

the Fernley reporter

FERNLEY'S HOMETOWN NEWS

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Sheriff honors heroic sacrifices of first responders on 9/11

By Robert Perea

More than 2,000 civilians, 343 firefighters, 72 law enforcement officers and eight EMTs and paramedics as a result of the terrorist attacks died on Sept. 11, 2001.

Serving as the guest speaker for Fernley's 24th annual 9/11 Remembrance Ceremony at the Out of Town Park, Lyon County Sheriff Brad Pope urged those in attendance to honor the sacrifice of those first responders and all of the others who were killed, not with words, but with purpose.

"These are not just numbers," Pope said. "These are names, faces, families left behind, futures never lived."

Pope said that instinct to run into the flames, rather than from them, to

use their own bodies to shield others from danger, is what makes a first responder different.

"So today we do more than mourn, we remember with purpose," Pope said. "We honor their action. We carry their stories forward so the world will never forget, not just what happened on 9/11, but who stood up when everything else was falling down."

Pope said heroes wear turnout gear, heroes carry stretchers, heroes wear uniforms.

"On 9/11, heroes climbed 110 floors, knowing that they may never come back down," he said. "Let us honor the fallen, not just with words, but with a renewed promise to care for those who continue to serve."

While acknowledging that there



Members of the Fernley Veterans Coalition Color Guard raise the flag during the 9/11 Remembrance Ceremony at the Out of Town Park. Photo by Robert Perea



Lyon County Sheriff Brad Pope delivers the keynote address during the 9/11 Remembrance Ceremony at the Out of Town Park. Photo by Robert Perea



Kelly Brye (left) accepts the 2025 Fernley Patriot of the Year Award from 2022 winner Dana Uhlhorn during the 9/11 Remembrance Ceremony at the Out of Town Park. Photo by Robert Perea

are no words that can fully express our gratitude, Pope said we say them anyway.

"We remember you, we honor you, we will never forget you," he said. "May the memory of the fallen guide us. May their courage inspire us and may we as a nation live each day worthy of their sacrifice."

Following Pope's remarks and the Volley of Three fired by the Nevada Veterans Coalition Honor Guard, Dana Uhlhorn, the 2022 recipient of the Fernley Patriot of the Year Award, was called to the stage to present the 2024 award to Kelly Brye.

Uhlhorn said Brye has been involved I several different community organizations including the Moose Lodge, Rotary Club, Chamber of Com-

mers and Fernley Builders Association.

"This person constantly gives selflessly of himself, his money and his time, even his spirit, to push this community forward to do better for it," Uhlhorn said.

Referring to the shooting the day before of Charlie Kirk, Brye said he heard a commentator on the news calling for people to be united, not angry. Brye recalled how united the country was after 9/11.

"It was the most united by far in my lifetime that we have been as a nation, so I'm going to try and do that today," he said.

Brye also thanked the first responders and those serving the country.

"Thank you for all you do for us from the bottom of my heart," he said.

Titus skeptical of Medicaid change to MCO model

By Robert Perea

State Senator Robin Titus expressed skepticism about switching Nevada's Medicaid model to a managed care organization from a fee-for-service program during a presentation by SilverSummit at the Sept. 4 meeting of the Lyon County Commission.

The presentation was made to the Commission acting in its role as the Lyon County Board of Health, which Titus presides over as the Lyon County

Health Officer.

SilverSummit Healthplan was chosen to provide Nevada Medicaid services in rural areas, effective Jan. 1, 2026. The plan was awarded a new, five-year contract with a potential two-year extension by the State of Nevada to cover the entire state and to expand its provider networks to better serve residents in underserved rural communities.

During the presentation, SilverSummit representatives outlined the

company's plan to increase the number of providers serving rural areas, enhance care coordination through a team of case managers and community health workers, provide transportation assistance for patients in rural areas and expand telehealth services.

But Titus, who had a private practice as a physician in Smith Valley from 1981 to 2019, questions whether all of that will be feasible.

"I'm just going to straight out say, I was vehemently opposed to switching

our Medicaid in rural areas to managed care," she said. "I'm just very worried about providers being able to keep their doors open under a managed care model, and you're going to expand your providers in the rural areas, so I want to make sure that indeed does happen."

Allison Hoover, Director of Network Development and Maintenance for SilverSummit Health Plan, described the

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P.O. Box 126
Fernley, Nevada 89408

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President / Editor
Robert Perea
robert@fernleyreporter.com

Publisher
Rachel Dahl
rachel@fallonmediallc.com

Advertising
For advertising contact:
775-481-3582, or email
Advertising@fallonmediallc.com

Ad Design
Christine Bryner
christine@studio509llc.com

Office Manager
Amber Hardin

Logistics Manager
Denice Pinder

Contributors

Jenny Bench
Kelly Brye
Nancy Chapman
Phil Christian
Jaimie Daniels
Christy Lattin
Leanna Lehman
Kerry Lyman
Matt McCreary
Justin Miller
Mike Moresi
John Poundstone
Dan Ravetto
Shana Rhinehart
Mary Sorensen
Davy Stix
Dana Uhlhorn

Volunteers

Tammy Dittman

Mail

P.O. Box 126
Fernley, Nevada 89408
admin@FallonMediaLLC.com
775-376-3219

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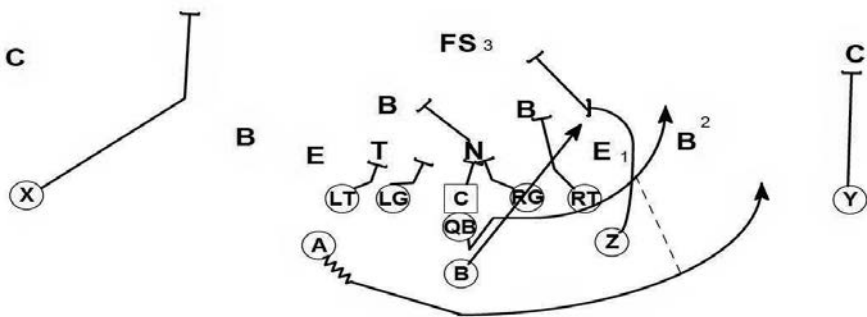
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LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

The Inside Veer



When the blank page stares back

When we started printing the Fernley Reporter, the one thing I dreaded was the idea of writing a weekly column. I didn't think I'd be much of a columnist. Reporting, formatting, organizing, I knew how to do those things. But writing a column felt different. It asked for something more personal, more exposed. I wasn't sure I had that kind of voice, or that anyone would want to hear it if I did.

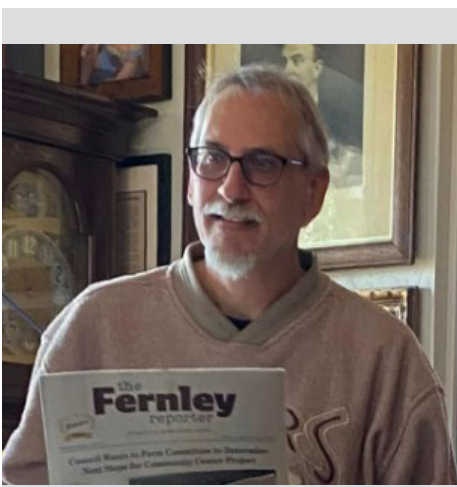
Some weeks, I know where I'm headed. A headline catches my eye, a conversation lingers, or something that happens during the week sparks a thought and the idea flows from there. The column begins to form before I've even sat at the keyboard. It's not always polished, but it's pointed. I know the shape of it, even if it's just a feeling.

But then there are the other weeks. The ones where the cursor blinks like it's waiting for me to explain myself. Where the world feels too loud or too quiet, and nothing quite rises to the level of "column-worthy." I scroll through notes, revisit old drafts, reread quotes I once thought profound. I walk the dog twice, hoping the rhythm of his steps will unlock something.

It's not that there's nothing to say. It's that there's too much, and none of it wants to be the first sentence.

Some weeks, the hardest part of writing isn't the writing, it's the choosing. The moment when I decide, "This is the story I'll tell," knowing I've left a dozen others behind.

It's like tuning an old radio dial. You turn slowly, but all you get is static and half-formed voices. You think you've found something, but it fades before



ROBERT PEREA

you can catch it. So, you keep turning, hoping the signal will sharpen.

Or maybe it's more like fishing in shallow water. You know there's movement beneath the surface, but the bait doesn't land right. The line drifts. You wait.

And then, sometimes, the idea arrives not with a splash but with a whisper. A memory. A sentence you didn't know you'd been carrying. A moment that asks to be held still, just long enough to become a column.

That's when the page stops staring. That's when it starts listening.

My favorite sentences aren't the loudest or the cleverest, they're the ones that veer inward. The ones that know where they're going, even if I didn't.

I actually have no idea where they come from, because most of them arrive unannounced, half-formed, quiet, and oddly certain. They don't come from outlines or deadlines or the pres-

sure to be profound. They come from somewhere else, like a memory I didn't know I'd kept, or a sentence I scribbled in the margin months ago and forgot to throw away.

Those are my favorite, not because they're trying to be deep, but because they're trying to be honest. And when they land, when they finally settle into the shape they were always meant to take, I stop chasing the story and start listening to it.

That's when I know the column's ready. Not because it's perfect. But because it's true.

Robert Perea has covered news and sports in Northern Nevada since 1993. He has published The Fernley Reporter online since 2016, loves music, is a sucker for the pets who have adopted him, and is thrilled to be printing the Reporter.

Fernley Women's Golf Club results, Sept. 9

Monthly Stroke Play

- 1st Gross: Patty Liljeberg, 91
- 2nd Gross: Jana Jarner, 101
- 1st Net: Linda Garrett, 74
- 2nd Net: Kathy Kennedy, 76
- Closest to hole #7: Patty Liljeberg, 13'
- Low Putts: Jana Garner, 25
- No birdies or chip-ins



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FEATURES

Fernley Intermediate School honors Patriot Day with 9/11 Remembrance Assembly

Courtesy of Lyon County School District

Fernley Intermediate School came together to honor Patriot Day with a heartfelt 9/11 Remembrance Assembly. The event served as an important learning opportunity for students while also recognizing the bravery and sacrifice of those impacted by the tragic events of September 11, 2001.

FIS Leadership students played a central role in the assembly. They created artwork and posters reflecting themes of remembrance, unity, and hope. During the ceremony, students walked in a parade around the gym, proudly displaying their creations to the audience. Their efforts highlighted both their creativity and their commitment to honoring the significance of this day in history.

The assembly taught students about the tragedy of 9/11 and its lasting impact on the nation. To help students understand the deeper meaning of

the day, Fernley Mayor Neal McIntyre spoke about how the country came together in unity during that time. His message emphasized the importance of kindness, compassion, and community strength.

FIS was honored to welcome local heroes in attendance, including representatives from the Lyon County Sheriff's Office, North Lyon Fire Department, and Nevada Highway Patrol, along with veterans and other community members. These individuals were recognized during the assembly for their ongoing dedication and service to the community. Their presence offered students a chance to connect the lessons of 9/11 to the everyday heroism demonstrated by first responders.

The assembly was organized by FIS Leadership Teacher, Julie Shoemaker. Under her guidance, the students spoke, presented, and led the school community in the remembrance.



Fernley Intermediate School students walked in a parade around the gym to display the flags and their artwork during the 9/11 Remembrance Assembly at Fernley Intermediate School. Photo courtesy of Lyon County School District



Fernley Intermediate School students demonstrate their posters during the 9/11 Remembrance Assembly at FIS. Photo courtesy of Lyon County School District



Fernley Mayor Neal McIntyre speaks during the 9/11 Remembrance Assembly at Fernley Intermediate School. Photo courtesy of Lyon County School District

Wheeler displays tribute to fallen 9/11 firefighters



Harry Wheeler displayed his collection of posters, pictures, fire department patches and other memorabilia commemorating the rescue efforts of the New York City Fire Department on Sept. 11, 2001. Photo by Robert Perea

By Robert Perea

Harry Wheeler often gets asked why there is a sticker warning people to stay back 343 feet on the bumper of the old Truckee Meadows Fire Department incident command vehicle he often drives in parades and other events.

That number, 343, carries great weight for Wheeler, representing the number of firefighters killed responding to the terror attacks at the World Trade Center on Sept. 11, 2001.

“That’s how many firefighters we lost that, so that’s why it’s such a significant number,” Wheeler said. “We’ve lost a lot more since then because of health issues.”

A retired firefighter for the Truckee Meadows and City of Reno fire departments, Wheeler has an extensive collection of firefighting memorabilia, and he’s written a book about the history of firefighting in Nevada.

Last Thursday, he set up a display at the Canal Wine Lounge of his collection of posters, pictures, fire depart-

ment patches and other items he’s gathered in the 24 years since the 9/11 attacks.

One of Wheeler’s favorite items in the collection is a photo taken in March, 2002 with three New York firefighters who came to Reno to present a plaque to thank the city of Reno for its donation of \$550,000 that was raised by the Reno Fire Department, where Wheeler was serving at the time. The photo shows them ringing the bell at Reno Fire Station No. 1, where the Aces baseball stadium now stands, 24 times in memory of 24 firefighters lost from Battalion 57.

The collection also includes a replica of the fire station that houses Engines 230 and 235 and a statue depicting three firefighters raising the flag on top of the rubble of the World Trade Center.

“I put this collection together to represent the New York Fire Department,” Wheeler said. “We’re trying to keep 9/11 alive, we’re trying to keep the memory of 9/11 and just make it a visual for people to look at.”

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Library beginning computer classes

Staff Report

The Fernley Branch Library will be hosting a Basic Computer Skills class and a Coding Club for kids ages 8-12 in October.

The Basic Computer Skills will be held every Thursday starting Oct. 2 at 10 a.m. The class is for beginners and adults and will teach the basics step-by-step. Topics include using the mouse and keyboard, organizing files and folders, browsing the Internet and email.

No experience is needed, and the class is open for drop-ins with no registration required.

Students in the Youth Coding Club for Kids will learn to code with Scratch to create their own games, animations and interactive stories.

Registration is now open and the class starts Saturday, Oct. 11 from 2-3 p.m.

Scratch is the world's largest coding community for children and a coding language with a simple visual interface that allows young people to create digital stories, games and animations.

Both programs are funded by an Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) grant, administered by the Nevada State Library Archives and Public Records.



City looking for sponsors and volunteers for Spooktacular

Staff Report

With Halloween season fast approaching, the City of Fernley is looking for sponsors and volunteers for its annual Safe Trick or Treating Spooktacular.

This year's Spooktacular is scheduled for Friday, Oct. 31 from 4-7 p.m. at City Hall.

Businesses, organizations and individuals can participate through monetary donations to purchase candy and small novelties to be passed out to children, donations of Halloween candy or novelties, volunteering to pass

out candy to trick-or-treaters during the event or decorating City Hall or help decorate the hallway haunted house.

Names and business logos for sponsors and volunteers will be placed on all advertising material and banners that publicize Spooktacular, and volunteers can include advertisements for their businesses on their table to hand out candy.

For more information or to sign up, contact Jessica Murdock with the city manager's office at (775) 784-9850 or email jmurdock@cityoffernley.org.

Boys & Girls Club to honor members of the year at awards banquet Oct. 2

Staff Report

The Boys & Girls Club of Truckee Meadows Serving Fernley will honor its members of the year at its Annual Awards Banquet on Thursday, Oct. 2 at the Community Response and Resource Center. The Club will also honor a community leader with its Distinguished Service Award and present its Volunteer of the Year Award.

The highlight of the banquet is the presentations of the Youth of the Year Award. The Youth of the Year award is the Boys & Girls Clubs of America's signature effort to foster a new generation of leaders, fully prepared to live

and lead in a diverse, global and integrated world economy. It is the highest honor a Boys & Girls Club youth can achieve.

The event begins with cocktails at 5 p.m. followed by dinner and the awards presentations at 6 p.m.



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Thursday, Sept. 25
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Honeydew
Cantaloupe
Corn

Friday, Sept. 26
Hot dog on WW Bun
Baked Chips
Mixed Veggies
Fruit Cocktail

COMMUNITY

Boy Scout Troop working to rebuild under new sponsorship by American Legion Post 37

By Robert Perea

A local Boy Scout troop is rebuilding its ranks and community presence under new sponsorship by American Legion Post 37, following a transition from its previous charter with St. Robert Bellarmine Catholic Church.

The troop, which serves boys ages 11 to 18, held a Court of Honor on Sept. 10 to recognize several months of accomplishments, including rank advancements and completed merit badges. Scoutmaster Robert Marshall, who stepped into the role last November after serving several years as assistant scoutmaster, said the event marked a turning point in the troop's efforts to reestablish itself.

"A lot of troops stop meeting during the summer because kids go on vacation or get caught up in other activities," Marshall said. "We met all summer.

Marshall said the troop plans one simple outdoor activity a month, and one major activity every other month.

The troop's philosophy is rooted in accessibility. "Money doesn't matter," Marshall said. "We don't care if the kids can afford the uniforms, the dues, or the registration. If a kid wants to do scouts, we'll figure it out."

Since the American Legion Post 37 stepped in as sponsor last fall, the troop has focused on camping, hiking,



The members of Fernley Boy Scout Troop 37 were presented with their rank advancements and merit badges for their accomplishments over the summer during a Court of Honor ceremony on Thursday, Sept. 10. The Scouts honored were (left to right) Jaden Hazelton, Michael Salvador, Aiden Marshall, Joe Perkins and Bradley Wadsworth, along with (back row) Dale Schneeberger representing American Legion Post 37, Scoutmaster Robert Marshall and Assistant Scoutmaster Samantha Salvador. Photo by Robert Perea.

and planning fall activities, while also deepening its commitment to volunteer work—both with the Legion and throughout the community.

Legion member Dale Schneeberger said the Post 37's sponsorship helps

ensure the troop has what it needs—physically and financially. "One of our pillars is to support something like the scouts," he said.

With a renewed foundation and a steady hand at the helm, the troop is

working to grow its membership and continue its legacy of service, resilience, and outdoor adventure.

Gift of Grace hosting Fall Yard Sale and Bake Sale Oct. 4

Staff Report

Gift of Grace Lutheran Church will be hosting its Fall Yard Sale and Bake Sale from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Oct. 4 at 190 S. West Street.

Some of the items for sale are children's clothing, toys (My Little Pony, Barbie and more), books, small household appliances, dishes, puzzles and games, housewares, bedding, towels and linens, furniture and much more.

Vitalant will also be on site with their donation van conducting a blood drive.



Yard Sale
& Bake Sale

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190 S. West Street Fernley

Fernley Church Directory

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Silverland Middle School

Grace Baptist Church
460 W. Main Street, Suite 108
gbcfernley.org

Fernley First Baptist Church
485 E. Main Street

Gift of Grace Lutheran Church
290 N. West Street

Living Faith Church
110 Center Street

Crosswinds Assembly of God
3015 Farm District Road

Calvary Chapel
875 Fremont Street

Joy! Alliance Fellowship
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St. Robert Bellarmine Catholic Church
625 Desert Shadows Lane

Fernley Free Methodist Church
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Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints
155 Hwy 95A South

Living Stones Church
868 Cottonwood Lane

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REGIONAL NEWS

Doctor shortage threatens rural Nevada’s health care system

By Christy Lattin

Rural counties in Nevada face some of the steepest challenges in the state’s worsening doctor shortage, according to a new report from the University of Nevada, Reno School of Medicine. The Health Workforce in Nevada – 2025 study warns that Nevada would need more than 2,300 additional physicians to reach the national per-capita average. The shortage is felt most acutely outside of Reno and Las Vegas, where long travel times and scarce medical resources already burden residents.

Dr. John Packham with the University of Nevada, Reno School of Medicine presented the “Health Workforce in Nevada – 2025” report to the Central Nevada Health District at its August meeting. He summarized the overall picture, saying “It’s not a good story in the rurals,” noting the shortage of primary care doctors, dentists, and mental health workers.

The 73-page report is filled with tables, graphs and maps, and details the number of health professionals available in four distinct regions: Carson City, Clark County, Washoe County, and “Rural & Frontier” which includes 14 of Nevada’s 17 counties. It uses the term Health Professional Shortage Area, or HPSA to describe the lack of qualified doctors in a geographic region.

A summary analysis of the report reveals the following:

- Health Professional Shortage:**
- Primary Care - As a whole, 65% of Nevadans live in a primary care HPSA. In the rural counties, 89% of residents lack access to a primary care doctor.
 - Dental Care - 58% of Nevadans live in a dental HPSA, with 82.5% of rural residents lacking access to dental professionals.
 - Mental Health - 91% of Nevadans live in a mental health HPSA, with 100% of rural residents facing a shortage of mental health professionals.
- Current and Projected Employment:**
- Employment in the health care sector expected to increase by 25,248 jobs, or 15% in the next 10 years.
 - Nevada needs an additional 10,992 jobs in ambulatory care, 10,660 jobs in hospitals, and 8,273 jobs in nursing and residential care to meet the national average.
 - Similarly, Nevada would need an additional 4,865 registered nurses, 2,303 physicians, and 906 pharmacists to meet the national average.
 - Health workforce shortages are not limited to occupations requiring advanced education and training. Nevada would need an additional 23,327 home health and personal care aides, an additional 5,092 nursing assistants, and an additional 1,157 medical secretaries and administrative assistants to meet the national average.

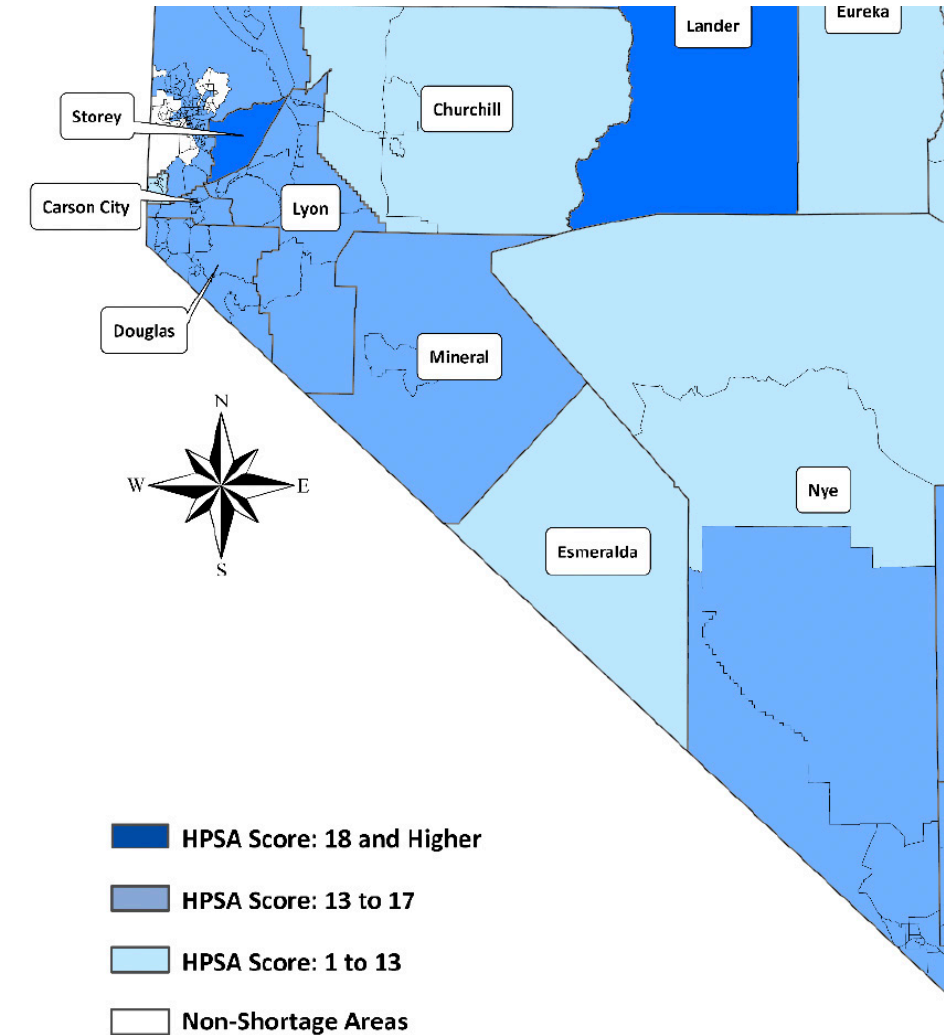
- Licensure Trends:**
- Over the past decade, several health care occupations have seen substantial growth in both the number of licensees, and the rate of licensees per 100,000 population. Noteworthy examples include advanced practitioners of nursing, licensed clinical social workers, and physician assistants.
 - Conversely, over the past decade, several health care occupations had modest growth in the number of licensees and relatively flat growth in the rate of licensees per 100,000 population. Examples include clinical psychologists, dental hygienists, and respiratory therapists.
 - In general, the population per licensed health care worker is considerably higher in rural counties versus urban areas of the state. For example, there

are 24,301 residents per 1 clinical psychologist in rural counties as compared to 2,990 residents per 1 clinical psychologist in Washoe County.

In a speech to Churchill County Republicans in 2023, Governor Joe Lombardo said qualified professionals like doctors and nurses cannot come to Nevada without wading through a year or more of red tape, education, or certifications before beginning work in their field. “It’s no secret,” said Lombardo, “we have a workforce issue in Nevada, and we are one of the worst-rated states for doing business and with occupational licensing.”

The report concludes by stating the workforce trends of health care workers presented will require state and local leaders to pursue policy measure to increase the supply of health professionals, improve the diversity of the state’s health workforce, and address the geographic maldistribution of health workers in Nevada.

The report can be found on the UNR School of Medicine’s Office of Statewide Initiatives website at med.unr.edu/statewide/programs/nevada-health-workforce-rsearch-center.



Primary Medical Care Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSAs) in Nevada – 2025, Office of Statewide Initiatives (2025)

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REGIONAL NEWS

The Food Bank of Northern Nevada wants you to imagine ending hunger
September is named Hunger Action Month to raise awareness about food insecurity
and to help neighbors get the food they need.

By Christy Lattin

The Food Bank of Northern Nevada sits perched on a hill in the industrial park east of Sparks. Just beyond the tastefully decorated lobby, the warehouse hums with motion. A bright mural overlooks the production line, where volunteers pack boxes of food and send them rolling down a conveyor. Forklift operators weave through the bustle, part of a carefully choreographed effort that keeps the Food Bank running and keeps food flowing to families across northern Nevada and the eastern Sierra in California.

As part of Hunger Action Month, the Food Bank of Northern Nevada, or FBNN, recently held a tour of its facilities for volunteers, media, and neighboring businesses.

“It’s important for people to see what we do,” said Jocelyn Lantrip, Director of Marketing.

The FBNN was established in 1983 as a small local food bank in the Reno area. The organization grew substantially following a grant of \$8.2 million in 2008 from the Donald W. Reynolds Foundation. The numbers tell the story: the FBNN now serves 160,000 Nevadans monthly, through 155 agency partners, covers over 90,000 square miles and spans 23 counties in two states.

Connor Bush, Strategic Gifts Advisor, said the number of people served today is 76% higher than what they saw during the pandemic. While the spike in 2020 was due to people being unable to work, the need remains high because the cost of living continues to rise steeply, pushing family budgets to their limits.

The Feeding America organization estimates that one in seven Nevadans, and one in five children in the state face hunger. A state report from 2023 predicted almost 100,000 older Nevadans will face food insecurity in 2025. That’s why the FBNN has built a strong network of partners to help distribute food across the state.

“We’re basically a logistics company,” said Chris Gleim, Director of Operations, artfully dodging a forklift headed to the truck bay with a pallet of food. The warehouse implements an inventory strategy to prevent food waste or spoilage, and they operate 39 vehicles.

Matt Cooper, Director of Food Sourcing, said Feeding America helped in creating a sourcing plan. The FBNN also has some latitude in who they can



Pictured above, from left to right, are Connor Bush, Strategic Gifts Advisor; Zanyda Braxton, Food Drives & Special Events Coordinator; Brandon Morales, Donor Services & Insights Manager; Aramelle Wheeler, Marketing & Communications Manager; Jocelyn Lantrip, Director of Marketing; Token Barnhouse, Special Projects & Assistant to the CEO; Karen Senger, Chief Philanthropy Officer; Brian Edwards, Chief Financial Officer; and Nicole Lamboley, President and Chief Executive Officer. Photo by Christy Lattin.

buy from because they are considered a wholesaler. For example, the warehouse just received an order of onions direct from the grower in Yerington. Incoming food is sorted and shelved on one side of the warehouse, while the other side holds wrapped pallets with fulfilled orders.

“We don’t have a food shortage, we have a food access issue,” said Chief Executive Officer Nicole Lamboley. The FBNN also focuses on advocacy and helps steer its neighbors to programs that will address their food insecurity.

Lamboley served on the FBNN’s board of directors before taking the leadership role just six months prior to the pandemic in 2020. Her team is crafting an updated strategic plan focused on the next 10 years; the last plan didn’t factor in the Covid-19 pandemic, but still the FBNN served 128,000 people in April 2020, a record high, thanks to the team’s commitment.

Two new projects are helping the FBNN expand its reach. They include The Oddie Project in Sparks, and a warehouse hub in Elko. The Oddie Project is a partnership between FBNN and The Children’s Cabinet to create a community center offering childcare, a food bank, a market, and workforce

development opportunities. The new Elko distribution hub is in partnership with the Nevada Department of Agriculture and will help the FBNN better reach communities in rural northeastern Nevada.

More than half the FBNN funding comes from individual donors, while a large portion comes from grants. While federal funding has dropped this year, their partnership with Feeding America helps them connect with national donors and corporate foundations.

Last year, 4,000 volunteers provided 22,000 hours of service at the FBNN, all done in two-hour shifts. Residents who wish to help are encouraged to volunteer at their local distribution sites. The FBNN website has a Food Finder page with an interactive map showing the partners and programs available in each community at fbnn.org/programmap.

Every volunteer hour, every donated dollar, and every partnership adds up to a stronger safety net for northern Nevada.

Meetings

Fernley City Council
1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month at 5 p.m.
City Hall, 595 Silver Lace Blvd.
Next meeting October 1

Fernley Planning Commission
2nd Wednesday of the Month at 5 p.m.
City Hall, 595 Silver Lace Blvd.
Next meeting October 8

Fernley Senior Citizen Advisory Committee
2nd Friday of even numbered months at 9 a.m.
City Hall, 595 Silver Lace Blvd.
Next meeting October 10

Lyon County Commission
1st and 3rd Thursday of the month at 9 a.m.
Lyon County Administrative Complex
27 S. Main St. Yerington
Next meeting October 2

Lyon County Planning Commission
2nd Tuesday of the Month at 9 a.m.
Lyon County Administrative Complex
27 S. Main St. Yerington
Next meeting October 14

Lyon County Library Board of Trustees
4th Tuesday of the Month, 9:30 a.m.
Locations rotate between the 5 county libraries
Next meeting September 23

Lyon County School District Board of Trustees
4th Tuesday of the month, 6:30 p.m.
Locations rotate between each attendance area
Next meeting September 23

North Lyon County Fire Protection District Board of Trustees
2nd or 3rd Thursday of the month
195 E. Main St.
Next meeting October 9 or 16

Fernley Swimming Pool General Improvement District
3rd Tuesday of the month, 5:30 p.m.
Next meeting October 21



The “Nourishing Hope” mural was painted in the Food Bank of Northern Nevada warehouse in 2020 as a way to thank its dedicated volunteers. Photo by Christy Lattin.

We’d love to hear from you.

robert@fernleyreporter.com

Have a story?

LAW AND ORDER

Arraignment continued to Oct. 20 for man charged with kidnapping, beating youths



Guillermo Aboytes Saavedra
Photo courtesy Lyon County Sheriff.

By Robert Perea

An arraignment hearing for the man charged with kidnapping and beating three youths was continued until Oct. 20 in Third Judicial District Court in Yerington Monday morning. Guillermo Aboytes Saavedra is facing two counts of kidnapping, first degree; one count of kidnapping, first degree, resulting in substantial bodily harm; and three counts of child abuse or neglect, all felonies. He was also scheduled to be arraigned in a separate case on a charge of assault with a deadly weapon. Saavedra waived a preliminary

hearing in Canal Township Justice Court on Aug. 26 and the case was bound over to District Court. During Monday’s hearing, his attorney requested that the case be continued to Oct. 20. “Mr. Saavedra had some additional questions that he’d like answered before entering his guilty plea,” said attorney Massey Mayo. In the kidnapping case, Saavedra was arrested May 6 after Lyon County Sheriff’s deputies received a call from someone who said her brother had texted her that someone was threatening to kill him. Deputies pinged the youth’s phone and eventually found three

youths in the crawl space of a house on Johnson Ct. LCSO said the youths had been playing on the swings at the park located off Cory Way when Saavedra approached and threatened them. They charged that he then forced them to walk to the home on Johnson Ct., where he beat them before forcing them into the crawl space. In the assault case, Saavedra was arrested Jan. 28. Court documents allege that he attempted to use physical force against another person and intentionally placed that person in reasonable apprehension of immediate bodily harm by chasing him with a knife.

Contact Your Elected Officials

Senator Catherine Cortez Masto
202-224-3542
Cortezmasto.senate.gov

Senator Jacky Rosen
202-224-6244
Rosen.senate.gov

Congressman Mark Amodei
775- 686-5760
Amodei.house.gov

Nevada State Senator Robin Titus
Minority Leader
Robin.titus@sen.state.nv.us

Nevada Assemblyman Greg Koenig,
Assistant Minority Floor Leader North
Gregory.koenig@asm.state.nv.us

Lyon County Commissioner - 1
John Cassinelli
775-461-6296
jcassinelli@lyon-county.org

Lyon County Commissioner - 2
Scott Keller - Chair
775-661-6283
skeller@lyon-county.org

Lyon County Commissioner - 3
Tammy Hendrix – Vice Chair
775-461-6223
thendrix@lyon-county.org

Lyon County Commissioner - 4
Robert Jacobson
775-240-7267
rjacobson@lyon-county.org

City of Fernley Mayor
Neal McIntyre
775-784-9857
mayor@cityoffernley.org

Fernley City Council Ward 1
Councilman Ryan Hanan
775-784-9852
rhanan@cityoffernley.org

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Councilwoman Felicity Zoberski
775-784-9855
fzoberski@cityoffernley.org

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Lyon County Clerk/Treasurer
Staci Lindberg
775-463-6501

Lyon County Recorder
Anita Talbot
775-463-6581

Third Judicial District Court
Judge John P. Schlegelmilch
775-463-6571 Ext. 1

Judge Leon Aberasturi
775-463-6571 Ext. 2

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This page is brought to the community through a partnership between Fallon Media Co. and Victory Logistics District, and is aimed at informing Fernley residents about local government, community development, and economic growth. Each week, we provide in-depth coverage of key issues shaping the city's future, fostering transparency, and encouraging engagement.

C O L U M N

Food For Thought

By Sherry Perea and Justin Miller

Cantaloupe Pie Ala Texas and Pacific

As featured on food.com from Dinner at the Diner - Great Railroad Recipes

There was no way I could do a cantaloupe recipe without it being this one. My fellow contributor here at the Fernley Reporter, Justin Miller, was the first to introduce me to this delight, so I asked him to share it with Food For Thought this week.

Cantaloupe melons have been grown in the Fernley area for more than a century. The fruit is special to those living in the agrarian parts of Nevada - Fallon even hosts the annual Cantaloupe festival. In the glory days of melon growing (pre-1929) farmers could brag about sending Hearts of Gold to cosmopolitan places as near as Reno and as far as The White House. The fruit was shipped by rail of course, and that’s where this recipe originated.

Created by a chef on the Texas and Pacific Railroad to impress a group of potential farmer clients, it might be the most refreshing pie you’ll ever eat. It’s perfect for summer (or early autumn!) barbecues, and is sure to get you compliments at any potluck you take it to.

Ingredients

- 1 Very ripe cantaloupe (use over ripe if possible for the most juice)
- 1 Cup water
- 1 1/2 cups sugar
- 2 Tablespoons flour, more or less as needed (I prefer cornstarch as it thickens better) for this method- mix 4 tablespoons of cornstarch with 4 tablespoons of water to make a cornstarch slurry
- 3 Tablespoons butter
- 1/4 Teaspoon nutmeg
- 1 Pre-baked pie crust

Instructions

1. Slice cantaloupe in half, deseed and remove rind, reserving all juices. Cut into small pieces and push through a ricer.
2. Place melon with juice and water into a saucepan and bring to a boil. Simmer for 5 minutes, stirring often.
3. Mix sugar and flour and slowly add to hot mixture, stirring constantly. If using cornstarch, mix 4 tablespoons cornstarch with 4 tablespoons water to make cornstarch slurry, slowly add slurry to hot mixture stirring constantly.
4. Add butter and nutmeg, stir until butter melts.
5. Cool and pour into pre-baked pie crust
6. If desired, top with whipped cream or meringue made according to your favorite recipe and brown in oven.



Continued from front - MEDICAID....

company’s efforts to establish a larger provider network. She said the company is trying to work with every provider that is available with the health plan to contract with and trying to streamline the Medicaid reimbursement process to make it easier for providers in order to build a larger network. She said one of Medicaid’s requirements is that members be able to choose their own providers from among a list of participating doctors.

She said they are working to implement a transportation network that will facilitate access to medical appointments, but also provide rides to social service agencies, food banks and other services for Medicaid recipients.

Hoover said SilverSummit will provide expanded telehealth services for Medicaid patients, including behavioral health services, although in a

response to a question from Titus, said telehealth will be optional, not mandatory, for patients.

“A lot of rural members access their telehealth system to connect to their specialists in Reno,” Hoover said.

Titus said she will be paying close attention to how the system works once it goes into effect Jan. 1.

“Believe me, I’m going to monitor this and see how many, if you really can indeed offer enough to expand providers willing to see our patients and our constituents in Lyon County and not undermine the brick and mortar folks that are out there working really hard to stay open,” she said. “I hope you’re incredibly successful for our rural folks, but I’m going to watch this so closely.”

Along with the presentation from SilverSummit, Commissioners heard a

presentation from representatives of the Nevada Health Authority (NVHA), which launched on July 1. The Nevada Health Authority will house several state health care programs, including Medicaid, the state’s public employee’s benefits program, Nevada Health Link, and Battle Born State Plans, which are qualified health plans that will be offered on the Nevada Health Link in the next open enrollment period, which starts Oct. 1.

Malinda Southard, Nevada Health Authority Deputy Director for Community Engagement and Workforce Development, said the recently enacted One Big Beautiful Bill Act established a new grant program called the Rural Health Transformation Program, which authorizes \$50 billion across all 50 states over the course of five years to help mitigate some of the effects

of changes to Medicaid financing for rural hospitals and providers.

She said part of the grant application will be that the state has to provide a Rural Transformation Plan which has to include strategies to improve access and healthcare outcomes of rural residents, prioritize the use of new technologies, enhance healthcare provider retention in rural areas and to manage long-term financial solvency of rural hospitals.

NVHA has an online survey which is available at https://nvha.nv.gov/Community/Rural_Health_Transformation/ asking for public input on where the state should prioritize funding in this application to support rural Nevada.

“We really have quite an opportunity to make a big impact and to make that a positive impact in health care,” Southard said.

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Wednesday, September 24, 2025
11:00AM - 2:00PM

Fernley Branch Library
575 Silver Lace Blvd.
Fernley, NV 89408

SPORTS

Vaqueros blast South Tahoe

By Robert Perea

Big plays on offense, defense and special teams added up to a big win for the Fernley High School football team last Friday at South Tahoe.

The Vaqueros had touchdown runs of 65, 77, 39 and 81 yards, a touchdown pass of 67 yards, an 84-yard punt return that set up a score and two field goals of 43 and 50 yards while dominating the game from their first offensive play.

“We told them that’s what happens when you take it to them and you practice the right way,” coach Anfernee Sloan said. “It’s a sign of a healthy program, a healthy culture, kids that are bought in, that want to and accomplish a common goal.”

Fernley ran just 26 plays offensively but gained 416 yards. Led by 241 yards on eight carries by Keeshawn Love, the Vaqueros ran for 336 yards on 22 carries. Bryce Stephens completed two of four passes for 80 yards.

South Tahoe running back Conner Hennessee accounted for 155 of his team’s 252 total yards.

Riley McCullar took an option pitch 65 yards for a touchdown on Fernley’s first offensive play of the game, and on Fernley’s next possession, Noah Spencer drilled a 43-yard field goal for a 9-0 lead.

On the first play of South Tahoe’s next drive, Hennessee took a handoff



Riley McCullar and Alex Juliot team up to tackle South Tahoe’s Conner Hennessee during the game last Friday at South Tahoe. Photo by Leanne Cruz, Cruz Down Memory Lane Photography, LLC

71 yards before he was chased down by Joey Machado at Fernley’s 9-yard line, but that’s when things started going south for the Vikings. The Vaqueros’ defense kept the Vikings out of the end zone, then they blocked a field goal attempt.

On the next play, Love burst quickly through a hole and scored from 77 yards to make it 16-0 and South Tahoe never threatened again until the Vaqueros pulled their starters late in the third quarter.

Meanwhile, McCullar’s 84-yard punt return set up a 3-yard touchdown run by Stephens that made it 23-0. On Fernley’s next possession, McCullar took a short pass from Stephens and turned it into a 67-yard touchdown that made it 30-0 with 1:06 left in the second quarter.

A quick three-and-out and a short punt by the Vikings gave the Vaqueros the ball back at the South Tahoe 29-yard line, and after a false-start penalty moved the ball back, Spencer

drilled a 50-yard field goal to make it 33-0 at the half.

Love added a 39-yard touchdown run in the third quarter and an 81-yarder early in the fourth, sandwiched between a blocked punt that Nathan Pritchard recovered in the end zone for a touchdown.

“That’s a big-time thing to be able to watch those guys execute the way they did tonight,” Sloan said. “Now my questions is, can we go and do it again?”

The win was the second consecutive for the Vaqueros, who are now 4-1 overall and 2-1 in the Northern 3A. But to stretch that win streak to three, they will have to beat Spring Creek, which has beaten them six consecutive times since 2020, including in the playoffs each of the last two seasons.

“They definitely have had our number, but we’re not going to look at it that way,” Sloan said. “We’re going to look at the film, we’re going to digest it and we’re going to find what it is that we need to do to beat them.”

This time, the Vaqueros get the Spartans at home after going to Spring Creek three times in the last two years. It’s also Homecoming for the Vaqueros.

“We haven’t lost Homecoming in four or five years, so who else could a better team be?” Sloan said. “We’re going to go and do it.”

Volleyball: Vaqueros open league play this week

By Robert Perea

After compiling a 16-4 record and winning all five of their crossover matches against the Northern 3A West, the Fernley High School volleyball team opens league play this week.

The Vaqueros are scheduled to host Lowry at 6 p.m. Thursday in their league opener, before facing their Lahontan Valley rival in Fallon next Wednesday.

The Vaqueros finished nonleague play with a win over South Tahoe last Friday, bouncing back from a tough loss to Incline last Wednesday.

The match at Incline was tight all the way through, and the Vaqueros fought back after losing the first two sets to force the deciding fifth set before falling two points short, 26-28, 23-25, 25-22, 25-19, 13-15.

“We played excellent defense,” coach Diane Chapin said. “We made

a lot of offensive mistakes partly due to an injury to one of our setters. We blew big leads in the first and last sets because of our errors.”

Justice Artiaga had 19 kills and Trista Menesini added 10. The Vaqueros totaled 52 kills but had 32 attack errors and a kill percentage of only 42.3 percent for the match. The defense held Incline to a 30.4 kill percentage. The Vaqueros had 41 total digs and seven blocks.

The Vaqueros beat the Vikings 25-19, 25-22, 20-25, 25-21.

Emma Masters had 12 kills and 11 assists for the Vaqueros, Trista Menesini added 11 kills and Alauna Escartin had 13 assists as the Vaqueros had just 13 attack errors.

“We did a better job and limited our mistakes on offense,” Chapin said. “The girls did a great job and stepped up when we had to again make adjustments for an injury.”



Emma Masters and Lillianna Young team up to block a spike during a match against South Tahoe on Sept. 12. Photo by John Baker

Freshman leads Fernley runners in North Tahoe meet

By Robert Perea

Zachary Petersen finished third in the freshman boys race to post the best finish for the Fernley High School cross country team at the North Tahoe Madman Mills Motivational.

Because the races were broken down by grade, the Vaqueros didn’t have their full team in a single race and didn’t score any team points.

With a time of 20.11 in the 2.8-mile

race, Petersen finished third out of 30 runners in the freshmen boys race. He was joined by Mason Varner, who finished 20th with a time of 25:39 and Addison Davis, who came in 24th in 26:48.

The Vaqueros didn’t have a runner in the sophomore boys race.

In the 3.3-mile varsity boys race, Cael Wilson was the fastest Fernley finisher with a time of 22:50 in 23rd place. He was followed by Dominick

Dietrich in 32nd place with a time of 23:34 and Alex Mergell in 42nd place with a time of 24:39. A total of 110 runners ran in the varsity boys race.

The girls were divided into two races, and all four of Fernley’s runners competed in the frosh/soph girls race.

Regan Scott led Fernley by finishing 18th in 28:08, Wynter Angus was 27th in 29:18, Grace Schmidtlein finished 42nd in 33:12 and Reann Jones came in 48th in 41:20.

This week the Vaqueros are scheduled to compete in the 4th annual Run the Rubies Elko XC Invitational at Lamaille Canyon, a 5,000-meter varsity race for both boys and girls.

Tues to Sat: 2pm – 9pm’ish / Sunday: noon to 6pm’ish

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