work the girls have been doing throughout this pandemic,” Orduna said, “It’s been a lot of fun and work to get all of the girls to learn and adapt to play the beautiful game of soccer.”

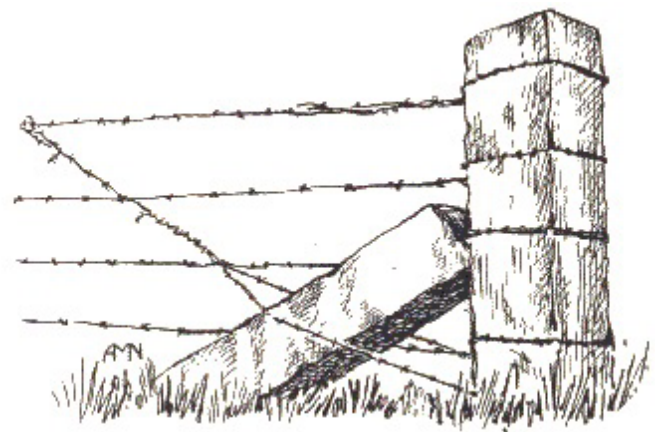
The current team consists of Abigail Wilke, Abby Bird, Keana Williams, Raegan Johnson, Abigail Lacow, Kaylee Craig, Adyson McCart, Shaylee Orduña, Elizabeth Bergman, Poppy Stephen, LeAnne Wallace, Evie Coverston, Hannah Montalvo, and Riley Gurrero. However, the coach said they are looking to expand the roster.

“I am very optimistic about the future of SNFC – Fallon. We want to continue to grow our teams and are actively looking for players. We are also adding a boys team in 2021. We have many opportunities coming to this amazing community,” Orduna said.

While the organization is growing, they are also planning for future tournaments. According to Orduna, the club anticipates hosting two tournaments in the spring and summer of 2021. It will be three days of soccer games with teams from Las Vegas, Elko, Winnemucca, Reno, Idaho, Salt Lake City, and California.

While things look bleak, the team and coach are optimistic.

“It has not been an easy process,” admitted Orduna, “but we have overcome many obstacles, including what the pandemic has brought us. We are so thankful for all of the club organizations that have been working with us to bring this great opportunity to our beautiful city of Fallon.”



Leanna's Southern Style Chocolate Pecan Pie



By Leanna Lehman

On a funny note – or perhaps a warning, please follow the instructions closely. First of all, don't try to get away with just using light corn syrup. This causes problems with the thickness of the pie filling. I am not sure why. Probably just the universe screaming, "stop messing with perfectly good recipes." Secondly, don't overbake. This can and does lead to a disastrous outcome. How do I know this? Yes, you guessed it. I did exactly what I said not to do as I was slightly short of dark corn syrup. The result was a very jiggy middle (and for the pie too). I then overbaked it forgetting that overheated corn syrup is the main ingredient in HARD CANDY. Although, as I recently discovered, while chocolate pecan hard candy is quite delicious, it will take a chisel to extract from the pie shell and your teeth.

Southern Style Chocolate Pecan Pie

Preheat oven to 350 degrees Fahrenheit.

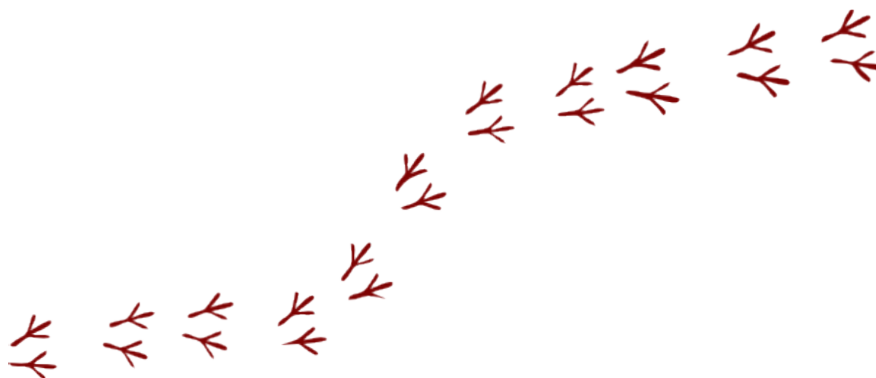
Pie Shell – 9 Inch

- * 1 oz unsweetened baking chocolate, (2 small squares) – 100% cacao
- * 7 Tablespoons unsalted butter, (3 Tbs & 4 Tbs)
- * 1/2 cup light corn syrup
- * 1/2 cup dark corn syrup (important not to use just light or dark)
- * 3/4 cup granulated sugar
- * 3 eggs, beaten
- * 1 cup chopped pecans
- * 1 teaspoon vanilla extract

Prepare a double boiler: fill the bottom saucepan with a few inches of water and bring to a boil. Nestle the top-most saucepan on top and add 3 Tablespoons of butter and the chocolate. Stir constantly until melted and smooth. Remove from the heat.

In a separate small saucepan, combine the remaining 4 Tablespoons of butter, corn syrup, and sugar, and stir together over low heat until butter is melted and ingredients are blended. Add to the melted chocolate, then stir in the beaten eggs and vanilla.

Pour the chopped pecans into the pie shell. Spread them evenly in the shell. Pour the filling over pecans until filling is evenly spread across the pecans. Lightly cover the edges of the pie crust with foil and bake in the center of the preheated oven for 45-50 minutes. Do not overbake – this will harden the filling. The pie filling will not be firm, but should spring back slightly when tapped in the center. It will thicken as the pie cools. Allow to cool completely on a wire rack before cutting. Serve with whipped cream on or vanilla ice cream top.



Stone Cabin Coffee

Fallon's newest coffee joint, although it now has been established for around three years, is perfect for a cup of joe, especially this time of year. Not only is there a delicious warm drink perfect for everyone's tastebuds, but the aesthetics in the cozy, historically decorated shop places me in a pacific northwest snow flurry state of mind every time I go in. Even for those tea drinkers out there, Stone Cabin Coffee has a great selection as well. In these early brisk mornings, a hot tea with a wonderful muffin, pastry, or donut is exactly what the doctor ordered. This is a great stop for a friendly visit, as well a drop in for those coming into town from the east, with the convenience of being next to the Hospital and the Renown on Williams Street. Stop in for a warm drink and a tasty treat!



Miley Cyrus



Miley Cyrus has done pop, country, folk, and now turns to the inspirations of 70s and 80s pop-rock.







I personally was more excited to hear the cameos from female rock and roll badass, Joan Jett, and the icon Stevie Nicks who lent their voices to the remix of "Edge of Seventeen" and "Midnight Sky." But the rest of this album give Cyrus the stage to come into her own as a female music icon as well. Her new album, *Plastic Hearts*, begins with a pop-rock song to slowly ease you into her new sound. The title track continues the trend, while containing a peppy pop bass guitar and background vocals. The interesting track, "Gimmie What I Want," has an 80s electric synth sound behind Cyrus's newly acquired "whiskey raspy" rock voice. The synth sound is a call back to "Eminence Front" from *The Who*, while her voice maintains its own unique realm. Cyrus then continues under the large umbrella of rock sounds with the ballad-like song "High." This album overall is an eclectic combination that pulls from different sounds and intensities and will reach many audiences.


Viviane Ugalde is a recent University of Nevada grad who is from Fallon. She is a staff writer, and the entertainment correspondent. She is teaching our Fallon Post team design and layout, is willing to do any little thing that needs to be tackled, and is also a stand-up comic.

Fallon Theatre

DECEMBER MOVIES

ALL MOVIES START AT 6:30 AND ARE FREE

 MIRACLE ON 34th STREET 12/3	 IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE 12/5
 SCROOGED 12/10	 CHRISTMAS VACATION 12/12
 HOW THE GRINCH STOLE CHRISTMAS & THE GRINCH 12/17 <small>The original will play first (26 min) then the 2018 movie will start after (90 min)</small>	 THE POLAR EXPRESS 12/19 <small>Includes FREE hot cocoa bar</small>




Join us for our
CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION
as Fallon Community Theatre
turns 100 years old!

OPEN HOUSE
Wednesday, December 30th
6-8 pm
(DINE, DRINK, & LOOK AT THE HISTORY! BLENDED AND ENJOY CHAMPAGNE, SPARKLING COCKTAILS, AND MORE TO HELP US CELEBRATE!)

WONDER WOMAN 1984 HAS BEEN RELEASED!

December 25, 26, 31 & January 2

NEW RELEASE movies will have a charge of \$5 per person



- Crossword Answers
1. Laurel&Hardy
 2. voracious
 3. petite
 4. muggy
 5. concupiscent
 6. penumbra
 7. aplomb
 8. warn
 9. enigma
 10. grawlix
 11. nimble
 12. bombard
 13. meek
 14. Metaphors
 15. Gernika

Woody Allen Movie

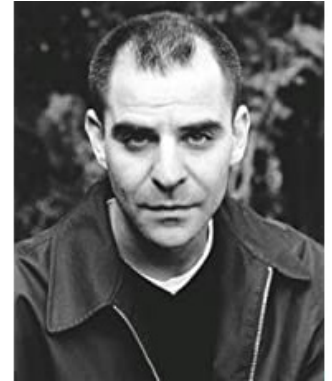


I love any characters who are neurotic as I can get at times. That is why anytime Woody Allen releases a new film, it's a great day. Those familiar with his previous films like *Annie Hall*, *Midnight in Paris*, or *Hannah and her Sisters*, will not be disappointed with his new feature – *A Rainy Day in New York*.

Allen switches gear from his usual choice of actors by choosing a younger crowd including Timothée Chalamet (*Lady Bird*), and Selena Gomez (*Spring Breakers*). The story follows a young couple through a rainy weekend that illuminates their disparate views on the ideals of romance. Chalamet and Gomez, along with Jude Law and Liev Schreiber explore all the woes of societal expectations, artistic arguments, and boring people.

This movie is typical Woody Allen writing and film style. With that being said, if you are looking for something different from Allen, this is definitely not that movie. But as an auteur film, this movie has Woody written all over it.

David Rakoff



Around this time of the holiday season -- end of the year, and cold weather, I always like to visit a favorite writer of mine – David Rakoff.

Rakoff is the author of two publications written in very different styles with different messages, that are usually enjoyed by two different audiences. While I enjoy both equally, I don't want to assume what audience you may be. So, why not recommend both?

Half Empty is an essay collection released by Rakoff in 2011. In his 240 pages, Rakoff argues that we all must assume the worst. When we do, we will never be disappointed. This may not sound like a novel for the holidays and family, but his argument is actually best read this time of year; what better time to wish for met expectations. The collection is funny, heartfelt, and shockingly inspiring. He may be pessimistic, but he is so beautifully pessimistic, that it almost makes you feel self-righteous in your own pessimism. This may be one of the few occasions in a review where I must say, "You just have to read it to see what I'm saying."

Love, Dishonor, Marry, Die, Cherish, Perish, is a novel published in 2013, a year after Rakoff's death. This piece spans one hundred years of American history all written in couplet form. You try writing about American history with rhymes and tell me it's not a task to be held in awe. Rakoff contains with his same wit and fast paced wisdom through this novel, while covering dark periods of time through the eyes of twelve different characters whose lives all intertwine. The novel toys with the emotions of the reader through acts of generosity, cruelty, love, kindness, and perseverance. You can never go wrong with a rhyming historical fiction novel.

Continued from page 21...State shortfalls

The state must fund the fiscal year 2020 amount.

Trustee Strasdin acknowledged that this has been a tough year for everyone, and funds will be difficult, but she was in support of stressing the importance of the Hold Harmless.

Trustee Pinder agreed with comments from his fellow trustees; and yet, he wants to know what the cold hard reality truly is, what is this legislature really going to do and what can be done. Education is the most important issue out there.

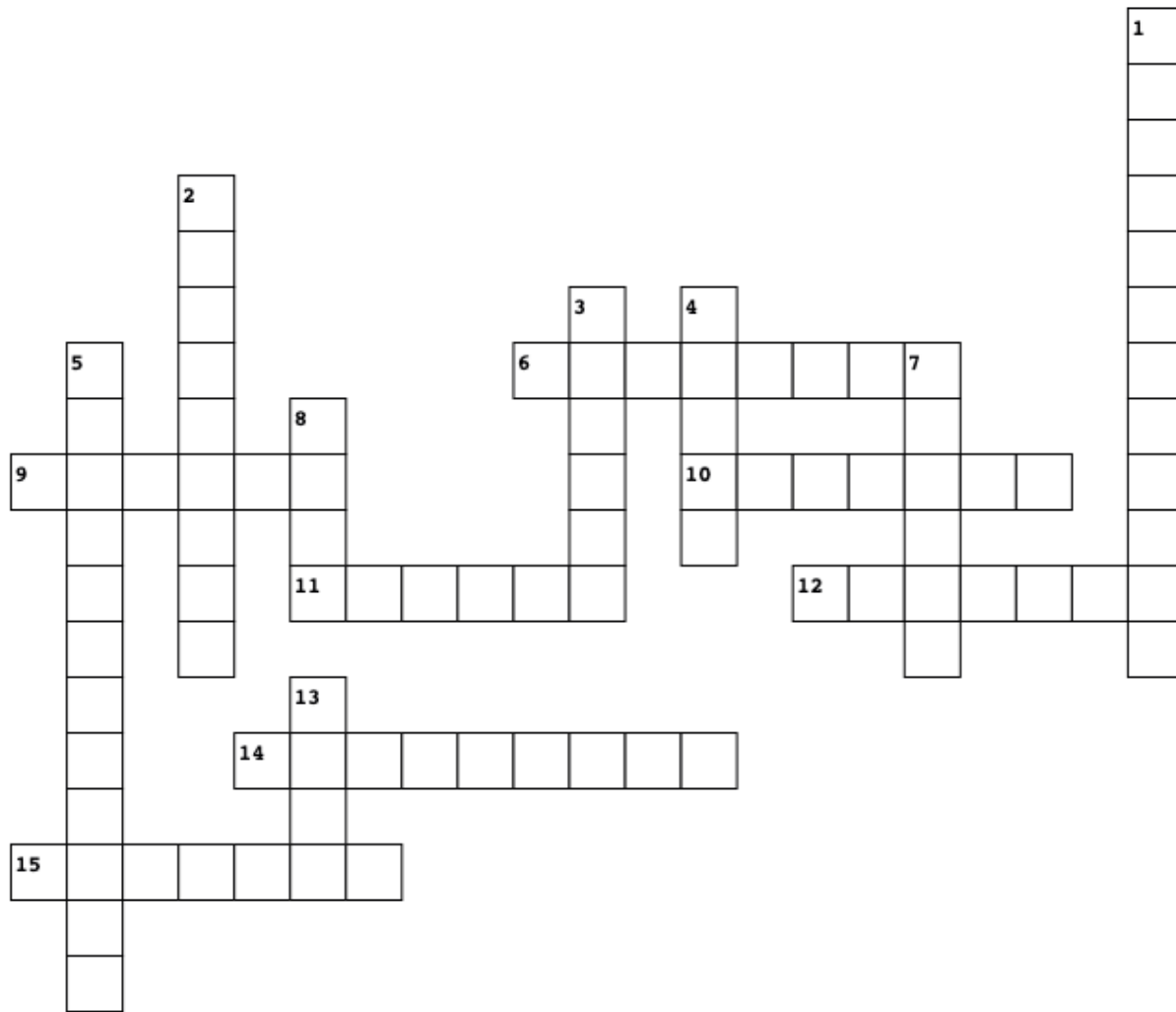
Trustee Schank commented on the number of "don't knows" that we are faced with right now, but that the Hold Harmless was definitely important. She also wanted to support what Trustee Buckmaster has said about the mines and revenue.

Trustee Strasdin added that she does want to push for the best, but that it is important to be realistic about where

things are and what can worked out.

Trustee Hyde said he was certainly thankful for the mines and for the casinos and the revenue that Churchill County receives from both of those industries. Those funds are dispersed through education to us. He agreed that the Legislature is in a really tough spot and that optimal funding is a ways down the road, but that it is important to hold on to Hold Harmless. He is not afraid of going with the new model, but if we need to hold off until all the kinks are worked out, he'd just as soon as hold off. He also expressed a concern that as we look at funding across the state as a whole, and we cut money here in this district, who is going to lose a job, and when families get hurt, our students get hurt. Hyde stated we need to hang on to what we have and try to survive this. He added that we are one state, and we will get through this together.

Crossword




Across

- 6. The shadow cast by earth or moon over a partial eclipse.
- 9. a mysterious thing; name of WWII codebreaking machine.
- 10. The series of symbols used to represent swear words in cartoons (@*!#*&!).
- 11. To be quick and light in mind, or action.
- 12. attack continuously.
- 14. A poem by Sylvia Plath and type of language.
- 15. Abstract painting by Picasso of German bombing.

Down

- 1. Stan and Oliver comedic film duo.
- 2. Synonym for unquenchable; having very eager approach to an activity.
- 3. small or dainty woman.
- 4. synonym for humid; warm weather.
- 5. Vigorously passionate.
- 7. Self-confidence in a demanding situation.
- 8. To give advance notice of an impending unpleasantness.
- 13. submissive or easily imposed on.



THE FALLON POST

Print Subscription Form

Regular pricing in effect December 1st

Mail to:
1951 W. Williams Ave
Fallon, Nevada 89406

Name _____ Mailing Address _____
 City, State zip _____ Phone _____
 email _____

Monthly includes postage \$9.95 Annual includes postage \$119.49
 You can subscribe online by going to www.TheFallonPost.org and clicking on the Subscription button

Contact your Representatives

Senator Catherine Cortez-Masto
<https://www.cortezmasto.senate.gov/>
400 S. Virginia Street
Suite 902
Reno, Nevada 89501
(775)-686-5750
Rural Mobile Office: 775-225-1457

Senator Jacky Rosen
<https://www.rosen.senate.gov/>
Bruce Thompson Federal Building
400 S. Virginia Street, Suite 738
Reno, NV 89501
Phone (775)-337-0110

Congressman Mark Amodei
<https://amodei.house.gov/>
5310 Kietzke Lane, Suite 103
Reno, NV 89511
Phone (775)-686-5760

Governor Steve Sisolak
<https://gov.nv.gov>
Carson City
State Capitol Building
101 N. Carson Street
Carson City, NV 89701
Phone: (775) 684-5670
Fax: (775) 684-5683

Senator James A. Settelmeyer
<https://James/Settelmeyer@sen.state.nv.us>
2388 Highway 395
Minden, NV 89423-8923
Phone (775)-450-6114

Assemblywoman Robin L. Titus
<https://Robin.Titus@asm.state.nv.us>
P.O. Box 377
Wellington, NV 89444-0377
Phone (775)-684-8507

County Commissioner - District 1
Harry (Bus) Scharmann
(R)229 Lewis Lane (home)
155 N Taylor Street, Number 110 (office) Fallon, NV 89406
(775) 867-5350 (home)
(775) 423-4092 (office)
Email Bus Scharmann: buster.scharmann3@gmail.com

County Commissioner - District 2
Pete Olsen
(R)4128 Milky Way (home) 155 N. Taylor Street #110
(office) Fallon, NV 89406
(775) 423-4216 (home)
(775) 423-4092 (office)
Email Pete Olsen: polsen@cccomm.net

County Commissioner District 3
Carl Erquiaga (R)
1625 Golden Park Way (home)
55 N Taylor Street,
Number 110 (office)
Fallon, NV 89406
(775) 423-6984 (home)
(775) 423-4092 (office)
Email Carl Erquiaga:
erancho@cccomm.net

Mayor Ken Tedford
vswirczek@fallonnevada.gov
55 West Williams Avenue
Fallon, NV 89406
(775) 423-3040

Councilwoman Kelly Frost
Ward 1
vswirczek@fallonnevada.gov
(775) 423-0120 (Home)

Councilwoman Karla Kent
Ward 2
vswirczek@fallonnevada.gov
(775) 423-2126 (Work)

Councilman James Richardson
Ward 3
vswirczek@fallonnevada.gov
(775) 423-3040 (Work)



Community Meetings

December 4 - 11th

City Council
12/7 - 9 am

Board of Adjustments
12/7 - 6 pm

Planning Commission
12/9 - 7 pm

CCSD Family Engagement
12/7 - 5:30 pm

Get your paper at these merchants:

**Harmon Junction
Stone Cabin
Digitex
Senior Center
JD Slinger's
Golden Gate
Qwik Stop
Jerry's
Telegraph Coffee & Tap
3 Dimension
Walgreen's
Chevron
Skips
Jo's Stillwater Tea Room
Frontier Liquor & Sporting Goods
Grouchy's Barbershop & Shave Parlor**



Photo provided by Alan Kalt



*The Fallon Post
1951 W. Williams Ave.
Fallon, NV 89406*

PRSR STD
U.S. Postage
PAID
FALLON, NV
Permit # 42