

# the Fernley reporter

FERNLEY'S HOMETOWN NEWS

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## The magic of M3: Fernley's favorite festival turns five

By Jaimie Daniels

The 2026 Music, Murals, and Margaritas (M3) festival found renewed energy in a new home at Fernley's Out of Town Park. The Fernley ACES brought a fifth year of art, music, culture, and community to the city while making improvements based on feedback from prior festivals.

Fernley's Center Street had hosted the festival for the past three years, but the asphalt and commercial buildings offered little comfort and protection from the elements. The Out of Town Park was the answer to that problem with cool, soft grass, built-in picnic tables and trees providing shade and shelter. Nevada's unpredictable spring weather made its presence known with cooler temps and moderate wind, but didn't deter the community from enjoying all the festival had to offer.

Friday's kickoff party featured food trucks and three bands, including Undivulged, the band formed by the Boys & Girls Club kids. They rocked the stage and had the audience dancing along. The Out of Towners, a temporary band formed by several Reno musicians, brought an eclectic mix to the stage. Fernley's own Diminished Return closed out the night with their



A mural painted by military veteran Edwin Martinez Esco at the Out of Town Park gazebo pays tribute to public servants. Photo by Robert Perea

second appearance in Fernley, following their debut at InFERNo in March. The evening highlighted the family-friendly atmosphere of the park, with kids creating chalk art and dancing in the stream of bubbles created by a bubble machine in front of the gazebo where bands played.

On Saturday, the park filled with vendors, activities, entertainment, and

more live music. This year's kids' zone included a bounce house provided by Boys & Girls Club and free art activities provided by the Fernley ACES. Attendees were able to contribute to a community painting project provided by the City of Fernley, with large plywood boards sectioned off for small paintings by anyone who wanted to create something fun to add. Several

high school students participated by painting mural panels live during the festival.

The annual margarita contest featured seven entries. All Points Grill won the Golden Blender by a landslide with its refreshing huckleberry margarita entry, which may soon be added to the restaurant's regular menu.

Twelve new murals were added to Fernley's citywide mural art gallery this year, featuring a mix of new and seasoned artists.

The transformation of the Out of Town Park gazebo provided the backdrop to the festival. Artists Kristle Geil and Edwin Martinez Esco, both military veterans, painted a colorful tribute to public servants, drawing attention to a section of plaques dedicated to those who have lost their lives in the line of duty, a feature made possible by the City of Fernley.

Artist Jen Charboneau brought a vintage train to life in sepia tones on the bathroom building at the train depot. Joe C. Rock created a huge piece at Fernley High School featuring images of high school athletes.

Hayley Meadows painted three horses, symbolizing unity, patriotism,

*Continued on PAGE 5 - M3 FESTIVAL...*

## Council redirects \$500,000 from fishing pond to Out of Town Park repairs



Fields at the Out of Town Park are slated for major repairs and upgrades in the city's proposed 2026-27 budget. Photo by Kerry Lyman

By Robert Perea

The Fernley City Council's final 2026-27 budget, which was scheduled to go before the council May 20, includes the May 6 decision to reallocate \$500,000 from the proposed Mayor's Fishing Pond to repairs at the Out of Town Park.

The proposed final budget also includes the new chief operations officer, chief development officer, parks and recreation superintendent and public information officer positions the council also approved on May 6.

At that meeting, the council said the reallocation would allow the city to address long-standing needs at the Out of Town Park

During the May 6 budget meeting, Finance Director Robert Carson said the tentative budget included \$600,000 for improvements to the

sports fields plus \$80,000 for new lighting at the Out of Town Park.

Councilman Joe Mendoza said that by redirecting the \$500,000 that had been budgeted for the fishing pond park, the city would have nearly \$1.2 million to repair its sports fields.

"We could significantly create a safer place for the Out of Town Park, where the majority of the sports are being held at," he said. "So I like that idea."

Carson told the council that a list of projects that could be completed with the additional \$500,000 would be included for consideration in the final budget at the May 20 meeting.

Citing public sentiment that the city should fix the parks it has before building a new one, the council supported the idea unanimously,

*Continued on PAGE 6 -PARK...*

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The Fernley Reporter  
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# the Fernley reporter

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# the Fernley reporter

FERNLEY'S HOMETOWN NEWS

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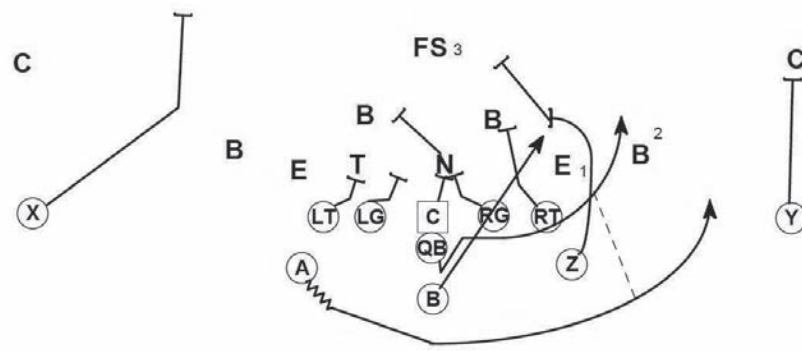
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## LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

# The Inside Veer



## Time flies

We've all heard the ancient, infuriating lie: Time flies when you're having fun.

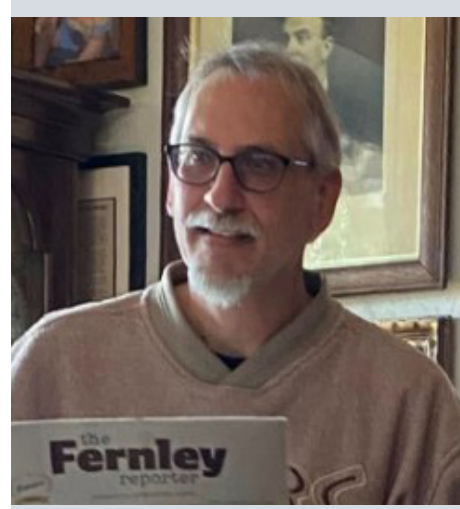
In its purest sense, the phrase is a bittersweet truth. It's the genuine heartbreak of a great dinner with friends that feels like it lasted 20 minutes or a long-awaited vacation that seems like it's over before your feet even touch the sand.

But adulthood has forced us to recognize a second, much darker sarcastic version of the cliché. This is the version usually uttered when you're mired in an unenjoyable task where time is doing the exact opposite of flying. It's crawling on its hands and knees.

But time seems to hit its highest gear in much less opportune situations.

The fastest time ever recorded isn't Usain Bolt on an Olympic track, Michael Phelps in a swimming pool or Lindsey Vonn on a ski slope. It's the terrifying acceleration of the clock when you are faced with a mountain of tasks you can't possibly finish before a looming deadline.

In that situation, you are definitely not having fun, yet time seems to go so fast it's breaking the sound barrier. The clock stops being a tool for measuring the day and becomes



ROBERT PEREA

an active opponent, not just sprinting ahead when you are stuck in slow motion but turning to taunt you as it does.

Those are the moments when you check the clock every five minutes, only to realize it's actually been more than an hour. Psychologists call this phenomenon hyper-focus driven by acute stress, but just those words alone cause acute stress.

Because the truth is, time flies, no matter what. You can't actually stop the clock just by crossing the finish line. Hitting a deadline doesn't magically slow things down, it usually means you are already starting late on the next mountain of tasks.

That's why that old saying is a lie. Time doesn't need us to be happy or having fun to move fast. We're going to blink and it's already going to be next month, or next year and most of us aren't having enough fun for that.

*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.*



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Get the latest in City of Fernley and Lyon County news every weekday at 6am, 9am, 1pm, & again at 4pm with the Fernley News Minute. sponsored by The Fernley Reporter and presented by 101.3 fm My Biggest Little Radio



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# FEATURES

## WNC celebrates Class of 2026 that includes record 242 Jump Start students

Staff Report

For the first time, Western Nevada College celebrated more than 200 Jump Start graduates during commencement ceremonies this week in Carson City and Fallon.

A record 242 Jump Start students are graduating. They represent nine high schools, three academies and homeschoolers.

Since 2013, WNC has provided high school students in Nevada with the opportunity to earn up to an associate degree before earning their high school diploma.

On May 18 and 20 as Western Nevada College's Class of 2026 was recognized in separate Commencement ceremonies in Carson City and Fallon. Collectively, the two ceremonies honored a record 686 graduates who are approved to receive 851 degrees and Certificates of Achievement.

Western Nevada College President Dr. J. Kyle Dalpe delivered opening remarks at each ceremony and personally congratulated graduates as they crossed the stage, marking a significant milestone in their academic journeys.



Western Nevada College President, Dr. J. Kyle Dalpe. Photo courtesy of Nevada System of Higher Education.

“Commencement is a powerful celebration of perseverance, growth and achievement,” Dalpe said. “Our graduates have demonstrated remarkable dedication in reaching this milestone, and we are proud to honor their accomplishments. We look forward to celebrating with their families and the community as these students take the next steps toward their futures and continue making meaningful contributions to Nevada and beyond.”

WNC also welcomed Stephen Jon Thompson, author and tech executive, as the keynote speaker for the Carson City and Fallon ceremonies.

### 2026 JUMP START GRADUATES

#### Fernley High School

- Ashlynn Rae Cumming, Abigail Rose Herrington, Logan Lee Kallas, Levi Rasia Lanka, McKenzie Marsh, Ariana Christopher Marshall, Alexander Elizabeth Mergell, Oscar Ladd Morales, Jiovani Alexis Paredes Rosas, Anakin Pochop, Bailee Michael Pulley, Mya C. Richardson, Rachel Ann Rosas, Alyssa Jr Sandate, Olivia Ann Stetson, Haley Michelle Stevenson, Holly M. Vanden Brink, Brett Vanderkelen, Alina Williams, Robert Marie Woolsey

### Fernley Women's Golf Club Results, May 12

#### Game: Criss-Cross

- 1st: Jana Garner, 31
- 2nd (Tie): Jolene Coverston & Marashane Miller; 33
- 3rd (Tie card-offs): Kathy Kennedy & Pula Reed; 33
- Birdies: Jana Garner, #14
- Low Putts (Tie): Jana Garner; Nancy Newton; Linda Garrett, 34
- Closest to Hole #11: Cheri Grutkowski, 13'10"

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send yours to [Robert@FernleyReporter.com](mailto:Robert@FernleyReporter.com)



### CODE ENFORCEMENT TUNE-UP!

Join the discussion!

Every Fernley resident has a stake in the City's appearance. Your Voice Matters!

Please join us on:

June 4th, 2026 at 5:30 p.m.

June 6th, 2026 at 10:00 a.m.

Location: City Hall Council Chambers @ 595 Silverlace Blvd.

Code Enforcement exists to protect public health, safety, and quality of life by reducing environmental hazards and maintaining property standards. The city is updating the nuisance ordinance to help preserve property values and prevent neighborhood deterioration. We would love to hear input and have open conversations about the nuisance ordinance the city may adopt. To view the new Ordinances, please go to: <https://www.cityoffernley.org/DocumentCenter/View/30296/Clean---New-title-16--Fernley>

### Discussion Topics:

- Code Update
- Code sections
- Definitions
- How will the change affect you?
- Your rights as a resident.
- Q&A with code enforcement staff.
- Learn what code enforcement is and what it isn't.

### Key Components of Code Enforcement

- Public Safety & Health
- Neighborhood Preservation
- Fairness & Consistency
- Voluntary Compliance
- Service & Partnership

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Two killed in plane crash Sunday near Empire

By Robert Perea

Two people were killed in a plane crash Sunday morning near Empire, between Pyramid Lake and Gerlach. The Washoe County Sheriff's Office said it received a request at 8:25 a.m. Sunday to help find a possible missing

aircraft last reported to be near the area of Empire.

Washoe County Sheriff's Office Search and Rescue personnel and Pyramid Lake Fire responded to the area and, after a coordinated search effort, found a single-engine private aircraft approximately 7.5 miles southwest

of Empire.

Two people were found dead inside the plane.

The Murphy Reynolds Wilson Fire District in Melba, ID identified the two people killed in the crash as one of its firefighters, Ed Dickman and his companion Sherry Jones.

The fire district said Dickman and Jones were returning to Idaho from a family event in Nevada when the crash happened.

The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) will conduct the formal aircraft accident investigation.

## City seeking donations of fans for senior citizens

Staff Report

The City of Fernley is seeking donations of new fans to help local senior citizens stay safe and comfortable as the temperatures heat up this summer.

Fans and monetary donations to

purchase fans can be dropped off at the City Clerk's Office.

The City asks that anyone willing to donate a fan, or seniors who need one reach out to April Homme or the City Clerk's Office to coordinate collection and distribution.

We'd love to hear from you.

Have a story?

robert@fernleyreporter.com



### FERNLEY SENIOR CENTER MENU

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Lunch Served Monday - Friday 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. | Prices: 60+ \$2 donation, for those under 60 \$7 fee.

#### Monday, May 25

\*\*\*  
Closed for  
Memorial Day  
\*\*\*

#### Tuesday, May 26

Baked Chicken  
Tenders  
French Baked  
Potatoes  
Steamed Carrots  
Pineapple Bits

#### Wednesday, May 27

Southwest BBQ  
Chicken Burger  
Baked Beans  
Carrots  
Pineapple

#### Thursday, May 28

Garlic Parmesan Fish  
Whole Wheat Penne Pasta  
with Pesto  
Peas & Carrots  
Four Bean Salad  
Pears  
100% Juice

#### Friday, May 29

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Gravy  
Mixed Veggies  
Four Bean Salad  
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Test N Tune \$50  
Jr Dragster \$50

**2025 Payouts**  
Sportsman/Motorcycle \$300 W•\$100 RU•\$60 S•\$25 Q  
Pro \$400 W•\$150 RU•\$70 S•\$25 Q  
Super Pro \$500 W•\$200 RU•\$80 S•\$25 Q  
Jr Dragster \$50 W•\$25 RU• Sponsor Trophy

ET (car) classes: under 10 pays Win & R/U only; Payouts under 6 will be pro-rated  
Motorcycle ET class: under 6 pays Win & R/U only; Payouts under 6 will be pro-rated  
Payouts are formulated from RD 1  
Prices and times are subject to change  
Special prices may apply for specific events

**FLYOVER SATURDAY**  
MAY 30, 2026 11:00 AM

**SUMMIT ET / JR DRAGSTER**  
RACERS ACCUMULATE POINTS FOR BEST 9 RACES  
LOWEST VALUE SINGLE RACE POINTS GETS DROPPED

**MAY 15-16 POINTS #1**  
FRI GATE OPENS...8AM-8PM / TNT...10AM - 7PM  
SAT GATE OPENS...7AM / ET #1 STARTS...8:30AM

**MAY 28-31 POINTS #2 / #3**  
THU PARKING NOON...8PM  
FRI GATE OPENS...7AM  
WEEKEND PARTICIPANT ONLY T-N-T 10AM...6PM  
SAT GATE OPENS...7AM / ET #2 STARTS...8AM  
SUN GATE OPENS...7AM / ET #3...STARTS 8AM

**JUN 19-21 POINTS #4 / #5**  
FRI GATE OPENS...8AM-8PM / TNT...10AM - 7PM  
SAT GATE OPENS...7AM / ET #4 STARTS...8:30AM  
SUN GATE OPENS...7AM / ET #5 STARTS...8:30AM

**JUL 10-12 POINTS #6 / #7**  
FRI GATE OPENS...4PM / ET #6 STARTS...8PM  
SAT GATE OPENS...4PM / ET #7 STARTS...8PM

**SEP 11-13 POINTS #8 / #9**  
FRI GATE OPENS...8AM-8PM / TNT...10AM - 7PM  
SAT GATE OPENS...7AM / ET #8 STARTS...8:30AM  
FALLON 660 / PACIFIC TRIPLE CROWN #4  
SUN GATE OPENS...7AM / ET #9 STARTS...8:30AM  
PACIFIC TRIPLE CROWN #5

**SEP 25-27 POINTS #10**  
FRI GATE OPENS NOON  
T-N-T...2PM - 7PM / GAMBLER...4PM  
SAT GATE OPENS...7AM / ET #10 STARTS...8:30AM  
KING OF THE TRACK RACE...3PM  
SUN GATE OPENS...7AM  
\$50 GAMBLERS STARTS...8:30AM

**NHRA NHRA D7 NATIONAL OPEN**  
THU PARKING NOON...8PM  
FRI GATE OPENS...7AM  
WEEKEND PARTICIPANT T-N-T...10AM - 6PM  
SAT GATE OPENS...7AM / LANES OPEN...8AM  
SUN GATE OPENS...7AM / LANES OPEN...8AM

**NHRA JDRL SERIES EVENT**  
MAY 28-31 RACE #11 / #12  
THU PARKING NOON...8PM  
FRI GATE OPENS...7AM  
WEEKEND PARTICIPANT T-N-T...10AM - 6PM  
SAT GATE OPENS...7AM / LANES OPEN...8AM  
SUN GATE OPENS...7AM / LANES OPEN...8AM

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COMMUNITY

Fernley ACES founder stepping down as president

By Robert Perea

Fernley ACES founder and president Dana Uhlhorn is stepping down as president after eight years of leading the volunteer group he created to bring art, culture and community events to a city that at the time had almost none.

Uhlhorn, with the help of volunteers like Skye Long, Cathy Martin, Felicity Zoberski and Joseph Maino, launched the Fernley Arts & Culture Event Squad in 2018 with the simple idea of giving people in Fernley something to do in a town that had no venues for live music, no art and very little participation or turnout for local events.

"When we started this, people did not gather in this town to be entertained," Uhlhorn said.

As a teenager in Carson City, Uhlhorn remembered the Carson City

Speedway hosting concerts with bands like Blue Oyster Cult and the J. Geils Band, and he dreamed of bringing similar shows to Fernley.

"Dana saw a need in the community, and instead of complaining about it, he stepped up and forged a pathway to make it happen," ACES Vice President Jaimie Daniels said.

But the idea almost died before it even got started, when public gatherings were prohibited during the Covid-19 pandemic.

"We created an organization to host events, and we were not allowed to host events," Uhlhorn said.

The organization had begun to raise money, and Uhlhorn said he had come up with the idea for a Christmas light contest to give away the money

Continued on PAGE 6 - ACES FOUNDER...



Members of the Fernley ACES (Arts & Culture Event Squad) recognized outgoing president Dana Uhlhorn and treasurer Cathy Martin at the M3 (Music, Murals & Margaritas) Festival on May 16. Photo by Robert Perea

Continued from FRONT - M3 FESTIVAL....

and strength, standing draped in an American flag against a backdrop of black and white Nevada mountains on the back wall of Fernley Physical Therapy. This project was funded by a grant from the Nevada Arts Council in honor of America's 250th anniversary.



Fire dancers from Controlled Burn perform Saturday night in front of the Out of Town Park gazebo. Photo by Jaimie Daniels



Biggest Little Circus performers entertain the crowd. Photo by Lavonne Wagner



Kids participating in community art at the kids' zone. Photo by Adam Colgan

The Fernley ACES is a volunteer-run 501c3 nonprofit organization that brings this annual free festival to Fernley. They couldn't do it without the support of many sponsors, volunteers, donations, and grants, but want to thank a few in particular: Burke Roofing for their unwavering support of the community, IBEW 401 for their sponsorship, the City of Fernley for their support, Travel Nevada and Nevada Arts Council for the grants that helped make this possible. The park was kept clean by volunteers from Desert Pigs, a group that shows up to do the dirty work to make this community a better place. Boys and Girls Club always comes through for our kids, and this was no exception.

The M3 festival is a true example of what a community can do when we work together.

Republican

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ENDORSED BY:

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Governor Joe Lombardo



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# REGIONAL NEWS

Continued from FRONT-PARK...

“Overwhelmingly, we’re being told to hold off on this fishing pond, especially with the amount of money we’re putting towards the Out of Town Park,” councilman Albert Torres said. “One’s a want, one’s a need.”

Mayor Neal McIntyre, who first proposed the fishing pond during a strategic planning meeting in January 2025, said the fishing pond park would include a soccer field and a baseball field.

“Like Councilman Torres said, it’s something we want, but I also think we need it too, with the amount of sport activities we have for our youth,” McIntyre said. “Our fields are so overcrowded with use that these kids are out there practicing at 9 o’clock at night.”

McIntyre said he believes the addition of a parks and recreation superintendent and the \$680,000 that had

been allocated for the parks would make a big difference in their condition.

“But I also understand that theory about fixing what we have right now, so I appreciate the dialogue with everybody on what they see we should do,” he said. “I’m just thankful for the conversation.”

Mendoza asked whether the city might be able to incorporate a development agreement that would require developers who build homes in the area to help fund the pond. McIntyre said there are contractors who have agreed to dig the pond at no cost. He said the \$500,000 would have paid for fields and infrastructure such as storm drains, restrooms and utilities.

Planning Director Michele Rambo said the city doesn’t have a mechanism for developers contributing to the cost of a park, but is attempting to create that kind of process through a park impact fee.

Continued from PAGE 5 - ACES FOUNDER....

and then fold up shop. Although there wasn’t much participation in the contest, it instead breathed life back into the group.

“We came up with stuff to do, and it didn’t want to die,” Uhlhorn said.

One of the first ACES events was a board project, where they sold 80 boards for people to decorate. They hosted a play at the Out of Town Park and several other small events, but the turning point came in 2023 when the M3 (Music, Murals and Margaritas) Festival took off.

“When we did the second or third M3 Festival and it went really well, we realized we’re good at this,” Uhlhorn said. “All of a sudden we’re having events every month and major events three or four times a year.”

Seeing an idea that stemmed from his desire to watch live music without having to drive to Reno to do it turn into

a powerhouse organization that brings major music, art and other events to Fernley several times a year, Uhlhorn said he is now ready to devote more time to other projects and enjoy those events as a spectator.

“I’m thrilled what happened and happy to be able to leave it in people’s hands that will keep it going,” he said.

ACES board members honored Uhlhorn and treasurer Cathy Martin, who is also stepping down from the board of directors, with an announcement and presentation of signed picture of the group during the M3 Festival on May 16.

Board members and volunteers say Uhlhorn is leaving a legacy they intend to continue.

“Dana is always the call where you know he will not just answer but will say “be there in 10” and show up,” Skye Long said. “He kicked a single rock and sent a boulder barreling down the Nevada mountain that is this organization.”

Snyders Pinenut Livestock Supply Presents

# EQUINE HEALTH FAIR

## AND TACK SWAP

**SATURDAY  
MAY 30TH**

**9AM - 2PM**


AT THE  
CHURCHILL COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS

**GUEST SPEAKERS:**

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Sherry Hagemeyer, Integrity Horse Feed  
Grace Cadigan, Boehringer Ingelheim

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### City of Fernley Staff Spotlight: Mitzi Carter



Behind every effective organization is a strong Human Resources function, and professionals like **Mitzi Carter** play a critical role in ensuring that workforce operations run efficiently and consistently. Mitzi Carter serves within the City of Fernley’s workforce, contributing to the administrative and operational functions that support employees across departments. Carter brings experience in organizational support and internal coordination, helping maintain the systems and processes that keep city operations aligned and productive. In a municipal environment, Human Resources and administrative professionals are essential to maintaining compliance, supporting employee needs, and ensuring continuity across departments. Carter’s work reflects a commitment to accuracy, organization, and responsiveness, key components in managing personnel processes, supporting onboarding efforts, and assisting with day-to-day workforce coordination. Her role supports the broader Human Resources framework by helping facilitate communication, maintain records, and ensure that internal procedures are followed consistently. These responsibilities, while often behind the scenes, are fundamental to building a stable and effective workforce. As cities continue to evolve and expand services, the importance of strong internal systems becomes even more critical. Staff members like Carter help ensure that employees have the support they need to perform their roles effectively, contributing to overall organizational performance. The City of Fernley recognizes the value of its workforce professionals and the role they play in maintaining operational integrity. Through diligence and attention to detail, individuals like Mitzi Carter help uphold the standards that allow local government to function at a high level. When she’s not taking care of the COF, Mitzi loves traveling with her husband and has two sons and a daughter and also loves spending time with her two adorable grandsons. She also has three fur babies, Lulu, her French Bulldog, Tyson, a Pitbull and Arky, her Ragdoll cat.

*\*This space is sponsored by the City of Fernley. Watch for additional Staff Spotlight profiles in the coming editions of The Fernley Reporter.*

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# GOVERNMENT

## Driver injured in collision with school bus May 18

Staff Report

A driver was injured Monday morning in a crash involving a passenger vehicle and a school bus on U.S. 95A at Cottonwood Lane, according to the North Lyon Fire Protection District.

Crews were dispatched just before 6:30 a.m. and arrived to find the driver of the passenger vehicle trapped. Firefighters extricated the driver, who was taken to a hospital with moderate injuries.

No students were on the bus at the time of the crash, and the bus driver was not injured.

The Nevada State Police and Lyon County Sheriff's Office assisted at the scene.



A driver of a car was extricated by firefighters and transported to a hospital with moderate injuries after a crash Monday at U.S. 95A and Cottonwood Lane. Photo courtesy of North Lyon Fire

### LEGAL NOTICES

#### NOTICE OF VACANCY

North Lyon County Fire Protection District

The North Lyon County Fire Protection District is seeking candidates to fill one (1) vacated Board of Directors position. Candidates must live within the boundaries of the District. Interested parties need to provide the District with a Letter of Interest no later than 5:00 p.m. on Monday June 8, 2026. Appointment will be made at the Board of Directors Meeting on Thursday June 11, 2026, at 6:00 p.m., at 195 East Main Street, Fernley, NV 89408. For complete information call the District Office at 575-3310."

Published in The Fernley Reporter May 22, 29 and June 5, 2026 Ad #2613

### Meetings

**Fernley City Council**  
1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month at 5:00 p.m.  
City Hall, 595 Silver Lace Blvd.  
Next meeting June 3

**Fernley Planning Commission**  
2nd Wednesday of the month at 5:00 p.m.  
City Hall, 595 Silver Lace Blvd.  
Next meeting June 10

**Fernley Senior Citizen Advisory Committee**  
2nd Friday of even numbered months at 9:00 a.m.  
City Hall, 595 Silver Lace Blvd.  
Next meeting June 12

**Lyon County Commission**  
1st and 3rd Thursday of the month at 9:00 a.m.  
Lyon County Administrative Complex, 27 S. Main St., Yerington  
Next meeting June 4

**Lyon County Planning Commission**  
2nd Tuesday of the month at 9:00 a.m.  
Lyon County Administrative Complex, 27 S. Main St., Yerington  
Next meeting June 9

**Lyon County Library Board of Trustees**  
4th Tuesday of the Month at 9:30 a.m.  
Locations rotate between the 5 county libraries  
Next meeting May 26

**Lyon County School District Board of Trustees**  
4th Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m.  
Locations rotate between each attendance area  
Next meeting May 26

**North Lyon County Fire Protection District Board of Trustees**  
2nd Thursday of the month 195 E. Main St.  
Next meeting June 11

**Fernley Swimming Pool General Improvement District**  
3rd Tuesday of the month at 5:30 p.m.  
300 Cottonwood Lane  
Next meeting June 16



To place a notice in the paper please email your request to

[Robert@fernleyreporter.com](mailto:Robert@fernleyreporter.com)



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Lyon County Commissioner District 5



# VOTE MARK JONES



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# LAW AND ORDER

## Arrest report

All information for the arrest report is provided by the Lyon County Sheriff's Office and is considered by law to be public information. All subjects are innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

May 11 – May 17, 2026

**TERRY BARNES** – Area: Fernley, Bail Amount: \$1,140, Charges: Convicted person failing to register with law enforcement within 48 hours  
**WILLIAM COVERSUP** – Area: Fernley, Bail Amount: \$9,800, Charges: DUI (2nd offense); Driving without a driver's license; Owner - proof of insurance required; Driving a vehicle with suspended registration for vehicle homicide or second or subsequent DUI offense; Failure to appear after bail, misdemeanor crime  
**STACY BABB** – Area: Silver Springs, Bail Amount: \$1,130, Charges: Assist other agency – hold  
**MARK ROLLO** – Area: Mason Valley, Bail Amount: \$1,000, Charges: Criminal contempt  
**MICHAEL BLACKBURN** – Area: Mason Valley, Bail Amount: \$14,000, Charges: Failure to appear after bail, felony crime  
**ANTHONY LUCA** – Area: Dayton, Bail Amount: \$28,535, Charges: Possession of Schedule I or II controlled substance less than 14 grams (1st or 2nd offense); Intimidating a public officer or others with threat of force (1st offense); Destroying or concealing evidence; Use or possession of drug paraphernalia; Making a false statement to or obstructing a public officer; Resisting a public officer; Civil bicycle equipment violation (lamp, reflector or brake)  
**PAUL SWIRSKY** – Area: LYSO, Bail Amount: \$2,870, Charges: DUI (2nd

offense); Displaying fictitious vehicle registration, plate or title  
**EVAN CARL** – Area: Dayton, Bail Amount: \$4,685, Charges: Possession of Schedule I or II controlled substance less than 14 grams (1st or 2nd offense); Possession of a hypodermic device; Driving without a driver's license; Owner - proof of insurance required  
**BRANDON BOWMAN** – Area: Silver Springs, Bail Amount: \$56,140, Charges: Residential burglary (1st offense); Buying, possessing or receiving stolen property less than \$1,200; Burglary of a business (1st offense); Possession of burglary tools; Possession of Schedule I or II controlled substance less than 14 grams (1st or 2nd offense)  
**SAMANTHA GUERRER** – Area: Mason Valley, Bail Amount: \$1,590, Charges: DUI (1st offense); Open alcohol container in vehicle; Tail lamp violation  
**NATHAN PERRIGAN** – Area: Fernley, Bail Amount: \$12,500, Charges: Possession of Schedule I or II controlled substance less than 14 grams (1st or 2nd offense); Possessing, receiving or transferring a stolen vehicle  
**AARON MEEDEN** – Area: Dayton, Bail Amount: \$23,140, Charges: Child abuse or neglect (1st offense); Domestic battery (1st offense)  
**COBI FENNELL** – Area: Fernley, Bail Amount: \$8,140, Charges: Preventing or dissuading reporting of a crime or causing prosecution or arrest; Domestic battery (1st offense)

**SAVANAH ESTRELLA** – Area: Mason Valley, Bail Amount: \$0, Charges: Felony arrest for violation of probation or conditions of suspended sentence; Criminal contempt  
**JAYCOB CHAMBERS** – Area: Mason Valley, Bail Amount: \$2,480, Charges: Failure to appear after bail, misdemeanor crime (2 counts)  
**DEANNA HOARD** – Area: LYSO, Bail Amount: \$13,120, Charges: Possession of Schedule I or II controlled substance less than 14 grams (1st or 2nd offense); Conspiracy to use or possess drug paraphernalia; Possession of a hypodermic device  
**BRIANNA MORRIS** – Area: Mason Valley, Bail Amount: \$0, Charges: Court commitment  
**HALEY NOXON** – Area: Silver Springs, Bail Amount: \$10,000, Charges: Assist other agency – hold  
**ALICIA BARCHUS** – Area: LYSO, Bail Amount: \$2,030, Charges: Reckless driving disregarding person or property safety (1st offense); DUI (1st offense)  
**JESSICA MURO HURD** – Area: Fernley, Bail Amount: \$7,085, Charges: Possession of Schedule I or II controlled substance less than 14 grams (1st or 2nd offense); Allowing child abuse or neglect (endangerment) (1st offense); Driver disobeying a peace officer; Driving without a driver's license; Use or possession of drug paraphernalia  
**DEVIN WHITE** – Area: Dayton, Bail Amount: \$3,140, Charges: Stalking (1st offense)

**SOMPRASONG TOYAI** – Area: Silver Springs, Bail Amount: \$20,000, Charges: Battery domestic violence with substantial bodily harm; Possession or receiving forged instruments or bills  
**JOHN GABRIELSON** – Area: Fernley, Bail Amount: \$12,280, Charges: Possession of Schedule I or II controlled substance less than 14 grams (1st or 2nd offense); Use or possession of drug paraphernalia; Resisting a public officer;  
**TRACY SMITH** – Area: Silver Springs, Bail Amount: \$6,000, Charges: Assist other agency – hold  
**JOSHUA SMITH** – Area: LYSO, Bail Amount: \$1,470, Charges: Failure to appear on traffic citation  
**JONATHAN ACOSTA** – Area: Fernley, Bail Amount: \$2,500, Charges: Unlawful use of emergency phone number (911)  
**TERRANCE DEL ROSARIO** – Area: Fernley, Bail Amount: \$42,730, Charges: Intoxicated pedestrian or animal rider on roadway; Battery by prisoner, probationer or parolee on first responder; Injuring or tampering with a vehicle causing \$250–\$5,000 damage  
**BRANNON KEITH** – Area: Fernley, Bail Amount: \$1,340, Charges: DUI (1st offense); Basic speed violation – 21 to 30 mph over posted limit  
**JUAN GUTIERREZ** – Area: Fernley, Bail Amount: \$1,275, Charges: DUI (1st offense); Failure to maintain lane or improper lane change or use of signal

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 District 2

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# Fernley Community Events

## MAY 23

**TABLE TENNIS**  
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.  
Fernley Branch Library  
575 Silver lace blvd  
775-575-3366

**KICK OFF TO SUMMER CARNIVAL**  
\*\*hosted by the Boys and Girls Club & Summit Church\*\*  
11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.  
FREE food and drinks  
vendors/games  
695 E. Main St.  
775-360-2429

## MAY 26

**TRIVIA NIGHT**  
7:00 p.m.  
Frontier Fun Center  
480 W. Main St.  
775-575-7529

## MAY 28

**FERNLEY PUBLIC MARKET**  
5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.  
Senior Center  
105 Lois Lane

**TRIVIA (21+)**  
7:00 p.m.  
McHoppers Brew Co.  
396 US Highway 95A North

## MAY 30

**MAYOR'S CLEAN SWEEP OUT OF TOWN PARK**  
8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.  
to RSVP: Call (775) 784-9858  
Registered volunteers will receive free lunch\*

**TABLE TENNIS**  
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.  
Fernley Branch Library  
575 Silver Lace Blvd  
775-575-3366

## MAY 30 (continued)

**COMMUNITY GARAGE SALE FUNDRAISER (Rotary Club)**  
9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.  
Wigwam  
255 West Main

**DUST & SHINE SHOWCASE**  
FREE Event - Car show, raffle, vendors, music and bounce house  
10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.  
90 W Main Street  
www.thefern45.org

**FOOD TRUCKS BREWS & TUNES**  
5:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.  
McHoppers Brew Co.  
396 US Highway 95A North

## JUNE 2

**TRIVIA NIGHT**  
7:00 p.m.  
Frontier Fun Center  
480 W. Main St.  
775-575-7529

## JUNE 4

**TRIVIA (21+)**  
7:00 p.m.  
McHoppers Brew Co.  
396 US Highway 95A North

## JUNE 5

**LIVE MUSIC (\$20)**  
Fundraiser for Loring Hutchinson  
6:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.  
Fernley Masonic Lodge  
40 East Street



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.

## SPORTS

# Boys 4x200 relay, Johnson place second to lead Vaqueros at state track meet

By Robert Perea

Freshman Reese Johnson placed second in the girls pole vault and the boys 4x200 relay team also had a runner-up finish to lead the Fernley High School Track and Field Team at the 3A State Championships last weekend at Hug High School in Reno.

Johnson had the highest individual finish of the meet for the Vaqueros, trying for second place in the pole vault at 8 09. She was one of three competitors who finished tied at 8-09, but Johnson and Mariah Torgensen of Boulder City tied for second because of fewer total misses than Ana

Freeman of Moapa Valley, who finished fourth.

The boys 4x200 relay team of Michael Fitzgerald, Bryce Dunagan-Stephens, Jayden Esparza and Keeshawn Love finished second with their time of 1:32.67. The same group also placed third in the 4x100 with a time of 44.22.

Kole Miller placed third in both the shot put and discus, with throws of 49 00.75 in the shot put and 146 00 in the discus, recording personal bests in both events. Fernley added two more scoring marks in the discus with Bodie Parsons in fourth at 141 11 and Wyatt McGinnis in fifth at 138 00.



Justice Martell-Artiaga runs the 300-meter hurdles during the 3A State Championship Meet on May 16 at Hug High School. Photo by Ron Perkins



Noah Thompson runs the third leg of the 4x800 relay during the 3A State Championship Meet on May 15 at Hug High School. Photo by Ron Perkins

The boys 4x400 relay team of Elijah Perez, Andrew Peterson, Bodie Parsons and Joe Perkins finished fourth in 3:31.15, and the 4x800 team of Alex Mergell, Peterson, Noah Thompson and Perkins came in sixth with a time of 8:32.61.

Perkins added a fourth place finish in the 800 meters in 1:59.26; Dunagan-Stephens placed eighth in the 100 meters in 11.76 and Esparza finished fourth in the triple jump at 41 01.50.

For the girls, the 4x200 team of Faith Mhondo, Asia Christopher, Blessing Mhondo and Nakyla John finished third in 1:47.53; the 4x400

team of Justice Martell-Artiaga, Kinley Behrendt, Faith Mhondo and Blessing Mhondo placed third in 4:20.14 and the 4x100 team of Melissa Yokoi, Martell Artiaga, Blessing Mhondo and John finished fourth in 51.31.

Angel Pochop added a fourth place finish in the discus at 100 06; Martell Artiaga placed fifth in the 100 hurdles in 16.41 and sixth in the 300 hurdles in 47.36, a personal best; and Faith Mhondo finished eighth in the 300 hurdles in 48.73, also a personal best.

"I thought all of our state competitors performed well, both physically and mentally," coach Todd Wright said.

## Late innings end Vaqueros' back-to-back title dreams

By Robert Perea

The hardest part of building a dynasty is defending it, a harsh lesson the Fernley Vaqueros learned across 24 painful hours last week.

Entering the 3A State Tournament as region champions and top seed from the North, Fernley was in position to make a run for its second consecutive state title. Instead, the Vaqueros were reminded how quickly an advantage can evaporate.

Pahrump scored nine runs in the last two innings in the tournament opener last Thursday to drop the Vaqueros into the elimination bracket, 13-4. Then Friday, after the Vaqueros rallied from a 4-run deficit to take a 7-5 lead, Lowry pushed across five runs in the last two innings and sent the Vaqueros home with a 10-8 loss.

"We just didn't play the caliber we need to be playing at this time of year in that tournament," coach Diane Chapin said.

In the first game of the tournament on Thursday, Bella Leija hammered a double to right field to drive in Lauren Smith and Taylor Tollestrup and put the Vaqueros ahead 3-1 in the bottom of the third inning. An error on a sacrifice bunt by Emma Masters put runners on first and third with one out, but Pahrump turned another sacrifice bunt attempt into a double play to keep the Vaqueros from adding to the lead.

"We had opportunities to score more runs, and we had a missed sign cost us potentially two more runs and kind of shift the momentum back to

then," Chapin said.

Pahrump capitalized immediately in the top of the fourth inning when Sadie Freeman hit a triple to the center field fence to drive in a run and cut the lead to 3-2. In the top of the fifth, Jaelyn Rodriguez put the Trojans ahead 4-3 with a two-run double to left field. The final two innings belonged entirely to the Trojans, who scored three runs in the sixth inning and six more in the seventh to take a 13-3 lead.

A sacrifice fly by Grace Chapin to drive in Tollestrup, who had doubled and stole third, made the final score 13-4.

"I didn't think we actually did well in any aspect of that game," Diane Chapin said. "At the plate we weren't disciplined hitting, and then defensively we had quite a few mistakes. We just didn't capitalize when we had the opportunities to."

That dropped the Vaqueros into the elimination bracket on Friday, where they faced Lowry, which lost its first game 2-1 to Virgin Valley.

The Vaqueros turned a 5-1 deficit into a 7-5 lead with four runs in the third inning and single runs in the fourth and fifth innings. In the third, Masters hit a triple to center field that sent Leija racing to the plate. After Janessa Robinson walked, Ximena Rodriguez drove in two runs with a triple, then scored on a groundout by Maddison Hill to tie the game.

Leija and Masters started the fourth inning with a single and a double to put runners on second and third, and Leija scored on a groundout by



Fernley's Emma Masters lays down a bunt during last Thursday's game against Pahrump in the 3A State Tournament. Photo by Robert Perea

Rodriguez. In the bottom of the fifth, Tollestrup hit a fly ball that the Lowry right fielder couldn't handle and raced all the way around the bases to put the Vaqueros up 7-5.

In the top of the sixth, Maite Bengochea singled in one run to cut the lead to 7-6, later scored on a wild pitch to tie the game, and then a two-run single by Adalyn Entwistle put Lowry up 9-7.

Fernley got a run to get within 9-8 in the bottom of the sixth but trailed 10-8 going to the bottom of the sev-

enth and came up empty.

"In the big moments, we didn't do what we needed to do, where Lowry did," Diane Chapin said.

Afterward, Chapin reminded her team of the success they've had and urged them to close that chapter and move on to bigger and better things.

"Don't be disappointed how it ended, be more thankful for the opportunities you were there," she said. "You control what you can and hopefully feel like you did your best and it just wasn't meant to be."

## Pearson leads Fernley swimmers with 4th place finish at 3A State Meet

By Robert Perea

Senior Rylie Pearson closed her high school career with highest individual finish for the Fernley High School swimming team at the 3A State Swimming & Diving Championships in Las Vegas on May 16.

Pearson finished fourth in the girls 500-yard freestyle with a time of 6:17.00, more than eight seconds faster than her qualifying time and 13.44 seconds faster than her fifth place finish at the state meet last season.

Her finish earned five team points, which placed Fernley 12th in the team

standings.

Paul Schaeffer wrapped up his high school career by competing in two individual events and a relay at the state meet. He finished sixth in the boys 100-yard breaststroke with a time of 1:11.69 and seventh in the boys 500-yard freestyle with a time of 6:15.35.

In the 200-yard freestyle relay Schaeffer, Brett Vanderkelen, Nicholas Romero and Matthew Coghlan-Walker, all seniors, placed seventh with a time of 1:49.50.

The boys scored a total of nine points and also placed 12th as a team.

## Porter ties for 16th at 3A State Golf Tournament

By Robert Perea

Fernley High School senior Danny Porter finished tied for 16th at the 3A State Golf Tournament May 12-13 at Boulder Creek Golf Club in Boulder City.

Porter shot 80 in the first round on May 12 and 88 in the second round to finish at 168, tied with Straton Owen of Lowry for 16th place. He was one of four players tied for seventh place after the first round.

Porter finished 10th in the Northern 3A season standings and he and Owen tied for ninth among Northern players at the state tournament.

Jack Marma of Elko and Dierks Hammon of Fallon were the individual co-champions with total scores of 149. Elko won the team championship with a total score of 641.



Fernley's Danny Porter, show teeing off during a meet earlier this season, tied for 16th place at the 3A State Golf Tournament May 12-13 in Boulder City. Photo courtesy of Cade Knutson

# Election Guide

SPECIAL EDITION BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE FERNLEY REPORTER | FERNLEY, NEVADA | MAY 2026



## NEVADA'S 2ND CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Nevada's 2nd Congressional District is fully open for the first time in 15 years. Rep. Mark Amodei (R) announced he would not seek re-election on February 6, 2026, setting off the most competitive primary in a generation. Twenty-seven candidates have filed. The general election is November 3, 2026. Cook Political Report and Inside Elections rate this seat Solid Republican.

### LEADING DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATES

#### Teresa F. Benitez-Thompson

Teresa F. Benitez-Thompson, a former Nevada Assembly majority leader and longtime social worker, is seeking to represent Nevada's 2nd Congressional District as the seat opens for the first time in more than a decade. Benitez-Thompson, 47, grew up in Reno and first entered public life as a teenager, when she testified before the Nevada Legislature on behalf of her sister, who risked losing food-assistance benefits while staying in school.

A graduate of the University of Nevada, Reno, she later earned a master's degree in social work from the University of Michigan. Before entering politics, she worked in adoption services and spent 10 years in hospice care — roles she says shaped her understanding of the challenges facing Nevada families.

Benitez-Thompson was elected to the Nevada Assembly in 2010 and served six terms, including six years as majority leader, focusing on health care access, child welfare, and budget policy. She left the Legislature in 2022 and currently serves as chief of staff to Nevada Attorney General Aaron Ford. She lives in Reno with her husband, Jeff Thompson, a meteorologist, and their four children. *Campaign: electteresa.com*

#### Robert G. "Greg" Kidd

Robert G. "Greg" Kidd is a venture capitalist, entrepreneur, and data-privacy advocate running for Nevada's 2nd Congressional District. Born in Connecticut and educated at Brown University, Yale University, and Harvard's Kennedy School of Government, Kidd began his professional life as a competitive cyclist before moving into global consulting with Booz Allen Hamilton and public service at the Federal Reserve.

In the private sector, he became known for launching Dispatch Management Services, which grew into the world's largest on-demand dispatch company — employing more than 5,000 people and reaching \$250 million in revenue before its Nasdaq IPO. He later co-founded Hard Yaka, a venture-capital firm, and was an early investor or adviser to companies including Twitter, Square, and Ripple.

Kidd moved to Crystal Bay, Nevada, several years ago and has championed legislation to modernize payment systems, expand economic opportunity, and protect public ownership of data. He is campaigning on a platform focused on economic innovation, bipartisan problem-solving, and expanding opportunity for Nevada families. *Campaign: greghidd.com*

#### OTHER DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATES:

Kathy Durham, Gamaliel Z. Enriquez "Gamy", Matthew Fonken, Gerold L. Gorman, Josh Hebert, Johnny E. Kerns, Morgan Wadsworth, Samuel White

### LEADING REPUBLICAN CANDIDATES

#### David Flippo

David Flippo is a retired U.S. Air Force commander and small business owner running as a Republican in Nevada. Flippo served 24 years in the Air Force, where he commanded more than 1,000 Airmen and helped establish multiple operational bases in Iraq during combat deployments. His final assignment placed him in charge of maintenance and aircraft operations at Eielson Air Force Base in Alaska, overseeing more than 800 Airmen and more than 70 combat aircraft.

After retiring from the military in 2009, Flippo spent a decade working in Alaska's energy sector with BP. He led maintenance teams responsible for keeping the Alaska Pipeline operating and developed preventive maintenance programs across the North Slope oilfield.

Flippo later moved to Nevada, where he owns two small businesses. His campaign messaging emphasizes his experience with inflation, workforce shortages, and regulatory pressures as a business owner. He lists priorities including fiscal restraint, border security, energy independence, parental rights in education, and defending constitutional freedoms.

Flippo was born in Maryland and holds degrees from Montana State University and Valdosta State University. He served in the Air Force from 1985 to 2009 and has been active in veterans, business, and civic organizations.

*For more information about his campaign, visit [flippo4nv.com](http://flippo4nv.com).*

#### James A. Settelmeyer

James A. Settelmeyer is a longtime Nevada lawmaker and agriculturalist running as a Republican. A third generation Nevada rancher born in Carson City, Settelmeyer represented rural Northern Nevada for 16 years in the Legislature, serving in the Assembly from 2006 to 2010 and the State Senate from 2010 to 2022. He served as Senate minority leader from 2018 to 2022.

Settelmeyer has chaired the Carson Valley Conservation District and the Nevada State Conservation Commission, and he previously served as chairman of District Nine of the U.S. Small Business Administration's Office of the National Ombudsman, covering five western states and Guam.

In January 2023, Gov. Joe Lombardo appointed Settelmeyer as Nevada's director of the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, where he oversees statewide natural resource, environmental, and land management agencies. His current term in that role runs through 2027.

Settelmeyer holds a bachelor's degree from California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, and has taken law courses at Concord Law School. He continues to work in agriculture and ranching.

*For more information about his campaign, visit [james4nevada.org](http://james4nevada.org).*

#### Fred J. "Doc" Simon Jr. Sherman Tylawsky

Fred J. "Doc" Simon Jr. is a trauma and critical care surgeon, business owner, and repeat Republican candidate running in Nevada's 2nd Congressional District. Simon previously ran for governor in 2022 and has since shifted his focus to federal office, emphasizing healthcare reform, fiscal restraint, and what he describes as a need to "fix a broken system" in Washington.

Simon earned a bachelor's degree in biology from Loma Linda University in 1976 and an M.D. from Creighton University in 1981. Over more than four decades in medicine, he has practiced trauma surgery, surgical critical care, and long term acute care in 14 states, 39 communities, and 68 hospitals. His clinical background includes pancreatic biliary fellowship work at the Lahey Clinic in Massachusetts and leadership roles in surgical hospitalist programs and long term acute care facilities.

Beyond medicine, Simon has owned and operated several small businesses, including restaurants and real estate ventures. He frequently cites this experience in discussing taxes, insurance costs, and regulatory burdens on small employers.

Simon's campaign platform centers on balancing the federal budget, reducing corporate influence in healthcare, strengthening border security, and increasing accountability in federal spending. He argues that affordability, public safety, and access to care are tied to what he calls "runaway federal mismanagement."

*For more information about his campaign, visit [simonforcongresscd2.com](http://simonforcongresscd2.com).*

#### Jesse J. Watts

Jesse J. Watts is a retired Eureka County sheriff and law enforcement leader running as a Republican in Nevada's 2nd Congressional District. Watts served as Eureka County sheriff beginning in 2019, gaining a reputation as a blunt, outspoken official who frequently challenged what he viewed as government overreach. He became widely known in 2020 for publicly opposing Nevada's Red Flag Law, writing to then Gov. Steve Sisolak that it was his duty "to stand with my citizens and against you and unconstitutional government overreach."

Watts has aligned himself with the Constitutional Sheriffs and Peace Officers Association, a movement asserting that county sheriffs are the highest constitutional authority in their jurisdictions — a message that resonates strongly in rural Nevada communities wary of federal intrusion. His campaign emphasizes limited government, local control, and reducing federal mandates that he argues do not fit the needs of Northern Nevada's ranching, mining, and small town communities.

In interviews, Watts has said he entered the race after Rep. Mark Amodei announced his retirement, calling the open seat a rare opportunity for "Battle Born leadership." He cites federal regulations — especially those affecting mining, land use, and small businesses — as the district's top issue, arguing that excessive bureaucracy prevents rural Nevadans from working their land and sustaining family run operations.

Watts has also worked in nonprofit leadership, serving as executive director of The Wounded Blue, a national organization supporting injured and disabled law enforcement officers. His background includes extensive experience in rural policing, emergency response, and community level public safety.

*For more information about his campaign, visit [JesseWattsForCongress.com](http://JesseWattsForCongress.com)*

#### OTHER REPUBLICAN CANDIDATES:

Jennifer Billat, Tom Doyle, George Forbush, Bruce Grego, Andrea Lowe, Jerry Olsen, Rick Shepherd, Michael "Mike" Smith

## Key Dates

**May 11, 2026** Mail ballots begin going out to all active registered voters

**May 12, 2026** Last day to register to vote or update party affiliation to participate in the primary

**May 23, 2026** Early voting begins in Lyon County

**June 5, 2026** Early voting ends

**June 9, 2026** PRIMARY ELECTION DAY

**Nov. 3, 2026** GENERAL ELECTION Polls open 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

## How Nevada's Primary Election Works

Nevada uses a **closed primary system**, meaning voters must be registered with a party to participate in that party's primary. Registered Democrats receive a Democratic ballot, registered Republicans receive a Republican ballot, and the primary election allows parties to choose who will represent them in the general election. Nonpartisan or minor-party voters do not vote in either major-party primary.

The Fernley City Council race is nonpartisan; the two candidates who receive the most votes in the primary advance to the general election. If one candidate receives more than 50 percent of the vote, that candidate is elected and will not be on the ballot for the general election. Only residents of the City of Fernley may vote in the city election, and residents vote only for the city council candidates in the ward in which they reside. The race for Mayor is citywide.

Nevada is a **universal mail-ballot state** — all active registered voters receive a ballot by mail unless they have opted out. Voters may return it by mail, drop it at a ballot drop box, or surrender it and vote in person. Mail ballots must be postmarked by Election Day and received within the statutory deadline.

**Early voting** in Lyon County is held at Fernley City Hall 595 Silver Lace Blvd. This location offers same-day voter registration with valid ID.

**On Election Day — June 9, 2026** — in-person voting is available from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. at Fernley City Hall, 595 Silver Lace Blvd.



# NEVADA STATEWIDE RACES • DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATES

Primary Election: June 9, 2026 – Registered Democrats Vote in Partisan Primary Races

## GOVERNOR OF NEVADA

Incumbent Gov. Joe Lombardo (R) is seeking reelection. These are the declared Democratic candidates.

### Aaron Ford

Aaron D. Ford is Nevada's 34th attorney general and a Democratic candidate for governor in the 2026 election. First elected in 2018 and reelected in 2022, he is the first African American to hold statewide constitutional office in Nevada. Before becoming attorney general, he served in the Nevada Senate from 2013 to 2018, rising to both majority leader and minority leader.

Born in Dallas in 1972, Ford was the first in his family to graduate from college. He earned degrees from Texas A&M University and George Washington University, followed by a J.D., M.A. and Ph.D. from Ohio State University. A former public school math teacher, he often credits that experience with shaping his approach to public service.

As attorney general, he has emphasized the "Five Cs" and reports more than \$118.5 million recovered for consumers and more than \$1.1 billion from opioid settlements. He is married to attorney Berna Rhodes Ford and has three children. *Campaign: aaronford.com.*

### Alexis Hill

Alexis Hill is the chair of the Washoe County Commission and the Democratic candidate for governor in 2026. Born in Sparks, Nevada, she earned a bachelor's degree in political science from Texas A&M University and a master's in public administration and policy from the University of Nevada, Reno. Before holding elected office, she spent more than a decade in public policy and city planning for the cities of Sparks and Reno, and worked in the nonprofit sector with the Lake Tahoe Shakespeare Festival and Kids & Horses. First elected to the Washoe County Commission in 2020 and reelected in 2024, she became commission chair in 2023. Her board assignments have included the Regional Transportation Commission and the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency. Her gubernatorial platform focuses on tax reform, infrastructure investment, temporary rent caps, and expanded housing affordability. She lives in Reno with her husband, Matthew Tuma, and their two daughters. *Campaign: alexishill.com*

## LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

### Sandra Jauregui

Sandra Jauregui is a Nevada state assemblywoman and Democratic candidate for lieutenant governor. First elected in 2016, Jauregui represents Assembly District 41 in Clark County. She has served as majority floor leader and chaired the Assembly Commerce and Labor Committee, where she has sponsored legislation on worker protections, consumer issues, and housing policy.

Jauregui was born and raised in Southern Nevada. She earned her bachelor's degree from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, and worked in the real estate and mortgage lending industry before entering public service. Her legislative work has included bills on gun violence prevention, affordable housing, and economic development. She has also been involved in statewide efforts to expand mental health resources and im-

prove emergency response coordination.

As a candidate for lieutenant governor, Jauregui has emphasized economic diversification, small business support, and strengthening Nevada's tourism driven economy. She has also highlighted the office's role in the Commission on Tourism, the Board of Transportation, and the state's economic development strategy. Jauregui lives in Las Vegas with her family and is active in community organizations focused on education and public safety. *More information about her campaign is available at sandrajauregui.com.*

### Bridget N. Scheiner

Bridget N. Scheiner is an educator, community advocate, and Democratic candidate for lieutenant governor. Known by many in the community as "BridgieNix," Scheiner has worked in public education and youth support programs, focusing on student services, family engagement, and community partnerships. Her background includes work with Nevada school districts and nonprofit organizations supporting at risk youth.

Scheiner has lived in Nevada for many years and has been active in civic and volunteer efforts centered on education, equity, and community health. Her professional experience includes program coordination, classroom support, and advocacy for expanded student resources. She has also participated in statewide discussions on improving school safety, mental health access, and wraparound services for families.

As a candidate, Scheiner has emphasized education investment, community service expansion, and strengthening the lieutenant governor's role in economic development and tourism. She has highlighted the importance of statewide collaboration on transportation, rural access to services, and small business support.

Scheiner lives in Nevada with her family and remains active in local volunteer networks and school community initiatives.

*Campaign: bridgienixscheiner.com.*

### Courtney Burke

Courtney Burke is a nonprofit executive and community development advocate running in the Democratic primary for Nevada lieutenant governor. Burke has spent her career working with statewide organizations focused on housing stability, youth services, and economic opportunity. She has served in leadership roles with Nevada nonprofits that work on homelessness prevention, family support programs, and community partnerships.

Burke grew up in Nevada and earned her bachelor's degree from the University of Nevada, Reno. Her professional background includes program management, grant administration, and coalition building with local governments and service providers. She has been active in regional planning discussions and has worked on initiatives addressing affordable housing, behavioral health access, and workforce development.

Burke's campaign emphasizes expanding community services, strengthening Nevada's social safety infrastructure, and improving coordination between state and local agencies. She has highlighted the role of the lieutenant governor in economic development, tourism, and small business support, and

has called for increased investment in rural communities and statewide transportation planning.

Burke lives in Northern Nevada and is active in volunteer work supporting youth mentorship and family service organizations. *More information about her campaign is available at courtneyburke.com.*

## ATTORNEY GENERAL

### Nicole Cannizzaro

Nicole Cannizzaro is the first woman to serve as majority leader of the Nevada Senate, representing Senate District 6 in Las Vegas since 2016. Born and raised in Las Vegas, she graduated from Chaparral High School, earned a bachelor's degree in business administration from the University of Nevada, Reno, and her law degree from UNLV's Boyd School of Law in 2010. She then joined the Clark County District Attorney's Office, where she spent more than a decade as a prosecutor handling racketeering, fraud, child abuse, sexual assault, and homicide cases, rising to chief deputy district attorney in the Gang Unit. In the Legislature, she has championed public safety, reproductive rights, health care access, teacher pay, and consumer protection – including legislation to expand postpartum care and strengthen penalties for fentanyl trafficking. She lives in Las Vegas with her husband, Nate Ring, and their three children. *Campaign: nicolecannizzaro.com*

### Zach Conine

Zach Conine is Nevada's two-term state treasurer, running for attorney general in 2026. Born in upstate New York in 1981, he earned a bachelor's degree from Cornell University's School of Hotel Administration and his law degree from UNLV's Boyd School of Law in 2015, attending night school while working full time in gaming and finance. Before entering statewide office, he ran a consulting firm that helped create or preserve more than 3,000 Nevada jobs. As treasurer since 2019, he oversaw the state's first bond-rating upgrades since 2006 and returned record levels of unclaimed property to Nevadans. He also chairs the College Savings Plans of Nevada and the Nevada State Infrastructure Bank. His campaign emphasizes protecting constitutional rights, combating corruption, and ensuring Nevada's legal system works for families and small businesses. He lives in Las Vegas with his wife, Layke, and their three children. *Campaign: zachconine.com*

## STATE TREASURER

### Joe Dalia

Joe Dalia is a Nevada assemblymember and Democratic candidate for state treasurer. First elected to represent Assembly District 29 in 2022, Dalia has focused on legislation involving public safety, education funding, and community services. He previously worked in business operations and has been active in local civic organizations.

Dalia's campaign emphasizes financial transparency, responsible budgeting, and expanding programs that support Nevada families, including college savings initiatives and small business development. He lives in Henderson with his family.

*More information about his campaign is available at joedalia.com.*

### Jay Maharjan

Jay Maharjan is an entrepreneur, educator, and Democratic candidate for state treasurer. Maharjan has worked in business innovation and economic development initiatives, including participating in federal programs during the Obama administration that supported start-ups and technology growth. He has also taught entrepreneurship and leadership at Nevada institutions.

Maharjan's campaign focuses on modernizing the treasurer's office, strengthening Nevada's economic development tools, and expanding financial literacy programs. He lives in Las Vegas and is active in business mentorship networks. More information about his campaign is available at jaymaharjan.com.

### Tya Mathis Coleman

Tya Mathis Coleman is Nevada's deputy state treasurer and a Democratic candidate for state treasurer. She has served in senior roles within the treasurer's office, working on college savings programs, unclaimed property, and financial education initiatives. She previously worked in public administration and community service organizations.

Mathis Coleman's campaign highlights her experience in state finance, her work on statewide savings programs, and her focus on expanding access to financial tools for families and small businesses. She lives in Las Vegas with her family. *More information about her campaign is available at tyamathiscoleman.com.*

## STATE CONTROLLER

### Robert K. "Bob" Blackstock

Robert K. "Bob" Blackstock is a financial professional and Democratic candidate for state controller. Blackstock, who goes by "Bob," has worked in accounting, budgeting, and fiscal management roles in Nevada's private and nonprofit sectors. His campaign focuses on transparent reporting, modernizing state financial systems, and improving public access to financial information. He lives in Nevada and is active in community service programs. More information about his campaign is available at blackstockfornevada.com. Michael Macdougall is a business owner and Democratic candidate for state controller. Macdougall has experience in small business operations, financial planning, and organizational management. His platform emphasizes efficient budgeting, stronger oversight of state spending, and support for Nevada's small business economy. He lives in Northern Nevada and participates in local economic development and civic groups. *More information about his campaign is available at macdougallfornevada.com.*

### Robert "Bob" Tolle

Robert "Bob" Tolle is a nonprofit finance manager and Democratic candidate for state controller. Tolle, who goes by "Bob," has worked in grant administration, compliance, and financial reporting for Nevada based organizations. His campaign highlights accountability, modernization of state financial tools, and expanding public facing financial transparency. He lives in Nevada and is involved in community finance and public service initiatives. *More information about his campaign is available at tollefornevada.com.*

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# NEVADA STATEWIDE RACES • REPUBLICAN CANDIDATES

Primary Election: June 9, 2026 – Registered Republicans Vote in Partisan Primary Races



## GOVERNOR OF NEVADA

### Joseph Michael “Joe” Lombardo INCUMBENT

Joe Lombardo is the 31st governor of Nevada, elected in 2022 after a 34-year career with the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department, where he served as Clark County Sheriff from 2015 to 2023. Born in Sapporo, Japan, to a U.S. Air Force family, he grew up in Las Vegas, graduated from Rancho High School, and earned a bachelor's degree in civil engineering and a master's in crisis management from UNLV. He also served in the U.S. Army, the Nevada National Guard, and the U.S. Army Reserve from 1980 to 1986. As governor, his administration has focused on economic diversification, education reform, teacher pay raises, and public safety, and has proposed the largest general-fund budget in state history. He is married to First Lady Donna Lombardo and has one daughter, two stepchildren, and a grandson.

Campaign: [joelombardo.com](http://joelombardo.com)

### Irina Hansen

Irina Hansen is a Las Vegas salon owner and real-estate agent making her first statewide run, challenging Gov. Lombardo from the right. Born in Romania in 1978 under Nicolae Ceausescu's communist regime, she lived through the 1989 Romanian Revolution before immigrating to the United States in 1998. She began working in real estate in 2005 and opened Prestige Salon and Spa in 2019, just before Nevada's COVID-19 shutdowns. She previously ran for mayor of Las Vegas in 2024, finishing with 1.2 percent of the vote. Her platform emphasizes reducing regulation, restructuring the judicial system, and limiting state authority – themes she ties directly to her experience growing up under communism. Campaign: [irinahansenforgovernor.com](http://irinahansenforgovernor.com)

## LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

### Stavros Anthony INCUMBENT

Nevada's Lt. Governor; chairs Nevada's Tourism Commission; presides over the State Senate in odd-numbered years.

No challenger. Not on primary ballot.

## ATTORNEY GENERAL

### Adriana Guzmán Fralick

Adriana Guzmán Fralick is a Nevada attorney, former state regulator, and Gov. Joe Lombardo's endorsed candidate in the 2026 Republican primary for attorney general. She immigrated to the United States from Mexico at age nine, arriving in Nevada on the Fourth of July. A graduate of the University of Nevada, Reno, and UNLV's Boyd School of Law, she has held senior legal roles across state government over two decades – including general counsel to Gov. Jim Gibbons, executive secretary to the Nevada Gaming Control Board and Gaming Commission, chief deputy district attorney for Carson City, and chair of the Nevada Cannabis Compliance Board. Her campaign pledges a tougher stance on crime and a sharp departure from current AG Aaron Ford's tenure. Her campaign has received significant backing from the conservative super PAC Frontline Victory Fund. Campaign: [adrianalegal.com](http://adrianalegal.com)

### Danny Tarkanian

Danny Tarkanian is an attorney, businessman, and Douglas County commissioner – and one of Nevada's most recognizable Republican names. Son of legendary UNLV basketball coach Jerry Tarkanian, he attended Bishop Gorman High School, played basketball at UNLV (twice named a First-Team Academic All-American), and earned a Juris Doctor from the University of San Diego. He practiced law for seven years and founded the Tarkanian Basketball Academy, a nonprofit serving at-risk youth. Elected to the Douglas County Commission in 2020 and reelected in 2024, Tarkanian has run

competitive campaigns for statewide and federal office since 2006. His attorney general platform emphasizes law and order, voter-fraud investigation, and protecting women's sports. He entered the primary with a fundraising edge, reporting roughly \$154,000 in first-quarter receipts. Campaign: [dannytarkanian.com](http://dannytarkanian.com)

## SECRETARY OF STATE

### Sharron Angle

Sharron Angle is a former Nevada assemblywoman and longtime conservative activist. She served in the Nevada Assembly from 1999 to 2007 representing Washoe County, and was the Republican nominee for U.S. Senate in 2010, losing to then-Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid with 44.6 percent of the vote. Born in Klamath Falls, Oregon, she holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts from the University of Nevada, Reno, and spent 25 years as a substitute teacher before entering politics. She announced her 2026 secretary of state candidacy in April 2025, positioning herself to challenge Democratic incumbent Cisco Aguilar if she wins the GOP primary. Campaign: [sharronangle.com](http://sharronangle.com)

### Jim Marchant

Jim Marchant is a former Nevada assemblyman and technology entrepreneur making his second run for secretary of state. Born in Gainesville, Florida, in 1956, he earned a degree from Troy University and founded early internet and telecommunications companies, later serving as president of the Federation of Internet Service Providers of America. He moved to Nevada in 2005. After losing the 2022 secretary of state race to Democrat Cisco Aguilar and finishing third in the 2024 U.S. Senate primary, Marchant is back in the 2026 field. He previously led the America First Secretary of State Coalition. His platform calls for eliminating voting machines, ending universal mail ballots, and requiring a full re-registration of Nevada voters. Campaign: [jimmarchant.com](http://jimmarchant.com)

## STATE TREASURER

### Jeff Carter

Jeff Carter is a businessman and investor making his first Nevada run for the open treasurer seat vacated by term-limited Zach Conine. He spent 25 years as a professional trader and market maker in interest-rate futures and agricultural markets on the floor of the Chicago Mercantile Exchange, where he was elected to the CME Board. Raised in DuPage County, Illinois, Carter holds a business degree from the University of Illinois and an MBA from the University of Chicago Booth School of Business. He co-founded Hyde Park Angels, one of the nation's most active angel-investment groups, and launched a venture fund focused on early-stage B2B fintech companies. He has significantly outraised his opponent, reporting roughly \$222,800 in total receipts, including more than \$70,300 in personal loans.

Campaign: [jeffcarternv.com](http://jeffcarternv.com)

### Drew Johnson

Drew Johnson is a policy analyst, columnist, and former think-tank founder who describes himself as a “government waste expert.” Born in Johnson City, Tennessee, he holds a bachelor's degree from Belmont University and a Master of Public Policy from Pepperdine University. He founded the Tennessee Center for Policy Research in 2004 and later served as editorial-page editor of the Chattanooga Times Free Press and as a columnist for The Washington Times. In Nevada, he narrowly lost a 2022 Clark County Commission race and was the Republican nominee for Nevada's 3rd Congressional District in 2024. He is now seeking the open treasurer seat, campaigning on taxpayer protection, maintaining Nevada's bond rating, and expanding college-savings and financial-literacy programs.

Campaign: [drewfornevada.com](http://drewfornevada.com)

## POLLING LOCATIONS — LYON COUNTY

LOCATION	ADDRESS	AVAILABLE FOR
Fernley City Hall	595 Silver Lace Blvd., Fernley, Nv.	Early Voting and Election Day
Lyon County Admin Complex	27 S. Main St, Yerington, Nv.	Early Voting and Election Day
Dayton Utilities	34 Lakes Blvd., Dayton, Nv.	Early Voting and Election Day
Silver Springs Community Center	2945 Ft. Churchill Rd., Silver Springs, Nv.	Early Voting and Election Day
Yerington Paiute Tribe	171 Cambell Ln., Yerington, Nv.	Early Voting and Election Day

## BALLOT DROP BOX LOCATIONS

LOCATION	ADDRESS	Drop boxes are available 24 hours a day through Election Day, June 9, 2026. Confirm current drop box locations at the Lyon County Clerk's web-site before dropping off your ballot.
Fernley City Hall	595 Silver Lace Blvd., Fernley, Nv.	
Lyon County Admin Complex	27 S. Main St, Yerington, Nv.	
Dayton Utilities	34 Lakes Blvd., Dayton, Nv.	
Silver Springs Community Center	2945 Ft. Churchill Rd., Silver Springs, Nv.	
Yerington Paiute Tribe	171 Cambell Ln., Yerington, Nv.	

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send yours to [Robert@FernleyReporter.com](mailto:Robert@FernleyReporter.com)

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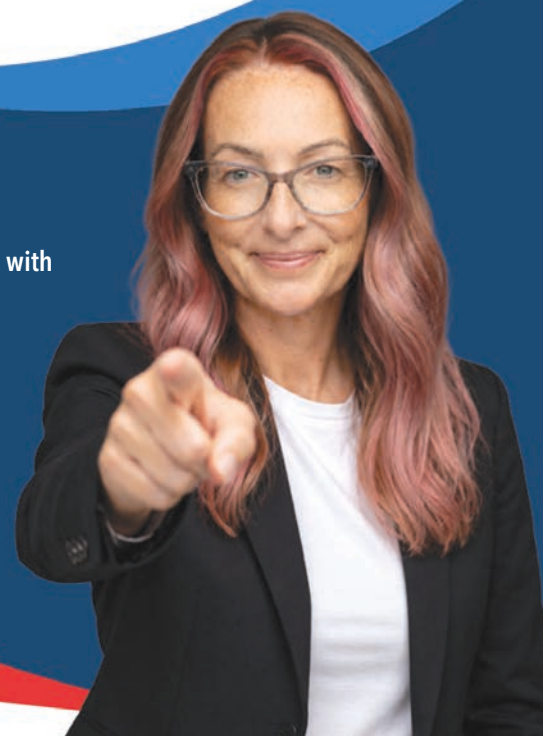
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1040 Inglewood Drive, Fernley NV 89408

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As a member of this community, I'm committed to listening, leading with integrity, and making decisions that reflect the needs of Fernley.

From Fernley, For Fernley.



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## PETS OF THE WEEK

### Kitten season is in full swing!

MORE KITTENS WILL SOON BE AVAILABLE FOR ADOPTION!

These bottle babies are 3-4 weeks young and will be ready in approx 5 weeks.

Precious Paws is accepting phone applications. If you are interested in adopting please give us a call and leave a message with your contact info and someone will get back to you asap!



**Precious Paws Society of NV | 1085 Aster Ln, Fernley, NV 89408**  
775-575-0950 | preciouspawssocietynv@gmail.com

## PET OF THE WEEK

### Introducing... Winter!



Winter is an adult female Cane Corso. She is a beautiful grey silver color and has a sweet, loving personality. Winter is about 4 years old and is fixed, vaccinated and microchipped.

Shelter Requirements for Adoption:

- Meet and greet appointment to ensure that the pet will fit into the family.
- All dogs in the house must be spayed or neutered.

The best way to learn about Winter is to contact the Shelter directly. The Shelter is open Monday to Saturday from 10 am to 4 pm. For any questions or to meet Winter, please contact the Lyon County Shelter at 775-577-5005.



**Lyon County Animal Shelter**  
3705 Highway 50 West in Silver Springs, NV 89429  
775-577-5005

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<b>Tuesday</b>	All Day <b>Ladies' Appreciation</b>		
<b>Wednesday</b>	All Day <b>Seniors' Appreciation</b>	1pm - 5pm <b>BINGO</b>	
<b>Thursday</b>	All Day <b>Kiosk Scratcher</b>		
<b>Friday</b>	All Day <b>10x Points</b>	5pm - 9pm <b>Bonus Bucks</b>	
<b>Saturday</b>	All Day <b>Kiosk Scratcher</b>	5pm - 9pm <b>Free Play Frenzy</b>	

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- Fernley Wigwam Restaurant

- Buddy Boys
- All Points Bar & Grill
- McHoppers Brew Co.
- Desert Rose RV
- Black Bear Diner
- The Golf Club at Fernley
- Fernley City Hall Clerk's Office
- State Farm – Dan Glass Agency REMAX at the Golf Course
- The Parlor Barbershop
- Boys & Girls Club