

### 81st Legislative Session Began this Week



Assemblywoman Titus speaking to the press during the legislative session.

#### By Jo Petteruti

The 81st session of the Nevada Legislature convened on February 1st this year and will conclude 120 days later on May 31st. The Legislative Subcommittees start their meetings jointly on February 04th. Legislators' Bill Draft Requests (BDR) will be submitted on February 8th with the resulting bills being introduced on March 15th. The Legislature will start closing budgets on April 9th and their Economic Forum Report will be due on May 4th. Budget Bills Introduced and Exempt Bills from Committee will be voted upon on May 26th. Although scheduled to conclude on May 31st, typically rules are suspended and the session extends through June.

The Legislative Building is currently closed to the public due to the COVID-19 pandemic, however, meetings are available through the existing streaming service at https://www.leg.state.nv.us/App/Calendar/A/. The Nevada Legislature meetings are also accessible via the new YouTube channel, https://youtube.com/c/NVLeg.

There are a total of 63 seats in the Nevada Legislature: 21 Senators and 42 Assembly members. The Senate, during the 81st session is comprised of 12 Democrats and 9 Republicans. On the Assembly side, there are 26 Democrats and 16 Republicans.

Members of the Assembly are elected to a two-year term with a term limit of six terms (12 years). Members of the Senate are elected to a four-year term and similarly face term limits of three terms (12 years). In order to be elected as a member in either chamber of the Legislature, a person must be a citizen of the United States, be at least 21 years of age, a Nevada resident for at least one year, and a qualified voter in their residing district.

Local government officials will maintain a presence at the legislature through their respective lobbyist and consultants. In addition, the lobbyist representing Churchill County in the Legislature is Marla McDade Williams, senior director for the Strategies 360 Nevada team.

Robert Erquiaga, Chief of Staff for the City of Fallon, said, "This will certainly be a unique session with no, or limited, in-person access, at least initially. As always, we will be closely monitoring the entire session and participating as necessary to protect the interests of our citizens. We will once again be working with Lisa Foster and Tom Grady. They are a great team, and they will continue to do great work for us."

Dr. Summer Stephens, Superintendent, Churchill County School District shared her insights, priorities and future directions with The Fallon Post. "This legislative session will be tough for all Nevadans and I thank those serving in the Assembly and Senate for their service and for their informed decision making during this time. Priorities for Churchill County School District include ensuring that we get streamlined approaches from the legislature meaning we need to eliminate unfunded mandates, avoid legislation that duplicates existing work, and reduce the amount of reporting and mandates that takes teachers and other school staff away from the direct focus of learning.

Other items are really not only school efforts but community, county, and statewide concerns that will take all citizens sharing their perspectives over the coming months. In addition, we need to continue to see strides in connecting all of Nevada through internet connectivity AND through providing enough funds to support the mental health and wellness supports needed in today's schools and in today's communities.

In addition, we have to restore funding that has been lost by schools over the last several years, ensure more funds are available to get to adequate funding and work toward optimal funding. It is critical that districts be able to have some guarantee of funds earlier to be able to make sound financial decisions for the next school year. The current timeline for budgeting by schools is ineffective, so I am looking for legislation that supports a sounder practice for creat-ing school budgets. Finally, the state must start more conversations on expanding the revenue streams for our state's financial wellness. This is critical to getting school funding to optimal levels to support the programming and supports that will take Nevada forward in this next decade."

Governor Sisolak stated his priorities during the 2021 State of the State address on January 19, including winning the battle against COVD and vaccinating all Nevadans, getting all students back in the classroom and providing teachers with the tools they need to do their job and getting the economy back on its feet and the people back to work. Future priorities include infrastructure, green energy jobs, help for small businesses and other growth industries that will provide new opportunities for Nevadans.

The Governor presented his budget to the Legislature for the start of the 81st Legislative Session, saying, "The budget I recently presented reflects the emergency we are currently in. There's nothing traditional or customary about fighting through and emerging from a global pandemic, catastrophic personal and financial consequences, business shutdowns, and what continues to be unknown territory. But as I said in my State of the State address, we are forging a new path forward.

Continued on page 22...

## From the Publisher

#### Captain's log...From Below the Decks

We decided we were getting tired of the *Star Trek* references and there are so many ways we could go with that "captain" theme, so I changed the log a little. Watch for more clever wording as a result of our impromptu brainstorming session between the Stand-up Comic and Feral Housewife members of our staff.

This week has been super fun-

I got a Letter to the Editor from a reader who asked me not to print it. She just wanted me to know that I was offensive in one of the stories I wrote, and she explained to me the error of my ways. I so badly wanted to print this letter because she did such a good job of explaining herself. She was well-spoken, polite, complementary, and very thorough in showing me her perspective. I totally understand what she was saying and sort of agree with some of it.

This letter should have been printed as a model of how we can engage in Polite Public Discourse, but she asked me not to. Clearly, judging from where we are as a society right now, we all could use some better role models. I'm grateful for her input and hope more people will write in.

We also finally got the magazine finished!!! I won't go into why it didn't happen last week, my facial tick has finally let up, but here we are and I'm so excited – it's beautiful. It will go in the mail here in a minute with the paper to those of you who subscribed, and if you haven't, you can pick up a copy at Qwik Stop, Digitex, or 3-D Ship.

Better get this to Viviane so we can print and get the paper to Renae at the Post Office so y'all have it tomorrow.

Keeping you posted, Rachel

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

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## **Chief Petty Officer Pinning Ceremony 2021**



### By Jo Petteruti

At 11 AM on 29 January, the U.S. Navy continued their legacy traditions of honor, commitment, and courage with the 2021 Chief Petty Officer (CPO) Pinning Ceremony held at Naval Air Station Fallon. Eleven CPO selects were promoted to the rank of chief after pinning their anchors.

The pinning ceremony is the culmination of a six-week intense training program where senior enlisted leaders are challenged on their leadership and mentoring abilities. During this training period, a senior CPO will mentor a CPO selectee and guide them to becoming a stronger leader.



This year, the 11 CPO selects taking this major step in their Naval careers were ADC David Gates, AMEC Trent Kelly, ITC Matthew McKenna, AMEC David Montesdeoca, AOC William Smith, AMC Joseph Wolf, MAC Jeremy Johnson, EODC Jonathan O'Neal, ACC Joseph Spicuzza, PRC James Wilson and AGC Matthew Gowdy.

The ceremony opened with the Parade of Colors; then the Invocation was delivered. Fleet Master Chief (Ret) Michael "Mike" McCalip, the guest speaker for the event, provided the keynote address along with some insights and advice to the group. He discussed some of the things he learned from his first chief, his grandfather who made chief in 1939 on the cusp of war. One thing McCalip always remembered his grandfather saying word for word, was, "Change, it's coming, and you can't stop it. Figure out how to lead and manage change or get off the bus.".

McCanp always remembered his granulather saying word for word, was, "Change, it's coming, and you can't stop it. Figure out how to lead and manage change or get off the bus.". The Master Chief also told the group that today's Navy is the strongest, most powerful Navy on the globe. The Navy is significantly different today - from the people, to the capabilities, to the technology – the list of differences goes on and on. He closed with one last piece of advice, with words that should be thought about differently: Think outside of the box and get outside of your comfort zone. He suggested that people should think about how they can make that box bigger, so that thinking outside the comfort zone gets the resources and backing of the command to make their ideas successful.

The symbolic meaning of the Chief Petty Officer Anchor was presented to the group, after which the ceremonial Pinning of the Chief Petty Officers took place. Readings of the CPO Creed and CPO Pledge were done, the Benediction was given, and the 2021 CPO Pinning Ceremony was brought to a close.



Families pin their loved ones during the Chief Petty Officer Pinning Ceremony a few days ago. Photos taken over Zoom.

## Community

## Marriages

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

#### 1/26

Francis William Schilling, age 66 to Anita Michele Owen, age 59 both of Fallon.

1/6 Tyler Shane Williams, age 24 to Jennifer Lynn King, age 32 both of Fallon.

1/5 Jonathan Lloyn Bowden, age 30 to Madison Lee Godsey, age 22 both of Silver Springs.

1/8 Keith William Green, age 33 to Kendyl Sharee Moore, age 27 both of Fallon.

1/12 Philip James WHite, age 28 to Amber Michelle Kieszkowski, age 23 both of Fallon.

1/12 William Giles Holden, age 46 to Angelina Marie Acosta, age 46 both of Fallon.

1/12 Wendell Harlin Fannin, age 49 to Colleen Renee Picetti, 41 both of Fallon.

1/19 Jeremiah James Weadock, age 42 to Misty Lee Palmer, age 43 both of Fallon.

1/13 Brian Keith Kotelnicki, age 32 to Alex Joel Maldonado, age 26 both of Fallon.

1/19 Joshua Lee Engebretsen, age 29 to Briana Renae Cherry, age 25 both of Fallon.

1/20 Michael Dale Pulhamus, age 35 to Iisha Fay Desiree Lopez, age 31 both of Fallon.

1/28 Jason Vincent Merritt, age 35 to Chantal Bryone White, age 31 both of Fernley.

1/20 Raaziq Aubrey Moore, age 25 to Ammy Hernandez, age 26 both of Fallon.

1/21 Jonathan Daniel Vasquez, age 25 to Mary Elizabeth Gresch, age 25 both of Reno.

1/25 Kayla Marie Pursell, age 22 to Kylee Ann Patnaude, age 23 of Orville, CA and Fallon. 1/28 Kristofer Wayne Kirkwood, age 30 to Hayley Lynette Neville, age 29 both of Fallon.

#### 1/29

Joshua Lawrence Olaiz, age 35 to Emilee Rae Sullivan, age 28 both of Fallon.



Stacy Kalt has been named to the School of Community Health Sciences Dean's List for the Lall 2020 semester, based on a semester GPA of 3.75 or higher, with I2 or more earned credits. She was recognized by Dean and Professor, Trudy Larson, MD, of the School of Community Health Sciences, who said, "The Dean's List recognizes your outstanding academic accomplishments, for which Loffer my congratulations and that of the faculty...we wish you continued success at the University of Nevada, Reno, and will look for your continued presence on the Dean's List. "She has also been working many hours at St. Mary's Hospital on the COVID floor, relieving other COVID CNAs while attending her classes at UNR. Kalt is working toward becoming a Physician's Assistant.

## Community

## Births

Babies born at Banner Churchill Community Hospital during the month of January 2021.

Maylye Rose Marie Martinez To Alisa Keathley and Anthony Martinez on January 5, 2021 at 4:52 PM Weighing 7 lb. 14 oz., measuring 18 1/2 inches.

Ryder A Branch To Brittany Branson and Nathan Branch on January 16, 2021 at 12:06 AM Weighing 5 lb. 19 oz, measuring 18 inches.

Tatanya Marie Torvik to Matthew and Lena Torvik on January 18, 2020 at 4:04 PM Weighing 6lb. 8 oz, measuring 20 inches.

Kenneth Clay Schostay to Alexis J. Grimes and Robert Charles Schostay III on January 8, 2021 at 3:53 AM Weighing 5 lb. 15 oz, measuring 16 3/4 inches.

Zoey Raynee Luiz to Tonya Lynne Luiz and

Kevin Ray Luiz on January 20, 2021 at 1:10 PM

Weighing 7 lb. 3 oz, measuring 20 inches.

Juan Manuel Lomeli Orozco to Rosio Concepcion Orozco Bravo and Jose Manuel Lomeli Lara on January 21, 2021 at 7:56 AM Weighing 7 lb. 8.6 oz, measuring 19 1/2 inches.

Alayah Gomez to Brenda Morales and Antonio Gomez on January 4, 2021 at 7:51 AM Weighing 7 lb. 10 oz, measuring 19 inches.

### **Business Licenses**

The following business licenses were issued by the City of Fallon and/or Churchill County

Chino's Auto Sales LLC, Yvette Garcia, Used Cars/trailers/motorcycles, 4505 Reno Hwy Suite B.

Christiano Transport, William Christiano, trucking, 9444 Pioneer Way.

Dynamic Nevada Construction LLC, Antonio Gonzalez, Construction/Concrete Contracting, 392 Wolverine Way Sparks.

Envision Contracting LLC, Travis Thomason, Telecommunications Contractor, 2565 Chandler Ave Suite 24 Las Vegas.

Jake's Fly Box, Jacob Sommer, HBP Internet Sales and Hand Tied Trout, 380 Carson River Drive.

JNK Graphics, John C Riley, Vinyl Graphics, 4045 Santa Fe Drive.

John Cann, John Cann, Fabrication of Wood, Home Based. KNG Custom Gifts LLC, Andrew Zrnich, Online Retail/Custom Laser Engraving, 1015 Oregon Drive.

Perez Bros Trucking, Gary Perez, Trucking business, Home Based.

Sierra Nevada Residential LLC, Jarrod Schulz, Structural Inspections, 3193 Lake Pasture Road Shurz.

Switch Electric LLC, Dwayne Edwards, Electrical Contractor, 1231 Freddie Ct Reno.

Taira's Pampered Pets, Taira Steen, K9 Pampering and Grooming, 1581 Hornby Road.

West Health and Life Coaching, Matthew West, Helath and Life Coaching, Home based.

Golden gate Petroleum of Nevada LLC, Dennis O'Keefe/Select Invest GMBH, Convenience Store, 1625 West Williams Avenue.

Harbor Freight Tools, Harbor Freight Tools USA Inc., Retail, 2105 West Williams Avenue.

Malkos' dba Jo's Stillwater Tea Room, Gregg and Laura Malkovich, Bar, 85 South Maine Street.

Marshall's Sanitation Services LLC, Chad and Mary Marshall, Sewer/Sanitation, 4250 Reno Hwy.

Smart Style #11907, Quantrum Merit Enterprises Inc, Salon, 2333 Reno Hwy.

A-1 Septic Tank Service, 5011 Reno Hwy, Closed business.

Battle Born Ice Cream, 510 S. Maine Street, Closed business.

Double Dog Dare, 131 Industrial Way, Closed business.

Ed Bruflat Auto Repair, 3501 Boyer Road, Closed business.

Humanson & SOns dba McDonalds, 2333 Reno Hwy, Closed business.

Koshinkan, 161 Industrial Way, Closed business.

Lighthouse Laser Skin & Fitness, 625 West Williams, Closed business.

Marshall's Septic Care LLC, 4250 Reno Hwy, Closed business.

MKBM Services, 1355 Pine Road, Closed business

Paradise 4 Me LP, 131 Industrial, Closed business.

Smart Style #3322, 2333 Reno Hwy, Closed business.

Sweetwater Plumbing Inc, 1959 Soda Lake Road, Closed business.

The Parts House LLC, 310 E. Williams Ave., Closed business.

Valentine Faith Consulting, 432 Ranchland Way, Closed business.

### Divorces

The following were granted in the 10th Judical District Court during January 2021

Abbot, Eric Tyler v Abbot-O'Neil, Kathryn Anne Decree of Divorce 1//21

Badorine, Stacy Lynn v Badorine, Darren Michael Decree of Divorce 1/5

Behimer, Wesley Bryant v Behimer, Corrie Lynn Decree of Divorce  $1\!/\!6$ 

Cardenas, Eileen Christie v Farias, Rogelio Decree of Divorce 1/7

Clemons, Jessica Evette v Clemons, Robert Jermaine Decree of Divorce 1/21

Dent, Stefon C. v Dent, Jennara LaJean Decree of Annulment/ Decree of Annulment Default 1/12 and 1/11

Hines, Belinda v Cooke, Charles Decree of Divorce 1/26

Lawrence, Steven Wayne v Walter, Sharon Elaine Decree of Divorce 1/4

Myrick, Sarah Lynn v Myrick, Rachael Amber Decree of Divorce 1/20

Rocha, Manuel Alfred v Cockrum, Jonelle Marie Decree of Annulment 1/27

Schroeder, Monica v Schroeder, Cody Decree of Divorce  $1\!/\!21$ 

Swingford, Elizabeth Summer v Parks, Charles Weston Decree of Dicorce 1/14

Tognoni, Nye Woodrow III v Gutierrez, Jesus Zelena Decree of Divorce 1/11

Umejesi, Ifunanya Mishael v Hysong, Sean Joseph Decree of Divorce 1/4

Woods, Jolysses Ashford v Cadle, Audrey Ann Decree of Divorce 1/25

Ybarra, Irina Gabriela Cotoara v Ybarra, Jon Paul Decree of Divorce 1/21

## Obituaries

### **Kathie Minner**



Kathie Minner passed away unexpectedly on January 29th. She was born November on January 29th. She was born November 9th, 1949 in Grants pass, Oregon.She enjoyed raising calves and helping her husband Bob farm. She also enjoyed gardening, planting rose bushes and growing her own food, as well as canning and she would can anything she could get her hands on.

She was involved in Daughters of the American Revolution, War of 1812, United Daughters of the Confederacy, National Rifle Association and Stillwater Firearms. She enjoyed researching ancestry and collecting antiques. She enjoyed spending time with her kids, grandkids and great granddaughter. She was a stubborn woman with a fire in her heart and soul. But she would help anyone who needed it. She was the main cook of the family, which brough the family together.

Her signature dishes were lasagna, green spaghetti, and pecan pie. She is resting safe in heaven with the

love of her life and other half.

She is preceded in death by her daughter Michelle and husband Bob.

She is survived by children Travis Downs, Justin Downs (Kim), Amanda Bown (Nick), grandchildren, Kimmy Bradshaw (Do-nevin), Chloe, Jayce and great granddaughter Nova and brother Daniel of New Zealand. Graveside services at 1 on Thursday Feb

4 Churchill county Cemetery open to public Donation in her memory can be made to

Churchill Animal Protection Society at P.O. Box 5128 Fallon, Nevada 89406.

Arrangements are under the care of The Gardens Funeral Home, 775-423-8928

The family of Margaret Joyce Casey, would like to send a warm thank you for all the food, cards, flowers, donations, and thoughtful wishes extended by all our friends and neighbors. It meant a lot.

## For any inquiries about printing obituaries email publisher@thefallonpost.org

## or call

(775) - 423 - 4545

## Courts

### Morton Arraigned on Eleven Accounts of Sexual Assault of Minor



#### By Leanna Lehman

Joseph Richard Morton, 42, arrested in mid-January on multiple charges for alleged sexual assault, was arraigned on January 20th in Justice Court by Judge Benjamin Trotter. According to the criminal complaint read during Morton's appearance in Justice Court, he is charged with six alleged counts of Statutory Sexual Seduction by a Person Age 21 or Older. Statutory sexual seduction, commonly referred to as statutory rape, is a Category B Felony that carries 1-10 years in prison (per count). Morton is further charged with a single count of allegedly Luring or Attempting to Lure a Child or a Mentally Ill Person to Engage in Sexual Conduct, also a Category B Felony that carries 1-10 years. Morton is facing four additional counts of alleged Lewdness with a Child under Age 14, a Class A Felony, punishable by life in prison with the possibility of parole after 10 years (per count). Four counts of alleged Child Abuse or Neglect, a first offense, were listed in the complaint against Morton as well, for which penalties vary based on the circumstances and nature of the abuse.

on the circumstances and nature of the abuse. Judge Trotter appointed the Churchill County Public Defenders' Office to represent Morton. Bail was set at \$100,000, bondable. Should Morton post bail, he is not to have any contact with the victim(s) or the victim's family, will be on house arrest, and must wear an ankle monitor. A status hearing was set for February 4th.

### Justice Court – Judge Ben Trotter Presiding

#### By Leanna Lehman

Michael Orlando Cagle (in custody) was arraigned on February 2nd on charges of Assault with a Deadly Weapon, a Class B Felony, that carries 1-6 years in prison and a single count of misdemeanor Harassment. According to the criminal complaint, on November 16th, at a residence on Dwayne Drive, Cagle approached the alleged victim swinging a baseball bat, causing fear of bodily harm. Cagle was said to be yelling and threatening the victim's life. Wright Noel of the Churchill County Public Defender's Office (CCPD) was appointed to represent Cagle. A status hearing was set for February 4th. Cagle is also facing District Court charges of first-offense of Possession of a Controlled Substance 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, and is awaiting sentencing. *Jose Diaz-Macias* (in the custody of the

Jose Diaz-Macias (in the custody of the Nevada Department of Corrections) appeared for a preliminary hearing on January 29th. Per the terms of his plea negotiations, Diaz-Macias pled guilty to two counts of Assault with a Deadly Weapon, instead of three. The charges state that he allegedly pointed a gun at multiple individuals at or near 385 Stillwater Avenue last April. Sentencing will take place in District Court at a later date.

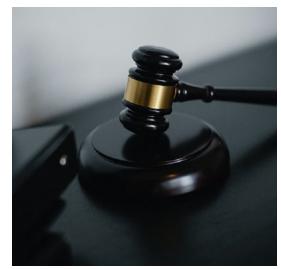
*Codi Marie Garcia* did not appear for her scheduled sentencing hearing on Tuesday, February 2nd. According to Assistant District Attorney (ADA), Priscilla Baker, Garcia also failed to appear for an arraignment in District Court on the same day on separate charges. A \$5,000 cash-only bond was issued. Garcia was arrested in November for first-offense Domestic Battery, Possession of Controlled Substance, and Drug Paraphernalia.

*Matthew Lloyd Grissom* was arraigned on three firearms-related charges: (1) Discharging a Firearm within a Structure or Vehicle within a Prohibited Area, a Class B Felony that carries 2-15 years in prison, and deprival of gun rights; (2) Drawing a Weapon in a Threatening Manner, a misdemeanor punishable by up to six months in jail; (3) Assault with a Deadly Weapon, a Class B Felony that carries 1-6 years in prison. According to the allegations, at a residence on Mission Road, Grissom pointed a gun at an individual, placing him at reasonable bodily harm. Further, it is alleged that Grissom threatened to shoot and kill the victim if he did not turn over some manner of property. Grissom discharged the firearm and maliciously fired the weapon with the victim inside the residence. Bail was set at \$20,000 bondable.

Johnathon Westley Hall appeared on January 29th and received a suspended sentence of 180 days in jail on charges stemming from first offense misdemeanor Domestic Battery charges from 2014.

Macky Anna Hollings pled guilty on January 29th to charges of Simple Battery and received a suspended sentence of 120 days in jail.

Peter Anthony Morales appeared for a



status hearing on charges that occurred last year. The charges include Possession of a Schedule I or II Controlled Substance (less than 14 grams), a Category E Felony that can carry 1-4 years in prison, and Intimidating a Public Officer, a Category C felony that carries 2-10 years in prison for a first offense. Morales is also facing two felony Failure to Appear charges, Category D Felonies that can carry 1-4 years in prison each. Morales informed the Court that he planned to either retain counsel or represent himself. Judge Trotter denied Morales's request to represent himself. A status hearing was set for February 25th.

## Courts

### **District Court from February 2nd**



Picture taken over Zoom.

#### By Alicia Parsons

The Tenth Judicial District Court convened Tuesday, February 2, 2021, with Judge Tom Stockard presiding.

*Clinton Adrian Boots* (in custody) received probation on a suspended sentence of 4-10 years in prison on a charge of Battery with a Deadly Weapon, a Category D felony. Charles Woodman, Esq., defense counsel for Boots, stated that Boots was drinking with a friend at a bar where an incident occurred that left Boot's friend injured. The victim told police that he had won the fight and refused to cooperate with law enforcement on the case against Boots. He was to remain in custody until a bed date opens at the Mikey House, a sober living facility in Silver Springs.

Amanda Nicole Edwards (in custody) appeared on probation violations, admitting that she had access to weapons and used drugs intravenously while on probation. Assistant District Attorney Chelsea Sanford stated that Edwards had a nearly perfect program until recently. She then asked to have her probation revoked and be sent to prison. Charles Woodman Esq., defense counsel for Edwards, said that she completed drug court and had successful probation for a year, stating that since alcohol and drugs are the most patient things in the world, they will lay in wait for the rest of your life. Judge Stockard reinstated Edwards on probation.

*Tyler Rex Fisher* (in custody) pled guilty to Possession of a Controlled Substance, a first or second offense, a Category B Felony with a potential penalty of 1-4 years in prison. Churchill County Public Defender (PD), Jacob Sommer, stated that, on Oct 28th, Fisher was knowingly in possession of a controlled substance. Sommer requested Fisher be released on his own recognizance (OR) under the supervision of court service. Judge Stockard granted the release. A pre-sentencing investigation (PSI) was ordered, and sentencing was set for April 20th.

Damyn Robert French (in custody) was sentenced to 24 months of probation on a charge of Possession of a Stolen Motor Vehicle, a Category C Felony that can carry 1-5 years in prison. French must also enter and complete Western Regional Drug Court. Codi Marie Garcia failed to appear for an

Codi Marie Garcia failed to appear for an arraignment. She also failed to appear for a status hearing in Justice Court on the same day. Garcia had recently been transferred to and from Lyon County on other charges, but Lyon County deputies were unable to provide information about when she was released. Wright Noel, PD for Garcia, stated that he does not believe his client was intentionally attempting to deceive the court. With the numerous cases facing Garcia, he stated that he believes she was unaware of today's proceedings. Judge Stockard issued a \$25,000 bondable bench warrant for Garcia.

*Mont Von Nickell* was arraigned on charges of a single count of Failure to Stop on the Signal of a Police Officer, a Category D felony that carries a potential penalty of 1-6 years in prison. According to Woodman, defense counsel for Nickell, the allegations state that on November 3rd, near 5495 Rivers Edge Road, Nickell eluded law enforcement in a high-speed pursuit topping 100 MPH. A PSI was ordered, and Nickell is to appear for sentencing on April 27th. Nickell was arrested by the Task Force last November on other related charges that include Possession of Controlled Substance and Destroying or Concealing Evidence, after which the State alleged that a significant amount of drugs was thrown from the vehicle.

*Robert Willis Ortiz* (in custody) pled guilty for Failing to Appear, a Category D Felony with a potential penalty of 1-4 years in prison. According to PD Jacob Sommer, Ortiz failed to appear for a felony status hearing in Justice Court on November 5th. Ortiz claimed that he had missed his court date due to illness. Sommer requested an OR with court services monitoring. Ortiz was released pending sentencing, which has been scheduled for April 4th.

*Victor Karl Pugh* appeared for sentencing on a gross misdemeanor charge of Abuse, Neglect, or Endangerment of a Child, without substantial bodily harm, after a 4th of July party in Hazen resulted in Pugh threatening a group with a firearm. According to ADA Jeff Weed, a member of that group was a 14-year-old boy visiting from out of state. The child stated after riding 4-wheelers past the Pugh residence, which had no trespassing signs present, Pugh jumped out from behind some bushes, grabbed him, held him on the ground, and pointed a gun at him. Jacob Sommer, PD for Pugh, stated that there were several factors that led his client to react in this manner. Pugh received 12 months of probation and a \$1,500 fine. *Alfredo Perez-Tapia* entered a guilty plea

Alfredo Perez-Tapia entered a guilty plea on a single count Performance of an Act or Neglect of Duty in Willful and Wanton Disregard of Safety of Persons or Property resulting in substantial bodily harm, a category B felony that carries a potential penalty of 1-4 years in prison. Jacob Sommer, PD for Perez-Tapia, stated that on March 29th, his client discharged a firearm in an unsafe manner, striking a person and breaking their arm with the projectile, which perforated the abdomen resulting in significant injury for the victim. Sentencing is set for April 20th.

*Christina Liset Ortiz Wafler* appeared in court for violating the conditions of her release from custody on January 20th. She was released after being arraigned on charges of Possession of Schedule I or II Controlled Substance with the Intent to Sell, a first offense, a Category D Felony that carries 1-4 years in prison. Wafler appeared in court with a staff member from New Frontier Treatment Center, where she is participating in a residential substance abuse program. Judge Stockard sentenced Wafler to probation with the condition she enters and completes Western Regional Drug Court.

Jacque Anne Webb pled guilty to a single charge of Uttering a Forged Instrument (the making, forging, or altering an item with an intent to defraud), a Category B Felony that carries a potential penalty of 1-4 years in prison. Wright Noel, PD for Webb, stated on the day in question, Webb was in possession of a forged instrument. A PSI was ordered and sentencing set for April 27th.

### **City Council Meeting from February 1st**



File Photo.

#### By Viviane Ugalde

This Monday, City Council met for a few orders of business. Council members held a public hearing for the Bill 786, which they introduced last meeting. Bill 786 will annex around one-half acres of county property to become city property. The half-acre contains CC Communications's yard and structures on it. Legal and Administrative Assistant Erquiaga said the parcel being annexed would allow all of CC Communications's operations and utilities to be consolidated into the city. A city resident, Geof Knell, asked during the public hearing if the city's new property should have another building on it. Mayor Tedford clarified that the city would simply be annexing the property and is not a part of any of CC Communications's decisions to build a building or not.

Councilwoman Frost moved to approve the bill. Councilman Richardson seconded the motion, and the bill passed unanimously.

A contract for Atkins NorthAmerica Inc. was also on the agenda this week. The contract was for the engineering design and bidding services for the Relocation of Taxiway G at the Fallon Municipal Airport. The project would not exceed \$60,000. Of that, 93.75% of the amount would be paid by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), and 6.25% paid by the City.

Legal and Administrative Assistant Érquiaga said this was an improvement project requested from the FAA. Erquiaga also mentioned that it was possible the FAA would fund one-hundred percent of the project, depending on what happened in the legislative sessions.

Councilwoman Kent moved to approve the bill. Councilman Richardson seconded the motion, and the bill passed unanimously.

There were no staff reports or executive sessions this week. Public minutes and agendas are accessible on the City of Fallon website. For more detailed information see: https://www.

fallonnevada.gov/archived-meeting-agendas/ The next meeting of the Fallon City Council is scheduled for Monday, February 16th, at 9 a.m., at City Hall, 55 W. Williams Avenue, Fallon. The Fallon City Council normally meets on the first and third Mondays of each month.

### **Truckee Carson Irrigation District Sets Assessment Rate**

#### By Rachel Dahl

In their regular board meeting held this week, the Truckee-Carson Irrigation District Board of Directors voted to set the District General assessment for Fiscal Year 2021-22 at \$6.10, up from \$5.96 during FY20-21.

at \$6.10, up from \$5.96 during FY20-21. According to Rusty Jardine, TCID General Manager, "District General" is the assessment levied upon all lands in the District, water righted or not. Nevada law authorizes an annual assessment of not more than \$5.70, as adjusted by the Consumer Price Index to a current level of \$6.10, on all lands in the District for capital improvement including construction, reconstruction or maintenance of the irrigation system of the District. The general assessments in most instances are paid by landowners. The fee is on their property tax bills and collected by the county clerks. The monies collected are then forwarded to TCID.

The underlying basis for "District General" is that all property owners in the District benefit generally from the irrigation that occurs on lands within District boundaries. Residents also benefit directly and specifically from irrigation practices through the recharge that occurs to private and municipal wells. "Naturally, another benefit to all of us is in the contribution that occurs from agriculture production that sustains a local economy of hundreds of millions of dollars," said Jardine.

The board also recognized two long-time board members who have recently passed away: Ray Peterson who served for 18 years, and Don Travis who served for nine. Board president Eric Olsen said he is thankful for the time and effort these two men put into the district over the years. "The time away from family and the devotion to TCID can at times be a sacrifice," he said. A presentation with a plaque will be made to the families of each man.

In other business, the board set the date for the annual water users' meeting which will be held on March 16th at 6:00 p.m. Traditionally there are two meetings held on different nights, one in Fernley for the users of the Truckee Division and one in Fallon for the Carson Division users. Because of COVID restrictions there will be one meeting this year held using Zoom and water users will be able to attend remotely from their homes. Items that will be discussed include the annual allocation, rules for water ordering, information on the existing database, and regular management reports.

The board heard a report from Ian Lyle, Executive Director of the National Water Resource Association in Washington, D.C. The district is an affiliate of the NWRA which serves farmers with issues relating to water resources and infrastructure.

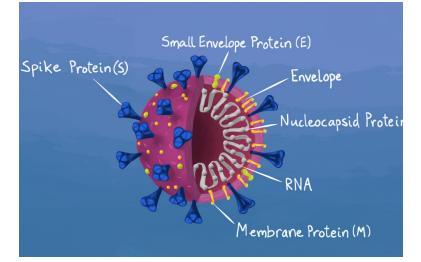
Lyle said that this past couple of weeks have been an interesting time with the transition in presidential administrations and the change in the balance of power in Congress. "All the work you do at the local level," he said to the board, "helps us at the federal level and is more important than ever. This has been a pretty big shift from Trump to Biden."

He spoke regarding water policy in both the Department of Agriculture and Department of Interior saying that Tom Vilsack has been confirmed to serve at Department of Agriculture and had served in that capacity during the Obama administration. Congresswoman Deb Holland from New Mexico has been nominated to serve at the Department of Interior and would be the first tribal member to serve in that capacity. She has extensive experience with water right settlements. Additionally, there are good people who have been nominated to serve as assistants in those departments.

Because of the transition there has been a "pause" with all new regulations for 60 days. However Lyle said, "you are still well positioned because there are several other districts with transfers in the works as well."

## Public Health

## COVID Update



#### By Leanna Lehman

Churchill County Manager Jim Barbee reported at the commission meeting yesterday that 332 new vaccinations were given on Wednesday, with 51 second-shot boosters given. Similar numbers were expected for Thursday, and were provided for those age 65 and older as well as anyone serving high-risk populations in their employment.

<sup>1</sup>Névada Heath Response issued a press release on Wednesday, updating Nevadans on COVID vaccinations and the impact the pandemic is having on the State. As of February 3rd:

pandemic is having on the State. As of February 3rd: Nevada has logged 280,707 cases, with the 14-day rolling average of daily cases being 896.

Nevada has completed a total of 2,511,160 molecular tests since the beginning of COVID-19. According to the press release, the CDC released guidance on safer ways to watch the Super Bowl. Gathering virtually or with the people you live with is the safest way to celebrate the Super Bowl this year. If you have a small gathering with people who don't live with you, outdoors is safer than indoors and it is important to ensure you remain masked and social distance from one another.

A new vaccination call center has opened to answer questions and assist those who may need help making appointments, according to the Nevada Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS). Through the call center, Nevadans will be able to access county-specific updates and information as more Nevadans become eligible to receive the COVID-19 vaccine.

- The call center helps ensure anyone who is eligible for a vaccine has an easy way to navigate appointment booking. Ensuring equity is the cornerstone of the vaccination efforts. If someone does not have easy access to the Internet or a smartphone, they can use the call center for support.
- DHHS wants to ensure that, if an individual is not in the current group being vaccinated, they can note their interest in vaccination through the NV COVID Fighter website. This is also supported by the call center resources.
- The call center is open from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. seven days a week and can be reached at 1-800-401-0946. For those with internet access, the Department of Health and Human Services continues to encourage residents to go online to find the latest information on vaccinations through NVCOVIDFighter.org and NVHealthResponse. nv.gov.

National reports indicate that the number of new cases has fallen 30% over the last two weeks, with 47 states, including Nevada, showing a trending decline. Statewide, the number of active positive cases dropped to 896, down from 1,144 new cases per day (14-day rolling average) reported at this time last week. This brings the average positivity rate to 16.9%, the lowest it has been since December 1st. Hospitalizations are at 1,145, down from 1,307 last week and 1,739 on January 4th. The State reported 17 deaths on February 2nd (also a 14-day rolling average). To date, no deaths have been reported in Nevada for children under 10, and those aged 70+ comprise 63.6% of COVID-related deaths. The age group reporting the highest positive case rate are those 20-29. Churchill County, the majority of the State, reported a marked increase in a positive test case over a seven-day period. The number of active positive cases increased from 293 to 326 with the number of COVID-related deaths rising from 39 to 48 over the same period. The number of hospitalized individuals decreased this week from six to three.

Churchill County	As of Jan. 20th	As of Jan. 25th	As of Feb. 4th
Active Positive Cases	250	293	326
Tests Administered since March	18,831	19,207	19,743
Recovered Individuals	1,437	1,446	1,451
Currently Hospitalized	6	6	3
Total Deaths	45	39	48
<i>Total Positive Cases since March</i>	1,732	1,786	1,825
Asymptomatic Positives Since March	122	122	122



## Business

### Stillwater Company – The Romance of a Dying Breed



Weseton, Remy, and Ryker Fabel. Photos provided by Emma Wynn Paul. **By Alicia Parsons** 

Remy Fabel a father of two young boys and lifetime resident of Fallon had this idea to bring back the romance and old time feel of traditional hunting, fishing and camping. His idea is to bring that feeling to those who have never been able to experience such a thing as sleeping in wall tents and canvas bedrolls, cooking what they harvest over a campfire, staying out from dawn to dusk in the sagebrush and pine, going to sleep with the stars twinkling overhead with coyotes calling in the distance, and waking up in the wide-open Nevada air to coffee percolating over an open fire.

That idea became his mission and in August 2020 the Stillwater Company was born from hard work, years of experience and sweat. Fabel wants the Stillwater Company to bring attention to the real outdoorsmen culture that is being forgotten and left behind in the shadows of modern TV show versions of staged outdoorsmen. Stillwater Company's goal is to show what the old west experience is really all about, the modern John Wayne and Gene Autry if you will. This is the charm that Stillwater Company wants to offer to every man, woman, and child; "a chance to experience a stillness and freedom that you simply cannot find every day in life, an experience that one's soul is not complete without."

Stillwater Company is planning to continue bringing together those who have an appreciation for this way of life with a true harvest-to-hearth gathering, where participants will be able to bring the harvest for the year to camp and enjoy a potluck style meal with other likeminded outdoorsmen. It would be a gathering where these folks can share the stories from the hunt along with the sense of camaraderie that is hard to find these days. In addition, participants will also be helping to support and donate to other area organizations such as the Outdoorsmen in Wheelchairs Association.

Stillwater Company has done what many are doing these days with their marketing. They have taken to social media to spread the word about their products and to introduce others to their way of life. Fabel has a presence about him that draws people in and captivates you. For example, anyone not aware of how to trap a Christmas tree can visit the Stillwater Company's Facebook page for a step-by-step guide to successful trapping for the 2021 Christmas Tree Hunting Season.

Instagram is full of gorgeously rich photographs taken by Emma Wynn Paul Photography and Nowhere Nevada Photography. Her photos show the Stillwater Company apparel line and gives you the true heart of what the mission statement for the company is. You will see quality products shown on models enjoying a Stillwater Exclusive couples camping trip with the Stillwater Crew with tent camping and campfire meals. The clothing line also includes kidswear.

In order to bring romance, community, and tradition back to the outdoorsmen, Stillwater Company sells quality American made laser cut leather patch hats, camp woks, canvas bedrolls and will soon also carry sweatshirts. Purchases can be made on the site www.stillwater-company.com. Stillwater Company does not want to become an apparel only line but does want to use the proceeds from the line to help fund the Stillwater Exclusives, which are giveaways that take a





group of lucky winners out to hunt, fish, and camp the way Remy grew up doing it. The Stillwater Exclusives are not something that will be sold but rather they are draw on the social media pages for Stillwater Company. The most recent giveaway was a goose hunt. The winner and one friend of their choosing were awarded Stillwater Company swag and invited to join the Stillwater Crew on a goose hunt in Fallon, NV where they were able to see that glamour and mystique first hand.

Make sure to visit www.stillwater-company.com for apparel and follow Stillwater Company on Instagram and Facebook for the Stillwater Exclusive drawing information @ stillwatercompany. Help support the romance of the dying breed.



## Organizations

## P.E.O., Chapter D, Fallon Present CASA and Students in Transition with donations



Becky Matthews, Heidi Imelli, Sandy WHhite, Mrs. Imelli, Gary Imelli, and Sue Sevon.

#### By Sandy White

Every holiday season, local P.E.O. members choose a community project to donate to. Any funds offered come directly from the chapter members. This year the decision was made to collect donations for both CASA and Students in Transition. P.E.O. Chapter D thanks both groups for their continued efforts to assist children in our community.

CASA (Court Appointed Special Ad-

vocate) is composed of volunteers who are well trained and speak in court for the best interest of abused and neglected children. These children are in court due to no fault of their own. The volunteer's goal is to provide a carefully researched background of the child to help the court make a sound decision about the child's future. CASA volunteers are often the only stable factor in an often frightening an difficult ordeal for a child. For information on CASA, Contact: Sue Sevon at 423-6088 EXT: 1007

Students in Transition program is operated through the Learning and Innovation office of the Churchill County School District. This is an ongoing program with the primary goal of removing barriers to success in school and life for homeless children and youth. The program assists with educational needs within the school setting including, but not limited to, school supplies, school related fees, tutoring, and community resources. For more info, Contact: Carol Johnson, at 423-2181 EXT: 4151

P.E.O.s (Philanthropic Educational Organization) mission is to celebrate the advancement of women; educate women through scholarships, grants awards, loans, and stewardship of Cottey College (a women's college owned by P.E.O.); and motivate women to achieve their highest aspirations.

The P.E.O. sisterhood is a nonprofit organization that has helped more than 113,000 women pursue educational goals by providing over \$366 million in educational assistance, making a difference in women's lives through six philanthropies and a foundation. Our Fallon Chapter officers are : Sandy

Our Fallon Chapter officers are : Sandy White, President, Angela Viera, Vice President, Cyndi Kent-Dillon, Treas., Jennifer Williamson, Recording Secretary, Becky Mathews, Corresponding Secretary, Morena Heser, Chaplain, Linda Loeppky, Guard, and Michele Berney, Chapter Mentor.

### High Desert Grange Recycles NVMC Wreaths

#### Submitted Susan Gilliand-Peterson

Saturday, January 23, 2021 marked the second year the High Desert Grange has partnered with the Nevada Veterans Coalition through coalition volunteer Roger Elliott to recycle Christmas wreaths at the Northern Nevada Veterans Memorial Cemetery.

The High Desert Grange is a family organization focusing on community service. The Nevada Veterans Coalition is a group of veterans and non-veterans that supports the Northern Nevada Veterans Memorial Cemetery.

Grangers along with goat and sheep producers from Fallon, Fernley, Silver Springs and Lovelock, met at the cemetery at 9:00 AM in trucks and trailers, some parked there the night before. They were joined by Nevada Veterans Coalition volunteers from these areas as well as from Sparks and Reno. Grangers and coalition volunteers helped pick up the wreaths and clean up the cemetery while producers loaded wreaths onto their trucks and trailers for repurposing as treats for their goats and sheep. COVID protocols were followed. Inclement weather notwithstanding, all involved were focused on helping and enjoying the opportunity to do a good deed.

The wreath recycling program is a natural outgrowth of Wreaths Across America, a

national event where individuals volunteer to lay Christmas wreaths on the graves of veterans at rest in cemeteries throughout the country. Roger coordinates that event for the Northern Nevada Veterans Memorial Cemetery and has acted in this capacity for 7 years. Wreaths Across America takes both planning and community support at the local level. Roger starts months in advance, attending local events such as the Churchill County Cantaloupe Festival where he stations a booth to pass out wreath information and request donations. This year, eight thousand wreaths were laid before Christmas at the cemetery. How to efficiently dispose of the wreaths had been a challenge for Roger. It can cost up to \$2,500.00 to have them hauled to a landfill by a local waste disposal compa-ny. Several years ago, Roger's desire to find a better way to recycle the wreaths led him to the High Desert Grange. This partnership has allowed the cemetery to repurpose the wreaths at no cost, thereby reallocating those funds to pay for cemetery flags, honor guard uniforms, and more.

The High Desert Grange thanks everyone who participated in this event and looks forward to working with the Nevada Veterans Coalition next year. Roger is grateful for the support of the High Desert Grange and especially thankful for the support of the Nevada Veterans Coalition volunteers



who donate their time and labor and without whom these programs would not exist. He encourages people to participate in these programs next year, to meet and talk with the veteran volunteers and to learn about them.

Recycling wreaths has proven to be a win/win situation not only for the Northern Nevada Veterans Memorial Cemetery, the Nevada Veterans Coalition and the High Desert Grange, but also for some mighty lucky goats and sheep.

## Education

### Nursing Students Receive Real-Life Experiences in Assisting with Vaccinations



#### By Katherine Whitaker

In an effort to support the community and gain invaluable experience, Western Nevada College's nursing students are grasping the opportunity to assist in vaccinating residents at the Churchill County Fairgrounds as Churchill County rolls out its COVID-19 vaccinations.

Raylene Stiehl, WNC's Fallon nursing lab instructor, explained that having the students participate helps increase the number of people who can receive their vaccinations in a timely manner.

In order for nursing students to participate in administering vaccines, students are trained in the classroom and practice in their lab. The students are tested for competency and their instructor is onsite whenever they are administering vaccinations.

"It's a win-win all the way around for the students and the community," Stiehl said.

The students gain experience and the county's medical personnel are not spread so thinly as they try to administer the vaccination while still needing to attend to patients at doctor offices, health clinics and the hospital.

For several years, WNC's nursing students have actively engaged in collaborating with Banner Churchill Hospital to assist in flu vaccination clinics but helping to administer the COVID-19 vaccine has provided more opportunities for students to develop their nursing abilities.

Ivy Kent, a first-year nursing student who has been participating in the vaccination events, noted that medication administration is a significant part of her training to become a nurse. The experience of administering intramuscular injections while being aware of the needs of the patients will make her and the other nursing students even more prepared once they enter the nursing workforce.

These real-life experiences also help the students develop competencies in critical thinking, time management, safety, detail attentiveness, effective paperwork review and accurate documentation. Stiehl indicated that the opportunity to interact with patients and get over the initial fear of interacting really helps them become more confident nurses.

Kent concurred.

"It provides a level of confidence when we get an opportunity to participate," Kent said. "It's been an awesome experience to be able to communicate with patients, learn how to take care of the vaccine and observe for reactions. More experience is always better."

The fast-paced environment has also helped Kent practice good time management skills. Helping people and being able to connect with them are a couple of the reasons Kent decided to become a nurse, which makes her grateful for Stiehl and her quality instruction.

"Raylene has been fantastic," Kent said. "We couldn't have a better instructor who provides opportunities for us to get experience. I'm so grateful for this opportunity as a student, especially with COVID because it's a vastly different year and to help the public get back to normal is really amazing," Kent said.

Stiehl expects that the students will continue to have more involvement as the semester continues and more rounds of the vaccine are available, so the Fallon community will continue to benefit from the efforts of WNC nursing students.

"It's one more reason why this rural college is important," Stiehl said. "We're a resource for the community. The nursing students truly are an investment in the community."



## Education

## Fallon Alumna Makes Generous Donation to Scholarship Fund



The Hanifan family John, Starlene, Georgia, Maurice, and Jean.

#### By Rachel Dahl

The Churchill County School District Board of Trustees met last week in a regular meeting where they accepted a donation of nearly \$200,000 from the Estate of Bridget Jean Selmi to the Churchill County High School Scholarship fund. Jean Hanifan Selmi grew up in Fallon, spending time on the Hanifan farm in the St. Clair district before attending the Reno Business College. She went to work for Nevada Seafood company in 1956 as a bookkeeper, operating that company for 56 years, and eventually purchasing it. Named Businesswoman of the Year in Reno in the early 90s, Selmi employed numerous students over the years and was always willing to provide assistance and support. The scholarship donation will be kept in a separate fund and managed at the district level. Criteria for the award and the amount are currently being decided by Selmi's family.

The board also heard a report from Superintendent Summer Stephens regarding the district response to the COVID situation. So far, there have been 1,752 exclusions from classes due to exposure to a person positive for the virus. Of those 93 students tested positive along with 33 staff members.

"Everyone is also concerned about mental health," she said, "hopefully soon outside activities will begin."

One parent spoke during public comment regarding the difficulties for her high school student in getting the instruction she needs with the current modified schedule. Stephens said the second semester will continue on the same schedule and there are no plans to change the schedule at this time. Stephens also reported that legislative activities are ramp-

Stephens also reported that legislative activities are ramping up and the district will be actively involved at the state level. There were two meetings held last week with legislative leadership, including a meeting of the Assembly Education committee. In spite of being closed to the public, committee members have expressed a desire for people to testify on issues when it is possible through the remote options. Stephens also reported that the second round of COVID vaccinations are scheduled to be administered to staff in med-February.

Trustees held Consent Agenda item B for a subsequent meeting and discussed the proposed contract for Michelle Anderson as Accounting Supervisor. This position was previously held by Terri Laca who retired in December as the Accounting Manager. In order to attract qualified candidates, the position has been modified to be an Accounting Supervisor with the idea that this person would supervise the two accounting tech positions in the

office and the comptroller. Christi Fielding would supervise the Accounting Supervisor position. The arrangement would be similar to Kenny Mitchell in the operations position supervising the bus shed, shop, and maintenance departments. Human Resources Director Kevin Lords clarified that after discussion with the classified association, this position will serve at the will of the board because there will be supervisory responsibilities and will not fall under the negotiated contract. The school board generally meets on the 2nd and fourth

The school board generally meets on the 2nd and fourth Wednesday of each month at 5:30 p.m. Board agendas are available at www.ChurchillCSD.com.

## Newlands Project Water Levels

Measurements taken February 3rd at 5:20 p.m.

Lahontan Reservoir 91, 320 af

Truckee Canal at Hazen 284 cfs

Truckee Canal at Wadsworth 291 cfs

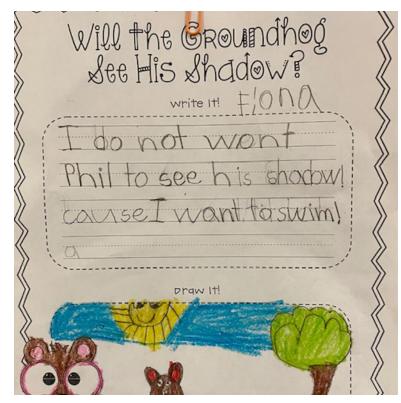
Carson River Below Lahontan 0.62 cfs

Carson River at Ft. Churchill 115 cfs

> cfs - Cubic Feet per Second af - Acre Feet

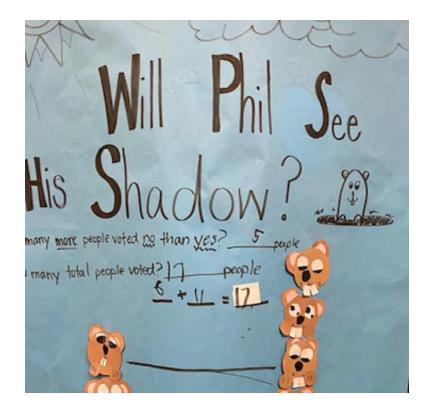
## Education

### **Student Work**



*First Graders ponder about Punxsutawney Phil and his shadow in Ms. Keisel's class (Top left and right). Submitted by Lahontan Elementary School.* 





Earthquakes are something that Nevadans have to live with daily whether we feel them or not. Students at CCHS learned about earthquakes and their effects on a structure in Mr Sluyter's Earth and Space Science class. They were required to research specific features of buildings designed to survive an earthquake and then incorporate them into their designs. The pictures provided show the various structures designed by the students that lasted on the earthquake table for one minute or more. Oscar Ventura and Colton Tousignant had the tallest tower which withstood the shake thanks to their use of guy wires (Bottom right and left). Submitted by Susan McGowan.



## Sports

## Fallon Flipperz Tumbling Expands Class Options



#### By David Ernst

Just three short months after its first class, Fallon Flipperz Tumbling is ready to expand. "We are very excited to provide more class options and accommodate students of different ages and skill levels," said instructor Bristee Conner. "The response to the classes has been very positive."

Conner grew up in Churchill County before moving to Utah in 2008. In 2017, she began coaching power tumbling at Summit Springers Gym in Coalville, Utah. Between 2017 and 2020, Conner became a USA Gymnastics certified coach and category 3 certified judge for both power tumbling and double mini. In March of 2020, she moved back to Fallon with her husband, Dalin. Soon after, she began reaching out to the community to gauge the interest for tumbling instruction.

Power tumbling is a discipline of gymnastics that involves performing techniques down a tumbling floor. Students learn introductory skills such as forward rolls, cartwheels, round-offs, backhand springs, and more. Advanced and competitive power tumbling involves use of a double mini trampoline and spring floor to perform choreographed skills and routines.

It was early last year just before COVID lockdowns went into effect that Conner met with Churchill County Parks and Recreation to discuss a partnership. "We had just started discussing logistics and equipment needs when COVID lockdowns occurred," said David Ernst with Parks and Rec. "We were both incredibly excited about the possibilities. Youth instruction in disciplines of gymnastics is an area where we have more demand than current local options can accommodate."

After those initial meetings, COVID put a hold to the planning process. State restrictions on youth athletics throughout the summer further hindered the ability to start classes. After a full summer of waiting, restrictions regarding group size and athletic participation finally lessened in the Fall to the point where planning could resume. In October of 2020, Conner began

In October of 2020, Conner began providing tumbling instruction to students enrolled in the County's full-day program CARE. A few weeks later, Fallon Flipperz held its first evening Beginning Tumbling class. Students aged 5 through 12 met Tuesday nights at 6:00 p.m. in the multi-use room at Northside Early Learning Center to learn rolls, cartwheels, backhand springs, and more. The interest in the program was immediately apparent and an additional Beginning class was added by the second week.

"We were very fortunate to have access to the Northside multi-use room," says Ernst. The County's CARE program has operated this entire year out of Northside Early Learning Center through a collaboration with Churchill County School District. "The school district administration has been very accommodating in allowing us to use the Northside facility for classes," said Ernst. "Without that option, we would have to move across town to buildings at the Fairgrounds. We would still be able to provide classes but would not be able to provide the tumbling instruction to the CARE students."

Currently, there are approximately 52 CARE students who receive tumbling

instruction twice a week and 30 students who attend Tuesday night classes. "I prefer to keep smaller class sizes in order to provide more hands-on instruction," said Conner. For most classes, that ideal number is no more than 12 students. Since the beginning of the New Year, those class sizes have gradually expanded to the point where expansion is necessary. According to Conner, there has also been significant interest in class options for younger and older students.

Beginning Monday, February 22nd, Fallon Flipperz will be offering classes 4 nights a week. Mondays and Wednesdays will be Tiny Tots for 3- and 4-year-olds and Advanced Tumbling for 5- to 18-year-olds (by instructor invitation). Tuesdays and Thursdays will have Beginning Tumbling for 5- to 12-year-olds, Intermediate Tumbling for 5- to 18-year-olds (by instructor invitation), and a Beginning Tumbling class specifically for 13to 18-year-olds. The full schedule is available at churchillcountyny.gov by searching for 'Tumbling,' or interested parties may call Parks and Recreation at (775) 423-7733 for information.

What's next for Fallon Flipperz? "We've discussed providing a competitive option, but that is still a way off," says Conner. "Once the new classes are up and running, then we'll start looking at the next phase." According to Ernst, the next step will be seeking community sponsorships in order to purchase additional equipment such as a double mini trampoline and appropriate landing mats and a rod floor to lay beneath the tumbling surfaces. "We've got great equipment to teach the introductory tumbling skills. The next move is to get the resources to teach the aerial skills."



Backhand Spring and Double Cartwheels done by students.

### A Feral Housewife's Horoscopes

### Aries- March 21 - April 10

The stars align in a dynamic pattern. Where to start – this is not the time to play with finances in a keep-up-with-the-Jones' splurge that will set you back to mac 'n cheese college days. You are doing a lot of networking; make sure to present the best of you by getting dressed up and owning it like a global stage. Work it, honey. Don't be scared to connect or ust say yes to a meeting you would normally deny.

### Scorpio-October 23 - November 22

Home is where the health is – and you are going to feel like camping out right where you are most comfortable. That is the perfect place for you to be. While you are getting started on those renovations you have been drooling over and actually cook the recipes you've had on standby. Try to avoid striking out at those around you when you disagree; emotions are running a bit wild.

#### Leo-July 22 - August 22

Time to team up, Leo, and it's going take some work. Take a break from being the one to help whoever is in need; no one can survive on praise alone. Focus that energy and effort intô building a partnership for you. Try something different. Go out on a limb and change everything you have been doing in love. You will not be disappointed.

#### Gemini- May 21 - June 20

Look at you; aren't you lovely? Love will be in the air after that cosmic break you took. It is time to dip your toe back into the love pool, which doesn't mean jump in and drown, just ease back into things. Open and honest com-munication is best; remember, you don't have to be cruel to be honest. When you feel like unleashing, just take a breath and wait until the feeling passes.

#### Cancer-June 21 - July 22

Drive and direction along with love and affection; focus on where you aim it. You will have some possessive, jealous, passive aggressive vibes going, but aiming those at your current love is disastrous. These feelings likely connect to past lovers or even a wrong you committed once. When you need time alone, take it, but when you do, refrain from firing emotional shots at those who expect your eternal attention.

### **Virgo- August 23 - September 22** It is time to tackle the projects you have been putting off and organize your space. You should focus on achieving flow in all things, from work to diet. When your mind threatens to wander, try to round up those stray thoughts and put them to the side for later when you are able to deal with them. You might feel overwhelmed looking at the big things that need to be addressed; just take a breath and break it down into smaller projects.

### Libra-September 23 - October 22

Get bougie; it is your time to shine after the social hibernation. Plan a dinner on a budget with a complementing wine or beer flight, get dressed to the nines and show the world that you are back in action. As you break out of this funk, anything status quo will bore you to death, so try something new. When you happen across someone you wouldn't bring home to Mama, it's in your best interest to keep walking.

**Taurus- April 21 - May 20** Dreams will become reality. All the ideas you have had will begin to manifest themselves, so be ready. Don't engage in battles of ego; they waste precious time. For the love of all thať is sane, do not stray from your partner or try to hustle anyone in love, or you will break the relationship beyond repair. You will feel gorgeous, so get the picture and update pro-fessional and social photos.

### Sagittarius- November 23 - December 21

Pump the brakes. The work addict in you will finally feel free to turn attentions elsewhere. You will be basking in the glow of a job well done in January and feeling the flirt. Drawn to social buzz like a moth to a flame, you will have to navigate this one gracefully. Not everyone who shares the party is friend worthy. Watch those around you and don't give your trust easily. As hard as it will be, when that special someone who sends you straight into orbit strikes this weekend, beat 'em at their own game by ignoring them.

#### Capricorn- Deceember 22 - January 19

Bring it in, Cap. It is time again to focus on your finances. You have that big ticket item in your sights and it will take a little extra work to get there while you are fighting the desire to be extravagant. Remember what you want and trends will be out and in before the order could even hit your doorstep. Keep your cool; a fight may break out around you but don't take it personally. All eyes are on you for the business relationships you have built and that flare for the "traditional," so send the handwritten note of thanks; it will leave an impression.

### Aquarius- January 20 - February 19

Nothing is going to go your way at the start of this week, but have faith; it will turn out for the best and will completely change your out-look and trajectory. Let's be honest, dear one, you need a change. Romance is in the cards, so enjoy; you know it doesn't happen often where you feel that magnetic connection. While you want to be alone this weekend, make sure you don't bail on the plans you already made.

### Pisces-February 20 - March 20

Make 'em pay. You will have creative energy pouring from you; use it and enjoy the payouts. While you are basking in the glow of your creativity bringing revenue, you may have to address a business partner who hasn't pulled their weight. You will be pulling away from relationships that no longer suit you, but don't feel guilty; you literally cannot take another rescue mission. Let those around you who use you as a flotation device know that you are no longer able to carry them to safety. You have given them all the tools they need to safely navigate their own rescue missions.

Alicia Parsons grew up in Yerington and has been a dishwasher, teacher's aide, patient care representative, and debt collector, before landing her current and favorite gig as a feral housewife to Trevor and card-carrying mother-of-the-year to three-and-a-half-year-old Rhett.

## Recipes

### What's Cookin' in Kelli's Kitchen



You might not know this about me but years ago I was a tall ship sailor--for a living. I know it seems almost impossible that people in the modern age could make a living wearing thirteen button pants and hauling lines to raise sails, but it's a real thing--albeit not a very good living. Aside from a proclivity for randomly belting out sea shanties in social-ly awkward situations (I'm looking at you Števen Christie), my largest take-away from those years on the ocean is a sensitivity to the barometer. When a low-pressure system is headed our way, I feel it in my bones.

This last week, I suffered from a severe bout of weather affection disorder. As the mornings dawned dim, the warm light of the sun filtered through snow-bearing clouds, I snuggled deeper into my covers and resisted getting out of bed with all of my being. On days like these, the very thought of preparing an involved dish makes my soul cringe.

Fortunately, I found a couple of super-simple recipes that satiated my (weather-influenced) cravings for hearty fatty fare and sweet-warming heat. The first satisfying meal only involved one dish--a sheet pan. Roasted sweet Italian sausages served on a bed of caramelized shallots and apples. These sausages roast up plump and juicy with a pleasant crispy skin. They are brilliantly paired with fragrant tart-sweet apples, whole grain mustard, sweet shallots, and just a splash of vinegar.

The second recipe of the week represents a type of cultural and culinary fusion that is a bit surprising. When American piz-za delivery restaurants first opened in Korean, they brought with them pizza ingredients opening the door for new and mind-bending dishes like Fire Chicken. Boneless chicken thighs are marinated in a mix of Korean Chili Flake "gochugaru" (now conveniently available at the Fallon Safeway), gochujang (a sweet hot Korean paste), soy sauce, and brown sugar. The whole lot is simmered together with a little water before being topped with sliced mozzarella cheese and finished in the broiler. I can't begin to tell you why this

flavor combination works... I can tell you that you will absolutely not regret giving it a try. Finally, Facebook provided the inspira-

tion for my third concoction. A friend posted a question about why we, in America, tend to be quite strict in our definitions of breakfast foods. It's a legitimate inquiry. Our breakfast menus tend to be laden with sweets, meats, and eggs to order–lacking nuance and variety. Rising to the "widen your break-fast horizons" challenge, I simmered up a delicious Shakshuka (alright, I concede that this is also an egg dish) complete with swiss chard, avocado, and Sand Hill dairy queso fresco. Shakshuka is a simmered one-pot egg dish that originated in North Africa--while a traditional shakshuka involves a tomato pepper sauce, variations are found all around the world integrating a bevy of ingredients.

Try these tasties when you too feel like a one-dish meal.

#### Green Shakshuka with Avocado Adopted from Sarah Copeland Serves 2-3

Ingredients:

- Olive oil
- 1 yellow onion, peeled and thinly sliced
- 2 cloves garlic, thinly sliced
- 1 bunch of Swiss Chard, stems and
- leaves separated and chopped
- <sup>1</sup>/<sub>3</sub> c Sand Hill Dairy heavy cream
- 4 large eggs
- Salt and Pepper
- Garnish:
- 1 avocado, cubed
- 1 jalapeno, thin sliced
- Sand Hill Dairy queso fresco, crumbled
- Cilantro, chopped
- Hot Sauce

#### Directions:

•Heat oil in a cast-iron skillet over medium heat. Add onion and cook until soft (5 minutes). Add the garlic and cook until it smells delicious (5 minutes) Add the chard stems and cook until they have released some liquid--you will no tice that your onions and garlic will start to turn a little red (5 minutes). Add the chard leaves in batches, adding more as the leaves begin to wilt, stirring regularly until completely wilted (3 minutes). Sea son with salt and add the cream. •Reduce to heat to low. Make 4 small indentations in the veggies and crack an egg into each. Season each egg with salt andpepper. Cover with a lid or a double layer of aluminum foil and simmer until the eggs are just set (about 7 minutes). •Add in avocado, queso fresco, jalapenos, and cilantro and recover for 2 minutes. ·Serve with lime wedges, tortillas, and hot sauce.



Sheet-Pan Sausages with Shallots and Applies Adopted from Lidey Heuck Serves 2-3

Ingredients:

- 6 shallots, trimmed on both ends, peeled and cut into quarters lengthwise.
- 2 apples, cored and cut into wedges (I used one sweet i.e., fuji and one tart i.e. granny smith)
- 1 T olive oil
- Salt and pepper 1 pound Italian Sausages sweet or hot
- 3 sprigs Rosemary 2 T whole grain mustard
- Apple Cider Vinegar

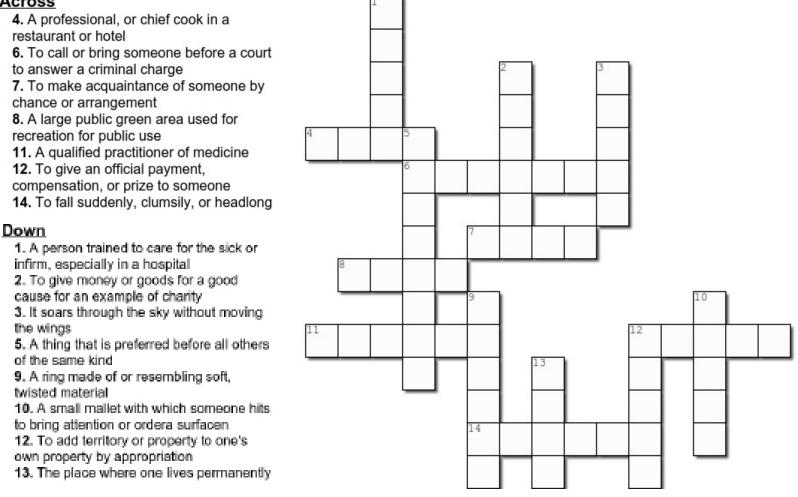
### Directions:

• Pre-heat oven to 425 degrees. Place shallots and apples on a sheet pan, drizzle with olive oil and season with salt and pepper. Roast the mixture for 12 minutes, until the shallots are starting to turn brown on the edges. •Meanwhile, pierce the sausages in several places with a fork and drizzle with olive oil.

 Add the rosemary and mustard to the sheet pan with the shallots and apples and toss to coat. Spread the mixture evenly around the pan. Arrange the sau sages on the pan and roast for 25-30 minutes, flipping the sausages and tossing the apples and shallots in the sausage juice about halfway through. • Discard rosemary sprigs transfer the sausages to a plate. Toss the apples and shallots with a splash of apple cider vinegar, scraping to pick up any browned bits from the sheet pan. Serve sausages on a pile of the apple shallot mixture.

## Entertainment

### Across





## Entertainment

### John Cusack Marathon



This last weekend, as I was stuck inside with three other children in their early twenties due to icy roads, I found things to keep me

occupied: making a tasty dinner from scratch, a new trivia card game, and endless hours of design work for the upcoming magazine and paper. However, my favorite thing to do while staying in and hiding from the angry weather, is enjoying the entire filmography of John Cusack. I came to the realization this weekend that every one of his movies is excellent, and everyone different than the last. He deserves all the recognition possible. Although I did not, it is a great idea to watch your selections in chronological order.

Watching Cusack's John Hughes work (*Sixteen Candles, Say Anything*) is good for anyone, but his further work, running to the more obscure *Better Off Dead and One Crazy Summer* will give you a few hours of hearty belly laughs. Then, moving into his later work, I would recommend a series of films, including *Grosse Pointe Blank, America's Sweethearts, and Identity*. Between these three films there is genuinely something for everyone. There is romance, action, comedy, thrill, drama, mystery, and even supernaturalness.

John Cusack is one of the few actors who an audience can say was not type casted for any of his career. While he is not in the limelight now, he can be during a good weekend movie marathon.

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### **OK Human**



A band that has been my favorite for quite some time now is Weezer. Within the last few days, the group released a new album entitled OK Human. The album, like many musicians during this time, has a different sound and creative approach due to coronavirus restrictions. Weezer is extremely well known for a punk or alternative rock sound popular to that of the 90s or early

2000s. While that genre still exists in the new album, the sound is different for one specific and interesting reason. Weezer's new album was recorded with a 38-piece orchestra.

While the album still has the sound of other Weezer songs, the addition of an orchestral element allowed Weezer's front man, Rivers Cuomo, to make the songs mellow for longer periods of time before reaching a punched-up chorus that most come to expect from the band. This new album also has fantastically intricate album cover art that gives the overall album more interest. It was fun for me to hear where the new Weezer is headed, while being able to enjoy what I always loved about them in their newly released album.



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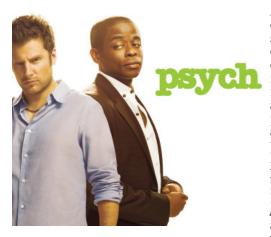
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## Entertainment

### Psych



Among the top-five of my favorite television creations is an eight-season series called Psych. First airing in 2006, the show follows two friends as they become a private detective agency that assists the Santa Barbara Police Department. Oh yes, and one of them is psychic. James Roday Rodriguez (A Million Little Things) is a psychic funnyman who drags his friend

Burton Guster, played by Dule Hill (*The West Wing*), onto many a murder scene.

This show has always been a favorite of mine because of the written and visual craft. While the show is another buddy-cop creation, the jokes and endless cultural references take the show to another level for some audiences. At the same time, no one feels left behind if they missed or do not understand a solid reference to Police Academy or Alfred Hitchcock movies. The creators and crew of the series are such fans of other shows and films that they parody and recreate many genres, while respecting the craft and giving a great homage to many of them. Every time I return to the series, it is as fresh and funny as ever, while also having great and interesting mysteries to solve along the way.

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## **Brushfire Journal**



So, I may be slightly biased about this being a favorite publication of mine because I was published in one of the editions. That being said, even if I wasn't, these collections are wonderful, local, and inspiring. Brushfire Literature & Arts is an organization from the University of Nevada Reno that publishes submissions from artists, writers, and poets around the state.

This is one of my favorite publications for two reasons. First, it is all local creators, which makes it all the more special to read. Second, the publication allows audiences to see early work from talented people who may become big names in the future. How cool would it be to tell someone at a dinner party one day that you have an early work from a profound creator? While it's hard to find print edition anywhere that isn't the UNR campus, Brushfire Literature & Arts has every journal edition, plus podcasts featuring certain artists, on their website unrbrushfire.org. This publication is a great way to support young and local creators. Plus, I will give anyone full permission to say they own 'an early Ugalde' if they decide to try out an issue of the publication.

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 FallonPost team design and layout, is willing to do any little thing that needs to be tackled, and is also a stand-up comic.



## Bulletin

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### CROSSWORD ANSWERS

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4. CHEF	11. DOCTOR
<b>5 FAVORITE</b>	12 (ACROSS). AWARD
6. ARRAIGN	12 (DOWN). ANNEX
7. MEET	13. HOME
	14. TUMBLE

"Legislative" continued from front page...

Nevada is and always will be determined, resilient, and strong."

Assemblywoman Robin Titus, (R-38) the Assembly Republican Caucus leader responded to his remarks with the Republican priorities for the session. Those priorities include immunizing and improving health care access across Nevada, prioritizing children's education, rebuilding the economy, maintaining and open and transparent government, and enacting meaningful election reform.

"As I said in my State of the State," said Sisolak, "Nevadans have always shown grit in the face of adversity, and I'm confident we'll recover from this crisis. The resilience of Nevadans should never be doubted." Community Meetings

February 5th -February 12th

Parks and Recreation Commission 2/9 - 7:00 PM

Planning Commission 2/10 - 7:00 PM

CCSD Board of Trustees 2/10 - 5:30 PM

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