

THE FALLON POST



The Local Community Newspaper

Fallon Churchill County

November 13, 2020

Price \$1.00

Justice for Jensen - Crutcher Gets Prison

by Leanna Lehman

After many months, Andrew Ryan Crutcher appeared for sentencing for the assault of Fallon man, Will Jensen.

While under the influence of methamphetamines, Crutcher violently beat Jensen, who is disabled and has had Cerebral Palsy since birth. The assault took place at the Fairgrounds on April 4th, when Crutcher beat Jensen and left him for dead in a bathroom stall after attempting to rob him.

The charges against Crutcher include robbery against a vulnerable person, a Category B felony; and attempting to commit a bomb threat, a Category C felony, which was a separate event taking place on March 23rd.

According to Chief Deputy District Attorney Lane Mills, on April 4th, Crutcher used force or violence to take possessions from Jensen, beat and bloodied him, handcuffed him, and ultimately left him in a bathroom stall at the Fairgrounds for dead. The victim, Will Jensen, was hospitalized for his injuries and spent nearly a month in a skilled nursing facility for rehabilitation. Mills provided photographs of the significant trauma sustained by Jensen during the attack to Judge Stockard as well as to Crutcher. In his arguments, Mills asked for the maximum penalty under law. Jacob Sommer, the Churchill County Public Defender representing Crutcher, argued for leniency in sentencing based on Crutcher's age (19), the fact that he has no prior felony convictions, and that he was introduced to methamphetamines by his family at a very young age and

currently has a severe drug problem.

During his arraignment in September, Crutcher stated, "I was on dope when I was doing all of this. I need help and I need it bad." He offered an apology to the court and to Jensen for his actions.

Jensen was present in the courtroom to provide victim impact testimony. "I felt unsafe, I still feel unsafe," Jensen stated. "I was severely beaten - beat in the chest and the eye - I had a broken face and was in a state of shock. I was unable to fight him off." He went on to say, "It felt like recovery would take forever, but now I feel strong."

Additionally, Jensen reported that he still owes the nursing facility \$15,520 for medical expenses and is unable to pay.

After providing his testimony, Jensen stated, "I am willing to accept your apology."

He then addressed Crutcher directly, "I hope you understand what you have done and I hope you have the courage to be a better person - I say this as your brother. I hope you get some help."

Judge Stockard stated that he carefully considered Crutcher's age and lack of criminal history and while the sentences are lengthy, those factors kept him from imposing the maximums.

Crutcher was sentenced to 6-15 years on the robbery charge, by statute, because the victim was deemed a vulnerable person, the sentence was enhanced by 2-10 years (with the maximum enhancement carrying 6-15



Will Jensen gives victim impact testimony - photo via Zoom

Murillo Arraigned on Open Murder

by Leanna Lehman

Ofelia Murillo (55), currently in the custody of the Churchill County Jail, was arraigned in Justice Court on first-degree murder charges on Monday, November 9th. She was also arraigned on several other criminal charges relating to the shooting death of her ex-husband, Caesar Alvarado Jauregui (38).

The allegations list several charges, including murder in the first degree - defined as a deliberate and premeditated killing, which is a category A felony punishable by death. If there are mitigating factors, the sentence could be reduced to 50 years to life in prison without the possibility of parole.

Charge (2) states the alleged use of a deadly weapon in the commission of a crime, specifically a 9 mm handgun. In Nevada, this is a sentence enhancement that can double a criminal sentence adding 1-20 years in prison.

"I hope you have the courage to be a better person - I say this as your brother."

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On Publishing...

Captain's log #2...

... or 437, I'm not sure anymore of anything. It's Thursday night and we are a lot closer to having the paper ready for printing than we were last week at this time, but we still haven't perfected our timing. The choreography, so to speak. There are a lot of moving parts to this paper-making business.

This is the most fun we've ever had, we all agree. And a great many things have gone right, but the things that have gone wrong – oye!!

We haven't been able to get the subscription spot on the website working which is making me straight crazy. How in the world will we keep you all if we don't gather you up for subscriptions, how will we keep the paper alive?!? My very hair is on fire.

But Leanna is the voice of reason and belief. "Believe" she says – it's all going to work out fine. And then I checked the mail today and we got our first mail-in subscription, for a full year. So happy. I'm going to frame a picture of it because it feels even better than when you make your first dollar. Someone else believes in us too.

And then there was the mail merge test. Shaking my head. We did a batch of 75 to see how it would work and ended up with 75 versions of a 28-page document. Which promptly locked up all computer systems. So we made labels for the mail versions and had a labeling party while we watched the presidential fiasco.

Today we had to S-O-S Denise for emergency Courtyard cookie delivery, right after I fell out of my desk chair, severely wounding my tailbone. It's a super-fun-wheel-around desk chair and I leaned-while-wheeling, which is a horrible idea. Thank you, Denise, for saving the day and thank you Deb for the sugar-infused feel better.

We really are having a big time and we're grateful for all your feedback and support. Stay tuned for the subscription information online, it looks promising for next week. Please drop me a line and let me know what you think of the paper – what could we add, what could we change, what do you love. publisher@thefallonpost.org

Keeping you posted...
Rach

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The Fallon Post

Volume 2, No. 2
November 13, 2020

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ROAM
MEANS

NEVADA.

When's the last time you packed the family into the car and hit the highway on a home-state excursion? To gaze up at thousands of stars in Nevada's dark skies? To explore a ghost town filled with stories? To get away from it all in one of our stunning state parks, miles from all the crowds? If you're looking for a safe, fun-filled road trip, you live in the right place. Because it's all right here. In your very own state. So, neighbor, what are you waiting for?

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GREAT BASIN NATIONAL PARK, BAKER

Bureau Holds Scoping Workshop to Update OCAP

by Rachel Dahl

The Bureau of Reclamation is holding public scoping workshops as part of the regulatory process to update the Operating Criteria and Procedures for the Newlands Project. Federal agency representatives, along with local and state stakeholders attended a three-day workshop in late October. Hosted remotely by Zoom, attendees called in to participate.

Participants included representatives from the Fallon Paiute Shoshone Tribe, the City of Fallon, U.S. District Court Water Master's Office, Churchill County, the city of Fernley, the Truckee-Carson Irrigation District, state water engineer and members of the water resources department, along with various consultants and attorneys hired by the parties, and federal agencies including U.S. Fish and Wildlife, Department of Justice, and several members of the Lahontan Basin Area Office of the BOR.

The OCAP is a federal regulation that governs how the water in the Newlands Project is managed and used within Fernley and the Lahontan Valley. It was designed to meet the fiduciary responsibilities of the Secretary of the Interior by minimizing diversions out of the Truckee River through the Truckee Canal, while maximizing use of the Carson River water for the Newlands Project.

Terri Edwards, the area manager of the LBAO welcomed participants and explained the virtual process, after which OCAP Project Manager Lori Nicholas reviewed the update process and gave a brief history of the regulation.

According to Edwards, in 2011 there was an executive order issued that required federal agencies to periodically review existing regulations to determine if they could be modified, streamlined, or even repealed. The 1997 Adjusted OCAP was identified as a regulation for possible update. In working with the Department of Justice, the BOR reviewed the OCAP in a Reconnaissance Study, internal process and identified several possible updates.

Through that process, it was found that there were several issues that should be considered, including adding project water for M&I uses (municipal and industrial) as well as integration of Newlands Project water under TROA. Edwards explained that OCAP is written

for agriculture uses and doesn't address M&I uses which need to be added into the OCAP. Additionally, OCAP has its own provisions for credit water, and TROA also has separate credit water provisions. She said these provisions need to be integrated and then decided how they will be managed under OCAP.

This review was taken in 2012 when Edwards said there were still many unknowns and ongoing activities that could impact any updates to the OCAP. "One of those was what's going to happen to the Truckee Canal," she said, "Back then nobody knew."

Edwards said, "what we would like to do with these workshops is to validate with stakeholders our internal review, we are planning on doing that through this scoping effort."

She pointed out that there is a purpose for OCAP. "The provisions of OCAP exist for the purpose of limiting diversions from the Truckee River to only those needed to serve the authorized uses, so any updates to OCAP have to be done in a manner consistent with the Pyramid Lake Tribe."

According to Nicholas, the regulation specifies the Maximum Allowable Diversions for the Newlands Project and it also prohibits water deliveries to ineligible lands in excess of water duties. Prior to 1967 diversions out of the Truckee River were limited only by the capacity of the canal, which Nicholas says contributed to an 80-foot decline in the level of Pyramid Lake between the years 1900 and 1967.

The first OCAP were put in place in 1967 and renewed in 1972. A court ordered OCAP was issued in 1973, as a result of Tribe v. Morton, with a renewal in 1988, and an Adjusted OCAP in 1997. These adjustments included less actual irrigated acreage in the project, water duty adjustments from bench to bottom lands, flexibility in using snowpack and run-off forecasts, as well as fine-tuning the language of the OCAP based on the previous nine years.

The guiding principles of the OCAP include providing water deliveries sufficient to meet the water right entitle-

ment of project water users, fulfill tribal trust responsibilities, minimize project diversions of Truckee River water and maximize Carson River water, make available as much Truckee River water for the lower river and Pyramid Lake, meet the requirements of the Endangered Species Act, and conserve wetlands and wildlife values in the Truckee and Carson River basins. "The purpose of the OCAP will not change as a result of the proposed update process," said Nicholas.

Rusty Jardine, General Manager of TCID said the workshops were intended to identify problems with OCAP in its previous implementation. "Naturally, the concern by most is will any possible change effect the supply of water necessary to meet the demands of water users in the Project." He said the present version of the OCAP articulates specifically, "This part governs water uses within existing rights. This part does not in any way change, amend, modify

abandon, diminish or extend existing rights. . ." 43 CFR Section 418.3. He also said he believes there is no intention to change the diversions of water necessary for the Truckee Division of the project, reiterating, "OCAP is not intended to take water rights from Project water right holders."

According to Jardine, "The thrust of OCAP, to meet the goal, is the call for

efficiency: To create a mechanism by which just the right amount of water is determined in any year with which to sustain Project needs."

He explained that annual demand of water for the project would be less through the implementation of a variety of conservation measures - such as lined ditches, piping, automated structures, etc. "But efficiency carries with it great cost. To transform the Newlands Project, an aged-open channel system, to the highest state of efficiency in delivering the exact amount of water to any given headgate, without loss, would cost hundreds and hundreds of millions of dollars."

The best course, "under existing conditions, consists in doing our very best, with what we have, when serving our water right holders, without taking from them by regulatory means their very livelihoods," said Jardine.

"THIS PART DOES NOT IN ANY WAY CHANGE, AMEND, MODIFY, ABANDON, DIMINISH OR EXTEND EXISTING RIGHTS."

Cont'd from page 1 - Murillo

Charge (3) states Murillo is allegedly a principal to the commission of a felony, by direct or indirect involvement of the crime (aiding, abetting, hiring, encouraging, etc.)

Charge (4) states that Murillo allegedly committed criminal conspiracy in which she conspired with one or more persons to commit a crime. Due to the nature of the underlying charges, this is considered a class B felony.

Charge (5) states that she allegedly destroyed evidence to conceal the commission of a crime, to obstruct the law, or to prevent the production of the evidence.

Charge (6) states that Murillo was allegedly driving without a valid driver's license.

According to Chief Deputy District Attorney Lane Mills, Murillo conspired with Fabian Abello to lie in wait for Caesar Alvarado Jauregui and kill him. Jauregui was shot several times with a 9mm handgun around 3:30 AM on September 25th at his home on Sprig Lane.

Mills stated that Murillo dropped Abello off at the train tracks at Roberson Lane and later picked him up when the deed was done. Neighbors reported seeing a vehicle parked near Jauregui's home at the time the shots were fired. Another witness told law enforcement that after leaving the scene, the vehicle ran a nearby stop sign. Murillo later admitted that she was the driver of that vehicle.

The Deputy District Attorney also stated that the day after the killing, Murillo stole Jauregui's vehicle and fled to Mexico with Abello. According to Mills, there are photographs of Murillo and Abello crossing the US-Mexico border. Jauregui's vehicle has not been located, but it is suspected that it is in California or Mexico. In an interview with the Sheriff's office, Murillo denied involvement in the crime, however she admitted to owning a 9mm handgun. According to Mills, the handgun is currently missing.

Jacob Sommer, Churchill County Public Defender, was present during the arraignment. Although not acting as her attorney of record, he addressed Murillo's custodial status and requested a release on her own recognizance (OR). "She is entitled to the presumption of innocence," Sommer stated, "she has a 22-year history in the community, she owns a home here and has family in the area. Additionally, she has no criminal history, has never failed to appear in court, and there is no indication of substance abuse."

Mills argued against an OR and bail for Murillo. "The facts are strong in this case - there is clear and convincing evidence that she is a flight risk." He also cited the Nevada statute that states that all persons arrested on charges other than murder in the first degree may be admitted to bail.

Judge Trotter denied Mill's request, however, reduced bail from one million dollars to \$500,000. Trotter later explained that he carefully considered Murillo's longevity in the community and potential flight risk when making his decision to reduce her bail. He also explained that while Nevada law does allow for no bail for the open murder charge that Ms. Murrillo is facing, Nevada Supreme ruled that the state must provide evidence and justification for bail, or in this case, no bail. The Court ruling also specified that if bail is set, it must be reasonably achievable for the Defendant. Should Murillo post bail, she is prohibited from leaving the state.



Ofelia Murillo was arraigned in Justice Court via Zoom and is represented by Public Defender Jacob Sommer

Another issue arose during the proceedings regarding legal representation for Murillo as her charge is a capital crime in which the death penalty may be sought or imposed. According to Nevada Supreme Court Ruling 250, capital defendants must retain or be appointed a qualified attorney who acted as defense co-counsel in one death penalty trial tried to completion. According to Mills, no determination has been made as to whether they are pursuing the death penalty. Additionally, qualified legal counsel must be appointed at the first hearing. Technically, Murillo is not currently represented. She waived her right to a preliminary hearing within 15 days to allow her daughter to meet with a potential defense attorney next week.

The court will proceed to secure a qualified attorney willing to take the case if Murillo is unable to retain one. A status hearing was set for Monday, November 16th.

Notes from Justice Court

by Leanna Lehman

New River Township Justice Court convened on November 10th with Judge Ben Trotter presiding.

James Daniel Balocca, Sr., currently in the custody of the Churchill County Jail, was arraigned on a category C felony battery charge which carries a potential penalty of 1-5 years in prison. The state alleged that on October 11th at 725 E. Front Street, Balocca battered his wife, beating her in the head and stomach. According to Assistant District Attorney (ADA), Jeff Weed, Balocca allegedly broke several ribs and punctured her lung. Additionally, he refused to take her to the hospital until she agreed to tell the medical staff that she had gotten drunk and fell down the stairs, constituting a separate charge of dissuading a victim from reporting a crime. Jacob Sommer, Public Defender (PD) for Balocca, argued for release on his own recognizance (O/R). Weed objected based on Balocca's lengthy history of domestic violence, battery, and bail jumping. The O/R was denied, and bail was set at \$10,000.

Rachel Duran was arraigned on charges of being a principal to injury to property. Nevada statute states that every person concerned in the commission of a crime, whether they directly commit the crime or is otherwise indirectly connected, is a principal to the crime. According to the charges, Duran allegedly inflicted \$3,990.30 in damages to a 2006 Subaru.

Cont'd from page 6 - Justice Court

Jammie Lee Fink (in custody) appeared via video conferencing on charges of conspiring to commit an offense in violation of the Uniform Controlled Substances Act and destroying or concealing evidence. The charges allege that while in custody at the Churchill County Jail, Fink conspired with someone in jail to possess methamphetamines and swallowed the controlled substance to destroy evidence. He is scheduled to appear on Thursday, November 12th for a status hearing. Fink was initially arrested in October on charges of possession of controlled substance, possession of drug paraphernalia, driving non-resident with a suspended/revoked license, fictitious plates, and a registration violation.

Michael Tory Pomi appeared by phone for sentencing on misdemeanor charges of petit larceny for illegally pumping water out of an area canal. According to ADA Priscilla Baker, Pomi had indicated that he was pumping water for Gary Snow and Snow had the requisite permits. However, it was determined that he was not pumping on Snow's behalf. Pomi contested Baker's statement arguing that he never made those statements. Pomi reported that he had been pumping water for cattle for Justin Snow, who leased the water rights from his father, Gary Snow. However, there was no permit. Baker informed the court that TCID imposes a fine of \$500 for illegal water pumping and requested Pomi pay that amount.

Judge Trotter ordered Pomi to pay a fine of \$100 stating that he didn't feel \$500 was appropriate when no monetary determination could be made.

Notes from District Court

by Leanna Lehman

Tenth Judicial District Court convened November 10th with Judge Tom Stockard presiding.

Clinton Adrian Boots (in custody) was arraigned on charges of battery with a deadly weapon, a category B felony carrying a penalty of 2-10 years. According to the allegations, on September 17th, at Coleman Rd. and the Reno Highway, Boots did stab another individual. Boots entered a guilty plea and is scheduled for sentencing on February 2nd, 2021.

Arthell James Duplessis appeared for sentencing charges of a DUI, 3rd or subsequent offense. He had been provisionally placed in drug court in August. However, Lane Mills, Chief Deputy District Attorney, reported that Duplessis was not compliant with the supervisory requirements. Judge Stockard placed Duplessis in the DUI Diversion Program, urging that he make the program a priority. By statute, the charge carries a mandatory 1-5 years in prison should he fail the program. Duplessis was also ordered to wear an ankle monitor that registers his blood alcohol level. He is also under supervision on a separate DUI in another county.

Damyn Robert French (in custody) entered a guilty plea on charges of possession of a stolen vehicle, a category C felony which carries 1-5 years. According to Jacob Sommer, public defender for French, the allegations state that on September 10th, French was knowingly in possession of a stolen 2010 Honda Civic. Sentencing is set for February 2nd, 2021.

Victor Karl Pugh appeared in court to enter a change of plea. Pugh had previously pled not guilty on charges of abuse, neglect, or endangerment of a child, not causing substantial bodily harm. The category B felony carries a potential penalty of 1-6 years in prison. The matter was set for a jury trial in December. According to Sommer, also defending Pugh, the allegations, which are in dispute, state that on July 4th, 2019, Pugh pointed a weapon at a minor person who was born in 2004. Pugh entered a guilty plea. He will appear for sentencing on February 20th, 2021.

Ryan Edward Street (in custody) pled guilty to two gross misdemeanors. Both include battery on an officer. The first charge alleged that Street hit police officer Austin Wood while resisting arrest and the second charge alleged that he spit on Wood after he was taken into custody. Both charges carry up to 364 days in jail. According to Jacob Sommer, defending Street, on September 23rd, Wood came into contact with the defendant while in the course of his duties wherein Street struck him in the face with his arm or his fist. ADA, Joseph Sanford cited Street's extensive history which includes seven incidents of resisting arrest and battery on an officer.

Judge Stockard sentenced Street to 364 days in jail on each charge, with the terms to run concurrently.

Christopher James Sullivan (in custody) entered a guilty plea on a charge of attempting to commit possession of a stolen motor vehicle on August 6th. The charge can be classified as a category D felony, which carries 1-4 years in prison, or a gross misdemeanor, which carries up to 364 days in jail. Sullivan will appear for sentencing on December 8th, 2020.

THE FALLON POST



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Cont'd from page 1 - Justice for Jensen



Andrew Crutcher appears for sentencing in District Court Tuesday.

years). For the charge of threatening to use a bomb on another individual's residence, Crutcher received 19-48 months. The sentences are to run consecutively with 221 days credit for time served.

Nevada Sports Net to air Nevada vs Hawaii Game on Nov. 28

Reno, NV (November 12, 2020) - The Nevada football team's game at Hawaii scheduled for Nov. 28 will air locally on Nevada Sports Net.

The Hawaii-based Spectrum Sports PPV feed has been picked up by NSN and will feature Robert Kekaula on play-by-play and Rich Miano as analyst. Kickoff is set for 5 p.m. Hawaiian time and 8 p.m. Pacific time.

The Nevada-Hawaii game was the lone matchup on the Wolf Pack's eight-game schedule not to be selected by the conference's national television partners, CBS Sports Network or Fox Sports, and fell to Hawaii's local broadcast station, which NSN has partnered with to provide the feed to Northern Nevada fans. Locally, the game will only be available over NSN's linear channel with no digital platform offerings.

In Northern Nevada, NSN is available over the air on channel 21; Charter channel 787 in HD or 7 in SD; DirecTV and Dish Network on channel 21; or on AT&T U-verse channel 1021 in HD or 21 in SD. The game can be seen from the following counties: Washoe, Carson, Humboldt, Churchill, Pershing, Douglas, Lyon, Mineral, Lassen, Lander and Eureka.

Food Hub Secures More Grant Funding

By Rachel Dahl

The Fallon Food Hub has secured more grant funding in the effort to build food security in the Churchill County community. Awarded the Nevada Cares Community Food Project grant earlier this year through the Nevada Department of Agriculture, the Food Hub has just received a budget enhancement to that project of \$12,500 through the Food and Nutrition Services at NDA.

"It's the Community Food Project grant that we already have," said Kelli Kelly, director of the Food Hub, "they had extra money and they asked us to apply for it, I'm so excited."

Additionally, the Food Hub has partnered with the Desert Food Initiative program at the University of Nevada on the Inventory and Distribution System grant through the plant division of NDA, which will cover the costs of two delivery vans for each organization, as well as a new refrigerated storage unit at Lattin Farms.

The community food boxes are assembled at Lattin Farms, where the local produce is gathered from farms and stored. Boxes are then delivered throughout the Fallon-Reno-Carson-Gardnerville area. The vans will make delivery of the food boxes more efficient and cost effective, in a vehicles designed specifically for this purpose and dedicated solely to food distribution.

The local Farmers Care program is a partnership with Epworth Methodist Church-Food Ministries and has been providing boxes of locally grown produce each week to Churchill County families who have been affected by COVID-19 and the resulting economic shut-down.

The local food project, managed through the Fallon Food Hub connects local agricultural producers with Churchill County families who receive the seasonal food box each week through December. The food boxes are distributed through Epworth Methodist Church and the Fallon Youth Club. Eligibility for the program is based on demonstration of an economic impact of the pandemic or basic food insecurity within the household.

Boxes include between 8-12 different kinds of seasonal produce at a retail value of up to \$40 per box. The Fallon Food Hub supports farmers throughout west central Nevada including: Lattin Farms, Pioneer Farm, Dayton Valley Aquaponics, Desert Farming Initiative, Two Ravens Ranch, Fisk Farms, PlantLove Homestead, and Cherry Dog Orchard.

For more information about the Fallon Farmers Care community food project or for inquiries about eligibility and registration, please email fallonfoodhub@gmail.com or call 775-571-3415.



Kelli Kelly, Food Hub Directors, is excited to deliver food boxes in the new, grant-funded van.

October Business Licenses

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

Birdie Bee's Boutique
Charlene Claggett
Retail Women/children clothing
Home based

Done Right Set Up & Service
James Pagni
Manufactured home installation
Home based

Dowd Bookkeeping Services, LLC
Phyllis Dowd
Bookkeeping and payroll services
Home based

Encor Solar, LLC
Ian Boshard
Contractor
Lehi, Utah

Green Dragon Defense, LLC
Blake Brandenburg
CCW Instruction/Certification
Home based

Interior Specialists, Inc.
Melissa Romero
Interior contractor/flooring & counters
Monsey, New York

Karadalis Group, LLC
Kenneth Wilson
Employment Services Agency
Home based

Nasser Fabrications
Charles Nasser
Metal Fabrication
Home based

Be Empowered Health and Wellness
Alicia Depaulis
Counseling
601 South Maine, Suite A

Country Health
Alicia Depaulis
Health/Fitness
203 South Maine Street

Belle La Vie Salon & Boutique
Kristy Lehman
Salon
997 West Williams Avenue

Free Bird Yoga
Macy J. Myers
Health/Fitness
601 S. Maine Street, Suite E

Lance Johnson, Inc.
Lance Johnson
Excavation
2152 Reno Highway, Suite E

Soul Blendz Juice Bar
Ethio T. Xolani
Food
960 Auction Road #D

Vicki Jones, LCSW
Vicki Jones
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For more information, please contact
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Generations joined -- a note from the Life Center

Lisa Erquiaga, Executive Director

There is so much happening right now as November has arrived with its chilly reminder that we will see winter soon.

Some of us prefer the warmer days. But since Nevada is the state in which we choose to reside, we have to be tolerant. Hopefully, you have winterized your homes, have drained your hoses and sprinklers, and put the lawnmower to bed for the winter. Along with all the preparation, we all need to be thinking SNOW and/moisture in large amounts. And hopefully you took the opportunity to vote and you are starting to plan for a nice and quiet Thanksgiving holiday.

William N. Pennington Life Center has been continuing to serve our patrons daily to the best of our ability. Our Meals on Wheels deliveries are still about 200+. And the Drive-thru for Lunches

is a showstopper each day from 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. If you haven't been through for lunch, please plan a day and come by. Remember, under 60 is a \$6 charge and over 60 is a suggested \$3 donation. If you have a moment to spare this is the best place in town to get a home cooked hot lunch for minimal cost.

We are all trying hard to make everyone smile. Whether they are driving through to pick up lunch or when a driver delivers their Meals on Wheels lunch or we call someone on the phone to say hi and check up on them. We have tried a variety of ways to do this and they have included, mailing out thinking of you cards; Bingo (Nevada trivia); our monthly "Generations Joined" newsletter; creation of Phone Buddies and Pen Pal letter writers; our signature Magnet to help with isolation and loneliness; sending out Halloween candies; and the staff dressing up for Halloween (see pictures in this issue). And in turn you made us smile too! Thanks to all of you who dressed up for us in your cars as you drove through. And rest assured we have lots more ideas to come if we are serving in this fashion.

Just a quick update to everyone of our status regarding COVID-19 and our services at WNP Life Center. Our funding source, Nevada Aging and Disability Services have been amazing in making

sure we are protected in our current funding cycles and have fully approved of how we are conducting business. Our Board is supportive in our current way of operating and my staff has continued to be able to work their assigned hours and continue to provide for themselves and their respective family members.

We all consider ourselves very fortunate and are very, very thankful. And then there is all of YOU out there! We all want you to know that everything we do here at WNP Life Center is for you, your families, your friends, and our community. And just so you know we want this all to be over and done as much as you do!

And mark my words...when it's safe and healthy again my staff and I will be joining every ounce of passion we have for our work that we do and throwing a party of all parties" to celebrate our lives again! I hope you will all join us.

Until next month please continue to be safe, healthy, and

vigilant in our fight for the future.

And I leave you with this quote from a woman I adore.

"It isn't enough to talk about peace. One must believe in it. And it isn't enough to believe in it. One must work at it."

—Eleanor Roosevelt



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LEAD On selects Leadership Fellows

Eight local high school students have been chosen as the 2020 fellows by local non-profit LEAD On, a local nonprofit serving Churchill County youth since 2017. LEAD On launched an innovative fellowship program for high school students in October.

"Our goal is to empower Churchill County youth," said LEAD On President Monica Davis. "The LEAD On Fellowship will pair students with a mentor, help them complete a passion project, and connect fellows with their peers and community leaders."

The eight students selected for the inaugural class are:

- Ben Polish, Senior, Oasis Academy
- Melanie Plasse, Senior, Churchill County High School
- Vera Vaz, Senior, Churchill County High School
- Kalea Lattin, Senior, Churchill County High School
- Danyelle Andrew, Senior, Churchill County High School
- Lillie Webster, Sophomore, Churchill County High School
- Aubrey Vaughn, Freshman, Oasis Academy
- Hunter McNabb, Freshman, Oasis Academy

According to the LEAD On website: "The LEAD On Fellowship is a premier leadership, education, awareness, and development program in Churchill County. The fellowship is cohort centered and consists of high school students from both Oasis Academy and Churchill County High School."

Applications and nominations for the program closed in October. The program hosted its kickoff event virtually October 24th and plans to host monthly engagements with the first one centered on community service to be delivered on November 14th.

"Our hope is to provide students with connection and support," said LEAD On Fellowship Chair Abigail Ritts. "We are excited to engage with our fellows' passions and provide them with tools to carry out those passions."

LEAD On is also hosting virtual alumni panels open to all students and the greater Churchill County public. The first "Power Panel", scheduled for November 23rd, is focused on young entrepreneurs with speakers Macy Myers and Wyatt Getto.

To learn more about the LEAD On and their upcoming engagements by visit their website: www.leadonnevada.org.



Photo provided by Robby Davis during the 2nd Annual Leadership Summit in 2018.



THE FALLON POST

Christmas is just around the Corner!

This will be a busy shipping year - be sure to plan ahead for all your shipping needs.

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Maine Street Program Will Press On

by Rachel Dahl

Members of the Fallon Maine Street Program, along with other interested merchants, met Monday night to discuss whether to dissolve the program or work to continue their activities. Although there was not a quorum of official members, attendees at the meeting expressed their desire to keep the group going and will work to increase awareness of their purpose.

Everyone in attendance at the meeting agreed to participate in the Shop Small Saturday event scheduled for November 28th and will use the event as an opportunity to increase branding and awareness of the FMSP.

The group will also work to get younger participants and business owners involved, as well as focusing on business spotlights, shop local support, and walking tours that include the history of specific merchant buildings. Additionally, there will be an effort to redesign the Facebook page.

The FMSP is part of a State of Nevada effort run through the Governor's Office on Economic Development focused on main street revitalization that involves aesthetics, business creation and retention, and housing that will lead to a healthy and economically vibrant community.

Based on a "Four-Point Approach" developed by the National Trust for Historic Preservation, the structure encourages local work on organization, promotion, design, and economic positioning. The Nevada program was developed with the help of the Main Street America Institute.

The next official meeting of the group will be January 11, 2021 at 5:30 p.m. at which time officers will be elected. Anyone interested in participating in activities before then can call Lisa Gonzales at 423-8587.



Kathy La Plante of Main Street America made a presentation in Fallon at the Rural Round Up regarding the importance of main streets for rural economies

Chamber prepares for small business Saturday

by Rachel Dahl

Small Business Saturday is an American shopping holiday held on the Saturday after Thanksgiving during one of the busiest shopping periods of the year.

This year that is November 28, 2020. The Fallon Chamber, along with The Fallon Maine St. Program and CEDA/SBDC has decided to host this campaign and add a twist.

We will be hosting a welcome booth at our local office. Come get your game pieces coffee and at 448 W. Williams Ave. play the games around town as you do your



you do your shopping.

#ChamberAtWork #SupportFallonBiz #ShopSmall #GurkaInBiz #CEDAcares

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
or mail to: 1951 W. Williams

Concerns over COVID Increase as Case Numbers Rise

by Leanna Lehman

COVID cases continue to be on the rise in Churchill County. According to the most recent data reported by the Churchill County Board of Health, the number of positive active cases have increased to 227 as of November 11th.

Currently, the COVID-19 data for Churchill County is as follows: Tests administered since March, 11,030; Recovered individuals, 218; Currently hospitalized, 8; Total deaths, 4; Asymptomatic positives since March, 40; Total positives cases since March, 449.

On Tuesday, November 10th, Governor Sisolak held a press conference urging Nevadans to "limit their exposure to people outside their households as much as possible." In what he tagged as "Stay at home 2.0," the governor stated that many Nevada counties have been at risk of elevated transmission for several weeks. Unfortunately for Churchill County, the number



Cars line up at Fair Grounds to be tested for COVID on Tuesday
Photo courtesy of Jennie Norcutt

WNC LIFE CENTER LUNCHES SERVED WEEKDAYS

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

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

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

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

of positive cases has increased dramatically, but the number of lives lost to the virus remains at four.

The New York Times COVID database reports that the number of positive cases in Nevada is up 70% from two weeks ago. However, the number of deaths in Nevada in November is significantly lower than the peak month of August in which there were approximately 20 deaths occurring in a seven-day period (as of August 19th). The current data reports an average of 10 deaths within a seven-day period (as of November 7th).

Additionally, cold and flu season is ramping up and it is important to know that there are many symptoms that overlap with COVID. Health experts warn that both the flu and Coronaviruses may cause fever, chills, sore throat, runny/stuffy nose, body aches, fatigue, and other symptoms. Testing is recommended so that the proper treatment can be administered.

According to the Churchill County COVID-19/Coronavirus Public Health Information website, found at [www. http://www.churchillcountynv.gov/816/Public-Service-Announcements](http://www.churchillcountynv.gov/816/Public-Service-Announcements) if someone tests positive for COVID-19, they will receive a letter from Churchill County regarding quarantine. Within three days staff from the county responsible for contact tracing, will contact you to discuss exposure and who you have been in contact with. This effort is in hopes of slowing the spread of the virus. Everyone who has tested positive or negative will be called.

The City of Fallon and Churchill County have combined forces offering free, drive-through community-based COVID testing at the Fairgrounds with an appointment. Please call (775) 423-6695, option 2 to schedule your time. Staff will return the call and get the appointment set up for a test. Regular testing days are Tuesday afternoon and Thursday morning, with added days in response to public demand.

School Board notes

by Susan Weikel

Churchill County School District's Fiscal Audit for the year 2020 was presented by HintonBurdick CPAs and Advisors at the October 28th Board meeting. Some of the key points presented were:

Government Fund Trends

FY 15-16 FY 19-20
Total revenues: 41,467,807 42,468,474
Total expenditures: 46,148,505 41,571,357

Capital Asset Activity

- CCHS HVAC upgrades - \$322K
- CCHS concession stand - \$38K
- ECB single point entry- \$43K
- ECB gym sound - \$36K
- CCMS eco structure control u grade - \$60K

Asset Disposals

- Various equipment and vehicles \$252K

Fund Highlights

- General fund – up \$499,428
- Special education fund – up \$1,681
- Debt service fund – down (\$70,447)
- Non major funds – up \$96,318
- Overall increase in fund balance of \$916,675
- All funds operated according to approved budgets.

Also presented was information on the **District's Enrollment:**

As of October 23, 2020, the district's total enrollment was 3228, an increase of 30 students from the October 1 count. This is a decrease of 3.56%, or 119 students, when compared to an enrollment of 3447 on the last day of school last year. The decrease is driven by elementary numbers, which experienced a 10.05% decrease, whereas secondary saw a slight increase of 2.85%.

As the enrollment numbers indicate,

the district withdrew a significant number of students throughout the summer and at the start of the school year. When a student is withdrawn from the district, a code is assigned in Infinite Campus that indicates the reason for leaving. The codes indicate that students were withdrawn primarily due to enrollment in another school in Nevada (94), a school in another state (93), a state sponsored Charter School (83), or in a homeschool program (59).

Encouragingly, student enrollment continues to increase. Again, enrollment increased by 30 students from October 1 to October 23, and there has been an overall increase of 76 students from the first day of actual student attendance on August 31. In the short time from when the enrollment number of 3228 was pulled on October 23, to today, the district is up another 14 students.

WNC is hosting an inspiring confrence for women this weekend

by Rachel Dahl

Western Nevada College will hold a Women Inspiring Women Leadership Summit this Saturday, November 14th from 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The event motto is Fostering Empowerment, Mentorship, Advocacy, Leadership, and Experience and will be held remotely by Zoom.

"Young women will really benefit from the speakers and panelists at the WNC Leadership Summit," said Holly O'Toole, Fallon campus and rural outreach director. "I highly recommend it. One of the best pieces of advice from a female leader that I would share is to 'keep your hand up and sit at the table,'" she said. "This means have the courage to put yourself out there, to speak at the meetings, to fully participate as a member of the team. Sometimes it is easier to sit quietly, but this event is about advocating for yourself, being yourself."

County School District Superintendent Dr. Summer Stephens will speak at the event. She has worked to engage staff, students, and the community in conversations and activities designed

to promote excellence and innovation throughout the school district. She is a strong advocate for schools at the state and national level, working with legislators to ensure equitable funding and opportunities for learners. She is also involved with the City of Fallon and Churchill County, creating strong relationships between school, home, and community.

"It is important for me to participate in the summit to learn from others in a variety of fields and share lessons learned and what is possible with those just beginning their careers," said Stephens. "This summit empowers."

Dr. Shadi Martin, the Founding Dean of the School of Social Work at the University of Nevada, Reno, will also speak. Dean Martin has a multi-disciplinary background and a variety of academic and professional experiences worldwide. These experiences include her work with the World Health Organization (WHO) in Europe, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in the Middle East, Georgetown National Center for Cultural Competency and visiting scholar at United Arab Emirates

University School of Social Work and School of Medicine.

Additionally, Genevieve Frederick the Founder of Feeding Pets of the Homeless, a national non-profit dedicated to helping homeless individuals care for their pets by providing veterinary care and food, will speak. Frederick, has been on TV and has been interviewed by numerous radio shows. She has been quoted in the number of books, magazines (AARP and Family Circle with the largest circulation), blogs and other news outlets in the US and abroad. Her background, before starting the nonprofit, includes marketing, promotion, sales, and publishing.

Other local speakers include Greater Nevada Credit Union Community Outreach Director, Michelle Hale, who is committed to the community and passionate about financial literacy, as well as Sena Loyd, Director of Research and Workforce Development for Blockchain. Sena reinvents her career constantly, moving from a Librarian to Library Director to Researcher for a High Tech company to State Assembly Candidate.

Registration is still open at <https://www.wnc.edu/leadership-signup>

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Churchill School District Family and School Learning Labs

by Susan Weikel

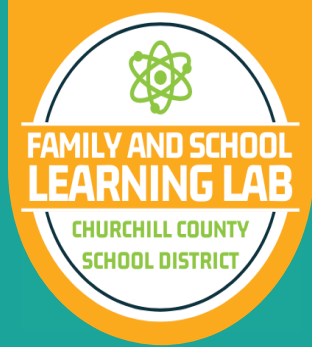
Churchill County School District is offering support classes for parents in our community. Classes are available live, through live streaming on the internet, and/or through recordings available on YouTube.

Innovations and Professional Learning Facilitator, Nate Waite, explained, "Parents are an important part of a child's education, and we want to do everything possible to be a good team with them as they are helping their kids in traditional classrooms, learning remotely, or whatever."

To facilitate this partnership, the District has set up a steady stream of support for families. One example of this support is the monthly, usually on the 3rd or 4th Thursday of the month, Family and School Learning Lab. This support is offered to anyone and all questions and comments are a welcome part of the process. This month's lab will be offered live stream on November 19th from 5:00 to 6:00 p.m., and then will be available on YouTube. Due to the increase number of COVID-19 cases, no live meetings will be offered in November and December.

Topics for the labs vary and are designed to build a team atmosphere. In the past months topics such as exploring the District website, Google Classroom, Infinite Campus, how to make a Gmail account, information on the program Edgenuity, and more have been discussed with the hope of increasing the involvement of parents as they gain a comfort and confidence with some of the many changes now faced in education.

The District believes that parents are key components to education and that their comfort and involvement is necessary for the success of the students and that of the District. Family and Community Engagement Coordinator, Robyn Jordan, stated, "We are striving to help families be partners in their child's education." Nate Waite added, "We want families to know that we recognize there are a lot of tools and a lot of situations that are very different than in the past... We don't want anybody to be intimidated or confused about the new things... Everyone is welcome, all questions are welcome."



**NOVEMBER'S
LAB THEME**

**DISTRICT LEARNING TOOLS:
WHAT IS THE
LEARNER-CENTERED
FRAMEWORK?**

**JOIN VIRTUALLY FOR A
LIVE Q&A SESSION!**

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2020

5:00-6:00 P.M. | [CLICK HERE TO JOIN](#)

TOPICS COVERED:

- LEARNING GUIDES
- COURSE SUMMARY DOCUMENTS
- COMMON ASSESMENTS
- COMPETENCY VS. TRADITIONAL GRADES

All sessions will be prerecorded and made available on the District's YouTube Channel

Join us for our monthly Learning Lab Sessions to master strategies on becoming a key player in your child's academic success!

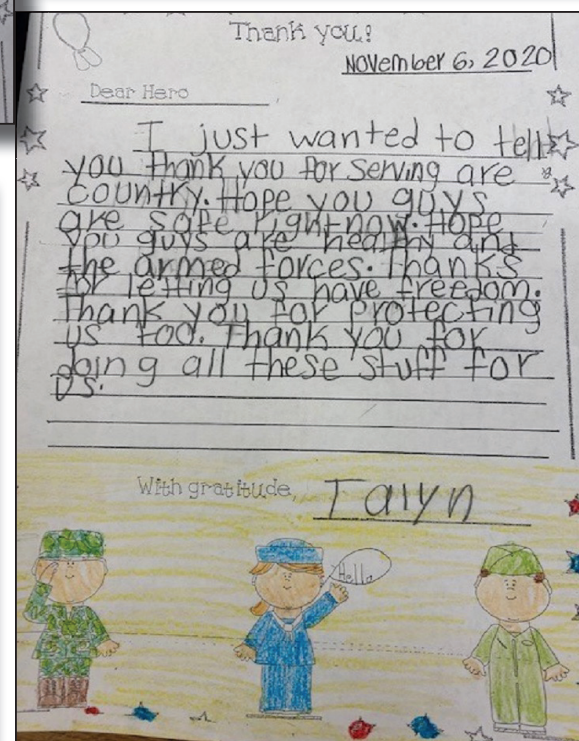
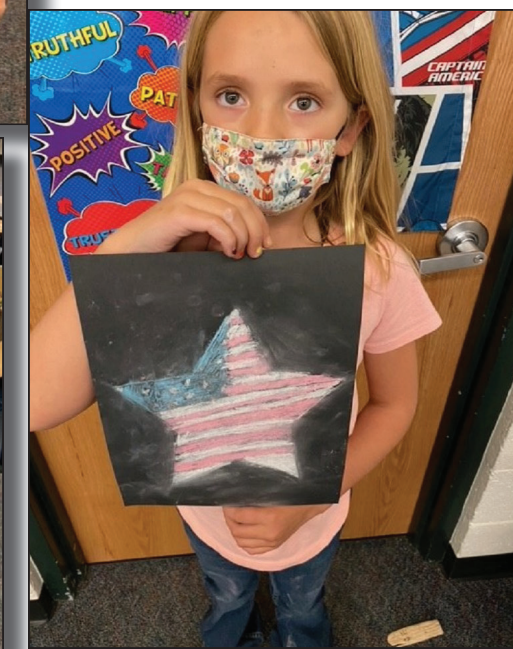
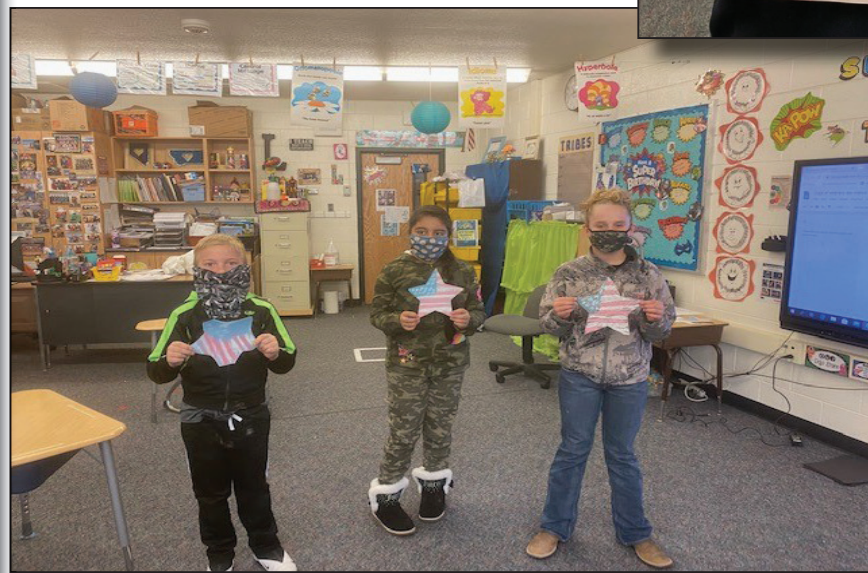
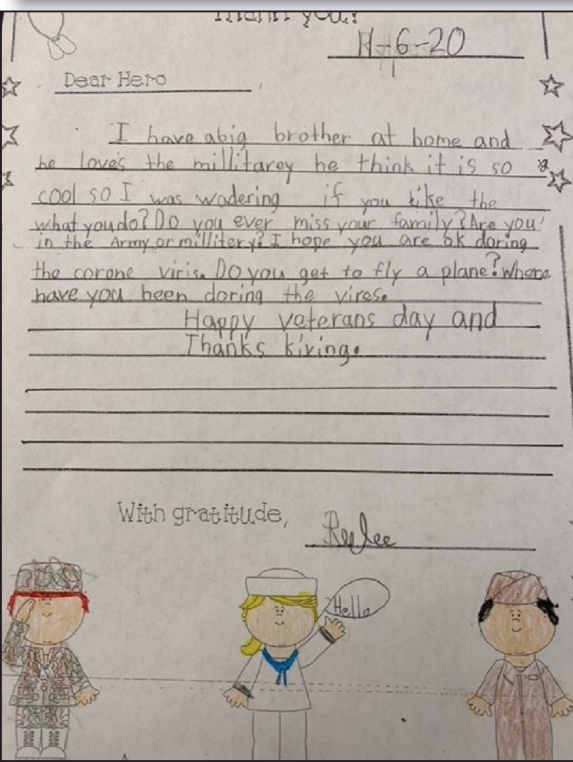
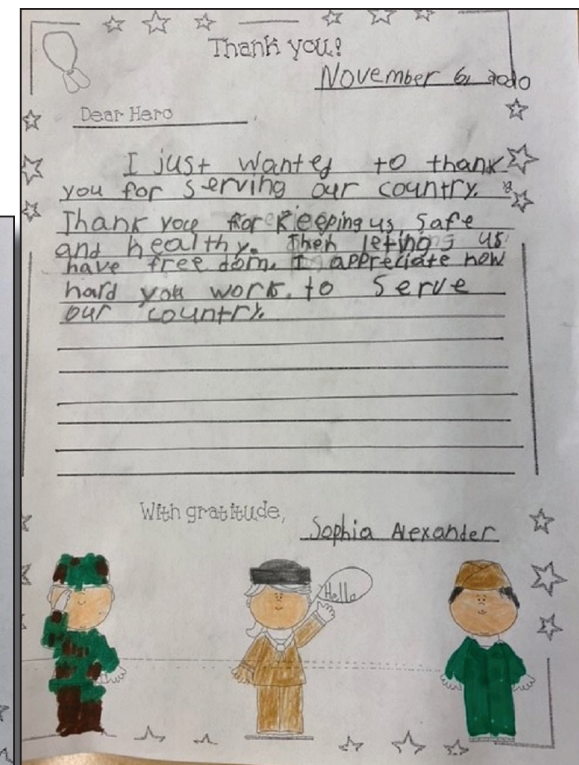
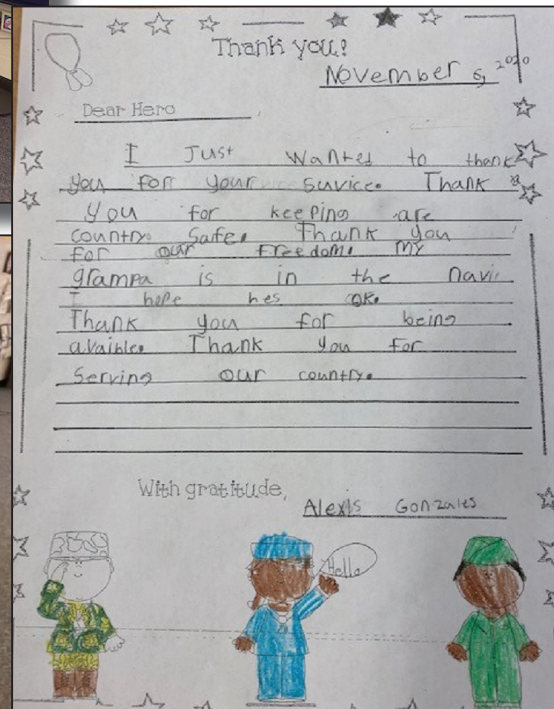
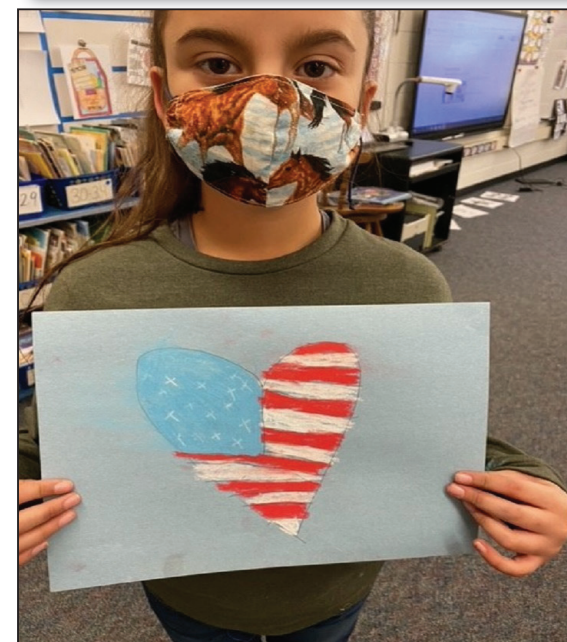
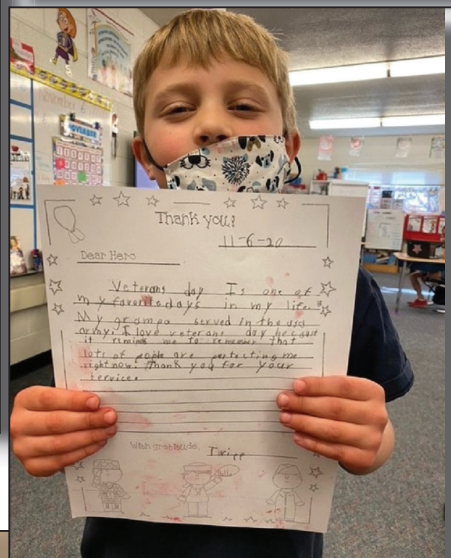
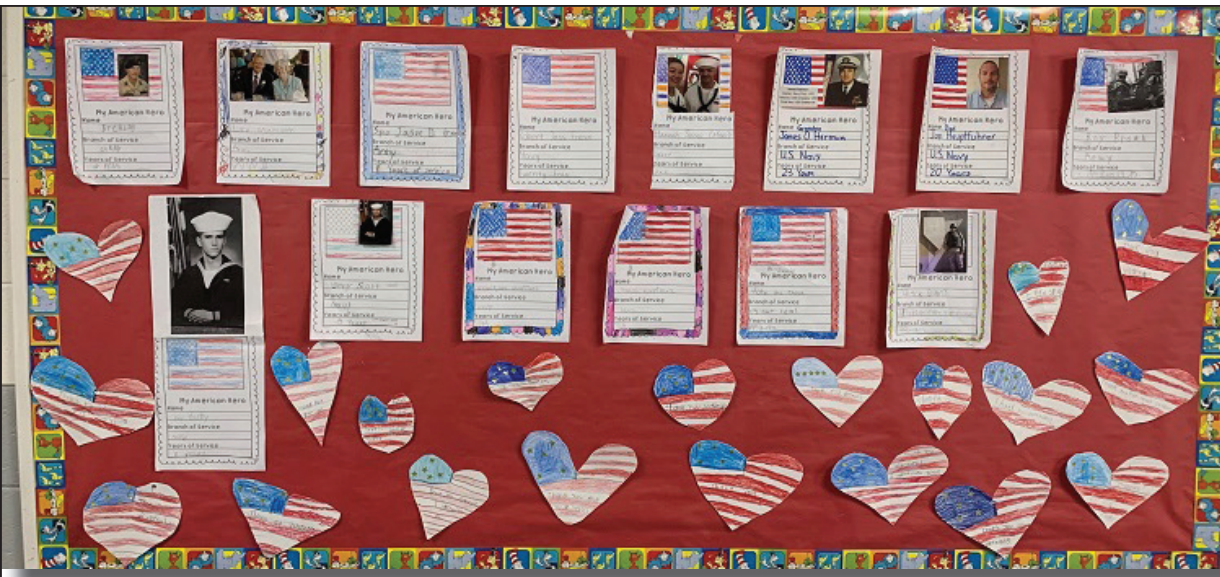
[CLICK HERE TO VIEW OUR LEARNING LABS YOUTUBE PLAYLIST!](#)

Veterans Day at E.C. Best Elementary

Submitted by E.C. Best Staff

Teachers throughout the Churchill County Schools spent time last week teaching students about Veterans Day.

E.C. Best Elementary teachers Lisa Christy, Kari Lister, Daire Ochs, and Jenny Mitchell have sent in some of their second and third grade student work from an art and writing project, celebrating and honoring the Veterans in their lives.



E. C. Best second and third grade student work from an art and writing project, celebrating and honoring the Veterans in their lives.

Photos provided by E.C. Best Elementary Staff

Numa Superheros

Submitted by Numa Elementary Staff

Superheroes, ninjas, cowboys, and more entered Numa's welcoming doors on Thursday.

Numa's staff and students enjoyed the day and shared many interesting stories.

Some staff members dressed up as idioms to reenforce ideas about figurative language that had currently been covered with students.



Teachers dresses as idioms included: Arantxa Kojis-It's raining cats and dogs. Kevin Wickware-Break a leg. Leslie Brown-a bee in her bonnet. Terri Funsch-a frog in my throat. Lisa Solinski-time flies. Kristina Lee-on cloud 9. Michele Reibsamem-a piece of cake.



County Commission meeting notes

by Rachel Dahl

Churchill County Commissioners met last week in their regular meeting where they set a hearing for a bill that would reduce costs for developers to build multifamily housing in an effort to encourage development of needed housing in the community. The ordinance would change the water right dedication requirement from 1.12-acre feet to .56 on unit density, along with reducing the water connection fees based on unit density. A public hearing on the bill was set for November 18th.

Chris Rogne, from E.H. Hursh presented information regarding two insurance policies necessary for the construction of the new Civic Center. The premium for the general liability policy for the cost of the project is \$52,489, and the cost of the premium for the course of construction policy will be \$12,715.

Owners of a 30-acre development project, represented by Duane R. South, were granted a five-year extension to file a final map for the development of one-acre lots in the area of Thornbird Drive.

Jorge Guerrero, director of facilities, parks, and recreation asked commissioners to advise the Parks and Recreation Commission on the issue of establishing a noise curfew in the rental contracts in the Facility Rental Guidelines for the facilities at the Regional Park. Currently there are no requirements in the agreements that prevent noise, and neighbors are directed to make complaints to the Sheriff's office. Commissioners directed Guerrero to lead the Parks and Recreation Commission in adding this language to the rental contracts.

Commissioners agreed to contract with JNA Consulting Group, LLC to manage the issuance of bonds through a competitive process to fund the Civic Center. JNA Consulting will provide oversight, obtain bids, and work with bond counsel to issue revenue bonds to finance approximately \$6 million. The bid process is intended to result in better interest rate than going directly through a bank.

County Manager Jim Barbee pre-

sented the county response to COVID, saying there has been a significant uptick over the past two weeks in the number of positive cases. During the week of October 26th there had been 206 positives since March, "a week and a half later we're sitting at 350 positives almost a doubling of our number entirely," he said. Four people are currently hospitalized, and one is in the Intensive Care Unit. "Because we have been doing a significant volume of testing, we are able to keep our positivity rate down, but this is not unique to our community, all across the state we're seeing an increase in numbers."

The county is still providing community testing Tuesday afternoons and Thursday mornings. Barbee said they are working to create heating for staff who are working at the fairgrounds doing the testing. He will meet with the Governor's Task Force next week and could potentially see some directives out of the governor's office restricting some of the activities we've seen in the past.

Chairman Pete Olsen expressed concern for staff who are out in the elements during the community testing. Commissioner Carl Erquiaga suggested the use of a splicing tent that CC Communications uses which may provide cover for staff to warm up. According to Barbee, heaters are set to arrive next week, and walls were installed this week on the overhead shade facility. They are also looking at using RVs to keep staff warm.

The contract for the civil work to get the Civic Center project started was awarded to A&K Earth Movers in the amount of \$1,750,000. This will allow concrete to be poured by February. Lumos and Associates has been working on the design and civil portion of the project, and the bidding process for the civil work was recently opened up, with A&K Earth Movers submitting the lowest bid.

Commissioners considered and approved the issuance of tax-exempt obligation bonds to reimburse the county from proceeds of the bonds as a financing tool to help fund the construction of the Civic Center.

They also heard a presentation re-

garding an application to the State from Ormat for an abatement on the sales and use tax as well as the property tax on the Dixie Meadows Power Plant. Ben Shawcroft, chief civil deputy district attorney, said that although by NRS the county does not have the legal basis to deny the applications nor the approval authority, the recommendation of "no action" was made. Although the application does technically meet the criteria for the abatement, by taking "no action" in effect that is a protest because the state generally approves these applications.

"We have always tried to protest these types of applications because of the significant impact it has on our local revenue and economy," said Shawcroft, "if you decide to take no action that is a way of not approving it, but it will be approved anyway at the state level."

Commissioners denied the request by Ormat.

Geof Stark presented information regarding the conversion of two part-time custodians into one full-time custodian for the facility and grounds department which the commissioners approved. The main reason for this is to provide flexibility due to the increase in COVID requirements with the addition of the Northside Center and the new public defender's office.

The next meeting of the commission will be November 18th at 1:15 p.m.



Commission Opposes Ormat Abatement Request

by Rachel Dahl

After a lengthy discussion last week, Churchill County Commissioners decided to oppose the application by Ormat for an abatement of the sales and use tax as well as property tax on the Dixie Meadows power plant. The abatement of these taxes is allowed by Nevada Revised Statute and granted by application to the state.

Ben Shawcroft, chief civil deputy district attorney, said that the county has a history of reviewing these applications, and is not ever really happy about them. “The law really has tied our hands in prohibiting these applications at the county level except for limited circumstance,” he said. “The county does not have the legal basis to deny the applications.”

Although staff recommendation was to take no action, the application does technically meet the criteria for the abatement, but by taking “no action” in effect that is a protest.

“We have always tried to protest these types of applications because of the significant impact it has on our local revenue and economy,” said Shawcroft, “if you decide to take no action that is a way of not approving it, but it will be approved anyway at the state level.”

Commissioner Bus Scharmann asked why the commissioners don’t consider disapproving the application.

“I know the state will overrule us, but at least rather than not taking any action, taking negative action tells them what we think about it,” he said.

“If you deny the application you have to have the grounds and make a record as to why you’re denying it, which again, we cannot do,” said Shawcroft.

In October the Churchill Economic Development Authority staff wrote a letter to the editor, posted online at The Fallon Post, supporting the Dixie Meadows project as being “focused on supporting Nevada both in terms of reaching the state’s ambitious clean energy goals and providing job opportunities for Nevadans to immediately bolster our state’s economic recovery.”

Jim Barbee, county manager, referenced a social media post by Paul Thompson, who is the Executive Vice President

for Ormat in which Thompson referenced the letter, “I think this tweet was disingenuous in terms of the message it put out,” said Barbee.

According to Barbee, in the tweet Thompson said “Ormat looks forward to infusing the Churchill County community with \$4 million annually in taxes and royalties to benefit schools and essential services.”

Barbee said he wanted to be very clear on the record, that this request before the county, that will be going to the state, “specifically would void them from making that kind of investment in our community and to have an Executive Vice President for Ormat post that and suggest that they

are, I think is not accurate.”

Commission Chairman Pete Olsen said that in spite of the specificity of the NRS in terms of what is allowed to deny the application, “You don’t give abatements to gold mines,” he said. “The reason people come to dig the gold there is that’s where the gold is at. The reason people come here to get the geothermal, is that’s where the geothermal is at so why would

you give abatements to these people, there’s no reason for it.”

He said the first four geothermal plants in Churchill County were built with no abatements. “The resource is here, why give it away.”

Commissioner Carl Erquiaga said he was in agreement, but asked if there was a better course than denying the application.

Shawcroft explained “we can always appear at the hearings at the state level and voice our displeasure with these types of applications.”

He also said he would make sure he or Barbee would be sure to attend the hearing.

Commissioners denied the request by Ormat.



Photo courtesy of Ormat Technologies

Local Governments Support Businesses Hit by COVID

Information provided by City of Fallon Press Release

The City of Fallon and Churchill County announced last week that 28 local businesses and non-profits benefitted from the 2020 City of Fallon and Churchill County COVID-19 Business Support Grant.

The program, which was developed by Mayor Ken Tedford and County Commission Chairman Pete Olsen, was funded by CARES Act funds received by the City and County and implemented by the Churchill Economic Development Authority (“CEDA”).

“We saw this as a great opportunity to help our local businesses and non-profits that were hurting responding to COVID-19,” said Mayor Ken Tedford. “We appreciate our partnership with the County on this and working together with them on so many other efforts that benefit the citizens and businesses of our community.”

“We know that our local businesses and non-profits are struggling through these difficult times and we hope that this program helped, at least in small part, to keep them safe and open,” said County.

Commission Chairman Pete Olsen. “We really appreciate Sara Beebe at CEDA for her hard work in implementing and managing the program.”

In total, the program distributed approximately \$131,000 as reimbursement for expenses incurred by local businesses and non-profits in response to COVID-19 including the purchase of personal protective equipment (PPE), implementation of workplace redesigns, additional signage, sanitation items, technical assistance and advancements for the business or non-profit, and other items necessary to comply with COVID-19 public health guidelines on safely returning to work and to safely re-open.

Newlands Project Water Levels

Measurements taken
November 12th at 4:30 p.m.

Lahontan Reservoir
46,870 af

Truckee Canal at Hazen
216 cfs

Truckee Canal at Wadsworth
185 cfs

Carson River Below Lahontan
215 cfs

Carson River at Ft. Churchill
44.7 cfs

cfs - Cubic Feet per Second
af - Acre Feet

Homemaker Program

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



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



Art's Council cancels upcoming concert



John Jorgensen Bluegrass Band - Photo courtesy of Churchill Arts Council

by Viviane Ugalde

Important Update: Per Governor Sisolak's Tuesday night request to limit all public gatherings in the State for the next two weeks due to COVID, the Churchill Arts Council has postponed the November 21st performance with the John Jorgensen Bluegrass Band.

According to Valerie Serpa, executive director of the Arts Council, "It is our intent to reschedule this event and we will release updated details when available."

The Churchill Arts Council had been planning to hold their first live event since January on November 21st. Serpa said the board of the Arts Council had been working diligently to keep the event safe for all. "We miss having the theater open to the community, but we know we need to be safe," Serpa said.

The event was organized and set to take place, until Governor Sisolak's address on Tuesday night. "We don't want to be irresponsible, so unfortunately, we have to postpone again," Serpa said.

The planning of this event had been good news for not only the artists who rely on tours for their sole income, but for art centers and museums as well. While the community supports the art center, the art center is supporting artists. "People are extremely supportive of

the art center in this community," Serpa said.

The John Jorgensen Bluegrass Band consists of John Jorgensen on acoustic guitar, mandolin, and vocals; Herb Pedersen on banjo, acoustic guitar, and vocals; Mark Fain on bass; and Patrick Sauber on acoustic guitar and vocals.

"Many groups are from the east coast, so all tour dates got postponed because we try not to take back the deposits, we give them. They may be living off of that deposit," Serpa said.

Supporting local art studios, museums, and performance centers at the community level is more important than ever during these times. While many other art-centered locations are slowly opening around the world, the Art Council in Churchill County feels proud of their own community. and Serpa said the Arts Council has tried to postpone as many events as they can, rather than cancel them.

As the Arts Council and artists attempt to support each other, community members are crucial to their survival. Serpa said the community has been extremely generous and continued donating while the art center had been closed during COVID.

It isn't just musicians, but writers, artists, dancers, and even comedians, who have not had access to platforms for their performances. Major museums around the world have sold artworks to private collectors to make-up money lost from tickets and admission sales.

To support your local museum or art centers, think about making an online contribution. To support artists more directly, there are organizations like Americans for the Arts, Alliance of Artists Communities, American Association of Community Theater, and Comedy Gives Back to give to all artists in need during this time.

Serpa is passionate about the Arts Council, the Art Center, and the community's support. "We are committed to presenting art in our town," Serpa said.

For more information or do contribute to the Arts Council, visit the website at www.churchillarts.org or call 775-423-1440.

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Community Meetings

November 16th-20th

- County Commission Vote Canvass
11/16 - 9:00 am
- Planning Commission
11/17 - 6:30 pm
- Regional Transportation Commission
11/18 9:30 am
- County Commission
11/18 - 1:15 pm
- Coalition for Senior Citizens
11/19 - 3:30 pm
- Fallon City Council
11/16 - 9:00 am
- City Board of Abatement
11/16 - 6:00 pm
- School District Title VI Parent Advisory Committee
11/17 - 12:00 pm
- School District Board of Trustees
11/18 - 5:30 pm
- Library Board of Trustees
11/19 at 3 pm

Julio's Mexican & Italian

There is so much to say about this establishment. Next to Pizza Barn and Ace Hardware, Julio's Mexican & Italian has food that warms the taste buds during all seasons.

There are two food genres to choose from, as is apparent in their name. Both the Mexican and Italian food have the same quality, which means you can never go wrong – no matter what you choose.

A great choice in the Mexican food family is the super burrito. Just make sure you do not eat anything else for at least three days before. On the Italian side of the menu, a great and well-seasoned manicotti waits for you

My favorite part of this restaurant is the service. They are always ready to serve, please, and achieve the greatest meal experience. If that was not enough, the lemonade is absolutely magical, and they refuse to tell me how they make it so good.



O'Byrnes' Art Studio – A Place to Paint

by Leanna Lehman

Do you like to paint? Would you like to have fun while doing it? Then you are in luck. Steve O'Byrne recently opened an art studio for that exact purpose.

After 35 years, O'Byrne is embracing a new challenge and has returned to his first great love – painting. At a very young age, he loved to draw recalls O'Byrne, "I can't remember a time growing up when I wasn't sketching or drawing." Pursuing his passion, the aspiring artist became the youngest member of the Anaheim Artist Guild at the age of 15.

Bob Ross, one of the most well-known painters and art instructors of the 1980s and 1990s, was very influential in O'Byrne's own work. By learning Ross's technique for wet-on-wet oil painting, O'Byrne soon developed his own painting style and could complete an entire painting in a matter of hours, sometimes less.

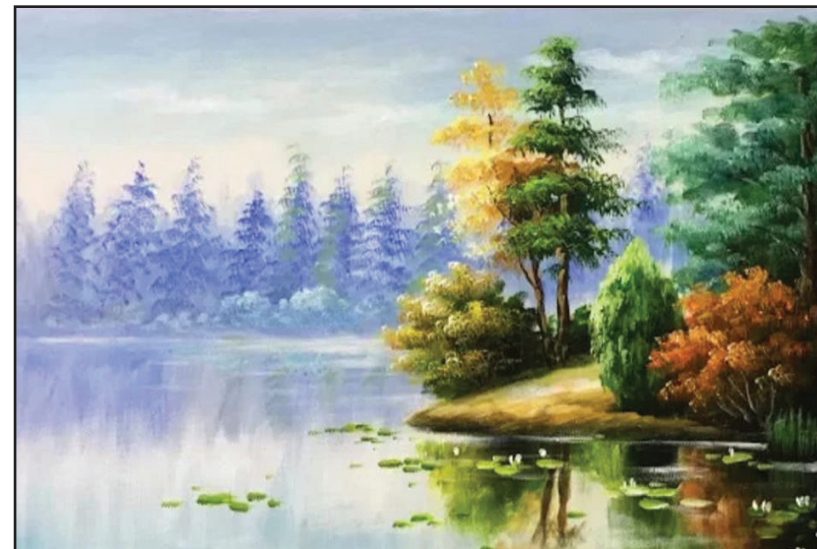
O'Byrne's painting eventually took a back to seat to his work as he took on the normal responsibilities of adulthood. After studying at the University of Texas, O'Byrne went into architecture and spent many years pursuing his career. In



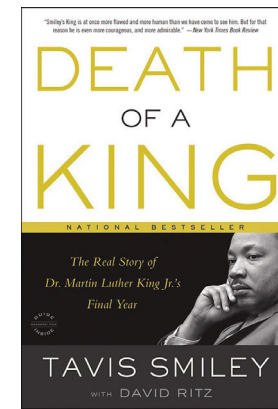
2003 he arrived in Fallon upon moving here to work and has been here ever since. One of his last projects includes the Banner Hospital ambulance entrance. The economic downturn of 2008 eventually took its toll on

O'Byrne's architectural career. Fortunately for Fallon, he stayed in the area and built a strong connection to the community.

Recently O'Byrne decided it was time to return to his roots started painting again. In addition to his own craft, he wanted to create a studio where anyone could come and learn. Taking action when the inspiration hit, he rented a space in the old Cobblestone Corner building on Center Street. He now holds painting classes a few times a month and offers painting lessons. With paint night participants ranging in age from 6 to 85, O'Byrne is



Death of a King



Tavis Smiley, a fantastic orator and historical writer, presents a novel about the lesser spoken time of a person's life.

We all know of the 'I have a dream' speech and marches that Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. organized and conducted in the hope for civil rights and peace.

This novel does not cover any of that. Smiley uses historical writings, interviews from King's family and staff, and news reports to write about the last year of Dr. King's life.

The novel pulls away from King's legacy, and delves into his problems within his family, organizations, and government. The audience learns how much Dr. King was striving for peace without underlying violence, and how much that made his own community steer away from him towards the end of his life.

This novel is great for those who enjoy a historical read, as well as for those curious about lesser known facts of a heroic leader like Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

happy to work with anyone who wants to learn to paint. He also opens his classes to those that just want to relax and have some fun.

In tribute to his mentor and with a flair for fun, O'Byrne entered the Fourth of July parade last year dressed as Bob Ross and completed a painting while

on the back of a trailer during the parade. According to O'Byrne, his efforts may not have produced a brilliant piece of art, but they did earn him the award for Best New Business.

Paint night events are held at the American Legion Hall with all supplies provided. After deciding what subject to paint, O'Byrne paints along with the class as well as works individually with anyone wanting the extra guidance. Most painting nights last a few hours and cost \$35.

O'Byrne's Facebook page is the go-to place to learn more about his work, his studio, and to get information

Chappelle's Show

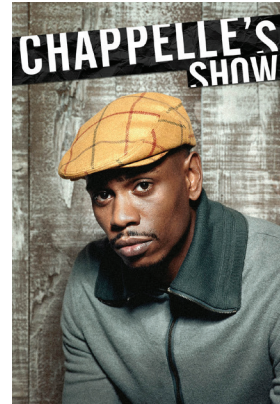
The man is back! After more than ten years away from fame and television, Dave Chappelle returned to show business stronger than ever.

Starting in 2017, Chappelle graced us with six new hour-specials on Netflix, hosted Saturday Night Live twice, and received the coveted Mark Twain Prize for American Humor.

Now is the perfect time to go back to his first peak of show business and remember what made him so popular.

Originally airing on Comedy Central, Chappelle's Show is now available on Netflix. For first time or seasoned viewers of Dave Chappelle's work, this show stood the test of time.

This variety series is it is fun nearly everyone. For those obsessed with the inner-workings of comedy like me, it is jealousy inducing. For those who like a hearty laugh, you may pop a vein from laughing so hard. I cannot recommend this show enough.



Love Goes

Sam Smith's new album transforms his smooth and angelic voice to one of experimentation.

While there are tracks that Smith lets his voice shine, this album has many tracks with interesting collaborations and intriguing sounds.

The title track, Love Goes, is a three act play within a song. The track features Labrinth, and uses both Smith and Labrinth's sound to their best ability. While the song starts with a similar Sam Smith serene sound, there is an introduction of astounding brass instruments.

This album has vibe that Sam Smith fans always want, while also trying to attract new crowds.

Smith has found a new fan for his crowd.



by Viviane Ugalde

Fallon Theatres
For show times call 423-4454

Free Admittance!! Now Showing

Quigly Down Under: Saturday 11/7 - 6:30 PM

The Hunger Games Trilogy 12th, 14th, 19th, 21st - 6:30 PM

The Last Unicorn 11/28 - 4:30 PM

Little Women 11/28 - 6:30 PM

Fallon Community Theatre, Inc., a local non-profit with all volunteer staff, appreciates your support ~ 71 S. Maine St, Fallon

Healthy tips from Carry

by Carry Thibaut

Heading into these cold busy mornings, the best way is with a Clean/Healthy Breakfast. It can become incredibly easy to skip breakfast or DRINK COFFEE as your breakfast.



When you need to get everyone out of the door for work, daycare, school, etc. at a specific time, things can get hectic and even frustrating. But it's crucial to make sure a good morning breakfast isn't one of them.

Without breakfast, you're more likely to snack throughout the day, and not on things that will get your body the nutrients it needs. A great way to be sure breakfast isn't forgotten is to prepare ahead of time, EVEN if you're still working or schooling from home. Mornings continue to be busy, and life often has a way of using up any extra time we might have.

Planning your breakfast and preparing it the night before (or even earlier, depending on the meal) makes it as easy as possible to eat the right things. Making clean/healthy choices when you get up each morning makes it more likely that you will follow through with good choices the rest of the day. ENJOY these 2 meals you can prepare ahead of time for a delicious, healthy, quick breakfast that is perfect for the busy winter mornings. Hopefully, this will help resist the temptation for a donut, muffin, or drive thru breakfast. Make special treats like donuts for birthdays.

Carry Thibaut is a local fitness instructor, nutrition expert, and community volunteer.

Baked Protein Oats

Ingredients

- 2 cups old-fashioned rolled oats
- 1/4 cup local honey
- 1 tsp baking powder
- a pinch of sea salt
- 1 1/2 cups unsweetened almond milk
- 1 large egg, or 3-4 egg whites
- 2 Tbsps. unrefined coconut oil, melted
- 2 tsp pure vanilla extract

- 2 bananas, sliced evenly in 1/2 inch pieces
- 1/2 cup walnuts finely chopped
- 1/4 cup dark chocolate chips
- Sprinkle w/unsweetened coconut (optional)

Instructions

1. Preheat your oven to 350 degrees f. and grease a 9x13 baking dish with coconut oil.
2. In large mixing bowl, whisk eggs, protein powder, cinnamon, honey, vanilla, zest and milk, until frothy.
3. Add in your oats and stir well until evenly combined.
4. If time allows let mixture sit for 30 minutes to soak up the oats.
5. Next add the nuts, sliced bananas, and berries.
6. Transfer the oat mixture to the prepared baking pan.
7. Bake at 350 degrees f. for 30-35 minutes or until the top and edges are golden brown and the center is set.
8. Once the oats are nice golden brown, remove from the oven and let cool a bit.
9. Cut into 6 even squares or bars.

(You can easily store these squares between the layers of wax paper in an airtight container, refrigerated for up to one week. They reheat well)

Chocolate Chip Banana Baked Oatmeal

Ingredients

- 2 cups old-fashioned rolled oats
- 1/4 cup local honey
- 1 tsp baking powder
- a pinch of sea salt
- 1 1/2 cups unsweetened almond milk
- 1 large egg, or 3-4 egg whites
- 2 Tbsps. unrefined coconut oil, melted
- 2 tsp pure vanilla extract
- 2 bananas, sliced evenly in 1/2 inch pieces
- 1/2 cup walnuts finely chopped
- 1/4 cup dark chocolate chips
- Sprinkle w/unsweetened coconut (optional)

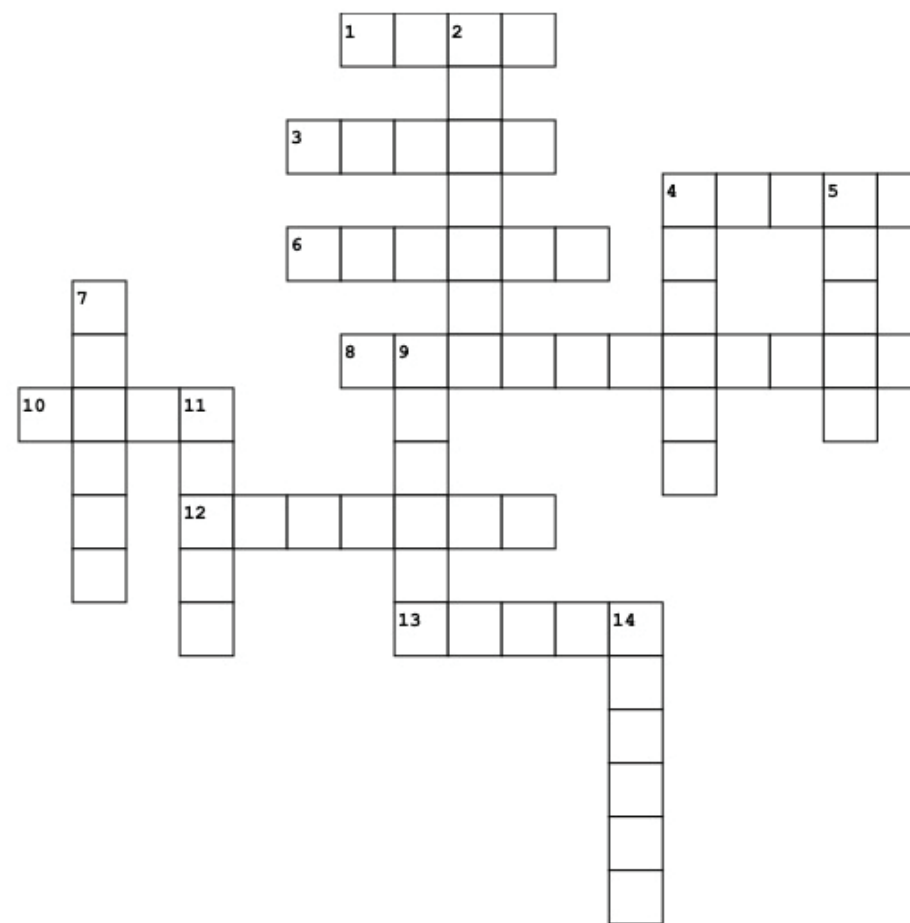
Instructions

1. Preheat your oven to 375 degrees f.
2. Spray or rub very lightly an 8- or 9-inch round baking dish with coconut oil.
3. In a large bowl, add all the ingredients and stir gently to combine well.
4. Using a rubber spatula, pour your oatmeal mixture into the prepared round baking dish, then level it nicely as by gently patting or spreading with your rubber spatula.
5. Bake for 40-50 minutes in your preheated oven, or just until the top is golden.

Keep an eye on it those last few minutes.

Crossword Puzzle Answers

Across	Down
1 base	2 shallot
3 Jonah	4 plunge
4 plum	5 Milan
6 hamlet	7 brunch
8 Veterans Day	9 Eminem
10 cusp	11 is paper
12 pogonip	14 thrust
13 Monet	



Across

1. 1st, 2nd, or 3rd; The opposite of acid.
3. A boys name; biblical figure who was eaten by a giant fish.
4. Used to describe a ripe fruit.
6. "To be, or not to be, that is the question:"
8. A holiday celebrating members of the military service.
10. A pointed end where two curves meet.
12. A winter fog with ice - common in Nevada.
13. A French artist from 1840-1926; Water Lilies.

Down

2. In the onion family, a small and sweet root vegetable.
4. Diving energetically into water.
5. The fashion capitol of the world.
7. When it is too late for breakfast.
9. The first rap artists to win an Oscar on Nov. 13, 2002.
11. It beats rock, but not scissors.
14. To push forcefully; a sudden force.

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