

# THE FALLON POST



The Local Community Newspaper Fallon Churchill County

December 11, 2020

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## First responder holiday competition nets 23,000 lbs. of food



By Rachel Dahl

Last Sunday local first responders collected 27,260 pounds of food for needy families in the 5th Annual First Responder Holiday Food Competition. Organized by Beth Riley, the food drive this year came in nearly 8,000 pounds ahead of the total 19,540 pounds collected last year. The food drive has provided 73,000 pounds of food to Northern Nevada food banks over the past five years.

The day begins with participating agencies; the Fallon Police Department, Fallon/Churchill Fire Department, Search and Rescue, the Churchill County Sheriff's office, Banner Churchill Community Hospital EMS, and the Fallon Shoshone Tribal Police Department meeting at the Golden Gate Gas Station scales for the weigh in at 10:00 a.m. Each agency brings whatever exciting vehicle will catch people's attention, and when the weigh in is complete, everyone caravans over to Walmart with sirens

blaring and lights flashing.

Once again, the Fallon/Churchill Fire Department was victorious, gathering 9,180 pounds of food for the win, ahead of the Fallon Police Department with 8,080 pounds, the Sheriff's Office with 4,120, Banner Ambulance crew with 2,640 pounds, Search and Rescue gathered 2,260 pounds, and Nevada Highway Patrol with 980 pounds.

At the end of day, after the weigh ins, each of the agencies travels over to the Out of Egypt food pantry building, backing into the big garage doors where community volunteers help unload the food. According to the food pantry volunteers, the food collected allows the food pantry to feed needy community members for up to six months.



*The Fallon/Churchill Fire Department receiving their trophy this year. Photos provided by Beth Riley*

# Rachel's Report

## Captain's log – December 11th...

As we mourn the loss of our beloved Bonnie York and Danny Clifford this week, watch businesses close, and are ravaged by the politics surrounding the COVID virus, it is becoming more and more difficult to find the joy this time of year. Things are hard right now for a great number of us as we plow through these challenging times.

Now more than ever, we need to look around and appreciate the good things.

Today we recognize and find joy in the organizations and people who are going about doing good deeds and working to make life a little easier; our own First Responders who collected a record amount of food for needy families, the Fallon Rotary that collected Christmas for our home bound seniors, realtors who are collecting necessities for our children, the Knights of Columbus who gathered coats for the Youth Club, along with Top Gun Restaurant and the folks at Epworth who help host a free Christmas Eve dinner.

While all these folks have spear-headed noble efforts, it really is all of you who have given, and donated, and made time to go buy and then drop off food, and clothes, and coats, and gifts. None of these efforts would work if it weren't for everyone giving just a little extra of what they've got.

So many are doing so much to help right now and when things get sad and hard, we can remember there is a great deal of good in our community in spite of our troubles. This is an amazing place that truly takes care of our own and I'm especially grateful right now to be a part of it.

I'm also really thankful for the trust and support you have given us over the past two years to build this paper and make it possible for us to bring you the local news. Our intention was to create a place where we can celebrate our community on a daily basis, and make sure that in addition to "shining a light in dark places" we bring all the good things to light as well. We want people to know of the good that is Fallon – and I think we are doing it with your help. Thank you.

Keeping you posted,  
Rachel

## The Fallon Post

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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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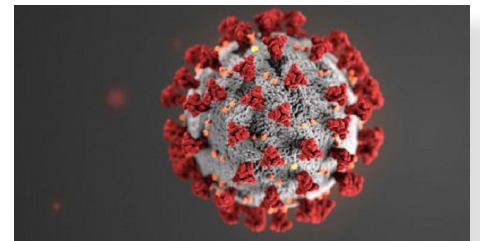
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# Features

## Fallon Youth Club children receive new coats for Christmas



Photos provided by The Fallon Youth Club.


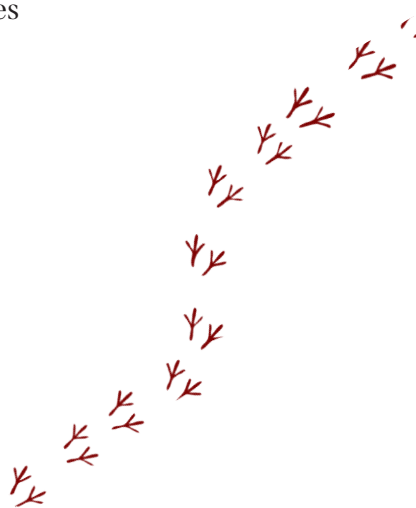
By Leanna Lehman

It was a few weeks before Christmas and all through the house, not a creature was stirring – not even a mouse. However, there was quite a bit of stirring at the Fallon Youth Club on Friday, December 4th, when the Knights of Columbus (KOC) delivered sacks full of new, warm winter coats to local children.

According to Fallon Youth Club director Shannon Goodrich, the generous members of the Knights of Columbus provided 36 new coats to Youth Club children, both boys and girls, ranging from 2nd to 8th grade. Coordinated by Grand Knight Tedd Balash and chapter members, the coats were purchased and distributed as part of their Coats for Kids project. The American-Canadian project began in 2009 with the KOC reporting that they have distributed over 500,000 winter coats to children in need since that time.

Fallon's Chapter #4828 is one of 1,700 Knights of Columbus councils that make up the world's largest Catholic fraternal service organization with about 2 million members. They serve others by putting their faith into action through a broad range of charitable causes locally, nationally, and internationally through donations and hands-on service.

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## Dahl's Pharmacy closing the doors

By Rachel Dahl

Dahl's Pharmacy, which has operated as an independent pharmacy in Fallon for 100 years, is closing the doors on the business this week.

Nathan Dahl, owner and pharmacist, is selling the pharmacy to the Walgreen's corporation, and said inventory teams were at the Fallon and Fernley locations late this week to transition the store to Walgreen's ownership. Dahl is closing the three retail locations of the pharmacy in Carson City, Fernley, and the Fallon store.

"It's heartbreaking," he said, "we are so grateful for all this community has done for us over the years."

According to Dahl, the sale was supposed to close last week, but was hung up with paperwork, leaving local patrons in limbo and worried. "We are all so very upset," wrote one customer in an email to The Fallon Post, "that was our only good pharmacy."

Another wrote saying, "What are we going to do - that was the only independent pharmacy, we are being forced into the chains."

Dahl has worked with his employees to make sure they are taken care of and

moved into other positions. "It has been amazing to see how it has worked out, pretty much everyone has found more flexible or higher paying jobs and they are excited for their new challenges."

Dahl said the decision to sell and close the retail shops has been difficult. "This community is one of the most loyal, devoted communities for small business that I know of," he said, "they are loyal to the core, the problem that we have is the employers of the majority of the people in this community have chosen health care plans that are absolutely destroying independent pharmacy."

He explained, "We are doing more prescriptions in our pharmacy than we ever have and we're losing money every month because I don't have any control whatsoever on what I get paid for any medication that I sell; it is 100% up to



Walgreens buys last independent pharmacy in town. The Fallon Post

the insurance companies, and I have absolutely zero control with regards to an insurance claim with what they are willing to pay."

"The analogy I use," said Dahl, "is I want to walk into a Chevy dealership and pick out the nicest corvette they have sitting on the lot and I want to tell them that I'm going to pay them \$5,000 below cost and I'm going to drive it off the lot and they have to do that, that is literally what I do every day."

He explains that insurance companies have raised premiums to the point most Americans can't pay, and to save even more money the companies are cutting what they pay to providers including pharmacists and doctors. "It's not just us, There are no private practice doctors left in Fallon because insurance companies refuse to reimburse an affordable amount for these businesses to stay functioning."

According to Dahl, the pharmacy gets paid by the insurance company less than the cost of the drug to begin with. Although the issue is complex, he explained one aspect of the business being the Direct and Indirect remuneration fees (DIR). While the pharmacy pays the wholesaler every two weeks, the insurance companies can take up to 45 days to send reimbursement. However, after the insurance company pays, they review all the claims billed to them during quarterly audits, and take back, based on standards set by the federal government that they do not always follow, money they had previously paid.

Another issue Dahl explains has to do with PBMs, (Pharmacy Benefit Managers), which are third-party managers of insurance benefits between insurance companies and pharmacies. For instance, "CVS is both the payor and the payee, they own one of the largest PBMs in the

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## Community mourns the loss of educator, musician, and mother

**Bonnie June (Allen) York**, 84, passed away in Fallon on December 7, 2020 due to severe complications from COVID-19. Bonnie was born in Fallon on June 23, 1936 to Lem and Mary Ellen Allen. She was a lifelong Fallon resident, graduating from Churchill County High School in 1953. She attended the College of Notre Dame, graduating in 1957 with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration. Bonnie was so proud of her Allen heritage and loved her Fallon roots and the adventures they produced.

Bonnie cherished the outdoors. In her earlier years, Bonnie enjoyed duck hunting with her Dad, who also was instrumental in developing her love for horses. She was an accomplished horse-woman competing in equestrian, western and team roping events. Bonnie was fond of water skiing, snow skiing, golf and tennis. However, her real joy was ranching and raising Saler cattle. Bonnie loved her cows, giving individual names to most in the herd. Her record keeping for the cattle was impeccable as she maintained a well organized accounting of each cow and could recount the breeding history from memory. Bonnie's pride and joy was her blind cow Helen, named after Helen Keller. She took great care of Helen and spoke of her often.

Bonnie loved her music. As an accomplished pianist and singer, she contributed those talents in the Epworth United Methodist Church and Lahontan Valley Concert Choir. After taking Western Swing classes, she danced on a regular basis, where she met her longtime partner, Jesse Hernandez.

Bonnie was a dedicated teacher, positively impacting many students. It was quite common for previous students to verbally express to Bonnie their appreciation of her as a teacher. She began her teaching career with the Churchill County School District as an elementary music teacher. Bonnie transitioned from elementary education to adult education when she became a faculty member at Western Nevada Community College (now WNC) in 1977, where she taught business and computer applications. During her 30 years at WNC, she never missed a single day of class, of which she was very proud. In support of women in academics, Bonnie was an active member of the American Association of University Women. As a result of her dedication to teaching, Bonnie received the Outstanding Faculty Award in 1990, WNC Regents Teaching Award in 2000, Instructor of the Year in 2001 and was awarded Emerita status upon



her retirement in 2007 at the age of 71.

Bonnie was a wonderful and supportive mother, grandmother, partner and friend. She leaves her daughter, Kristin Hamman Calley and husband Mike; brother Buz Allen and wife Kay; granddaughters Mary and Meghan; partner, Jesse Hernandez and her many friends and former WNCC colleagues.

It is heartbreaking, but due to COVID precautions and restrictions, services will not be held at this time. Bonnie would want to keep her family and friends safe from this devastating virus. Internment will be at the Fallon Cemetery in the Allen Family plot.

Special thanks to Dr. Aikin and the nursing staff at Banner Churchill Community Hospital for their care and genuine compassion.

Memorial donations can be made to the Churchill Arts Council (P.O. Box 2204, Fallon, NV 89407) or Churchill County Museum (1050 South Maine Street, Fallon, Nevada 89406).

A celebration of Bonnie's life will be held in June 2021 to coincide with her 85th birthday.

Letter to the Editor – Communities can save lives



By Karen Moessner

October was Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Sadly, on October 26, Kelly Allen died after a violent struggle with her former boyfriend. During the fight her home was set on fire, the former boyfriend died, and a family friend sustained life-threatening injuries.

Comments left in this newspaper show that Kelly left behind people who cared about her and others who also cared about the person who is said to have been responsible for Kelly's death. Domestic violence clearly creates ripple effects that affect more than the immediate people involved. The impact is felt by entire communities.

Domestic violence is a serious issue in Fallon, in Nevada, and across the country. It knows no geographical boundaries. Last year, Fallon's Domestic Violence Intervention (DVI) agency served 400 victims. Churchill County's law enforcement agencies responded to 129 domestic violence calls in 2019.

When this kind of tragedy occurs, it can be shattering to a community. Many people wonder how this could have happened here. Some step up to mourn the victim, others gather in support of the person responsible. Still others may look for someone to blame. Some may blame law enforcement, laws, or the courts. Others may seek to blame the victim, pointing to them and asking why they did not leave or "Why didn't they follow through on the protection order?"

The reality is domestic violence is a complex issue with no simple answer. Research shows that leaving a violent relationship is one of the leading risk factors for domestic violence homicide. Often, filing for a protection order and taking other protective measures can increase the risk of violence for a victim.

As we mourn the senseless and unnecessary tragedy of Kelly Allen's death, we can take some comfort in knowing that all of us can have a role in stopping domestic violence and supporting victims. As a community we are part of the solution. Developing a coordinated community response to domestic violence is the beginning of creating the necessary safety measures to help families experiencing violence and supporting victims to safety. Visualizing and creating a coordinated response allows all of us to excel at the part we play. It takes the entire community to hold perpetrators accountable, create support for victims and their families and change the conditions which bring forth this type of personal and community tragedy.

So, I'm asking that our law enforcement, health care providers, social service agencies, educators, business

leaders, faith groups and caring community members come together to help each other end domestic violence in Churchill County.

Domestic Violence Intervention provides shelter, advocacy, support groups, and 24-hour crisis line services for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault in Churchill County. The phone number is 775-427-1500.

*Karen Moessner is the Executive Director of Churchill County's Domestic Violence Intervention (DVI) program.*

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## Butler sentenced to prison for assault at Diversion Dam



By Leanna Lehman

James Larry Butler appeared in District Court on Tuesday, November 8th, for sentencing on two counts of assault with a deadly weapon, both of which carry a penalty of 21-54 months in prison. He was arrested in July and initially charged with assault with a deadly weapon, battery with a deadly weapon, damage to an unattended vehicle, injury to property, and driving without a valid license.

According to Assistant District Attorney (ADA) Jeff Weed, Butler's former girlfriend recorded the incident as it was occurring. The video caught him threatening her and her companion while they were camping at Diversion Dam. Weed played the video for the court in support of his arguments for a lengthy prison term for Butler.

Weed stated that the victims were camping at Diversion Dam where Butler intentionally sought them out. He then made several threats against the victims, after which

he rammed his vehicle into their RV and shouted, "I will put that motor home in the lake." Additionally, Butler attempted to run over the male victim who was able to grab his machete and strike Butler in the arm through the window of his vehicle. The other victim fled to the water attempting to get out of the way of the vehicle and to call law enforcement. Butler can be heard on the video saying, "If you call the law, I will be out of here." He later fled to his Lyon County residence where he attempted to evade law enforcement by hiding under his house.

Butler, who was on probation at the time of the incident, was also reported to have had multiple Drug Court violations includes testing positive for methamphetamines. Weed further referenced Butler's violent criminal history that includes convictions for assault, battery, and domestic battery.

Churchill County public defender Jacob Sommer was representing Butler and asked the court to examine what was going on behind the scenes before considering sentencing. According to Sommer, Butler and his former girlfriend had recently ended their relationship. "Alcohol and drugs fueled and flamed the problems that arose from the breakup," Sommer stated, "and while there is no excuse for his actions, emotions were running high on both sides."

According to Sommer, Butler was shown the video and realized what the victims must have felt at that moment. He also reported that Butler had been sober since August, stating, "It has changed him in a meaningful way." Sommer asked Judge Stockard to consider granting probation, three months in jail, requiring a substance abuse evaluation, and attending DUI school.

Butler addressed the court before judgment was passed, admitting, "I know I was wrong. I was drinking a half-gallon of vodka a day. That is no excuse, but it did cause me to act and react. I am an alcoholic and I appreciate the chance I've had to get the alcohol off my brain."

Judge Stockard sentenced Butler to two terms of 21-54 months that will run consecutively and stated, "After considering the totality of the facts and circumstances, I do not feel that probation is appropriate in this case."

**James H. Olson, MD**                      **Justin Starling, PA-C**

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## News from 10th Judicial District Court



By Leanna Lehman

Tenth Judicial District Court convened December 8th, with Judge Tom Stockard presiding.

*Carina Loya Beltran* received deferred sentencing on charges of non-payment of child support, a category C felony that carries 1-6 years in prison. According to Jacob Sommer, Churchill County Public Defender, Beltran did not pay the full amount of court-ordered child support from 2011 to 2013 and is currently in arrears of approximately \$59,000. The Court granted her a one-year deferment of sentencing, however, if she does not meet her required payment obligations over the next year, she could be sentenced to prison.

*Christina Lynn Gonzalez* appeared after violating the terms of her probation. According to the allegations, Gonzalez has several violations including a 3rd offense felony DUI. She is scheduled for sentencing for the DUI on January 12th, in Washoe County and will reappear in District Court in February after that case is closed.

*Jacob Paul Graham* entered two guilty pleas on charges of coercion and false imprisonment. According to Graham's defense attorney, on August 25th, 2019, Graham allegedly forced an individual against her will into a car constituting coercion, which carries 1-6 years in prison. On the same date, Graham kept that same individual in the vehicle

constituting false imprisonment, a gross misdemeanor that carries up to 364 days in jail. Graham will appear for sentencing on March 2nd.

*Michelle Leann Paul* entered a guilty plea on a charge of possessing a stolen firearm, a category D felony, which carries 1-4 years in prison. According to her public defender Wright Noel, in November, Paul did knowingly possess a stolen firearm. According to Chief Deputy District Attorney Lane Mills, Paul's underlying case is for fraud, in which she was convicted of uttering forged instruments, a class D felony. "She has made no effort to pay restitution, has used drugs, and absconded from Parole and Probation," stated Mills. Judge Stockard revoked her probation and imposed the underlying sentence of 12-30 months in prison. She will appear for sentencing on the firearms charge on March 2nd.

*Zachery Thomas Rau* (in custody) admitted to violating the terms of his probation. According to Assistant District Attorney (ADA) Chelsea Sanford, Rau missed multiple drug tests, counseling appointments, and tested positive for drugs on more than one occasion during his 13 months in the diversion program. Additionally, he absconded from drug court and was recently found in possession of a controlled substance. Judge Stockard stated that he considered Rau's history of failing to comply with the Court's supervisory requirements and didn't feel that reinstating probation was appropriate in this case. Rau was sentenced to 12-32 months in prison.

*Christopher James Sullivan* (in custody) appeared for sentencing on charges of attempting to possess stolen property, a category D felony. According to ADA Priscilla Baker, Sullivan was in possession of a vehicle that was reported stolen from a Motel 6 in Winnemucca. Additionally, Baker reported that Sullivan has prior auto theft convictions. Public defender Sommer argued for leniency due to various challenging issues facing the defendant, including his homeless status. Sullivan addressed the court stating, "I seriously apologize." Judge Stockard issued a sentence of 12-36 months in prison.

*Dereck Kyle Vradenburg-Wheeler* (in custody) admitted to violating the terms of his probation. ADA Sanford asked that his underlying sentence of 19-48 months be imposed. Public defender Sommers requested the sentence be reduced from 19-48 months to 12-36 months based on the fact that none of the probation violations involved drug use. Judge Stockard imposed a modified sentence of 14-42 months in prison.

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# Local Government

## City Council refinances at 1.19%

By Viviane Ugalde

This past Monday, Councilwoman Frost called the City Council meeting to order as Mayor Pro Tempore while Mayor Tedford is self-quarantining in his home.

The main topic of business addressed by the council on Monday was the introduction, public hearing, and passing of Bill 785.

Bill 785 allows for financing the costs of a vacuum truck, improvements to City Hall, the Public Works building, and a new Fixed Base Operator (FBO) building at the Fallon Municipal Airport. The bill also allows for the refinancing previous projects collectively with the improvement projects. The bond would not exceed \$2 million.

The bill is the next step after decisions made at the council meeting on November 2, in which council approved resolution 20-09 that had authorized the obligations in the amount of \$2 million to finance the improvements. The bond was approved by the Department of Taxation on November 25th, so the council could move forward with the projects and financing. Zion Bancorporation (Nevada State Bank parent company) later won the financing bid.

Legal and Administrative Director Erquiaga said that with this particular bill they, "treat them as an emergency exists so the approval timeline is faster."

He said these financing bills must be done quickly because interest rates do not stagnate for weeks, and the process would usually take at least a month.

Erquiaga also mentioned that the council, "has a growing relationship with Nevada State Bank," and they have significant savings on finance with their bonds.

Frost said the 1.19 percent interest rate was amazing and Erquiaga agreed. He also said they were able to maintain reserves and emergency dollars in the enterprise accounts, which the passage of this bill would with these projects be a positive impact.

Erquiaga said, "We have taken advantage of the current situation in a positive way."

One financial advisor assisting in the bond ordinance from JNA Consulting Group, Marty Johnson, said he "has been doing this for over 30 years and has rarely seen these rates. This is excellent for the City."

The bill passed unanimously.

In closing the meeting, Frost gave her staff report, thanking the council for their handwork and smart use of funds on the bill, she thanked the police department for volunteering for the food drive, and thanked the city staff and crews for the tree lighting that went well last Friday. Lastly, she mentioned that she wished the Mayor a speedy recovery and that "hopefully he'll be here for our next meeting."

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, December 21st, 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.

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## TCID approves Truckee Canal Extraordinary Maintenance (XM) Environmental Impact Statement

By Rachel Dahl

During the last Truckee-Carson Irrigation District Board of Directors meeting, board members deliberated making a recommendation to the Bureau of Reclamation regarding the filing of a Record of Decision by the Bureau on the Truckee Canal XM EIS.

The proposed action identified in the EIS requires the district to line 12.77 miles of the Truckee Canal near Fernley, 5.99 miles would address embankment risk and 6.69 miles addresses hydrologic risk. TCID has been mandated to line the canal to protect the Fernley community after a \$18 million settlement of a lawsuit brought by homeowners when a section of the Truckee Canal collapsed during a flood event in 2008, damaging 580 homes in Fernley.

In addition to lining portions of the canal, TCID will have to replace check structures and the Hazen Gage, replace radial gates in the Bango Check structure, automate those gates, and armor three natural flow locations to protect the Canal from storm events. These maintenance steps will also allow TCID to better provide for the long-term operation of the canal serving the water rights holders in the Newlands Project.

During the EIS process, interested stakeholders had the chance to comment and weigh in on the project.

Ironically the Bureau project that is designed to protect the Fernley community from potential floods, has been opposed by the City of Fernley. Fernley representatives say lining the canal will damage the aquifer that provides domestic water supplies. While the City of Fernley generally supports lining the sides of the canal, they are opposed to lining the bottom of canal which would prevent the recharge of the aquifer that provides the water supply for domestic wells throughout the Fernley community.

Rusty Jardine, general manager of the district said the district has been put in a strange position by the Bureau which is waiting for direction from TCID before signing the ROD. "The task put us in the position that determinative of whether or not the Record of Decision is issued is essentially up to us and that is not the way that ought to be cast. My request is we inform the regional director that we have done everything we could do to assist Fernley in the presentation of their concerns and now we believe the regional director should exercise his discretion and issue the Record of Decision."

Board chairman, Eric Olsen asked, "verbally, we are just going to tell him 'the ball is in your court?'"

Jardine asked the board for a motion to provide written direction on behalf of TCID to the regional director.

Martinez agreed the letter is needed. "What that does is give TCID's recommendation to move forward on this and becomes part of the administrative record, demonstrating you assisted Fernley with the additional meeting with one of the undersecretaries and you want to move forward with it because of the risk and the needs of the water users in the project, which you represent."

Olsen opposed writing the letter saying "If we do nothing what's going to happen, it's just going to sit on the director's desk, he's not going to sign it? It has us in a position we really shouldn't be, everyone knows we want that canal safe,

we need the canal, and now when they have the thorny little issue come up they want us to help them through it, and we aren't going to turn our back on constituents of our irrigation district."

Lester deBraga said "my question, Rusty says Fernley is not looking for anything from us, what's Davy's concern? He wanted me to bring up Fernley's concerns."

The Fernley representative to the TCID Board, Davy Stix, was absent from the meeting.

"We're fixing this so Fernley doesn't get flooded," said Vice-President Bob Oakden. "Like Rusty said, we've done everything we can help Fernley with."

In addition to the opposition by the City of Fernley, the Pyramid Lake Tribe also has also voiced concerns. "Not everyone supports continuing diversions through the Truckee Canal," said Martinez. "We are looking at this from a 50-year standpoint not just a few years."

According to Jardine, "All of this is twofold, we want to make the canal safe, but we also have to maintain the ability to satisfy the demand by our water right holders for the water to which they have a right and this alternative best fulfills those mission goals," said Jardine.

The Board agreed to approve the XM EIS and will send a letter to the bureau to that effect.

### Newlands Project Water Levels

Measurements taken  
December 9th at 6:15 p.m.

**Lahontan Reservoir**  
**59,240 af**

**Truckee Canal at Hazen**  
**177 cfs**

**Truckee Canal at Wadsworth**  
**179 cfs**

**Carson River Below Lahontan**  
**2.22 cfs**

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

cfs - Cubic Feet per Second  
af - Acre Feet

# Local Government

## County works to establish local health district and lab



By Rachel Dahl

As Churchill County looks at the possibility of establishing a local health district, the idea includes opening a satellite lab to the Nevada State Lab in Reno here in Fallon. The issue was a topic of discussion during the County Board of Health meeting last month and was mentioned during the county commission meeting last week.

Currently, the State of Nevada is the health district for Churchill County. Lyon, Storey, Carson, and Douglas Counties have coordinated their health district activities including health inspections for restaurants, public health nursing, and COVID testing, operating the Quad-County health district.

According to Churchill County Commission Chair, Pete Olsen, the rest of the rural counties have always relied on the state for public health issues, but during the pandemic getting answers and accurate data from the state has been frustrating to say the least. “When you don’t have the pandemic, it is cheaper for counties to rely on the state for these services,” said Olsen. “We have learned that now we have to rely on people who are not answerable to us.”

Olsen said the commissioners think it is important to have a staff who answers to the commissioners and the health board to safely protect the community and have access to the information and resources that it takes to do that, especially in a public health crisis. “I’m willing to give a lot of grace because none of us have ever done this before, but we need answers,” he said.

Shannon Ernst, director of Social Services for the county said during the Board of Health meeting that the state is exploring the idea of satellite labs throughout the state to serve rural areas because the state lab in Reno is reaching capacity. “They had started this conversation looking at Elko, and County Manager Barbee and I started discussing as we look at becoming a health district here, really a lab in Churchill County would be really ideal for the access points coming in from I-80 and Highway 95.”

She said it looks like “it is going to be a go, we have

submitted a budget for the equipment to the state and they would fund all of that equipment, our remodel, and we would be starting that immediately.”

The lab would be located at the annex building at 485 W. B Street where the Western Nevada College nursing program has been housed. Commissioners have been working with WNC to find a new space for the nursing program and WNC has since moved it back to the Fallon Campus.

“The WNC nursing program is important to this community,” said Olsen. “The pandemic has highlighted the need for local medical staff and facilities, a small community like ours can retain staff better if they are local and it benefits local students with a good job and that program ensures care for our community.”

In addition to the local lab issue, Ernst said she and her staff have been concerned about the turn-around time for the COVID testing through the State lab. “We are still seeing a six to seven day for turn around.”

She submitted a request to be included in a new contract with Quest Labs under the state, that was approved, and she is waiting for Quest to set up an account and provide supplies to the county. “The state contract will actually allow us to have first responders’ turnaround times within 24 hours and we would have community turn around within three days.”

The contract provides for a direct online system that allows more timely testing results, and the county will process all their own testing here in the community.

Mayor Ken Tedford attended the meeting on behalf of the City of Fallon and said the city is in agreement with the idea of a local health district and said the concept will “give a lot better health care for us locally, not regionally. We believe in community health care not regional.” Additionally, the city is in full support in trying to find a place available for the nursing program and a local lab to quicken results of the testing.

“Once again that puts us in local control not the state level which has caused a great deal of frustration for us in this community,” said Tedford.

Commissioner Pete Olsen expressed his appreciation to Ernst and County Manager Jim Barbee for their efforts to gather the information on putting together a community lab. “This is unfortunately, paramount. We are finding that the testing is so lacking we need to take this over ourselves and we appreciate the support we’re going to get from the state,” said Olsen.

Ernst also reported that the county has hired an epidemiologist and a second Public Health nurse who have both come on board, as well as an additional admin position to support the increase in work connected to testing and the requirements of COVID.

“One of the things we will see down the line,” said Dr. Tedd McDonald, chairman of the health board and the County Health Officer, “it sets up an infrastructure, especially with having a health district where we have a lot of the resources and tools we need to expand health care for this community, this is a good place to start, so out of something bad is going to come something really remarkable.”

## Republicans look to rein in Governor's emergency power

Staff Report

The Assembly Republican Caucus has announced three Bill Draft Requests (BDR) that have been submitted for the upcoming legislative session in an effort to limit the emergency powers Governor Sisolak has exercised during the COVID pandemic.

BDR 36-41 would limit the duration of a state of emergency or declaration of disaster declared by the Governor and was submitted by Assemblyman Jim Wheeler.

BDR 36-51 would revise provisions relating to emergency management, including requiring a two-thirds vote of the Legislature to extend the Governor's declaration of emergency beyond 30 days and prohibit agencies and regulatory boards from adopting restrictions which exceed the restrictions imposed by the Governor. The legislative language was submitted by Senator Keith Pickard.

BDR 178 would limit the Governor's use of executive power under an emergency declaration and was submitted by Senator Ira Hansen.

In the announcement, Assembly Republicans announce that they will make it a priority to restore checks and balances to Nevada's government, saying since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, states across the country were forced to take emergency action to try and slow the spread of the virus. Nevada was no different, as Governor Sisolak signed an emergency directive to force the closure of all non-essential businesses.

"After eight months of contradicting directives, massive budgets cuts, thousands of Nevada business closures and even more of our hard-working citizens on unemployment, far too many Nevadans head into the holiday season with a sense of hopelessness," read the media release.

"The Assembly Republican Caucus supports the efforts of our Republican colleagues to rein in the governor's emergency powers and restore the appropriate checks and balances designed to keep us free," said Assembly Republican Leader Robin Titus (AD38). Titus represents Churchill County in the Assembly. "The governor's almost unlimited power to micro-manage our state is far too restrictive and inconsistent, including his latest directives that skirt the



Jeremy Drew with Assemblywoman Robin Titus (R-38) and Steve Ranson. File photo

Fourth Amendment's protection against unreasonable search and seizure in your own home."

In Nevada, the governor is vested with broad powers under a state of emergency that make it possible to undermine the separation of powers between the legislative and executive branches if allowed unchecked.

"The unlimited power being wielded by Governor Sisolak today exceeds his responsibility to keep citizens healthy and safe, and spills over into the realm of authority normally and appropriately reserved for legislators," continued the release.

"Governor Sisolak's latest directives are a clear reminder of the unconstrained power he continues to exercise over Nevada's families," said Assemblyman Andy Matthews (AD37). "Many, if not all, of the new directives are arbitrary, mutually contradictory, and unenforceable, and will do nothing to slow the spread of the virus – but will instead cause further irreparable damage to our already struggling economy."

*This could be your sweet bottom banner ad*

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

## Free Christmas Eve dinners



By Susan Weikel

Chuck Doucette, owner of Top Gun Restaurant, is busy organizing a Christmas Eve dinner for those in the Fallon area who may need a bit of extra cheer and support this holiday season.

Chuck moved to Fallon from Reno, originally from the New England area, seven years ago. He opened Top Gun Restaurant, and that first year, he offered a Thanksgiving dinner for the community. But, as time went on, Chuck realized that there were other organizations that did Thanksgiving dinners, but no one was doing a dinner on Christmas Eve.

Since its inception, this event has been supported by various merchants from the area, some of Chuck's customers, and different community organizations. Donations of food items, dinner utensils, or money are greatly appreciated and can be dropped off at the restaurant up until the day before the event. It's an everyone pitches-in event. "Fallon is a beautiful community...We have troubles...we obey the rules...but we still do what we've got to do." As owner of his own restaurant, Chuck will be filling in any of the items still needed to complete dinners after all donations have been used.

This year Chuck has 28 volunteers, and he gave COVID as part of the reason for the increase in volunteers. "There is an opportunity right now for people to be kind to people. I want the opportunity to be there for other people. To enjoy giving to others...Even if you only have a little part, it makes people feel good and that's what we need to do right now. We need that more than anything."

Chuck proudly said, "I have a restaurant. We do deliveries. I can tell you I'm pretty good at this. We have enough volunteers that I can guarantee that from the oven, we can get them right to their homes in 20 minutes." Part of what makes this possible is the support from the Wolf Center, Epworth Church, and Ron and Barbara Evans who have donated the kitchen for the cooking of the meals. The size of the kitchen at their facility allows for much more efficient baking and preparing of the dinners. Chuck thanked them for always being supportive of events that support the community.

So far there are 275 meals on the list for dinners and names for meals will be taken until December 23rd, the last day before the dinner is delivered. Chuck expects this list to double. The last time Chuck served dinners was 2018, when they served 500 + meals.

To add names to the list, send an email to [fallonchristmasdinner@gmail.com](mailto:fallonchristmasdinner@gmail.com) and let them know how many meals will be needed Christmas Eve evening, the address to deliver meals to, and a phone number to contact once routes have been set. It is also nice to know ages as often there are kids in the homes. One year, a local organization donated toys for every one of the kids. Though he is not sure if that will happen this year, as donations vary yearly, but just in case, Chuck asks for ages of children in the home.

As the holiday season rolls in, Chuck and his crew will be rolling out on Christmas Eve with hot meals for welcoming tummies.

## More concerns over COVID – prisoners in peril

By Leanna Lehman

COVID concerns are escalating as issues from the pandemic continue to rise. One such concern is the impact the virus is having on individuals in closed facilities such as retirement and nursing homes, mental health hospitals, substance abuse facilities, and prisons. It has become increasingly challenging to protect residents and incarcerated persons from staff members that inadvertently bring the virus into such facilities.

While the plight of COVID on inmates may not be a headline on the nightly news, management of the contagion in Nevada prisons is starting to cause alarm. Prison officials have recently seen COVID rage through their institutions like wildfire, leaving everyone on both sides of the bars scrambling to recover.

Warm Springs Correctional Center (WSCC) in Carson City is one example of how quickly the virus can spread in a closed facility. The minimum/medium security unit remains in partial lockdown after the Nevada Department of Corrections (NDOC) issued a press release in mid-November that 424 out of 525 men and 25 staff members tested positive for COVID-19. Days later, the count climbed to 470. With several inmates assigned to the prison originating from Fallon, local friends and family members have expressed concern for the health and well-being of their loved ones during this time of crisis.

On November 23rd, Humboldt Conservation Camp in Winnemucca reported more than 80% of inmates had also contracted the virus. NDOC has confirmed that the number of cases is still on the rise.

Troubling reports from WSCC surfaced about 7-10 days before the mass outbreak. Some WSCC inmates began expressing concerns about cleanliness. In particular, they reported that their unit was not being cleaned as normal - roughly twice in approximately ten days at the time the report was made. The common areas, including tables, microwaves, phones, and bathrooms, were in dire need of disinfecting. According to the inmates, corrections officers routinely distribute cleaning supplies to inmate porters for disinfecting twice daily. Inmates reported that they are not given cleaning supplies on an individual basis, although the press release states that NDOC offenders at all facilities are provided cleaning products upon request. Warm Springs inmates disagreed and said that they are only able to purchase Comet from the commissary; however, it is not always accessible or affordable to everyone.

In answer to the reportedly unsanitary conditions at Warm Springs, W. C. Quenga, Deputy Director of NDOC and acting Public Information Officer, said in an email, "We did not receive any complaints as we do have Health and Safety Inspections. If there were any, we are not aware." Quenga continued, "All common areas frequented by offenders are sanitized at a minimum of every two hours and as needed." The inmates that initially expressed concern about the conditions during a viral pandemic responded to Quenga's statement with "That is absolutely a lie - that has not been happening. At least not in our unit."

It was also reported that hand sanitizer is not freely accessible to inmates after someone attempted to ingest it. Quenga confirmed this had been the case. "Regarding hand sanitizer, it is available to all inmates in their units. When requested, officers have been instructed to give the offend-

ers a squirt of sanitizer in their hands." Inmates disagree, stating that this was also untrue or perhaps they have not been told that they could make the request.

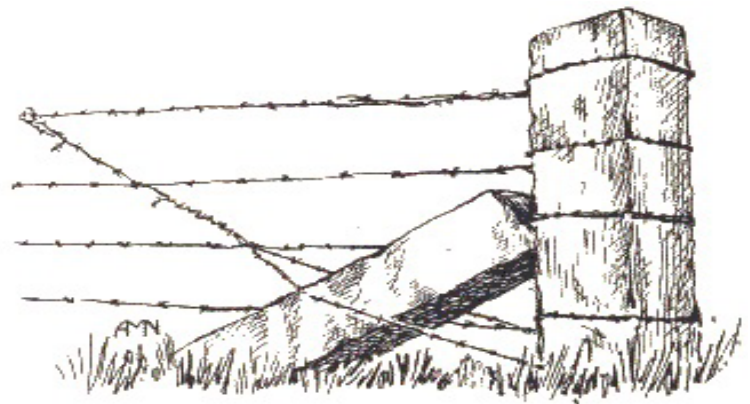
During the first weeks of the lockdown/quarantine, when nearly 90% of inmates were experiencing COVID symptoms, cell changes were still being made. Inmates believe it was an attempt to place them in groups to reduce the potential of the infection spreading. However, it was too late; the virus was already on the move.

During the lockdown, individual meals were delivered to WSCC from Northern Nevada Correctional Center (NNCC), also in Carson City. Inmates have complained to family members that they received reduced meal portions to the point that they have experienced significant weight loss. Additionally, two inmates that were sick with the virus said that it took five days to get Tylenol for their symptoms.

NDOC issued a press release on December 3rd that the department has entered into a contract with Quest Diagnostics for testing in prisons and other state facilities. Meanwhile WSCC remains on quarantine lockdown. According to NDOC, the majority of inmates who tested positive reported no symptoms, others had mild symptoms, and three individuals had to be transported to the hospital. Fortunately, all three individuals have since been discharged. WSCC stated that they are working to balance safety and reduce the spread of the virus, while maintaining as many of the inmates' privileges as possible. WSCC inmates disagree with the statement, contending that is not the case in all units.

Overall, questions are arising about the potential mishandling of the virus. The Facebook group, *Return Strong: Families United for Justice for the Incarcerated*, are gaining momentum with NDOC and state officials. They are asking for something to be done about the several issues, including a lack of medical care/treatment for inmates with COVID or chronic conditions. They are also addressing issues like the unavailability of PPE (masks) and hand sanitizer, staff not wearing PPE, alleged staff misconduct, and more. They are paying particular attention to any reported human rights violations as the ACLU of Nevada has weighed in on the potential mismanagement of COVID in Nevada's prisons. "We warned that we would see an outbreak of COVID-19 in our institutions without swift action, and our recommendations were ignored," stated a spokesman for the the organization in July. "We're again calling for the state to take meaningful steps to prevent further harm and injustice, or else we will."

Jodi Hocking, Return Strong founder and prison reform advocate, says, "We have been working tirelessly on multiple approaches to the pandemic in our prisons and jails. Now we have to hold them accountable because they didn't do that themselves."



## Sick of COVID? You are not alone

By Leanna Lehman

This is one unholy mess. It is staggering to consider that something as small as 100 nanometers in size has turned the world on end and is managing to wreak havoc on virtually every American citizen nearly a year after its discovery.

Everywhere you turn, COVID seems to be looming. Positive COVID test results are on the rise along with hospitalizations and deaths. Mask requirements have everyone on edge with many complaining that masks exacerbate breathing problems, cause panic attacks, and are the source of bacterial skin infections. Social distancing requirements have far exceeded six-feet, with Nevadans mandated to stay at home only a few short months after the isolation of quarantine. And now, holiday gatherings are on the chopping block.

People are at the end of their rope.

But we haven't seen all that COVID (the catchall phrase for all things relating to the pandemic) plans to deliver. The sleeping giant that has been lurking just below the surface has begun to stir. What now, you ask? It is the impact COVID is having on the mental health of most Americans. While the lasting effects will probably take years to ascertain, one thing is evident now – isolation and disconnect are dangerous.

State officials have recently released information regarding COVID and how it is affecting the mental health of Nevada residents. According to psychologist Dr. Stephanie Woodard, senior advisor on behavioral health with the Nevada Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), experts believe we are experiencing a mental health emergency during a collective and unprecedented disaster. Woodard explained, "People are becoming increasingly fatigued and are slipping into a disillusionment phase, where optimism turns to discouragement and people's coping strategies may break down."

According to Woodard, our brains are wired to connect with one another. "When isolated, the mind can trick us into thinking we are the only ones feeling secluded and alone when, really, we're not," explained Woodard. "This causes a snowball effect where we might hesitate to reach out to others because we assume, they're doing just fine. It becomes a self-fulfilling prophecy, the less we reach out, the more isolated we become."

Unfortunately for Nevadans, as reported in the State of Mental Health in America, Nevada was ranked 49th against other states regarding the availability and access to mental health services. In 2018, Governor-elect Steve Sisolak declared Nevada as having a mental health emergency,

promising to bring attention to the State's mental health funding. However, the State made over \$1.5 million in cuts to mental health programs last summer due to a significant budget shortfall.

According to a survey released by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), Americans are experiencing increasing symptoms of anxiety, depression, and are currently at a higher risk of suicide. Further, alcohol and substance abuse are also on the rise with health officials across the country reporting an increase in overdose-related deaths.

Closer to home, the Churchill County Sheriff's office reported an increase in violent crimes based on informal data collected over the past several months. Locally, cases of battery, domestic battery, assault with a deadly weapon, homicide, suicide, and family fights have all increased since the onset of the pandemic.

In essence, the state is experiencing an unprecedented strain on mental and behavioral health agencies due to COVID, a strain with which the State is ill-equipped to deal. According to Woodard, our most vulnerable citizens are at even greater risk and state agencies must be able to

provide rapid access to the care they need.

The response to this mental health crisis will be ongoing in Nevada. However, Woodard believes the pandemic experience has made people more keenly aware of our need for connection. She said the "new normal" includes trying to balance our basic need for connection and purpose while trying to avoid the virus. "Before COVID, we may not have fully appreciated how meaningful even casual day-to-day social interactions are," Woodard said, "and how those interactions play a vital role in our lives."

There is no quick fix to the mounting stress, but experts recommend several healthy ways to cope:

Finding ways to stay connected with family and friends

Avoid alcohol and drugs

Know what to do if you think you have COVID

Move around - walk, stretch, exercise

Meditate - YouTube hosts a variety of short guided meditations

Connect with your church or faith-based group

Take breaks from watching, reading, or listening to

social media

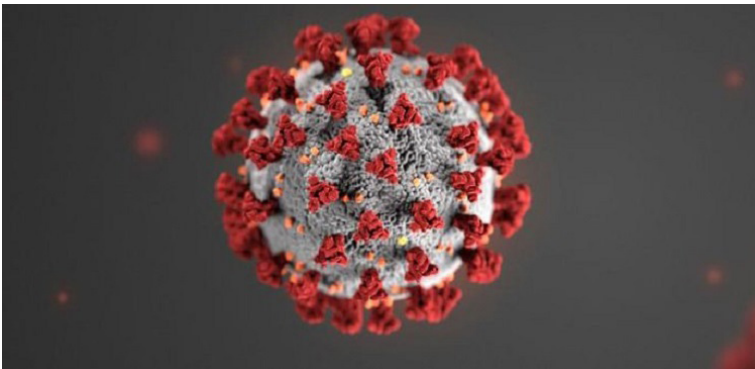
Make time to unwind - try to do some other activities you enjoy

Through this challenging time, a great weapon against the effects of COVID on our emotional health is finding ways to get and stay connected. Where we may not always be able to connect in person, several applications offer video calling. Or, there is always good-old-fashioned phone calls. We should also remember that if we're doing okay – it might be a good time to help out someone who is not.





## Board of Health – COVID vaccination requires two doses



By Rachel Dahl

Churchill County staff released the current COVID testing data showing a total of 327 active positive cases as of December 9th. There are 15 people currently hospitalized, 712 people have recovered, and 23 have died. The total number of positive cases since March in Churchill County is 1,061, and there have been 14,781 tests administered throughout the community between Banner Churchill Hospital, the Fallon Tribe, NAS Fallon, Renown Clinic, and Highland and Homestead assisted living facilities.

The Churchill County School District continues reporting positive student and teacher cases in an email to families on a nearly daily basis, however the report is not cumulative. The district staff has closed some classes to on-line only access due to exposures, and is requiring staff and families to complete a Rapid Health Screener daily, before attending work or classes.

There has been an elevated number of cases reported at Highland Village as found on the State of Nevada dashboard under facilities, which includes assisted living, behavioral inpatient, childcare, and skilled nursing facilities with reported positive cases. Highland Manor is reporting a total of 82 positive cases; 26 residents and 37 staff have recovered, and 14 residents have died. Highland Inn reports 14 positive cases; with 9 resident recoveries and 2 staff members recovered, with no deaths.

The Homestead Assisted Living facility has not had any positive cases until, December 7th. They are waiting for specific numbers from their test results, but staff said Wednesday morning by phone that their small unit of 10 patients has been infected.

Additionally, Churchill County staff continues preparation for the arrival of the first batch of COVID vaccinations, anticipated for some time next week. During the County Board of Health meeting last month, it was reported that a flu shot would be required before a person could receive the COVID vaccination. However, further clarification from the state regarding the vaccination program indicates that is not the case.

It has been confirmed with the State of Nevada that no flu shot is required prior to receiving the COVID-19 vaccination. County Manager Jim Barbee said Wednesday that “We are now being told a prerequisite flu shot for the vaccine will NOT be the case, but individuals will have to commit/agree to the booster dose after the initial vaccine shot.” The COVID-19 vaccine is a two-dose inoculation, with the second dose being administered between 21 to 28 days after the initial dose.

Churchill County	As of Nov 11 <sup>th</sup>	As of Dec 9 <sup>th</sup>
Active Positive Cases	227	327
Tests administered since March	11,030	14,781
Recovered individuals	218	712
Currently hospitalized	8	15
Total deaths – average age of patient 81 yrs	4	23
Total positives cases since March	449	1,061
Asymptomatic positives since March	40	82



# 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](https://TravelNevada.com/Covid-19).



[DiscoverYourNevada.com/Gifts](https://DiscoverYourNevada.com/Gifts)

 PLANET X POTTERY, GERLACH

## Logos students share in the annual Samaritan's Purse project



By Susan Weikel

Logos Christian Academy in Fallon has participated in the Operation Christmas Child project through Samaritan's Purse for many years. The school was able to join, even with COVID issues, in the project again this year.

Students and parents at Logos were given the opportunity to pick up from the school, a shoebox that they would work on filling during the month of November. Families were able to choose the age and gender of the child they wanted to help support in having a warmer holiday season. Boxes were filled with goodies like toys, hygiene items, and school supplies. Families also covered the cost of the shipping and project costs (\$9).

Logos families worked with genuine hearts to fill 53 boxes this year, averaging about one box per family. Boxes then shipped out and will be distributed to children around the world through Samaritan's Purse for Christmas, in conjunction with many local churches.

This is yet another caring project taken on by community members showing the meaning of Christmas and sharing with others who are less fortunate.

Photos provided by Logos Christian Academy.

# 6TH

Annual

# Childrens'

# PJ'S

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**It's Easy to participate!**

Purchase **BRAND NEW** pajamas, undies and/or socks for a boy or girl from newborn to age 17, consider including a warm lap blanket or a cuddly stuffed animal, and **drop them off** before **December 18, 2020** at:

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Fallon, Nevada

**NOTHING FEELS BETTER THAN SLIPPING ON NEW PJ's, NEW UNDIES AND NEW SOCKS!**

Clothing will be donated Friday, December 18, 2020 to:  
**FALLON'S CASA KID'S KLOSET**

C.A.S.A. (Court Appointed Special Advocates) make a real difference for children & teens in foster care in Churchill County. CASA of Churchill County is a non-profit organization that provides training to volunteers so that they may serve as advocates for our community's abused, abandoned and neglected children. CASA's goal is to see that each child's best interests are served by providing them a voice in court

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# Education

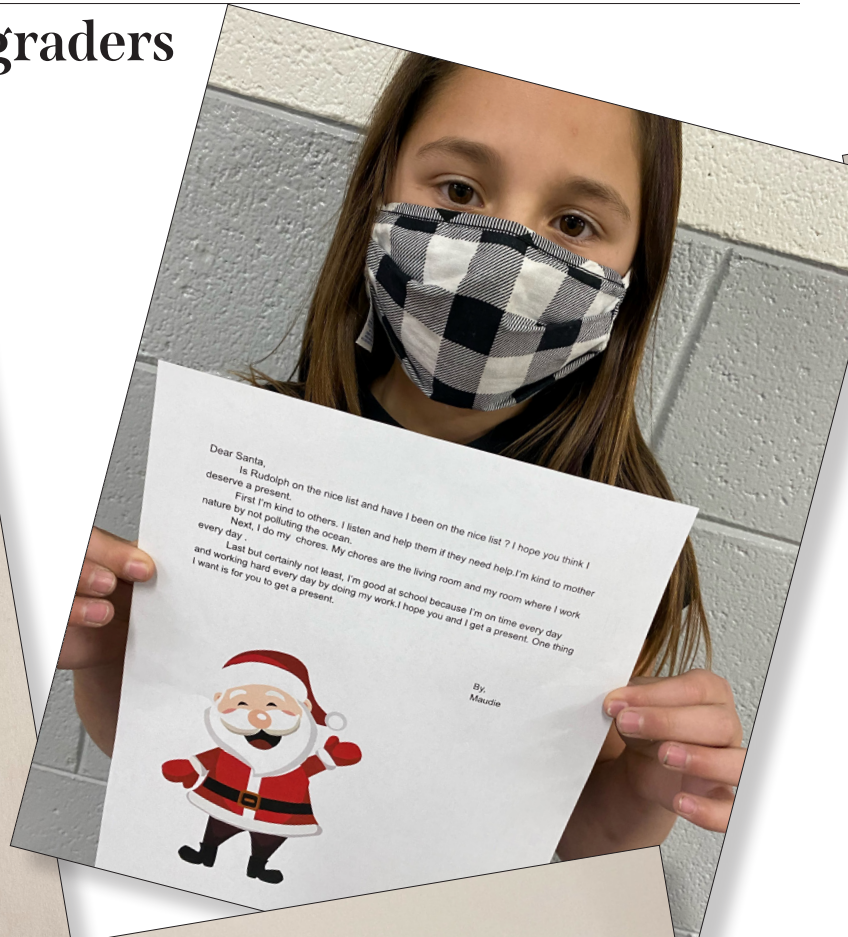
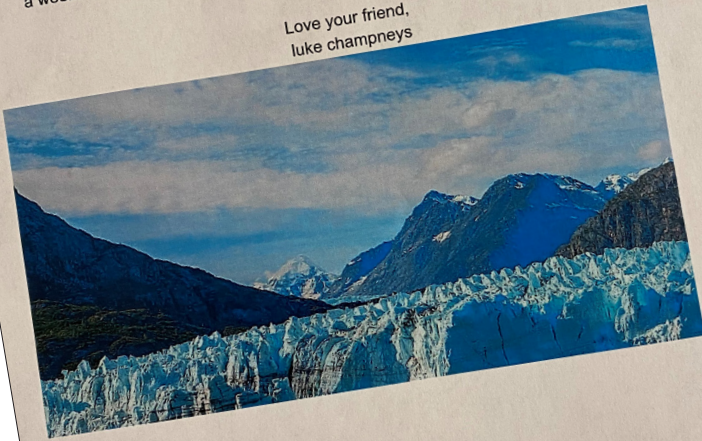
## Student work – E.C. Best third graders

December 3, 2020

Dear santa ,

I think I deserve a present. First, I do all of my chores like ,I help my dad chop wood and I do it every week. I also stack the wood for the winter.  
Second, I clean my room. Once in a while, I help my sister clean her side and she helps me clean my side. I clean my room twice a week and finally I help my dad do laundry. I change the wet clothes to the dryer. I also do my dads and sister's laundry. We do laundry every 4 times a week. As you can see I have been a very good boy. I can not live without a VR set.

Love your friend,  
luke champneys



Dear Santa,  
Is Rudolph on the nice list and have I been on the nice list ? I hope you think I deserve a present.  
First I'm kind to others. I listen and help them if they need help. I'm kind to mother nature by not polluting the ocean.  
Next, I do my chores. My chores are the living room and my room where I work every day.  
Last but certainly not least, I'm good at school because I'm on time every day and working hard every day by doing my work. I hope you and I get a present. One thing I want is for you to get a present.

By,  
Maudie



Dear Santa,

This year I have done some things to be at the tippy top of the nice list so I think I deserve a present.  
First, I always try again. When I was doing a chicken 4H paket, even though I didn't know some, I kept trying. Sometimes I go roller skating and I fall but I get back up and try again.  
Second, I'm respectful. I help my cousin Ronin catch a chicken. I do the dishes even when I am not asked too.  
Last, I'm responsible. Once I babysat about 10 kids at one big party. I also do all my homework every night. Now as you can see I have been a good girl and I deserve at least one present. What I want so bad and I can't live without is a snow globe that can tell the future.

Love your BFF ,  
Rylee Rae Hammond



Teachers at E.C. Best, Jenny Mitchell, Kari Lister, Jenna McElhannon, and Amy Bell asked their third graders to write letters to Santa... making the case for WHY they deserve a present this year.


December 1, 2020  
(Date - Write it out in words)

Dear Santa,  
(Address - Dear Santa Claus)

Thank you for visiting me last year. This year, I definitely deserve a Christmas present. I deserve one because I always behave well and I help others. First, I always behave well. I do my chores. I finish my homework. I take care of my dog. Second, I help others. I am kind and respectful. I help them when there sad. I help them when there hurt.

As you can see, Santa I deserve a gift because I always behave well, and I help others. One thing I really want this year is a archery set because it will be so much fun. Thank you for your time!

Love,  
Laila



December 2, 2020  
(Date - Write it out in words)

Dear Santa,  
(Address - Dear Santa Claus)

These are the reasons why I believe I deserve a present.


First, I do my homework because I turn it in on time. I always do my homework. I read every night.

Next, I help people because I like cheering people up. I love helping people do their chores. I love helping people bake cookies.

Finally, I love doing whats right because I love being kind. I like being responsible. I love being respectful.

These are the reasons why I think I deserve a present.

love  
Talyn Sawyer



December 1, 2020  
(Date - Write it out in words)

Dear Santa,  
(Address - Dear Santa Claus)

Thank you for visting me last year! This year, I definitely deserve a Christmas present. I deserve one because I do all my chores and I do all my homework.

Frist, I do all my chores. I clean my room. I take out the trash. Then I water the plants.


Second, I do all my homework. I do my math. I do my reading. Then I get my planner signed.

AS you can see, Santa, I deserve a gift because I do all my chores and I do all of my homework.

One thing I really want this year is a skate board because I can do a lot of stuff with it. thank you for your time!

Love,  
(Closing - Sincerely, Your friend, or Love.)

E.J.  
(Your name)



Photos provided by E.C. Best Elementary

## 1001 Album Club

This week, I am changing it up and recommending a podcast. While that sounds like the most young-twenties, kale-eating, hippest thing I could write, this podcast is good for those who already love podcasts, and for music listeners. 1001 Album Club is a podcast that breaks down every album listed in the Robert Dimery book, 1001 Albums You Must Hear Before You Die. Each episode is around 17 to 40 minutes, so it is perfect for your commute or a brisk walk to get out of the house. My favorite part about this podcast, is it releases your inner music nerd. To make the podcast shareable among your friends and family, listen to the albums the group reviews before each episode. Then, form your opinions, and listen along to see if you totally agree with them; or think they're totally stupid.



## Just Country Friends









During the holidays, it is the perfect time to support local businesses and local artists. Just Country Friends, on Williams Avenue, is a fantastic shop supporting all things local and crafty. Just Country Friends supports local farmers, woodworkers, painters, and many other forms of artists. Specifically, during the Christmas season, you can pick up a Nevada themed tree orna-


ment made by a Fallon artist, or a delicious candle by Nevada owned business Old World Candle. If you like giving foodstuffs as small gifts, Just Country Friends also carries tea made by the Fallon business Western States Hemp, and some tasty wines from Churchill Vineyards. There are many other fun antiques and interesting finds in the shop, that with a little creativity, you could even turn into your own art projects!

### Fallon Theatre

## DECEMBER MOVIES

ALL MOVIES START AT 6:30 AND ARE FREE

 <b>MIRACLE ON 34th STREET</b> 12/3	 <b>IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE</b> 12/5
 <b>SCROOGED</b> 12/10	 <b>CHRISTMAS VACATION</b> 12/12
 <b>HOW THE GRINCH STOLE CHRISTMAS &amp; THE GRINCH</b> 12/17 <small>The original will play first (26 min) then the 2018 movie will start after (90 min)</small>	 <b>THE POLAR EXPRESS</b> 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  
COME UNLEASH YOUR INNER HISTORY BUDDY AND ENJOY "CHAMPAGNE SPARKLING" CELEBRATE AND 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. conceal
2. gallop
3. JonStewart
4. Hook
5. maestro
6. Volvo
7. obtuse
8. pseudoword
9. salsa
10. major
11. petulant
12. belt
13. recite
14. cap
15. print

## Aniceta's

Aniceta's is a long-time food joint in Fallon. I should know... I was on a 14-U softball team they sponsored several years ago and had forgotten! While they serve the regular food and service of any other diner, their weekly specials make them an interesting place to stop if you aren't sure what you want to eat. The options span from steak sandwiches, a variety of soups, to Thursday's Lumpia platter. Aniceta's reminds me of many underappreciated 'greasy spoons' that hide behind casinos. Many tend to avoid the space because of the smoke and dimly lit booths. But once you sit down and try the food, it is worth every penny. No one is saying that Aniceta's has the plate presentation of a Michelin star restaurant, but the food tastes like home.

*Continued from page 5... Dahl's Pharmacy*

country, they know exactly what they are doing, when all the little guys are gone, they will be the only one and then they can pay themselves whatever they want."

CVS is listed as one of the top three PBMs in the country, which together make up 78% of the market and cover 180 million enrollees. In 2017, the largest PBMs had higher revenue than the largest pharmaceutical manufacturers, according to a paper by Kevin Richman, "The Evolving Pharmaceutical Benefits Market," (2018).

Dahl said he along with other independent pharmacists went before the Supreme Court in October of last year, to support a lawsuit brought by the state of Arkansas against the PBMs saying the DIR fees are illegal. He said, "the PBMs are saying states have no right to say what they do, because during the Bush administration a law was passed making anything medical a federal issue, not a state issue."

The matter is before the Supreme Court with a decision expected to address the question "do the states even have a right to say how health care is run in their state," said Dahl.

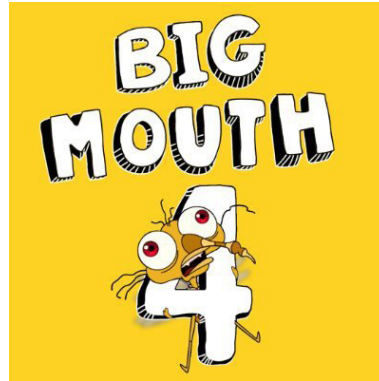
In spite of efforts by the independent pharmacists, and his determination to provide pharmacy services to the community, Dahl says it's too late for them to hang on. "This pharmacy has been an independent pharmacy here in Fallon, this is its 100th year," he said. "It's been in Katie's (his wife Katie Tucker) family for 50 of those 100 years, our hearts are broken for the community, for the loss of small business, for the loss of the backbone of America; it is not sustainable for small business to survive in this country anymore."

Nathan will continue practicing compounding in a closed-door pharmacy, providing services online at Dahlspharmacy.com where he does specialty packaging, services to institutions, and assisted living facilities. "This is an area of pharmacy that the chains nor the insurance companies don't want any part of," he said, "it allows us to operate independently and provide the highest level of service we hold ourselves to."

As the doors of a Fallon institution close this week, Nathan said, "We just want to make sure that everyone knows we have dearly loved serving the community."

*Disclosure: Nathan Dahl is one of 38 cousins in the family of The Fallon Post publisher, Rachel Dahl*

## Big Mouth



Season 4 of the adult animation series Big Mouth, dropped on Netflix last Friday. While this show is not for the faint of heart in terms of dark, teen angst, it is extremely heartening as we remember what it was like going through those teenage years. A large group of comedians -- including John Mulaney, Maya Rudolph, and many others -- voice a

herd of eighth graders travelling through the worst parts of puberty. While the beginning of the series introduced us to hormone monsters, the new season gives us a look at the anxiety mosquito, and grati-toad. If you have not seen the series yet, all I can tell you is to buckle down and prepare for some dark, depressing, but hilariously realistic jokes about puberty. If you have seen the series before and were curious about the new season... it is stronger than the previous seasons and deals with more than just adolescence this time around.

*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.*

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# Entertainment

## Recipe – Alicia’s Deadline Delivery



By Rachel Dahl

We are deep in the Wednesday night deadline for the rough draft of the paper – and have just been rescued by daughter-in-law, Alicia who sent the Man Child, Trevor with a complete, hot soup dinner. And a side of carbs. A lovely soft, French bread with real-live butter. We also may have had a side of left-over lunch from The Grid. Which means, THE best Artichoke Jalapeño dip in all the land. Veggies instead of the bread. Dang it, but still. You will love this soup like we did. I brought us back to life.

### Alicia’s Deadline Dinner

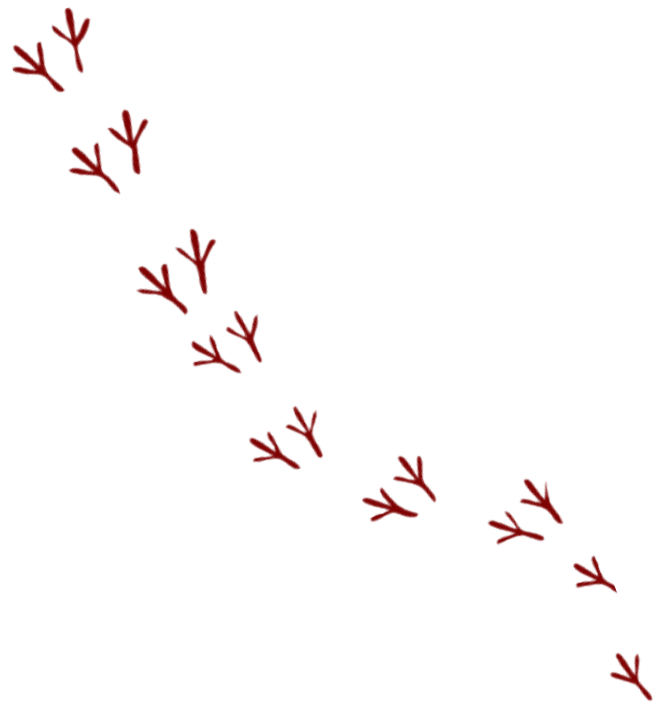
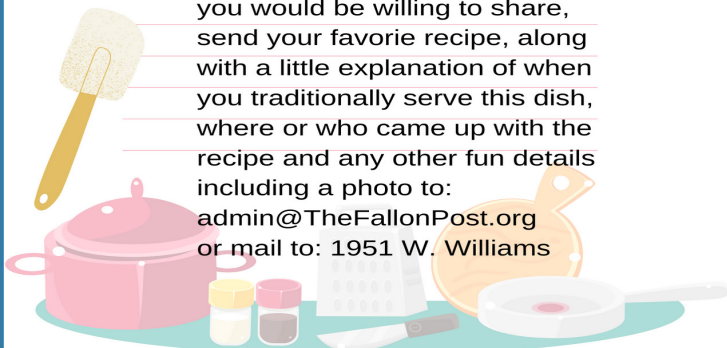
- 2 cups chicken broth
- 1 can with juice Rotel
- 1 lb. Italian sausage
- 1 can black beans rinsed
- 1 can channeling beans
- 3 cups fresh spinach
- 1 tsp red pepper flakes
- 6 garlic cloves diced
- 2 tsp oregano
- 1/2 onion
- 4 carrots diced
- 4 celery stalks diced
- 3 zucchini diced
- salt pepper to taste

Brown sausage, add onion, carrots, garlic, celery. Cook 5 minutes on medium heat, add everything but spinach and cook on medium heat for 45 min or until tender. Add spinach, cook 15 more minutes and serve.

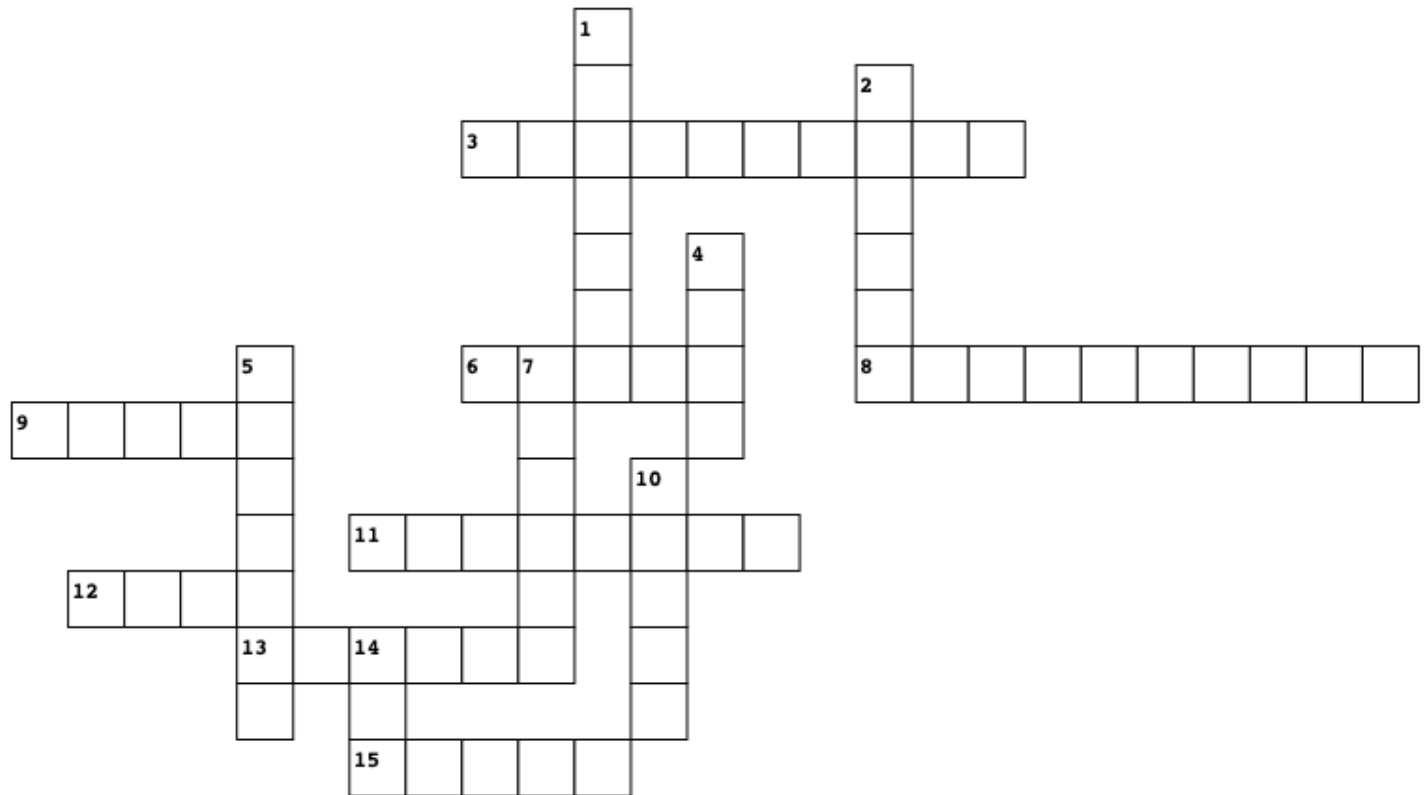
### Recipe



We would love to have a recipe section in the paper and feature recipes from the community. If you would be willing to share, send your favorite recipe, along with a little explanation of when you traditionally serve this dish, where or who came up with the recipe and any other fun details including a photo to: [admin@TheFallonPost.org](mailto:admin@TheFallonPost.org) or mail to: 1951 W. Williams







### Across

- 3. former host of "The Daily Show"
- 6. Swedish car brand
- 8. a fake word; letters that resemble real world but does not exist
- 9. Spicy sauce to accompany Mexican food
- 11. rude; ill-humored
- 12. accessory for you waist; length of asteroids in space
- 13. repeat aloud from memory
- 15. a type of medium; opposite of web-version

### Down

- 1. to hide or cover; keep secret
- 2. a horse's run
- 4. 1991 Peter-Pan movie starring Robin Williams
- 5. an outstanding musician
- 7. blunt or stupid; a type of angle
- 10. a military rank; opposite of Minor Scale
- 14. another word for lid, or hat

## THE FALLON POST



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# Legal Notices

## NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the following Ordinance was passed and adopted by the Churchill County Board of Commissioners on December 3, 2020.

### **BILL NO. 2020-B, ORDINANCE NO. 121**

TITLE: A PROPOSED ORDINANCE ADDING CHAPTER 4.11, ENTITLED "CHURCHILL COUNTY DIESEL FUEL TAX," TO TITLE 4 OF THE CHURCHILL COUNTY CODE BY IMPOSING A FIVE CENT (\$0.05) TAX ON DIESEL FUEL SOLD WITHIN CHURCHILL COUNTY; EXEMPTING CERTAIN DIESEL FUEL FROM TAXATION; PROVIDING FOR THE ADMINISTRATION, DEPOSIT AND DISBURSEMENT OF TAX REVENUE; REQUIRING ANNUAL REPORTING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION; ADOPTING SUBSEQUENT AMENDMENTS TO CERTAIN NEVADA REVISED STATUTES; LIMITING REPEAL; ADDING A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; AND OTHER MATTERS PROPERLY RELATING THERETO.

**Summary: An ordinance adding Chapter 4.11 to Title 4 of the Churchill County Code to impose a five cent (\$0.05) per gallon tax on special fuel that consists of diesel fuel sold within Churchill County, exempting certain diesel fuel from taxation.**

At the final reading of the above listed ordinance the vote was as follows:

AYES: Harry Scharmann, Commissioner  
Carl Erquiaga, Commissioner  
H. Peter Olsen, Jr. Chair

NAYS: None  
ABSENT: N/A

Copies of the proposed ordinance are available at the County Clerk's Office, 155 No. Taylor St., Suite 110, Fallon, Nevada, for inspection by all interested persons.

Dated this 8<sup>th</sup> day of December 2020, proposed effective on February 1, 2021.

PAMELA D. MOORE,  
DEPUTY CLERK TO THE BOARD

Published in *The Fallon Post* December 11 and 18, 2020 Ad# 0005005

## 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](mailto:heather@nvjss.com)



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For more information, email Jennifer Williamson at [jwilliamson@premiermagnesia.com](mailto:jwilliamson@premiermagnesia.com)

## 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 11 - 18th

### County Commission

12/14 - 8:30 am

12/16 - 1:15 pm

### County Sending Site Review Committee

12/14 - 8:30 am

### County Insurance Advisory Board

12/15 - 1:30 pm

### County Regional Transportation Commission

12/16 - 9:30 am

### County Coalition for Senior Citizens

12/17 - 3:30 pm

### County Coalition for Senior Citizens Finance Sub-Committee

12/17 - 2:30 pm

### CCSD Board of Policy Committee

12/14 - 1:30 pm

### CCSD Board of Trustees Meeting

12/16 - 5:30 pm

### Churchill County Museum Block of the Month Lunch

12/16 - 12:30 pm

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