

Nunez, Paulman honored as Boys & Girls Club Youths of the Year

By Robert Perea

The Boys & Girls Club of Truckee Meadows Serving Fernley honored Daniel Nunez and Faith Paulman, both sophomores at Fernley High School, as its Youths of the Year at its at its fourth annual Fernley Awards Banquet on Oct. 2 at the Community Response and Resource Center.

The Club also honored seven Members of the Year in four different categories, named the City of Fernley as the winner of its Distinguished Service Award and presented Pat Spracklin with its Lifetime Service Award.

The Distinguished Service Award goes to an individual, group or family who has made significant contributions to the Boys & Girls Club and the community. The Club recognized the City of Fernley for its investment in its youth, supporting youth sports, supporting the Boys & Girls Club Passport to Party fundraiser, and its milestone of opening the Community Response and Resource Center, which is now home to the Boys & Girls Club.

Spracklin was awarded the Lifetime Service Award for being one of the driving forces behind bringing the Boys & Girls Club to Fernley. She was one of five original members of Compass (Community Partners Seeking Solutions), a grassroots group founded by the late Diana Wagner with the vision of creating a youth center in



Faith Paulman and Daniel Nunez were honored as the Boys & Girls Club of Truckee Meadows Serving Fernley's Youths of the Year at the Club's annual awards banquet on Oct. 2 at the Community Response and Resource Center. Photo by Robert Perea

Fernley.

As a longtime Rotarian, Spracklin was instrumental in rallying Rotary Club support, including proceeds from tournaments and events that sustained the Club in its earliest years.

In addition, the Club raised more than \$20,000 through donations during the banquet, as well as a pair of \$5,000 matching donations, from Tina Petersen and Joe Mendoza.

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.

Nunez is 15 years old and is in his second year in the Upward Bound Program through the University of Nevada, Reno, a program that helps first generation college-bound students prepare for college.

Nunez related how his father grew up in Guatemala as the oldest of 12 children in a family with little money.

"In the 10th grade he dropped out of school at the age of 15 to help his family, a grade I currently am in now," Nunez said. "For this reason, I strive to be the first one in my family to go to college, in hopes of making them proud."

Nunez said he has been a member of the Boys & Girls Club since second grade.

"Without the Boys & Girls Club, I honestly do not know how different my life would be, because I've been here so long," he said. "Experiences and friendships I formed here have shaped who I am, making me grateful for every moment spent within these walls."

Nunez said he has been involved in school leadership since seventh grade and plans to run for Student Body President.

Nunez said he's undecided on his future, but would like to become either a lawyer or police officer.

"I honestly believe that the Boys & Girls Club has had a huge influence on me, not just by helping academically, but by showing me different types of jobs that are out there," he said.

Paulman said she started going to the Boys & Girls Club in kindergarten.

"Whether through personal experience

Continued on page 4 - AWARDS...

Sheriff's Office focusing on traffic enforcement around schools

By Robert Perea

Stories of a fire truck stuck in school traffic for 10 minutes or cars speeding through 15-mile per hour school zones may grab attention, but it's routine congestion and safety that is prompting the Lyon County Sheriff's Office to increase its presence around Fernley school zones.

Reporting to the Fernley City Council during its Oct. 1 meeting, Chief Deputy Mitch Brantingham said deputies will step up enforcement during school zone hours for the foreseeable future, particularly near Cottonwood Elementary School.

Additional patrols are also planned near the stoplight at Newlands Drive, where Brantingham said deputies have observed traffic backing up across

Newlands and Main Street, with drivers running the red light.

"Enforcement's going to be a challenge over there, but we're going to do the best we can to try and get those situations sorted out," he said.

Hardie Lane near Fernley Elementary School is also on the list of target areas, but Brantingham said he doesn't think issuing citations will cure the congestion, where cars routinely block the roadway while waiting to drop off or pick up children.

Councilman Joe Mendoza related being stuck in traffic for more than 10 minutes in a fire truck, with people yelling at them for trying to get past.

"I've noticed during the afternoon pickup that traffic is extremely impeded southbound on Hardie, and they're not letting anybody go because they

all want to make a right turn and they literally stop the traffic there for about 15 or 20 minutes until the bell rings and people start picking up kids," Mendoza said.

Brantingham said there have been reports of vehicles going 70 miles per hour in the school zone on Hardie Lane, so he assigned a sergeant to observe traffic and take notes.

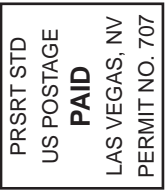
"We weren't able to confirm any of that, the highest speed we had was about 32 miles an hour through there," Brantingham said. "The problem with 32 miles an hour when everybody else has stopped is it is very fast, especially in a 15-mile an hour zone."

But instead of correcting the issue, Brantingham said conducting traffic stops on Hardie Lane might make the problems worse.

"If we send deputies over there to try and conduct traffic stops on people that are sitting in the roadway there, we're going to cause a substantial mess in terms of trying to move traffic out of the way, trying to get a vehicle stopped in a safe location," he said. "We have to weigh, are we creating more of a hazard by conducting the stop versus allowing traffic to function the way it is."

Instead, Brantingham said the solution may lie in rerouting traffic somehow.

"I think we were going to have to go about it through a diversion of traffic differently through the parking lot or a different pickup location," he said. "But I don't think there's an easy solution to that problem. If anybody has an easy solution to it, we're happy to hear it."



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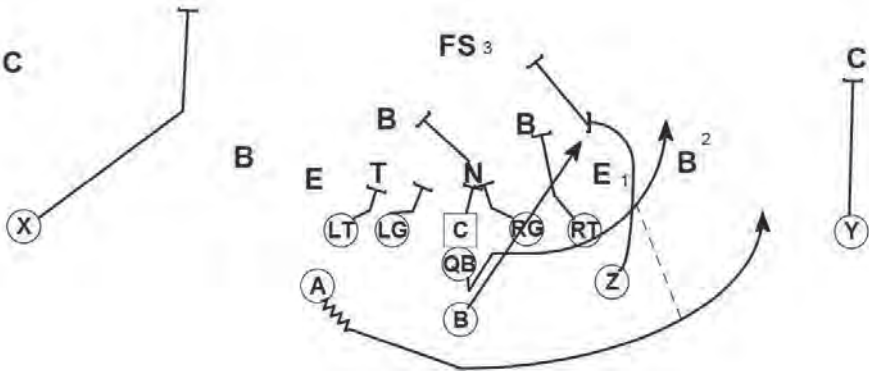
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LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

The Inside Veer



Fernley traffic has always defied its size

I record city council meetings on my phone, and I was listening to last week's meeting while driving to Reno from Fernley last Thursday afternoon. I was crawling along Interstate 80 at about 15 miles per hour in a 65-mile per hour zone, when ironically, I heard Lyon County Sheriff's Chief Deputy Mitch Brantingham mention reports of someone driving 70 miles per hour in a 15-mph school zone.

One zone slowed by congestion, the other by design. Both struggling to move safely.

Brantingham was speaking to the Fernley City Council about traffic enforcement near schools. The Lyon County Sheriff's Office is increasing patrols around Cottonwood Elementary and other school zones. Not because of any single dramatic incident, but because of the daily grind of clogged intersections, red-light runners, and the kind of slow-motion chaos that turns school drop-off and pick-up into a civic exercise in patience.

Then Councilman Joe Mendoza related a story about being stuck for 10 minutes in a fire rig in the congestion on Hardie Lane in front of Fernley Elementary School. Drivers, he said, were yelling at them for trying to get through. That's when Brantingham mentioned the report of someone driving 70-mph in the school zone.

The anecdote about the 70-mph school zone driver didn't pan out. Brantingham said the fastest speed they clocked was 32. But in a zone where most cars are stopped, 32 probably looks like 70.

Afternoon pickup turns south-bound Hardie into a holding pen, with cars stacked and angled for the perfect right turn, blocking traffic until the



ROBERT PEREA

bell rings and the ritual begins. I don't know if traffic is the most common complaint I hear about Fernley, but between the roundabout, the daily jam on I-80 and the Hardie Lane mess, it's certainly near the top. It's the same kind of complaint I've heard everywhere I've ever lived, and that's a lot of places. Every place I've ever been to, people think their traffic and their drivers are the worst. While every town swears its traffic is uniquely terrible, Fernley might actually have a case. Hardie Lane becoming a parking lot in the afternoon is nothing new, it's been the same way for probably 10 years. Joy Edge, the crossing guard at FES, has related several times nearly being run over by impatient drivers. As congested as traffic gets around the roundabout, it was actually worse 20 years ago when there was a stop light there, and that was with a population less than half of what it is now. I'm not sure the reasons, but Fernley's traffic problems have always felt outsized for a city of its size, as if it

inherited congestion from somewhere with twice the population. Regarding Hardie Lane, Brantingham said issuing citations might only make things worse. Pulling someone over in that mess could create more hazard than it solves. Instead, he floated the idea of rerouting traffic through the parking lot or finding a new pickup location. But he was candid: "I don't think there's an easy solution to that problem. If anybody has an easy solution to it, we're happy to hear it." That's the kind of line that sticks with you. Not just because it's honest, but because it's rare. Also, because, while he was talking about Hardie Lane, his point applies citywide. Sometimes the fix isn't a ticket, it's a rethink. 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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Fernley Women's Golf Club Results, Sept. 30

Game: ONES

1st: Juneil Key, 32

2nd: Jana Garner, 34

Closest to hole #7: Jana Garner, 5'4"

Birdie #7: Jana Garner

Low Putts: Jana Garner, 27

Chip-In: Juneil Key, #11

FERNLEY NEWS MINUTE

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FEATURES

City, county both recognize National 4-H week

By Robert Perea

Fernley Mayor Neal McIntyre and the Lyon County Commission each issued proclamations last week recognizing Oct. 5-11 as National 4-H week.

The proclamations read in both the Oct. 1 Fernley City Council meeting and the Oct. 2 County Commission meeting highlight this year's theme, "Beyond Ready," emphasizing how 4-H equips six million youth nationwide with skills for the future through experiential learning. Delivered by the Cooperative Extension System, 4-H fosters leadership, science, agriculture, and community engagement, helping young people grow into successful, independent adults.

Monday, Oct. 6 was "Go GREEN Day," where 4-H youth, volunteers and staff are encouraged to wear green as a kick-off to the new 4-H year and to National 4-H Week.

Lindsay Chichester, Nevada 4-H Leader with the University of Nevada, Reno Extension, said 4-H activities have evolved significantly from the organization's rural roots over 100 years ago.

"Today's 4-H clubs and activities go beyond raising animals and other traditional activities that many may think of, although those clubs are still a valuable part of our offerings," Chichester said. "Our kids are also doing hands-on activities to learn about things like robotics, self-defense, sign language, creative writing and even hot air ballooning. 4-H has become the largest youth development organization in the country because we've adapted to include a variety of activities to reach youth in both urban



The Lyon County Commission proclaimed Oct. 5-11 as National 4-H Week and recognized 4-H for the significant impact it has on empowering youth with the skills they need to lead for a lifetime during its meeting Oct. 2. Photo courtesy of Lyon County

and rural communities. But, what's consistent across all our activities is that they aim to equip young people with the skills, confidence and resilience needed for career-readiness and to provide leadership and service in their communities and beyond as adults."

During National 4-H Week, and throughout the month, Chichester and her statewide 4-H team are encouraging youth and parents who may be interested in learning more about 4-H to get involved by attending a local 4-H activity or by reaching out to their local county 4-H office for more information.

In many Nevada communities, youth activities can be scarce or costly, Chichester said, and 4-H engages with the partners and volunteers in the community to address that.

"4-H strives to provide free or very affordable, unique and meaningful educational experiences to engage Nevada youth across the state, from those tucked away in our most rural areas to those in heavily populated

urban centers," she said.

Some of this year's highlights include 4-H youth learning about wild mustangs and land management at a Mustang Camp; learning about civic engagement by providing Christmas tree ornaments for a Nevada-grown tree that will be displayed as the 2025 U.S. Capitol Christmas Tree in Washington, D.C., and learning about what it takes to get a pizza on their plate by growing and producing their own ingredients – even grinding their own grain to make flour.

4-H youths help bring Nevada spirit to the nation's capitol this Christmas



Photo Courtesy of the Architect of the Capitol

By Claudene Wharton, University of Nevada, Reno Extension

In January, the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest announced that it has been selected to provide the 2025 U.S. Capitol Christmas Tree, marking the first time the U.S. Forest Service will harvest the tree from the Humboldt-Toiyabe and from the state of Nevada. The U.S. Capitol Christmas Tree is a tradition that began in 1964 in which one of America's 154 national forests provides a tree for the West Lawn of the U.S. Capitol for the holiday season. The Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest is the largest in the continental United States, encompassing more than 6 million acres in Nevada and California.

With a theme for the tree of "Starry Skies to Neon Lights – Spirit of the Silver State," the U.S. Forest Service put out a call in May for 10,000 handmade ornaments, ranging from


4 inches to 12 inches tall, that will be required for the gigantic tree. Youth in Nevada 4-H and Cloverbuds (ages 5-8) joined others across the state to help answer the call and have the ornaments delivered to the Forest Service by Sept. 15. The 4-H and Cloverbud youth provided a variety of handmade ornaments showcasing their artistic talent, as well as what makes our state unique and what "Home Means Nevada" means to them. The Forest Service specifically asked that ornaments reflect Nevada traditions and people; iconic landscapes and special places; our public lands and how people enjoy them; and our wild plants, animals and geology.

Anna Whiteside and Sara Sweeney, from the Extension office in northern Nye County, helped coordinate the effort for more than 20 4-H youth in Tonopah and Round Mountain to make 50 ornaments to be sent to the White House. The

ornaments were made of wood and hand-painted, or were crafted from other art supplies, many of them depicting Nevada wildlife or "Battle Born," as displayed on the state's flag. Sweeney said the youth were excited to represent Nevada and contribute to the effort.

"They were also very excited about where the ornaments were going to be displayed," she said. "One of the younger kids said, 'This ornament is going to be famous, so I am going to try my best.' They had a lot of fun, but they also took it pretty seriously and put a lot of thought into their ornaments."

Youth in other areas of state also participated. Douglas County 4-H youth provided hand-painted Nevada-shaped ornaments, many of them depicting starry skies or eagles. Youth from Lyon County provided hand-painted, wooden, horse-themed ornaments. Youth from Pershing County provided hand-sewn ornaments.



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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Howl-O-Ween 5k

Bestselling author to speak on career pathways at FHS

Staff Report

Friends of Fernley Animal Services (FFAS) will be hosting a Howl-O-Ween 5K Fun Run/Walk on Sunday, Oct. 19 at the Out of Town Park.

FFAS is a nonprofit organization that was created in partnership with the city to raise money for a future animal shelter to house dogs and cats. The event is the new group's first big fundraiser event.

The run/walk is a Halloween themed event and there will be a costume contest for the most creative costume, best owner/pet duo, and funniest costumes. There will also be an adoption event with local rescues and guest vendors including businesses and animal service organizations.

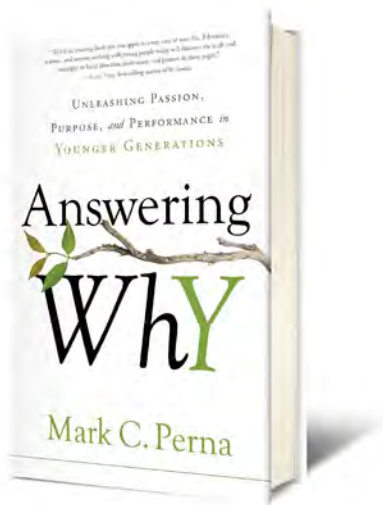
The event will be from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. and the cost is \$40 per runner or walker.

Registration to participate in the run or walk is available at runsignup.com/Race/NV/Fernley/HowlOWeen-5KFunRunWalk.

Staff Report

The Lyon County School District will host best-selling author Mark Perna for a presentation intended to guide students in their education and career journey.

The presentation is scheduled at 6:30 p.m. Oct. 23 at Fernley High School. All parents and community



members are invited to attend the free event.

Perna is an acclaimed speaker, author and CEO. He is the founder of Education with Purpose and Employment with Passion, to connect the pipelines between education, employment and economic development. His book Answering Why: Unleashing Passion, Purpose, and Performance in Younger Generations is a bestseller that has won eight national awards, including the Nautilus Book Award.

He is also a weekly contributor at Forbes.com, where he has written more than 300 articles, and is a frequent podcast, radio and TV guest.

In his presentation in Fernley, Perna will speak on how to spark meaningful conversations about your child's life and career goals; help the build a personal competitive advantage that sets them up for success and inspire the next generation to think constructively about their future and take action with purpose.

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Continued from FRONT - AWARDS...

periences or moments of self-discovery I learned that every step, no matter how small, has meaning," she said. "At the teen center, trustworthy relationships are built on open communication and mutual respect where everyone feels safe enough to rely on each other."

She said members at the Boys & Girls club learn many skills such as communication, teamwork and problem solving.

"Communication skills are the most effective because it helps me everywhere I go, professionally and personally," Paulman said. "There's no telling how my life would be if I didn't have the Boys & Girls Club."

As a three-sport athlete, Paulman said the Boys & Girls Club has helped her learn positivity, leadership, empathy, accountability and encouragement.

"Participating at the Boys & Girls Club is most important to me because it means getting involved in activities that help others," she said. "Volunteering is a big part of being in the Keystone Leadership Club and I love organizing donations or serving people in need. Participating in these kinds of events is so rewarding because I get to be a part of something that's making a positive impact on our entire community."

At Fernley High School, Paulman participates in JV football, varsity girls wrestling and JV softball. She spoke of her love of wrestling and thanked the coaches who have helped her since she started the sport in first grade.

"I'm so fortunate I've had so many opportunities to improve and seek great results when I'm winning tourna-



The Boys & Girls Club of Truckee Meadows Serving Fernley honored Bailey Whitten, Ellanore Sudweeks, Jalayla Rutledge, Clyde Hawkins, Aaron Ramirez, Hailey Sparks and Jose Ramos as its Members of the Year. Photo by Robert Perea



The City of Fernley was presented with the Distinguished Service Award at the Boys & Girls Club of Truckee Meadows Serving Fernley annual Awards Banquet. Photo by Robert Perea

ments and getting recognized by other wrestlers and teams around Nevada," Paulman said.

She said her goal is to compete for the Iowa Hawkeyes women's wrestling

team and her career goals are to be a traveling physical therapist.

"I've always been passionate about helping others since I've lived through a lot of the experiences," Paulman said.

- The Club's Members of the Year Awards were presented to:
- Academic Success**
Bailey Whitten, Cottonwood Elementary School
Ellanore Sudweeks, Fernley Youth & Teen Clubhouse
 - Good Character and Leadership**
Jalayla Rutledge, East Valley Elementary School
Clyde Hawkins, Silverland Middle School
 - Healthy Lifestyles**
Aaron Ramirez, Fernley Youth & Teen Clubhouse
Hailey Sparks, Fernley Youth & Teen Clubhouse
 - Life & Workforce**
Jose Ramos, Fernley Youth & Teen Clubhouse



The Boys & Girls Club of Truckee Meadows Serving Fernley awarded Pat Spracklin with its Lifetime Service Award. Photo by Robert Perea

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send yours to Robert@FernleyReporter.com



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COMMUNITY

Sheriff’s deputy, Dayton resident recognized for rescuing man during fire

By Robert Perea

Lyon County Sheriff’s Investigator Jeremy Tafelmeyer and Dayton resident Jose Ramos-Conchas were recognized during the Oct. 2 meeting of the Lyon County Commission for rescuing a man during a residential fire in Dayton on Aug. 22.

Tafelmeyer was presented with the Lyon County Sheriff’s Office Lifesaving Medal, while Ramos-Conchas was awarded the Sheriff’s Office Community Service Award.

In his commendation for both men, Sheriff Brad Pope wrote that Tafelmeyer had been traveling on U.S. Highway 50 when he saw heavy black smoke rising from a home in Dayton. He immediately responded and found the home engulfed in flames. After notifying dispatch, he was trying to reach the occupant trapped inside the burning home. Ramos-Conchas noticed his neighbor’s home was fully involved in fire. He immediately responded to help Tafelmeyer.

Tafelmeyer and Ramos-Conchas crawled 10 to 15 feet into the home on their hands and knees, under extremely heavy smoke, flames and



Lyon County Sheriff Brad Pope presented Investigator Jeremy Tafelmeyer with a Lifesaving Medal at the Oct. 2 meeting of the Lyon County Commission. Pope also recognized Dayton resident Jose Ramos-Conchas with the Community Service Award. Ramos-Conchas was not present at the meeting to accept his award in person. Photo courtesy of Lyon County Sheriff’s Office

intense heat. They were able to pull the victim to safety through an east doorway.

Tafelmeyer rendered immediate medical assistance, maintaining the victim’s consciousness until paramedics arrived.

“Investigator Tafelmeyer’s courageous actions, quick decision-making, and extraordinary bravery directly resulted in the preservation of human life,” Pope wrote in his commendation for Tafelmeyer.

“Mr. Ramos-Conchas’ selfless

bravery, decisive action and willingness to place himself in harm’s way embody the highest ideals of citizenship and community partnership with law enforcement,” Pope wrote in the commendation for Ramos-Conchas.

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BUSINESS

New business licenses

The Fernley City Council approved the following new business licenses at its Oct. 1 meeting:

Denscorp General Contracts,
Lincoln, CA, General Building Contractor

Escape Beauty and Massage,
Fernley, Massage Therapist, hair, nails and skin, (Second location)

CyberGuard Solutions, LLC dba/CyberGuard SecureSearch,
Fernley, Executive/professional recruiting services

Prime Comms Retail, LLC #477,
Fernley, AT&T Authorized Retailer

All Ways Repair LLC,
Fernley, Mobile Repair Services

O'Gara Gilbert and Silvaroli Orthodontics,
Fernley Dental Office/ Services

Mag Square Memories,
Fernley, Hobby/Crafter

Gun Doctors LLC,
Fernley, Firearms sales and service

El Puente,
Fernley Convenience Store

Council approves “Cocktails to go” ordinance

By Kerry Lyman

"Cocktails to go" are now allowed at 22 Fernley restaurants with a liquor license under a new ordinance approved by the Fernley City Council on Oct. 1.

Hearing no objections to the proposed ordinance during a second reading and public hearing on the proposal, the city council unanimously adopted the measure, allowing all Fernley restaurants with a current liquor license to perform home delivery or take out of sealed alcoholic beverages.

No new license is required to offer this service. All that was required was for the city council to approve the new service under the provisions of the recently passed Assembly Bill 375, said City Clerk Kim Swanson, noting that the action could provide a new revenue stream for qualifying establishments.

Restrictions on the sale of alcoholic beverages "to go" require the drink be placed in a container with a secure cap that provides a visible sign if the drink has been opened, while retail liquor store deliveries must be in original packaging. An open liquor container in a vehicle remains illegal, Swanson said.

must obtain a delivery license from the City of Fernley in addition to any other required state or local licenses, according to the ordinance. It was noted in an accompanying staff report that Uber, Door Dash and other third party delivery companies require drivers who want to deliver alcohol to undergo rigorous training.

Drivers must verify the person accepting the delivery is at least 21 years of age and is not visibly intoxicated. Licensees or delivery services must maintain a log of deliveries for four years, including recipient details and age verification, according to the ordinance.

Deliveries must originate from a licensed establishment during its normal operating hours and can only be made to residential addresses, hotels/motels and RV/trailer parks, and if an eligible recipient is not present for the delivery, the alcohol must be returned to the originating establishment, according to the ordinance.

A surcharge of 50 cents per drink will also be charged on all to-go and delivery orders to help meet state DUI

Continued on page 7-COCKTAILS....

Meetings

Fernley City Council
1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month at 5 p.m.
City Hall, 595 Silver Lace Blvd.
Next meeting October 15

Fernley Planning Commission
2nd Wednesday of the Month at 5 p.m.
City Hall, 595 Silver Lace Blvd.
Next meeting November 12

Fernley Senior Citizen Advisory Committee
2nd Friday of even numbered months at 9 a.m.
City Hall, 595 Silver Lace Blvd.
Next meeting November 14th

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 16

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 October 28

Lyon County School District Board of Trustees
4th Tuesday of the month, 6:30 p.m.
Locations rotate between each attendance area
Next meeting October 28

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

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

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GOVERNMENT

Council holds off on Polaris Plaza plan; OK’s Lowe’s donation

By Kerry Lyman

Although the members of the Fernley City Council appeared to like the future vision for Polaris Plaza, the council isn’t ready to greenlight the project just yet.

Following the advice of City Attorney Aaron Mouritsen, the council took no action on the proposal presented by Cody Wagner, chairman of the Fernley Community Foundation (FCF). Instead, Mouritsen advised that a pre-planning meeting with the city’s planning department might be appropriate, possibly resulting in a Memorandum of Understanding or a land lease to the FCF.

Polaris Plaza is the small strip of land east of the Fernley Depot, between Main Street and the newly constructed Community Response and Resource Center.

The Fernley Community Foundation and Main Street Fernley were requesting collaboration and support to provide improvements at Polaris Plaza, increasing walkability and promoting gathering spaces within Fernley’s downtown area.

The council did approve the acceptance of a \$2,500 donation of shrubs, planting materials and some lighting



A rendering shows proposed improvements to Polaris Plaza, between Main Street and the Community Response and Resource Center. Improvements include black iron fencing around the area, about 380 square feet of concrete, 2,100 square feet of additional artificial turf, engraved donation bricks, landscaping and irrigation. Photo courtesy of Fernley Community Foundation.

from the local Lowe’s Home Improvement Center that is planned to be installed in the plaza area on Tuesday, October 21.

“This is Lowe’s community impact project for the year,” Wagner said, noting that Lowe’s is also providing 10 employees to work for four hours on October 21 to install the donated improvements.

Wagner made the presentation on behalf of Main Street Fernley and the Fernley Community Foundation. He said the phase I plaza improve-

ment plans include 200 linear feet of 44-inch-high black iron fencing around the area, about 380 square feet of concrete, 2,100 square feet of additional artificial turf, matched to the existing turf area, engraved donation bricks, as well as some landscaping and irrigation.

The FCF has \$116,919 in available funds, including the \$100,000 donation from the local Polaris off road vehicle distribution center for the plaza’s naming rights. The phase I improvements will cost about \$62,000, leaving \$54,919 for any phase II improvements,

Wagner said.

Phase II improvements planned for a later date could include a small structure with shade that Wagner called an entertainment center. He said the area could be a revenue generator for the city due to the relocation of the restroom and concession building to Polaris Plaza area.

“Fernley could use the special events application to rent the concession facility and restrooms,” Wagner said. “You could decide on the dollar amount.”

In addition, the FCF could do things like collect vendor fees.

“We have like a food truck Friday type of event maybe in the works for next summer,” Wagner said. “This provides great fundraising and event hosting capabilities for all the non-profit organizations and businesses.”

Councilwoman Felicity Zoberiski expressed concern about the October 21 landscaping effort by Lowe’s when the phase I improvements had not yet been approved by the council. Wagner pointed out that it is necessary to get the shrubs and other materials planted before winter.

The council unanimously approved the Lowe’s planting effort ahead of other actions.

Council approves job description, pay scale for code enforcement officer position

By Kerry Lyman

With the city council approving the job description and pay scale at the Oct. 1 meeting, the City of Fernley is now actively recruiting two code enforcement officers.

During budget work sessions earlier this year, Charity Birkel, the city’s building official, almost pleaded with the council for a code enforcement division within the city because, as she said, code enforcement was taking up far too much time of the building department’s five employees who should be spending their time on site plan reviews and inspections.

“We spend probably 70 percent of our time on code enforcement when we should be spending almost 100 percent on the building side because that’s where our revenue is coming from,

and that’s where safety issues come in,” Birkel had said.

Due to the city’s growth, the time spent on code enforcement issues has increased fourfold in the last five years, she added.

Birkel said she would have preferred to hire a code enforcement manager and one code enforcement officer so her department could concentrate just on building issues. But in the budget the city council adopted, the council opted instead to fund two code enforcement officers. As a result, code enforcement will remain under the building department, she said.

For the first five days after council approval of the two new positions, recruitment was limited to existing city employees. After that five-day period, the positions would be open to anyone, Birkel said.

The two open entry level code enforcement positions pay between \$28.23 and \$38.25 an hour.

High school graduation or its equivalent is required, supplemented with some college level of course work in building, planning, criminal justice or a related field and one year of work experience working with regulations or a related field that would demonstrate the attainment of the knowledge, skills and abilities required for the position.

At least one year experience with frequent heavy public contact in stressful or confrontational situations is also required. In addition, applicants must possess or be capable of obtaining a Property Maintenance and Housing Inspector Certification issued by the International Code Council within 12 months of hire.

LEGAL NOTICES

City of Fernley

Senior Citizen Advisory Committee

The City of Fernley is accepting applications from citizens of Fernley, wishing to serve on the City of Fernley Senior Citizen Advisory Committee. This recruitment is to fill one available seat on the committee.

Purpose: The purpose of the committee is to advise the City Council on matters relating to senior citizens; to provide an informational resource to senior citizens on matters of concern to senior citizens; and to promote volunteer programs for the benefit of senior citizens

Membership: The Senior Citizen Advisory Committee consists of five members. The term of office for each member is two-year.

Typical Duties: Serve and advise the City Council on matters relating to senior citizens, to promote and support senior-oriented special events and collaborative efforts that meet the needs of seniors, and to serve as an advocacy body on behalf of older adults in the community. etc.

Time Commitment: The Senior Citizen Advisory Committee meets on the second Friday, every other month at 9am. A Special Meeting will be held on November 14, 2025. The successful candidate may be required to attend other meetings or volunteer at special events to promote the committee.

Interested persons should complete the Boards and Commissions Application Form listed on here. Applications must be received by the City Clerk’s Office by October 17, 2025, by 5pm.

Published in the Fernley Reporter on October 10, 2025. Ad #2510

Fernley City Council to hold public hearings on development, zoning changes

By Kerry Lyman

The Fernley City Council will hold three public hearing next week following first readings of the proposed ordinances at the Oct. 1 meeting. One hearing will address proposed changes to the Red Hawk Ranch Development Agreement, while the other two involve requested zone changes.

The 161-acre Red Hawk Ranch Development Agreement is for property located on the south side of west Main Street and bounded by Stock Lane to the west and Miller Lane to the east.

Proposed changes to the agreement would incorporate all property owners and parcels in the agreement, extend the expiration date of all applicable tentative subdivision maps, establish a framework for a future Special Assessment District, allow an on-site density transfer and relocate the community park.

The first requested zoning amendment, on behalf of Genica Clover Ranch LLC, seeks to rezone six parcels containing approximately 25 acres. The site is generally located between Farm District Road to the south, Langdon Street to the north, Winnie Lane to the west and

Nevada Pacific Boulevard to the east. The proposals would change the zoning from rural residential zoning to SF6, single family residential with a minimum lot size of 6,000 square feet.

The second zoning amendment proposal would change the zoning of the mayor’s proposed 23-acre fishing pond park site at 2305 Farm District Road. The change would shift the zoning from SF20, single family residential with 20,000-square-foot minimum lot size, to OSP, Open Space and Parks, to bring the site into conformance with the city’s Comprehensive Master Plan.

Fernley, Yerington approve MOU for court services

By Robert Perea

The Fernley and Yerington city councils and the Lyon County Commission have each approved a Memorandum of Understanding for Fernley to provide temporary court and administrative support to Yerington while it recruits and hires permanent staff.

Under the agreement, Fernley will make qualified employees with court clerk experience and/or administrative employees available to assist

the city of Yerington with municipal court and administrative functions, Yerington will reimburse Fernley for the costs, including overtime for the employees.

The City of Yerington is currently seeking to fill the full-time court clerk position. The Municipal Court reopened Sept. 15 after being dark for several months. In July, Fernley Deputy City Attorney Brandi Jensen was sworn in as Yerington’s municipal court judge.

Continued from page 6 - COCKTAILS....

reduction goals by funding an expanded Ignition Interlock & DUI Reduction Program, the staff report noted.

Alcohol deliveries may only be made by a Covered Food Establishment (CFE), which is described as

an establishment that prepares food on premises for consumption on or off premises and is licensed to sell alcoholic beverages for consumption on the premises. In Fernley, the CFE must hold a full bar liquor license or a beer and wine license, the staff report noted.

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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.

Sept. 29 – Oct. 5, 2025

ROBERT WYNTERS – Area: LYSO, Bail: \$1,450, Charges: Criminal contempt – failure to obey court order
DAUNE KETELAAR – Area: LYSO, Bail: \$2,995, Charges: Felony arrest for violation of probation/conditions of suspended sentence; DUI (2nd); open alcohol container in vehicle
MELODY MOOSE – Area: LYSO, Bail: \$1,045, Charges: Assist Other Agency-Hold
RUTH MEDEROS – Area: Mason Valley, Bail: \$0, Charges: Failure to appear after bail, felony crime
JEREMY HOOVER – Area: LYSO, Bail: \$0, Charges: Felony arrest – fugitive from another state, complaint/warrant
CODY CUNNINGHAM – Area: Fernley, Bail: \$10,000, Charges: Possession/receipt/transfer of stolen vehicle
BRYAN COLE – Area: Dayton, Bail: \$100,000, Charges: Sexual assault
AUDRY BIGGS – Area: LYSO, Bail: \$1,500, Charges: Criminal contempt
MICHAEL DAVIS – Area: Fernley, Bail: \$10,640, Charges: Possession of Schedule I/II controlled substance under 14 grams (1st or 2nd offense) (3 counts); Use/possession of drug paraphernalia (3 counts)

JACOB KETELAAR – Area: LYSO, Bail: \$1,000, Charges: Assist other agency – hold
EDWARD SIBR – Area: LYSO, Bail: \$0, Charges: Order to produce
AUSTIN STRECK – Area: Fernley, Bail: \$2,280, Charges: Duty upon damaging unattended vehicle/property; Driver/passenger failure to report unattended vehicle/property accident
Michael Vernacchio – Area: LYSO, Bail: \$0, Charges: Court commitment
CHRISTOPHER RUDOLPH – Area: Mason Valley, Bail: \$4,780, Charges: DUI (1st) (2 counts); Possession of burglary tools
JAIME IIDA – Area: Mason Valley, Bail: \$0, Charges: Court commitment
MICHAEL RESSLER – Area: Dayton, Bail: \$2,140, Charges: DUI (1st); Driving with revoked driver's license
JARED DE LA BRUIERE – Area: Fernley, Bail: \$30,000, Charges: Assault on protected person with deadly weapon; Resisting public officer with deadly weapon (not firearm)
ERIC HILL – Area: Mason Valley, Bail: \$640, Charges: Driving with suspended driver's license
JASON TREVIZO – Area: LYSO,

Bail: \$345, Charges: Assist other agency – hold
JOSHUA VENTURA – Area: Mason Valley, Bail: \$3,985, Charges: Attempted child abuse/neglect (1st); Driving without driver's license; Open alcohol container in vehicle (2 counts); Civil violation – headlamps not illuminated when required
JEFFERY MARTIN – Area: Silver Springs, Bail: \$0, Charges: Failure to appear after bail, felony crime
DIEGO CIFUENTES – Area: Fernley, Bail: \$20,000, Charges: Reckless driving, resulting in death or substantial bodily harm
ANDREW GARCIA – Area: Silver Springs, Bail: \$4,280, Charges: Domestic battery (1st); Resisting public officer
JOSE DE SANTIAGO GARCIA – Area: Mason Valley, Bail: \$1,495, Charges: DUI (1st); Open alcohol container in vehicle
JOHN DIRKSE – Area: Fernley, Bail: \$5,640, Charges: Domestic battery (1st) (2 counts)
EFRAIN BARRAGAN GARCIA – Area: Fernley, Bail: \$3,140, Charges: Domestic battery (1st)

DANIELLE HUNT – Area: Fernley, Bail: \$105,000, Charges: Obtaining money/property/labor by false pretenses (\$1,200 but less than \$5,000) (2 counts); Conspiracy to commit crime; Buying/possessing/receiving stolen property (\$1,200 but less than \$5,000) (2 counts); Possession/receiving forged instruments/bills (2 counts); Possession/making counterfeit sales receipts/price labels (2 counts); Ownership/possession of firearm by prohibited person
JUAN TRAPALA ORTEGA – Area: Dayton, Bail: \$3.750, Charges: Disregard for safety of persons/property; Reckless driving with disregard for safety of persons/property; Driving without driver's license; Failure to yield at stop/yield sign or controlled intersection
JAMES HUFFINE – Area: Fernley, Bail: \$5,000, Charges: Prohibited act – violation of sex offender registration (1st)
ROXANA MCINTYRE – Area: Fernley, Bail: \$3,140, Charges: Domestic battery (1st)
RYAN DURAZO – Area: Dayton, Bail: \$3,140, Charges: Domestic battery (1st)

State Police seeking witnesses to robbery on I-80 near Patrick

By Robert Perea

The Nevada State Police Investigation Division is seeking witnesses or anyone with information regarding a robbery on Sept. 26 near the Patrick off ramp on Interstate 80.
On Friday, Sept. 26, at approximately 11:45 a.m., the Nevada State Police Investigation Division re-

sponded to a report of a robbery that occurred on eastbound I-80 at the scenic overlook area just prior to the Patrick off-ramp, between Reno and USA Parkway.
The State Police said the driver of a white Ford Explorer was tending to a flat tire when another man, described as possibly White or Hispanic, approached and offered assistance.

The driver of the Ford declined, and moments later was rendered unconscious. Upon regaining consciousness, the victim discovered that his belongings had been taken. He was able to call for assistance. Detectives responded to the scene, and the victim was transported to a regional hospital with non-life-threatening injuries.

The Nevada State Police Investigation Division asks that anyone who may have witnessed this incident, was in the area of the I-80 eastbound overlook west of the Patrick off-ramp between 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m., or who may have knowledge about the suspect, contact Detective Harrell at (775) 684-7453 or (775) 684-7428, reference case #251000567.

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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.

SPORTS

Fernley boys place seventh at Spanish Springs cross country meet

By Robert Perea

The Fernley High School boys cross country team placed seventh last Saturday at the Leo Mikelonis Memorial Cross Country Invitational hosted by Spanish Springs High School at Golden Eagle Park.

Fernley scored 180 team points to place seventh. Reno won the meet with 59 points, Carson was second with 75 and North Tahoe was third with 120. There were 140 individual runners and 16 teams in the varsity boys race.

Fernley’s best finisher was Joe Perkins in 9th place with a time of 16:52 on the 5,000-meter course.

Cael Wilson placed 32nd with a time of 18:07, Alex Mergell came in 52nd with his time of 18:48, Dominick Dietrich finished 54th in 19:00 and Skyler Ledesma-James was 80th with a time of 19:57.

There were 103 runners in the girls varsity race with seven full teams. Carson finished first as a team with 48 points, Douglas was second with 75 and Bishop Manogue came in third with 85 points. Fernley had three individual runners.

Corbyn Gillespie had the best finish for Fernley in 64th place with a time of 23:40, Wynter Angus finished 87th in a time of 26:00 and Jojo Cardinal came in 90th with her time of 26:27.

This week the Vaqueros are scheduled to compete in the Clovis Invitational in Woodward Park, CA. The meet includes races in 20 different categories, with half on Friday and half on Saturday.



Fernley’s Alex Mergell runs during the Leo Mikelonis Memorial Cross Country Invitational last Saturday in Spanish Springs. Photo by Ron Perkins

Volleyball: Vaqueros sweep Dayton to set up Fallon rematch

By Robert Perea

The Fernley High School volleyball team swept its match with Dayton last Friday, setting up this week’s rematch with Fallon as a battle for first place in the Northern 3A East.

The Vaqueros beat Dayton 25-10, 25-23, 25-18 to run their league record to 4-1 and 20-5 overall. Fallon leads the league with a 4-0 record, including a three-set win over Fernley on Sept. 24 in Fallon.

Trista Menesini had 12 kills and served five aces for the Vaqueros against Dayton, and Emma Masters added six kills. Grace Chapin added four blocks and Alauna Escartin dished out 16 assists.

“We played the best we played in two weeks,” coach Diane Chapin said. “We limited mistakes and ran a good offense.”

Fernley will host Fallon at 6 p.m. Friday. If Fernley wins, each team would have one league loss, with five matches remaining for Fallon and four for Fernley. If Fallon wins, it would have a two-game lead over Fernley in the loss column and hold the tiebreaker if they end up with the same league record.

Food for Thought

By Sherry Perea

Mango Lassi

Sweet and juicy mangos blended with fresh dairy create a prefect fusion of creamy and fruity indulgence. It is simple to mix and quick to blend. It’s not a smoothie and it’s not a milkshake; it’s a Mango Lassi! Enjoy

Ingredients

- 1 cup mango chopped, fresh mango is best but canned mango works if fresh mango isn’t available
- 1 cup plain yogurt
- 1/2 cup half and half
- 5 teaspoons honey
- Dash ground cardamom
- 1/2 cup ice

Instructions

1. Chop mango
2. In a blender, add mango, yogurt, half and half, honey and ice
3. Blend for 30 seconds (or longer if needed)
4. Pour into cup and sprinkle with Cardamom. Enjoy

Sherry Perea has nearly 20 years’ experience managing restaurants and creaing delicious menus. She enjoys sharing unique recipes with her family and friends and is excited to bring her love of food to the Fernley community.



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SPORTS

Vaqueros charge into showdown with Fallon

By Robert Perea

What figured to be the biggest game of the season for the Fernley Vaqueros is turning out to be exactly that.

Coming off their bye week, the Vaqueros will host Fallon Friday night with a chance to pull into a tie for first place in the Northern 3A and their hopes of being the league's No. 1 seed very much alive.

The Vaqueros enter this week's game with a 4-1 league record, 6-1 overall, tied for second place with Elko. Fallon leads the league at 5-0.

The Vaqueros got a boost during their bye week with Truckee's 20-14 win over Elko last Friday, which put Fernley right back into the race for the No. 1 seed. Fernley would need to beat Fallon and then win its last two games over Lowry and Dayton, and for Fallon to beat Elko next week.

A loss to Fallon this week means the Vaqueros would need to beat Lowry and Dayton to claim the No. 3 seed, while other scenarios could land the Vaqueros in the No. 2 seed.

Either way, that Truckee win at Elko guaranteed that Fernley can earn a home playoff game if it can beat Fallon.

"We definitely got what we wanted there," Fernley coach Anfernee Sloan said. "Now we just kind of got to go and take care of it on our part as far as beating Fallon."

Sloan said the Vaqueros followed their normal routine during the bye week as if they were preparing for



Fernley High School players run onto the field for their Sept. 6 game against Sparks. The Vaqueros will take on Fallon Friday night with hopes of staying in the chase for the No. 1 seed from the Northern 3A. Photo by Leanne Cruz, Cruz Down Memory Lane Photography

a game.

"The kids understand that we're playing for something really big right now," he said. "And these guys are locked in, they're focused and they're ready to go play a good, competitive football game against I think what is a really talented Churchill County football team."

The Vaqueros had a bye before last year's win over Fallon, and Sloan said they used that week as a model for how to prepare for this week's game.

"And I think right now we're doing everything the right way," he said. "And again, I think the rich history of

that football game is going to show its true colors with a really explosive Fallon team and a really explosive Fernley team."

Fallon has been explosive both passing and running the ball. The Greenwave averages 278.8 yards passing per game, at 19.2 yards per completion. They also run for 177.3 yards per game at 7.3 yards per carry.

Quarterback Matt Bird has thrown 20 touchdown passes and only one interception. His leading receiver, Calin Anderson, has 29 catches for 515 yards and nine touchdowns, while Wyatt Peek has 25 catches for 590 yards and six

touchdowns.

On the ground, leading rusher Carson Melendy has 511 yards on 47 carries with 10 touchdowns.

Fallon has outscored its opponents 317-13 this season, including 230-7 against its five league foes.

Including their bye week, Fernley coaches have had three opportunities to watch Fallon in person this season to help put a game plan together.

"Now that we're in this situation with them, like we kind of predicted that we'd be, it's allowed us to coach at a much faster pace and it's allowed us to kind of prep some things as far as what it is that we should do in order to be ready for them," Sloan said.

Offensively, the Vaqueros have done most of their damage on the ground, rushing for 343.6 yards per game, and 9.3 yards per carry. Kee-shawn Love has 1,313 yards on 128 carries and 10 touchdowns. Quarterback Bryce Stephens has 515 yards on 66 carries and 10 touchdowns, while Riley McCullar has 412 yards on 30 carries with seven touchdowns.

Stephens has completed 22 of 35 pass attempts for 406 yards and six touchdowns, five of those to McCullar, who has caught 13 passes for 288 yards.

Sloan said he believes the Vaqueros are just starting to hit their stride.

"You know, I think everything's moving well offensively, I think we're playing fast on defense, and when you got those two things, it's a scary thing," he said.

Boys soccer team beats Fallon for first win of season

Staff Report

The Fernley High school boys soccer team got its first win of the season by beating Fallon 2-1 last Saturday.

The Vaqueros trailed 1-0 at

halftime, but Todd Wickenden and Jesus Infante each scored goals in the second half to lead Fernley to the win.

The Vaqueros are now in fourth place in the Northern 3A East with

a 1-3-1 record and 1-9-3 overall. They are scheduled to play at 3:45 p.m. Friday at West Wendover, which is in third place with a 2-2-1 record, and at 11:45 a.m. Saturday at Elko, which leads the league at 5-0.

Girls soccer

The girls team lost its match last week with Fallon, 8-0. Fallon scored four goals in each half as Fernley fell to 0-4 in league play and Fallon improved to 2-0-2.

This week the Vaqueros are scheduled to host Lowry at noon Saturday.

FRIENDS OF THE FERNLEY LIBRARY

FALL BOOK SALE

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18TH, 2025

FROM: 9 AM-2 PM

THERE WILL BE A LARGE SELECTION OF PAPERBACK, HARDBACK, COOK AND CHILDREN BOOKS. FOR \$ 7 YOU CAN FILL UP A PLASTIC GROCERY BAG. PROCEEDS HELP SUPPORT AT OUR LIBRARY.

Fernley Branch Library

575 Silver Lace Blvd.

Fernley, NV 89408

775-575-3366

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THURSDAYS

\$5 FREE PLAY!

EXCLUSIVE TO OUR FOLLOWERS

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
KIOSK SCRATCHER ALL DAY	LADIES FREE PLAY ALL DAY	SENIORS FREE PLAY ALL DAY BINGO 1PM - 5PM	MENS FREE PLAY ALL DAY	FACEBOOK FRENZY ALL DAY 10X POINTS ALL DAY	KIOSK SCRATCHER ALL DAY BONUS BUCKS 7PM - 11PM	10X POINTS ALL DAY CATCH 21 7PM - 11PM

Fernley Branch Library

JOIN THE YOUTH CODING CLUB FOR KIDS (Ages 8-12)

Learn to Code with Scratch

Do you want to create your own games, animations and interactive stories? Come discover how fun and easy coding can be! No experience needed. Learn by playing with other curious young minds.

Registration is open now!

Starts: Saturday October 11th, 2025

2-3 pm

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Fernley, NV 89408

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Funded by an IMLS Library Services and Technology Act grant, administered by the

10X POINTS on ALL Games!

FRIDAYS & SUNDAYS

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
FACEBOOK FRENZY ALL DAY 10X POINTS ALL DAY	MENS FREE PLAY ALL DAY	LADIES FREE PLAY ALL DAY	SENIORS FREE PLAY ALL DAY BINGO 1PM - 5PM	KIOSK SCRATCHER ALL DAY	10X POINTS ALL DAY BINGO 3PM - 9PM	KIOSK SCRATCHER ALL DAY SPIN TO WIN 5PM - 9PM

