

the Fernley reporter

FERNLEY'S HOMETOWN NEWS

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\$1.00 | The Week of May 8, 2026

Substitute teacher charged with child abuse

By Robert Perea

A man was arrested April 30 and charged with two counts of felony child abuse or neglect after he was accused of grabbing two students around the neck and shaking them while he was working as a substitute teacher at Fernley intermediate School on April 20.

James Palu, 40, of Fernley, was taken into custody shortly after Canal Township Justice of the Peace Lori Matheus issued an expedited arrest warrant.

Addressing the Lyon County School District Board of Trustees at its April 28 meeting, Darleen Capps said her son suffered a cervical sprain and a concussion. She said on April 20, her son went to the substitute's class after lunch, at about 12 p.m. She said the substitute, who introduced himself to the students as Mr. P, wrapped his hands tightly around her son's neck, then squeezed and shook him violently.

Capps said her son was not seen by the school nurse or permitted to call home and was sent to another class. She said she received a phone call from Principal Blake Cooper but said she

hung up and called 911 after he said he hadn't done so.

"I was assured the protocol was followed. If that is true, then we have some big problems," Capps said. "We need to find out how this man passed the checks in place to be round children, and we need to fix that."

On April 29, the Lyon County School District released a statement confirming that the substitute "engaged in inappropriate comments and physical conduct, including grabbing two students by the neck in a shaking and choking motion while attempting to explain his disciplinary approach in the classroom."

The district's statement said once the report was confirmed, the substitute was immediately removed from campus and is no longer employed by the district. The statement also said the School Resource Officer was contacted by FIS administration once potential violations of law were confirmed.

In an April 30 interview, a few hours before the arrest, Lyon County Sheriff's Office Chief Deputy Mitch Brantingham said the investigation consisted of two components – a crim-



James Palu, 40, of Fernley. Photo courtesy of LCSO.

inal review of Palu's conduct and a separate review of how the school administration responded to the incident.

Brantingham said the criminal review established that Palu committed a crime, but he was not arrested immediately because the LCSO was await-

ing the results of a medical examination to determine the severity of the charges.

Brantingham said Palu had already been sent home before deputies

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Earthquake swarm prompts review of emergency preparedness



The visitor center at Fort Churchill Historic State Park is closed because of damage from recent earthquakes. Photo courtesy of Nevada State Parks

By Robert Perea

While hundreds of earthquakes near Lahontan Reservoir over the past few weeks have unnerved many residents, most reports of damage have been isolated and minor. But they also serve as a reminder to be prepared in case of a major emergency.

Whether it might be an earthquake, wildfire or flood, Lyon County Emergency Management Director Taylor Allison said residents should make and review their own personal preparedness plans and keep evacuation go kits ready in case of an emergency.

For the county, the Lyon County Office of Emergency Management bears the responsibility for coordinating the county's planning and response for major disasters and maintains a Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan and a Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan

"Our job is to help our communities prepare, respond and recover," Allison said. "During a disaster, our initial role is to support emergency personnel in acquiring the resources necessary to protect life safety such as equipment or search and rescue teams," she said. "If major damages were to occur, emergency management does have plans in place to collect damage information from residents and property owners via a call center, deploying digital surveys and/or going door-to-door."

If such an emergency required mass notifications to residents, Allison said emergency alerts would first be sent through the Lyon County Sheriff's App and official social media accounts. The county also has the ability to issue emergency alerts directly to mobile phones. For extended road closures or evacuation orders, she said updates would be posted on PerimeterMap.com so res-

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the Fernley reporter

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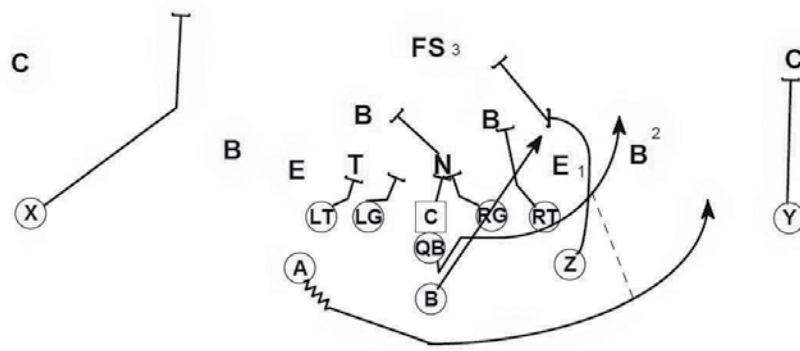
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LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

The Inside Veer



Teamwork

I may have mentioned in a previous column or two that I am often a walking contradiction.

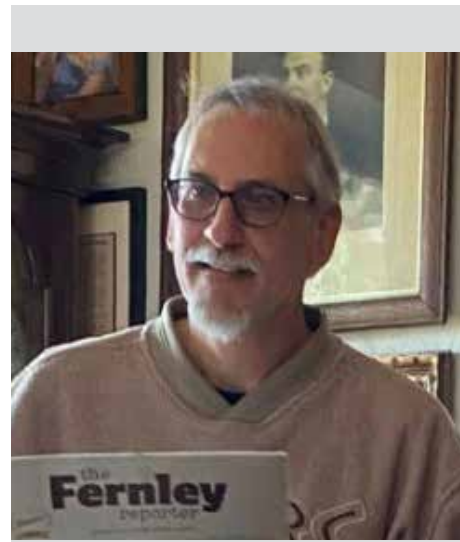
I'm an inherently lazy person who is almost always working. I like clarity, predictability and no drama, but my job is all about deadlines, breaking news and late nights. I crave quiet, but I work in noise. I'm a creature of routine but so disorganized I can't even create one. I feel rooted and restless at the same time.

I also prefer to work alone, but sometimes solitude leaves me feeling isolated.

I much more comfortable helping others than I am when others help me. I hate to ask for help, although it's probably more that I hate to admit that I need help. Too often, I turn down an offer of help. I say I've got it, even when I don't.

I guess that's where teamwork comes in. You don't need to ask teammate to help, they just do it. Like players in a good jazz band, teammates don't wait for someone to raise a hand, they hear the empty space, feel the drift and just fill it.

I was watching video high-



ROBERT PEREA

lights of a running back a few days ago when I noticed on one of the clips that at the end of one of his long runs, one of the other guys in the view was a lot bigger than everyone else.

I rewatched it, focused not on the running back, but on that big guy. It turned out to be an offensive lineman who knocked a defender to the ground at the line of scrimmage. But he didn't stop there. He followed all the other smaller and much faster guys about 60 yards down the field, and for his effort, he got to drill a little guy on the defense.

I love stuff like that, so I

watched it again. That time I noticed that if the lineman hadn't gotten that first defender out of the way, the running back probably would not have even gotten past the line of scrimmage, much less gained 60 yards.

That's teamwork.

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

Fernley Women's Golf Club Results, Apr. 28

Game: Total of 6's on score card

Red Tees

- 1st: Linda Garrett, 10
- 2nd: Jana Garner, 9
- 3rd: Sandra Corsi, 7
- 4th: Maria Garrett, 7

Purple Tees

- 1st: Karen Holcher, 7
- 2nd: Sandi Sewchok, 7
- Low Putts: Paula Reed, 31
- Birdies: Val Montgomery, #3
- Chip-Ins: Maria Garrett, #10; Paula Reed #12; Patty Liljeberg #15
- Closest to Hole #7: Patty Liljeberg, 8'6"
- Closest to Hole #11: Val Montgomery, 24'4"
- Closest to Hole #14: Sandra Corsi, 34'1"

Researchers from Pacific Northwest National Laboratory are seeking participants for a 2.5-hour focus group. You will receive a \$100 Visa gift card, and food will be served. The discussion will focus on opinions of geothermal energy and how the siting and development process could be improved. The results will inform the recommendations for regulations and processes for the development of geothermal energy. No prior knowledge is required. This study is funded by the U.S. Department of Energy. The focus groups will be held May 11 and 12 at the Churchill County Administrative Complex from 5:30-8 p.m. You must register in advance and be 18 years old to participate.

Scan the QR code to apply.

Email stakeholder.research@PNNL.gov or call 509-375-6462

for more information.



FERNLEY NEWS MINUTE

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

Nevada Superintendent highlights literacy, math concerns after statewide “Listening and Bright Spots” tour

By Sydney Trainor

Nevada State Superintendent Dr. Victor Wakefield says persistent concerns about literacy, math performance, and uneven instructional quality remain top priorities for the state after completing a statewide listening tour spanning eight school districts, serving 400 to 280,000 students.

Wakefield met with educators, students, administrators, and school board members during the tour and said the conversations revealed both ongoing challenges and “bright spots” where strong leadership and effective interventions are improving student outcomes. He emphasized that the Nevada Department of Education will continue focusing on five strategic priorities: Strong Foundations, Empowering Pathways, Equipped Educators and Leaders, Informed and Connected Families, and Aligned Systems. “Every day, students in our state



Lyon County School District (LCSD) welcomed Nevada State Superintendent of Public Instruction, Dr. Victor Wakefield for a special visit focused on highlighting success across the district. Photo courtesy of LCSD.

should be building knowledge of the world, engaging with grade-level content and instruction, solving complex problems, and making progress toward their postsecondary goals,” Wakefield

said. “Every action we take as a state will be relentlessly focused on making this vision true for our students.”

As part of the department’s leadership updates, Dr. Torrey Palmer began

her role as Deputy Superintendent for Academics and Student Achievement on March 30. Palmer, a former Washoe County School District teacher, co-founded the nationally recognized Core Task Project focused on literacy standards and previously worked with The New Teacher Project (TNTP) on curriculum and instructional strategy efforts nationwide. Most recently, she served as assistant principal at Mater Academy of Northern Nevada. Palmer earned her doctorate from the University of Nevada, Reno, and previously competed in the 2000 Summer Olympics and World Rowing Championships.

In recognition of the Month of the Military Child, the department named 36 schools as 2026 Nevada Purple Star Schools, honoring campuses that demonstrate strong support for military-connected students and families.

Continued on PAGE 7 - LITERACY ...

Fernley Walmart marks grand reopening with community celebration

Staff Report

The Fernley Walmart Supercenter welcomed the community back with a grand reopening celebration on May 1, 2026 that drew local officials, store associates and residents for a morning of recognition and a first look at the newly remodeled store.

Store leadership was joined by representatives from the Fernley City Council, the Fernley Chamber of Commerce and other community partners to mark the occasion. Speakers thanked employees for their work during the remodel process and

emphasized Walmart’s continued investment in Fernley as the community grows. Remarks also focused on the role the store plays in providing jobs, essential goods and services, and support for local organizations.

Attendees participated in a ceremonial ribbon cutting to officially reopen the store. Customers waiting near the entrance were then invited inside to explore the updated space.

Shoppers entering the store were greeted with a noticeably refreshed layout, including brighter lighting, updated signage and reorganized departments designed to improve flow and



A ribbon cutting ceremony took place at the grand reopening of Walmart on Friday May 1, 2026. Photo courtesy of the Fernley Chamber of Commerce.



Confetti filled the air after the official ribbon cutting. Photo courtesy of the Fernley Chamber of Commerce.

accessibility. Associates were stationed throughout the store to assist customers and highlight new features, while several departments showcased expanded product selections.

The celebration continued inside with giveaways, promotional displays and opportunities for customers to interact with staff and learn about store services, including online grocery pickup and delivery options. Families and longtime customers browsed the updated aisles, many commenting on the improved organization and ease of navigation.

The remodel is part of Walmart’s broader effort to modernize stores nationwide, with enhancements focused on convenience, expanded inventory and a more streamlined shopping experience.

For Fernley residents, the reopening served not only as an introduction to the store’s updates, but also a community gathering that reflected the city’s ongoing growth and development.

The Fernley Walmart is open daily from 6 a.m. to 11 p.m. and continues to serve as a central shopping destination for the region.



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Celebrity chef leads cooking demonstrations for Fernley students

Staff Report

Students in Fernley took part in cooking demonstrations last week led by celebrity chef Michael Toscano through the Chartwells K12 Global Eats program.

Toscano visited Silverland Middle School on April 28 and Fernley High School on April 29, leading demonstrations on Italian cuisine and food preparation.

At Silverland, Toscano led an interactive classroom demonstration on Italian cuisine, focusing on fresh ingredients and global sourcing. He showed students how pasta is made, discussed the role ingredients play in different regions, and demonstrated the Roman dish cacio e pepe.

Students asked questions and observed each step of the process.

Toscano also visited the school's student run coffee shop, where he shared guidance on operating espresso machines and discussed techniques used in professional settings.

At Fernley High School, more than 250 students attended a larger demonstration in which Toscano prepared a Caprese sandwich and continued highlighting Global Eats: Italy. He spoke about ingredients, sourcing and culinary methods, and met with students afterward.

The Global Eats program brings chefs to schools to introduce students to international cuisines and food preparation.



Celebrity chef Michael Toscano visited Silverland Middle School and Fernley High School last week. Photo courtesy of Lyon County School District.

Researchers Seek Participants for Focus Groups on Geothermal Energy in Churchill County

Staff Report

For immediate release

CHURCHILL COUNTY, Nev. — Researchers from Pacific Northwest National Laboratory are recruiting community members to participate in a 2.5-hour focus group on geothermal energy. Participants will receive a \$100 Visa gift card, and dinner will be served during the focus group.

The focus groups will explore public opinions about geothermal energy and how the siting and development process could be improved. Information from the focus group will be used to inform recommendations

for processes related to geothermal energy development. No prior knowledge is required.

Focus group sessions are planned for May 11 and May 12 at 5:30–8:00 p.m. at the Churchill County Administrative Complex. Participants must be 18 years or older, and advance registration is required. This study is funded by the U.S. Department of Energy.

To register for one of the focus groups, please visit: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/6Z25NT>.

For additional information call 509-375-6462 or email stakeholder.research@PNNL.gov.

America 250 Art Contest

By Sydney Trainor

The Nevada Mining Association is inviting students across the state to take part in an art contest tied to the national America 250 celebration, encouraging young artists to explore how mining has shaped Nevada and the country.

Participants will create original artworks that reflect the prompt, “How had mining in Nevada helped build America – and what does the future look like?” The contest is open to students K-12, and submissions are due May 15, with winners to be announced May 22.

The grand prize includes the opportunity to throw the first pitch at

the Reno Aces’ Mining Night game on June 27, along with suite tickets and a one-night hotel stay in Reno. An additional 15 students will have their work selected for a public exhibition.

Entries may include drawing, painting, mixed media or digital art, and must be original work submitted with a short artist statement. Photography, AI-generated art and copyrighted images are not accepted. Submissions must include student’s name, county, grade, artwork title, artist statement, and a photo or scan of the artwork.

For more information, visit nevadamining.org/amerca-250-art-contest/



The contest is open to students K-12, and submissions are due May 15, with winners to be announced May 22. Photo courtesy of nevadamining.org.

Free chronic disease management workshop offered in Silver Springs

Staff Report

The University of Nevada, Reno Sanford Center for Aging is offering a free Chronic Disease Self-Management Program this spring at the Silver Springs Senior Center.

Classes will be held on Wednesdays, May 13 through June 24, from 1:30-4 p.m. at the Silver Springs Senior Center, located at 2945 Ft. Churchill Road in Silver Springs.

This workshop is designed to help people living with ongoing health conditions build practical skills and confidence to better manage their health and daily wellness. Topics include communication with healthcare providers, fall prevention, healthy eating, exercise, problem-solving, and managing difficult emotions.

Transportation is also available for those who need help getting to class.

We'd love to hear from you.

robert@fernleyreporter.com

Have a story?



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 11

Chili Dog with Cheese on Whole Wheat Bun
Tater Tots
Green Beans
Peaches
100% Juice

Tuesday, May 12

Honey Apricot Chicken
Wild & Long Grain Rice
California Blend Veggies
Whole Wheat Bread
Smart Balance
Orange Sections

Wednesday, May 13

Spaghetti in Meat Sauce
Zucchini
Colorful Salad
Creamy Italian Dressing.
7 Grain Bread
Smart Balance
Orange Mango Cup

Thursday, May 14

Breaded Fish Square with Cheddar Cheese & Whole Wheat Bun
French Fries
Spinach
Strawberries

Friday, May 14

Burger Bowl (ground beef, lettuce, tomato, pickle, onion, special sauce)
Tater Tots
Green Salad & Ranch Dressing
Banana
100% Juice

COMMUNITY

Mental health resources, community events highlight Fernley Chamber breakfast

By Amber Hardin

Mental health resources, community collaboration, and upcoming local events took center stage during a recent Fernley Chamber of Commerce Ambassadors Breakfast, where members gathered to network, share updates, and hear from regional leaders.

The featured presentation focused on expanding behavioral health services across Lyon County and Northern Nevada, led by representatives from NAMI Western Nevada (National Alliance on Mental Illness), and regional behavioral health leadership.

Laura Yanez of NAMI Western Nevada, joined by Northern Regional Behavioral Health Coordinator Madalyn Larson, outlined a growing network of support services aimed at improving access to care in rural communities.

Yanez emphasized that mental health conditions are “real, biological, and medical.” She also acknowledged there is hope for people with mental illness despite misconceptions surrounding it.

“Stigma is real. Recovery is possi-



Laura Yanez, the Executive Director of NAMI Western Nevada spoke at the Fernley Chamber of Commerce Ambassadors Breakfast. Photo by Rachel Dahl.

ble,” she said.

NAMI Western Nevada, which serves 12 rural counties, offers education, advocacy, and support programs, many of which are now delivered virtually to overcome geographic barriers.

Among the key resources highlighted were a statewide helpline assisting

residents in navigating mental health services; the “Warmline,” a peer-support phone service available daily for adults; a Teen Text Line, one of only two in the nation, connecting youth with trained peer supporters; and crisis response and follow-up programs aimed at reducing hospitalizations.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the Warmline handled approximately 7,500 calls per month, underscoring the demand for accessible support.

Yanez noted that Lyon County has seen measurable improvements in recent years, including an increase in providers and shorter wait times for care.

Efforts to strengthen local response capabilities are also underway. A recent 40-hour crisis response training, conducted in partnership with local law enforcement and human services, certified 20 new individuals in de-escalation techniques.

Additionally, Lyon County now offers mobile crisis response teams, including both adult and youth services, which can respond in person alongside law enforcement when needed.

Residents were encouraged to utilize available resources, including dialing 988 for mental health emergencies or guidance on next steps.

Madalyn Larson, who serves as a liaison between the state and rural communities, highlighted the importance

Continued on PAGE 6 - CHAMBER...

Idea born in pandemic isolation becomes graduation tradition

By Robert Perea

What began as a one time gesture during the COVID 19 shutdown has become a yearly tradition in Fernley, where residents “adopt” high school seniors to help celebrate graduation.

The effort started in 2020, when schools closed and graduation ceremonies were reduced to drive through events. A group of residents wanted seniors to have some recognition at a time when students could not gather or celebrate together. They created a Facebook group called “Adopt a Fernley High School Senior” after seeing similar efforts in other states.

“I just know that graduation’s really important,” said Kassie Mohler, who was one of the organizers and is still an admin on the page. “It’s your last hurrah and they weren’t going to have that.”

Families post photos and information about their seniors, and community members can choose a student to “adopt.” The adopter then coordinates privately with the person who posted the graduate for “adoption” to arrange gift drop offs.

Gifts often include a card or letter

along with the graduate’s favorite snacks, gift cards and balloons. Some families have even decorated seniors’ lawns with graduation signs.

In the first year, deliveries were strictly non contact.

“You would just drop off on their doorstep, ring their bell and run away,” Mohler said. “We had tons of fun with it then because we didn’t get to even see each other.”

Almost 200 graduates were adopted in the first year and Mohler said the group has never had a senior go unadopted. Members can adopt as many students as they want, and there is no limit to how many times a student can be adopted.

“We try to get as many seniors as we can,” Mohler said.

To keep surprises intact, Mohler said members of the group are asked to temporarily remove seniors from the page until gifts are delivered.

A similar group was also created to adopt Silverland Middle School 8th graders and has nearly 600 members.

“It was supposed to be a one time thing because times were different,” Mohler said. “Instead, it’s become something that everybody looks forward to.”

OBITUARY

Jennifer F. Cox

June 15 1961-April 27 2026

Jennifer F. Cox, 64, of Corydon, Indiana passed from this life on April 27, 2026, at Robley Rex V.A. Medical Center in Louisville, Kentucky. Jennifer was born on June 15, 1961, in Corydon, Indiana to the late Patrick G. and Elsie Patricia (Eastridge) Cox.

Jennifer retired after serving in the United States Army and then went on to earn her bachelor’s degree in Earth Sciences. She then went to work for the State of Nevada in OSHA as a Compliance Safety and Health Officer. She enjoyed gaming on the computer and riding bikes in her spare time.

She is survived by her sister, Teresa E. Headington.

A celebration of Jennifer’s life will be announced at a later date.

Memorial contributions may be given to any of the number of charities listed: Alley Cat Allies, ASPCA, Alley Cat Advocates in Louisville, Kentucky, SPCA Global Animal Rescue, National Audubon Society, World Wildlife Fund, and/or any animal, wildlife charity, or environmental protection.

Brown Funeral Home in Milltown, Indiana is entrusted with the arrangements.



Fernley Community Events

MAY 8

CIRCUS

Fernley Wadsworth Lion’s Club
Showtimes: 5:00 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.
Out of Town Park

KARAOKE (21+)

8:00 p.m.
McHoppers Brew Co.
396 US Highway 95A North

MAY 9

TABLE TENNIS

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

OPEN HOUSE

Victory Logistics
10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Free Tours, Q&A Sessions
Family Friendly Lunch Provided

OPEN MIC (ALL AGES)

5:00 p.m.
McHoppers Brew Co.
396 US Highway 95A North

MAY 10

LINE DANCING (ALL AGES) - FREE

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

MAY 12

TRIVIA NIGHT

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

MAY 13

FREE ART WORKSHOP

Paint a kindness rock or a canvas
4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
FHS South Gym Cafeteria

MAY 14

TRIVIA (21+)

7:00 p.m.
McHoppers Brew Co.
396 US Highway 95A North

May 15

MUSIC, MURALS & MARGARITAS

FREE art and music festival
5:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.
Out of Town Park
www.fernleyaces.net/m3

May 16

MUSIC, MURALS & MARGARITAS

FREE art and music festival
12:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.
Out of Town Park
www.fernleyaces.net/m3

MAY 19

TRIVIA NIGHT

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

MAY 21

TRIVIA (21+)

7:00 p.m.
McHoppers Brew Co.
396 US Highway 95A North

MAY 30

FOOD TRUCKS BREWS & TUNES

5:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.
McHoppers Brew Co.
396 US Highway 95A North

REGIONAL NEWS

Nevada Community Health Worker Association reports statewide growth, expanded rural access in 2025

Staff Report

The Nevada Community Health Worker Association (NVCHWA) reported significant growth in training, partnerships, and statewide reach in its 2025 Annual Impact Report, highlighting continued efforts to strengthen Nevada's public health workforce—particularly in rural and underserved communities.

According to the report, NVCHWA graduated 319 community health workers (CHWs) in 2025 and delivered more than 600 hours of instruction through English- and Spanish-language cohorts offered statewide. The organization emphasized expanded access for rural and frontier learners, supported by hybrid and virtual training formats designed to reduce geographic barriers.

Community health workers serve as a bridge between residents and healthcare systems, helping individuals navigate services, access care, and connect with local resources. NVCHWA leadership said that role continues to grow in importance as healthcare systems face staffing shortages and access challenges.

"CHWs continue to support Nevada families by providing a bridge to health systems, resources, and trusted community care," the report states.

The organization also highlighted strengthened partnerships with state agencies and healthcare providers, including collaborations with

Intermountain Health, the Nevada Certification Board, and various community-based organizations. These partnerships have helped expand training opportunities and improve coordination across Nevada's public health network.

Internally, NVCHWA reported improvements to its foundational training programs, including streamlined curriculum delivery in both English and Spanish and increased support for rural participants. The organization also completed an American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) mentorship grant, aimed at supporting workforce development.

Despite the progress, the report notes ongoing challenges facing the public health sector, including funding instability and workforce shortages. NVCHWA leaders pointed to continued demand for services, particularly in rural and frontier areas where access to care remains limited.

Public perception and understanding of community health workers also remain a hurdle, with the report noting that the role is sometimes overlooked despite its impact in clinics, schools, and community settings across the state.

Program Director Cody Wagner, acknowledged both the challenges and the learning curve involved in leading the organization.

"I took on this role in August 2024, not really feeling qualified or knowledgeable about how to lead an organization like this," Wagner said. "I still have a



Cody Wagner, Program Director of the Nevada Community Health Worker Association

lot to learn and am very thankful for the support network around us."

The report also highlights the broader demographic context driving the need for CHWs in Nevada. Approximately 23 percent of Clark County residents speak Spanish at home, while about half of the state's population identifies as Black, Indigenous, or people of color. In addition, roughly 30 percent of Nevada households include children under 18.

NVCHWA officials say these factors underscore the importance of culturally responsive, community-based care models—particularly those that include bilingual training and outreach.

Statewide, the number of CHW cre-

Continued on Page 7 - NCHWA...

Continued from PAGE 5 - CHAMBER...

of local input in shaping policy and funding decisions.

Elaborating on how her role fits into that concept, she said, "I'm the person who suits up, shows up, and talks to people, making sure I understand what's going on. The state can't be in these counties and communities at the same time to understand what everyone really needs. I build relationships, communicate back to the state, and get the money utilized correctly for the communities' actual needs."

The Northern Regional Behavioral Health Policy Board, which includes representation from Lyon County, continues to advocate for improvements in areas such as transportation, crisis response, and access to care.

With May recognized as Mental Health Awareness Month, organizers

encouraged residents and businesses to participate by promoting awareness and sharing resources.

NAMI Western Nevada also announced upcoming advocacy training sessions to help community members effectively communicate with policymakers.

You can find out more about NAMI's mission and programs by visiting their website: namiwesternnevada.org

A fundraising golf tournament is scheduled for Aug. 1 at the Fernley Golf Course, with proceeds supporting local mental health programs.

In addition to the featured presentation on NAMI, chamber members shared several announcements:

- A new 2026 Chamber Member Directory is in development, with advertising opportunities available
- Sponsorships are open for future

- Ambassadors Breakfast events
- The annual Fernley Chamber Golf Tournament is approaching, with opportunities for sponsorship, raffle donations, and volunteers
- Local businesses are encouraged to participate in upcoming events, including the M3 Festival (Music, Murals and Mental Health Week), set to begin May 8

The breakfast also included brief remarks from community members, business updates, and information on upcoming events and initiatives.

The next Fernley Chamber Ambassadors Breakfast is scheduled for May 12.

To join the Fernley Chamber of Commerce or get more information on topics discussed at meetings, you can visit the chamber's website: fernley-chamber.com or call (775) 575-4459.

Meetings

Fernley City Council
1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month at 5:00 p.m.
City Hall, 595 Silver Lace Blvd.
Next meeting May 20

Fernley Planning Commission
2nd Wednesday of the month at 5:00 p.m.
City Hall, 595 Silver Lace Blvd.
Next meeting May 13

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 May 21

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 May 12

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 May 14

Fernley Swimming Pool General Improvement District
3rd Tuesday of the month at 5:30 p.m.
300 Cottonwood Lane
Next meeting May 19

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Lyon County Commissioner District 5

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REGIONAL NEWS

NHP investigating crash that resulted in death of Fernley woman

Staff Report

The Nevada Highway Patrol is investigating a fatal crash that resulted in the death of a Fernley woman on April 17.

According to its preliminary investigation, the Highway Patrol said a 2013 Ford F 150 was traveling northbound on U.S. 95A north Sierra Way near Wabuska, when it crossed the dashed centerline into the southbound lane. The front left of the Ford struck the front left of a southbound 2007 Chevrolet Suburban.

The Suburban overturned and came to rest on the right dirt shoulder of the southbound lane. The Ford came to rest across the northbound travel lane.

The driver of the Suburban, Candus Hernandez, 34, of Fernley, was pronounced dead at the scene. A



passenger in the vehicle was transported to an area hospital with serious injuries.

The Nevada Highway Patrol Major Incident Reconstruction Team is handling the investigation.

Continued from Page 6 - NCHWA....

dentials issued has more than doubled since 2020, reflecting growing demand for the workforce. The organization attributes that growth to increased training capacity and expanded access to certification pathways.

Looking ahead, NVCHWA leadership said the organization plans to continue building its training programs and partnerships while advocating for sustained public health funding.

"Together, we are building a brighter future for all Nevadans in public health," the report states.

The association also encouraged community support through training scholarships, workforce partnerships, and advocacy for long-term investment in public health infrastructure.

Continued from FRONT - EMERGENCY....

idents can see whether they are in or near a hazardous area.

Some residents received an alert during the April 13 quake through ShakeAlert, which the Nevada Seismological Lab and USGS are working to implement statewide.

Allison said residents who need help or have information to report can call the county's non emergency dispatch line at (775) 463 6620. She said 911 be used only for life safety emergencies. If call volume overwhelms dispatch during a major event, she said the county will activate a public call center to handle non emergency reports.

Continued from PAGE 3 - LITERACY

"Purple Star Schools set the standard for ensuring these students experience consistency, strong relationships, and access to high-quality learning no matter where they are stationed," Wakefield said.

Governor Joe Lombardo and Wakefield also visited Arturo Cambeiro Elementary School to celebrate Nevada Reading Week, reading to classrooms and highlighting the importance of early literacy. "When it comes to educating the next generation of Nevadans, we cannot overlook the importance of reading," Lombardo said. "Nevada Reading Week gives us the opportunity to inspire our students and celebrate the educators dedicated to nurturing a lifelong love of reading."

The department also announced up to \$247,860 in funding to support a joint school-improvement pilot between the Clark County School District and the Clark County Education Association, made possible by Senate Bill 460. Launching in the 2026-27 school year at Desert Pines and Western high schools, along with their feeder schools, the pilot will focus on pre-K, early literacy, middle school math, and college and career readiness. The initiative aims to boost student success through added learning time, tutoring, and teacher support, and could expand to additional schools across the state.

We'd love to hear from you.

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Robin.titus@sen.state.nv.us

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Staci Lindberg
775-463-6501

Lyon County Recorder
Anita Talbot
775-463-6581

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

Judge Leon Aberasturi
775-463-6571 Ext. 2

Lyon County District Attorney
Stephen Rye
775-463-6511

Canal Township Justice Court
Judge Lori Matheus
775-575-3355

LEGAL NOTICES

IN THE THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF LYON

In the Matter of the Estate of JIMMIE GENE ALLEN, Deceased.

Case No.: 26-PT-0056

Dept. No.: 2

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned have been appointed and qualified by the Third Judicial District Court, in and For the County of Lyon on March 9, 2026 as co-administrators of the estate of Jimmie Gene Allen, deceased. All creditors having claims against the estate are required to file the claims with the clerk of the court within 90 days after the mailing or the first publication (as the case may be) of this notice.

This document does not contain the personal information of any person as defined by NRS 603A.040.

DATED this 14th day of April, 2026.
DAWN KATHLEEN PIIPPO

DATED this 14th day of April, 2026.
CHRISTINE O'BRIEN

Ad# 2609

NOTICE OF PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME

THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT, LYON COUNTY, NEVADA

Case number 26-CV-0445

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a petition was filed in the above-entitled court requesting that the Court legally change applicant's name from Christopher Michael Hatch II to Louie John Picetti.

The applicant submitted a statement signed under penalty of perjury that the applicant is not changing his or her name for a fraudulent purpose.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that any person objecting to the changing of applicant's name shall file written objection with the above-entitled Court within 10 days after the publication of this notice.

Dated this 23rd day of April, 2026.
/s/Christopher Hatch
Published in The Fernley Reporter
May 1, 2026

Ad #2610

City of Fernley 3rd Quarter 2026 Total Receipts and Expenses

3rd Qtr 2026
Total Receipts \$8,339,586
Total Expenses \$6,949,320

The original and any duplicate or copy of each receipt, bill, invoice, check, warrant, voucher or other similar document that supports a transaction, the amount of which is included in this quarterly report of total receipts and expenditures/expenses, is a public record that is available for inspection and copying by any person pursuant to the provisions of NRS239. These records are available at the Fernley City Hall finance office located at 595 Silver Lace Blvd. Fernley, NV 89408

For more information, please contact the City of Fernley finance office at (775) 784-9843 or visit the City's website at:
<http://www.cityoffernley.org/Archive.aspx?AMID=36>

Neal McIntyre, Mayor
Kimberly Swanson, City Clerk

Ad# 2611

NOTICE OF PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME

THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT, LYON COUNTY, NEVADA

Case number 26-CV-0459

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a petition was filed in the above-entitled court requesting that the Court legally change applicant's name from Lynn Michele Vargo to Lynn Michele Ellis.

The applicant submitted a statement signed under penalty of perjury that the applicant is not changing his or her name for a fraudulent purpose.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that any person objecting to the changing of applicant's name shall file written objection with the above-entitled Court within 10 days after the publication of this notice.

Dated this 22nd day of April, 2026.
/s/Lynn Michele Vargo
Published in The Fernley Reporter
May 8, 2026 and May 15, 2026

Ad #2612

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.

April 27 – May 3, 2026

AARON SVENNINGSSEN – Area: Silver Springs, Bail amount: \$5,350
Charges: Assist other agency—hold; Possession of Schedule I or II controlled substance less than 14 grams, first or second offense; Use or possession of drug paraphernalia; Possession or consumption of marijuana in a public place, marijuana store, or vehicle; Open alcoholic container in vehicle
ROBERT EGELSTON – Area: Dayton
Bail amount: \$3,140, Charges: Domestic battery, (1st)
GABRIELLA MORAN – Area: Fernley, Bail amount: \$1,140, Charges: Destroy property of another, domestic violence, \$250–\$5,000
JESSE CORIA – Area: LYSO, Bail amount: \$10,500, Charges: Carrying a concealed weapon without a permit; Possession of a firearm under the influence of alcohol or drugs
TROY HOLBROOK – Area: Fernley, Bail amount: \$1,140, Charges: Driving with a revoked driver's license for DUI
MICHELLE SCOTT – Area: Fernley, Bail amount: \$1,140, Charges: DUI, (1st)

SKYLER SHELL – Area: Dayton, Bail amount: \$1,140, Charges: DUI, (1st)
Daphne Wallace Edwards – Area: Dayton, Bail amount: \$15,640
Charges: Domestic battery, (1st), enhanced/violation of probation; Abuse of an older or vulnerable person, (1st); Abuse of an older or vulnerable person, (1st)
ENRIQUE RAMIREZ FRANCISCO – Area: Fernley, Bail amount: \$1,410, Charges: DUI, (1st); Failure to drive on the right half of the roadway; Failure to maintain lane/improper lane change or use of signal
ELIGIO VASQUEZ – Area: Fernley, Bail amount: \$6,780, Charges: Domestic battery, (1st); False statement to or obstructing a public officer; Criminal contempt—failure to obey court order; Failure to appear after bail, misdemeanor crime; Assist other agency—hold
JASON PRESGRAVES – Area: Fernley, Bail amount: \$3,140, Charges: Domestic battery, (1st)
MYKELA GREEN – Area: Fernley, Bail amount: \$10,885, Charges:

Resisting a public officer; Duty to stop at accident with attended vehicle or property damage; Driving with a suspended driver's license; Owner—proof of insurance required; Operating an unregistered vehicle, trailer, or semi; Open alcoholic container in vehicle
JAMES PALU – Area: Fernley, Bail amount: \$25,000, Charges: Child abuse or neglect, (1st), (2 counts)
Barbara Burton – Area: Dayton, Bail amount: \$3,140, Charges: Domestic battery, (1st)
BRAYDEN LARKINS – Area: Fernley, Bail amount: \$25,025, Charges: Driver disobeying a peace officer, endangering other persons or property; DUI, (2nd); Reckless driving with disregard for safety of persons or property, (1st); Open alcoholic container in vehicle; Resisting a public officer
TRACY SMITH – Area: Silver Springs, Bail amount: \$1,120, Charges: Assist other agency—hold
JOSEPH RICKER – Area: Fernley, Bail amount: \$18,475, Charges:

Failure to maintain lane or improper lane change or use of signal; DUI, (1st); Use or possession of drug paraphernalia; Possession of a firearm under the influence of alcohol or drugs; Possession of Schedule I or II controlled substance less than 14 grams, first or second offense; Obtaining or possessing a credit or debit card without the cardholder's consent; Possession of identifying information for false statement, occupation, license, or ID; Possession of a dangerous weapon on school or child care property or in a vehicle
KEATH HARRIS – Area: Fernley, Bail amount: \$1,950, Charges: DUI, (1st); Basic speed—11–20 mph over posted limit; Operating a vehicle with expired registration or plates; Owner—proof of insurance required
HOPE BRISBY – Area: LYSO, Bail amount: \$505, Charges: Failure to appear on traffic citation
MEGAN JENSEN – Area: Fernley, Bail amount: \$10,000, Charges: Possession, receiving, or transferring a stolen vehicle

Continued from FRONT - CHILD ABUSE...

arrived at the school, but they interviewed several students who confirmed that Palu had placed his hands on students in two different classes.

Brantingham said when deputies later interviewed Palu, he told them he was conducting his introduction to the class and warned the students if they misbehaved, he would "Ring their chicken necks," but denied touching any students.

"What he told us is that he demonstrated this on himself, which is directly contrary to what the kids in the class said as well as the injuries that were later found," Brantingham said.

Because neither student had visible

injuries, Brantingham said deputies wanted medical records before arresting Palu, so they requested a warrant.

"In this case, this person has been separated from these kids. They're no longer in immediate danger," he said. "We want to make sure that we put together the best case possible before we end up in court and that we're not in a place where we have a rushed pre-trial or trial and we're still waiting for a medical record something like that," Brantingham. "So based off of those things, when you look at this case, just shoring up those edges before that arrest occurs is really what they were looking at."

After LCSO obtained medical records confirming the injuries the stu-

dent reported, the warrant was expedited and issued on April 30.

A bail hearing for Palu was held May 2 and a status conference was scheduled May 5.

Brantingham said investigators also determined that the school's response to the incident was appropriate, a finding the Lyon County District Attorney's Office agreed with. He said mandatory reporting statutes require designated professionals to report suspected child abuse or neglect as soon as practical, no later than within 24 hours.

"The first thing we would want a teacher to do is protect the kids," Brantingham said.

He said a teacher noticed the stu-

dent crying on the playground and another teacher alerted the principal.

"This isn't like this principal was sitting in the classroom and watched this happen. He doesn't even find out for a period of time," Brantingham said. "He goes down, removes the teacher from a classroom, trying to protect the kids. In this circumstance, we see steps that are taken to mitigate that that exist here – removing the teacher, contacting parents, doing those things that need to be done."

Brantingham said the investigation is ongoing and anyone who has information regarding this case is asked to report it to Deputy J. Vazquez at (775) 463-6600.

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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 to compete at Northern 3A regional track meet this weekend

By Robert Perea

Led by four boys and two girls qualifying in two events and two event winners at last week's Northern 3A Trials, the Fernley High School track team will be represented by a strong contingent for the Northern 3A regional meet this weekend.

Fernley advanced athletes in 15 events during the 3A Northern Region Trials May 2 in Carson City. The top eight individuals in the 100, 200 and 400 meter races, the top 12 in the 800 and 1600 meters and the top nine in field events at the Region Trials qualified for the Northern 3A regional meet this Friday and Saturday at Reno High. Trials were not required for the 3200 meters and relays.

For the boys, Bryce Dunagan Stephens qualified for the regional meet in both sprints, finishing first in the 100 meters in 11.31 seconds and third in the 200 in 23.28. Elijah Perez advanced in the 400 with the sixth fastest time, 52.04. In the distance races, Joe Perkins moved on in both events, placing eighth in the 800 in 2:04.48 and seventh in the 1,600 in 4:44.85, while Cael Wilson also advanced in the 1,600 with a 12th place finish in 4:50.11.

In the hurdles, Jayden Esparza advanced in the 110s with a third place



The Fernley girls 4x200 relay team of Faith Mhondo, Nakyla John, Blessing Mhondo and Asia Christopher owns the school record of 1:48.70 heading into the Northern 3A regional meet this weekend. Photo by Tey'ana Peterson

time of 16.19, and Michael Fitzgerald and Andrew Peterson qualified in the 300 hurdles with sixth and eighth place finishes, running 42.38 and 42.89, respectively.

Kole Miller placed third in the

shot put with a throw of 44 00. The Vaqueros will have four throwers in the discus, where Levi Lanka placed second at 147 02, Bodie Parsons finished third with a throw of 133 05, Miller was fifth at 128 06 and Wyatt

McGinnis placed eighth at 119 07. Esparza also advanced in the triple jump with a second place finish with his leap of 41 10.25.

For the girls, Nakyla John reached the 100 meter final with the seventh fastest time, 13.32, and Blessing Mhondo advanced in the 400 with a seventh place finish in 1:03.34.

In the 100 hurdles, Justice Martell Arteaga finished fifth in 17.40, Asia Christopher was seventh in 17.73 and Reese Johnson also qualified for the Regionals by placing ninth in 18.37. In the 300 hurdles, Martell Arteaga qualified second in 47.99, Faith Mhondo was fifth in 50.78, and Christopher was seventh in 51.26.

In the field events, Angel Pochop qualified in both throws, placing fifth in the shot put at 28 04.75 and second in the discus at 103 03. Haley Stevenson also qualified in the discus with a ninth place throw of 76 03. Brylee Harry-Glazier finished first at the Trials in the high jump with a mark of 4 02, and Johnson qualified in the triple jump with a fourth place finish at 32 00.25.

The 5A, 3A, 2A and 1A Northern Region Champions will all be held at Reno High, starting at 1 p.m. Friday and 8:30 a.m. Saturday. The top four placers in each event advance to the state meet May 15-16 at Hug.

Vaqueros begin postseason in Northern 3A playoffs

By Robert Perea

After a bye last week, the Fernley High School softball team is back in action this week as the No. 2 seed from the East Division in the 3A Northern League Softball Playoffs in Dayton.

The Vaqueros were scheduled to face Elko in their first game of the double-elimination tournament at 10:30 a.m. Thursday. A win in that game would advance them to face South Tahoe, the No. 1 seed from the West Thursday afternoon.

If they win twice Thursday, they would play in the semifinal round at approximately 1 p.m. Friday against either Lowry, Fallon or Truckee, for a berth in the championship game.

A loss in either game Thursday would force them to play an elimina-

tion game at either 8 a.m. or 10:30 a.m. Friday needing three wins to reach the championship round on Saturday.

The two teams that make it to Saturday's championship game also qualify for the 3A State Tournament, May 15-16 at Spanish Springs.

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Lyon County Commissioner District 2

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SPORTS

Fernley to compete at Northern 3A regional track meet this weekend

Porter earns second team all-league, qualifies for 3A State Golf Meet



By Robert Perea

Fernley High School senior Danny Porter earned second team all-league honors and will represent the Vaqueros in the 3A State Golf Tournament next week.

Porter finished 10th in the Northern 3A season standings with an average score of 82.2 and was the only Fernley player to qualify for State.

Porter will compete in the 3A State Meet, scheduled for May 12-13 at Boulder Creek Golf Club in Boulder City.



Fernley's Danny Porter will represent the Vaqueros in the 3A State Golf meet next week. Photo courtesy of Cade Knutson

Fernley's Vance Swindlehurst, shown pitching in a game earlier this season, threw a complete game two-hit shutout with eight strikeouts in the deciding game of last weekend's best-of-3 playoff series against Dayton. Photo by Robert Perea

By Robert Perea

Nikko Pryor walked up to home plate for his turn to bat in the bottom of the third inning last Friday afternoon with the Fernley Vaqueros in a precarious situation.

In the first game of the best-of-3 Northern 3A playoff series earlier that afternoon, Dayton jumped on them early with eight runs in the first three innings, and Fernley's five-run rally in the bottom of the seventh came up a run short in an 8-7 loss.

Facing elimination in the second game of the doubleheader, the Vaqueros trailed 4-1 in that third inning. A 1-out walk by Alex Juliot and a single by Riley McCuller, offered the Vaqueros a glimmer of hope with runners on first and second base and their leading hitter coming up.

Pryor turned that glimmer into a blinding light. His line drive over the left field fence on the first pitch he saw not only tied the game at 4-4, it may have saved the Vaqueros' season.

"That probably changed the entire series, if I'm being 100% honest, because we just carried that moment with us," coach Thomas Chapin said.

The jubilation as his teammates mobbed him when he touched home plate looked like more than simple excitement.

"Yeah, for sure," Pryor said. "It felt like the adrenaline, like the dugout got hyped and everything."

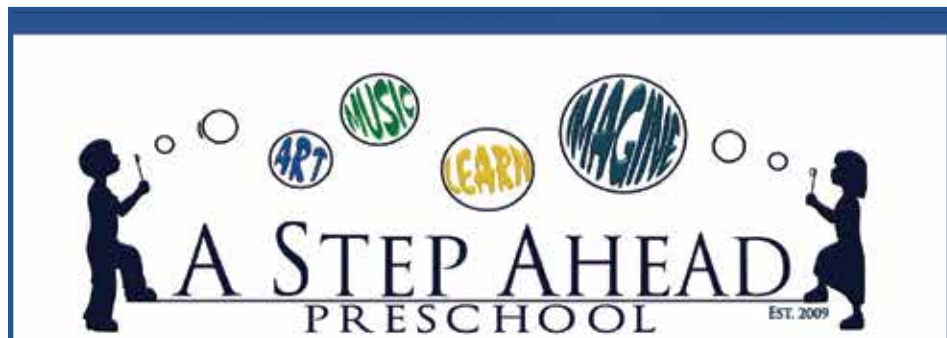
From there, the Vaqueros added a run in the fourth inning and two more in the fifth to win 7-4 and force a deciding game Saturday.

McCuller, who pitched 4 2/3 innings of scoreless relief in the

comeback win, then added three hits including his own home run in the series-clinching 5-0 win Saturday morning.

That win put the Vaqueros not the double-elimination portion of the playoffs, starting at 1 p.m. Thursday against Elko, the tournament's No. 1 seed. If they win, they would play the winner of the other semifinal between Spring Creek and Wooster at 12:30 p.m. Friday. The losers of the two first round games play an elimination game at 10 a.m. Friday. The championship game is 10 a.m. Saturday, followed immediately by the "if" game if neither team has two losses.

"These guys aren't ready to be done," Chapin said. "We have an excellent senior class that has played a lot of baseball together and they want to do something special."



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Tuesday	All Day Ladies' Appreciation	
Wednesday	All Day Seniors' Appreciation	1pm - 5pm BINGO
Thursday	All Day Kiosk Scratcher	
Friday	All Day 10x Points	5pm - 9pm Bonus Bucks

COMMUNITY COLUMNS

Fernley's Art Week Returns

By Jamie Daniels

Fernley's 3rd annual Art Week returns starting Friday, May 8th. This series of events represents a collection of arts, music, culture, and classes hosted by local businesses to get your creative juices flowing and to get Fernley residents and visitors out on the town.

Art Week was born of an idea to involve the community in the excitement leading up to the Music, Music, Murals and Margaritas (or M3) festival. The question was how the small team of ACES volunteers could manage to add more fun for the community while not stretching themselves too thin. The answer was simple: involve local businesses and organizations in hosting and planning their own events and use that collaboration to get the word out to more people about all of the things that Art Week and Fernley has to offer. The goal is to support small businesses and keep Fernley local. The Fernley ACES-Art & Culture Event Squad believes that by working together we can

build a stronger community.

This year features more all-ages and free events than ever before, marking a shift towards outings that the whole family can enjoy. Saturday May 9th offers a chance for people to step into the spotlight and share their talents in an all ages Open Mic Night at McHoppers in their new event space. Line Dancing at the Frontier Fun Center provides an outlet for family energy while learning some fun new moves. The leadership kids at FHS are leading free art activities for all on Wednesday May 13th in the south gym cafeteria at FHS. Round out the week of family fun at a free dance class at Fernley Performing Arts for ages 12+.

Among the classes, there are returning favorites like karaoke at McHoppers, a make-n-take succulent bar at Whiskey Rose, discounted studio fees at Kiln Time Pottery on Tuesday, May 11th, McHoppers Paint class on Wednesday, May 13th, and a free paint class for senior citizens at the Fernley Moose Lodge on Thursday, May 14th at 12:30.



Friday May 15th is the annual kickoff party featuring live music and food trucks at the Out of Town Park gazebo. Photo courtesy of ACES.

New additions this year include some culinary arts classes at The Nest and Body Paint Yoga at Green Valley Park. These new additions will have you stretching your skills and your body!

Spoken Word Open Mic Night returns to the Canal Wine Lounge on Wednesday May 13th, and comes with a twist—a silent auction and 50/50 raffle benefitting the Fernley ACES and helping keep events like M3 free to the public. Stop by between 6-9pm to hear stories, poetry, and comedy take center stage while you sip on your favorite drinks, grab a charcuterie of snacks, and bid on unique art and local goods.

New to Art Week is the Art Week punch card. Pick up a card at any Art Week Event, collect 3 stickers by attending at least 3 events, then turn in

your card at the ACES merch booth at M3 to be entered into a drawing to win a prize!

Art Week ends where the M3 festival begins. Friday May 15th is the annual kickoff party featuring live music and food trucks at the Out of Town Park gazebo. Bring your picnic blankets and chairs for a fun evening featuring 3 local bands and delicious food truck options. Saturday May 16th is the full festival with vendors, food trucks, 2 stages with live music, free kids' zone with art activities and a bounce house provided by Fernley Boys and Girls Club, free art activities for the community, margarita tasting contest, and more. The M3 festival goes from noon-10pm at the Fernley Out of Town Park. Plan to stay the day and bring your chairs and blankets to hang out on the grass with the whole family!

Attend at least three (3) Fernley Art Week Events collect 3 stickers & be entered into a raffle. Enter raffle @ ACES merch booth @ M 2026. May 16th Fernley Out of Town Park noon-5pm Drawing at 6pm

Art Week punch cards will be available at all Art Week events. Photo by Jamie Daniels.

TOPGUN DRAGSTRIP
Fallon, NV

250 Anniversary
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1951 ANNIVERSARY 2026

FALLON 660
1/8 MILE! SEPTEMBER 11-13

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
150 GAMBLERS STARTS...8:30AM

NOR CAL NOSTALGIA
MAY 15-16
FRI GATE OPENS...8AM-8PM
QUALIFYING SESSIONS...1PM - 4PM - 6PM
SAT GATE OPENS...7AM / ELIMINATIONS...10AM

NHRA NHRA 07 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

Gate Prices
Spectators / Crew \$15
Weekend Pass \$35
Kids 6-12 \$5
Seniors 60+ \$5
Active Military & Family Free

Summit Series & Bracket Race Entry Fees
Sportsman/Motorcycle \$80
Pro \$90
Super Pro (1/8th mile racing only) \$100
Buy Backs (1st RND Only) \$20
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 & RU only. Payouts under 6 will be prorated.
Motorcycle ET class: under 6 pays Win & RU only. Payouts under 6 will be prorated.
Payouts are formulated from RQ 1.
Prices and times are subject to change.
Special prices may apply for specific events.

CITY OF FERNLEY
BUILDING OUR FUTURE
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City of Fernley Staff Spotlight: Charity Birkel

The City of Fernley is proud to recognize **Charity Birkel** for her years of dedication and leadership in the Building Department. Charity's journey with the City is a great example of hard work and growth. She started as an Administrative Assistant II at the front counter, helping residents and contractors through the permitting process. From there, she worked her way up to Permit Technician, then into the field as a Building Inspector I and II. Today, she serves as Fernley's Chief Building Official, overseeing building operations and helping guide safe, compliant development across the community. Along the way, Charity has earned an impressive list of certifications in building inspection, plan review, fire safety, and code enforcement. Her commitment to continuing education reflects the pride she takes in her work and her role in keeping Fernley safe and moving forward. Charity has also played a key role in strengthening the City's Code Enforcement efforts, focusing on not just enforcement, but on communication, education, and working with residents to maintain the quality of life in our neighborhoods. Outside of work, Charity enjoys relaxing and making the most of her time with her husband, adult children, and grandkids. Her home is lively and full of character, shared with two dogs – Sage, a golden doodle, and Oakly, a standard poodle, along with four furless sphynx cats named Boise, Dommino, Sam, and Roe, plus Big Kitty and Tigger.

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send yours to Robert@FernleyReporter.com

COMMUNITY COLUMNS

Letter to the Editor:

Government should not be run “like a business”

To the editor:

I was disappointed to read that County Commissioner District 5 candidate Mark Jones “wants to run the county as a company.” (May 1, page 4) While this is a common statement by many politicians, saying that government should be run “like a business” fundamentally misses the point of what government is about. A business is meant to return a profit to its investors, and thus a business that doesn’t directly turn a profit will stop doing the things that lose money.

Government by its very nature is not a profit-making business. It does not sell products or services for profit. It provides goods and services to the people. Its income is (in general) taxes, and its expenses are what it costs to provide the services to the public. It is more like a non-profit organization whose members are the citizens of the jurisdiction in which it operates. The “members” (voters) elect a board of directors (commissioners, city council, etc.) to run the organization, and that board is responsible for providing services in a responsible

manner. The goal should not be to turn a profit but to provide for the people of the area in a responsible manner within the means that those people are prepared to pay.

I have sat on the boards of directors of various non-profit corporations. They are run not to return a profit to investors, but to provide things to their members. Most of them work by charging their members for those services, and they do have to bring in enough money to fund the things that they provide, but they don’t pay dividends or enrich investors.

Government should work the same way.

Saying that the government should be run “like a business” is like saying that the fire department should work entirely by advance subscriptions, and if you don’t pay your subscription and your house catches fire, the fire department should let it burn to the ground. While I suspect that there are people in this area who think that would be a great way to run things, it’s not a good way to run a civilized society.

Kayla Allen

Fernley Church Directory

Summit Church

Silverland Middle School

Grace Baptist Church

460 W. Main Street, Suite 108
gbcfernley.org

Fernley First Baptist Church

485 E. Main Street

Gift of Grace Lutheran Church

290 N. West Street

Living Faith Church

110 Center Street

Crosswinds Assembly of God

3015 Farm District Road

Calvary Chapel

875 Fremont Street

Joy! Alliance Fellowship

www.facebook.com/JOYchurchFernley

St. Robert Bellarmine Catholic Church

625 Desert Shadows Lane

Fernley Free Methodist Church

100 N. West Street

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints

155 Hwy 95A South

Living Stones Church

868 Cottonwood Lane



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PETS OF THE WEEK

Baby Kittens! Amber & Agnes

AMBER & AGNES ARE AVAILABLE FOR ADOPTION! Amber and Agnes are female kittens that are ready for their forever homes.

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

775-575-0950



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

Donate. Volunteer. Adopt. Make a difference.



Share with your Community.

Send *The Fernley Reporter* your obituaries.

To submit an obituary send via email to: admin@FallonMediaLLC.com

Please attach a photo to the email. Obituary text must be sent in Word document format, or in the body of an email, no images or pictures of text please.

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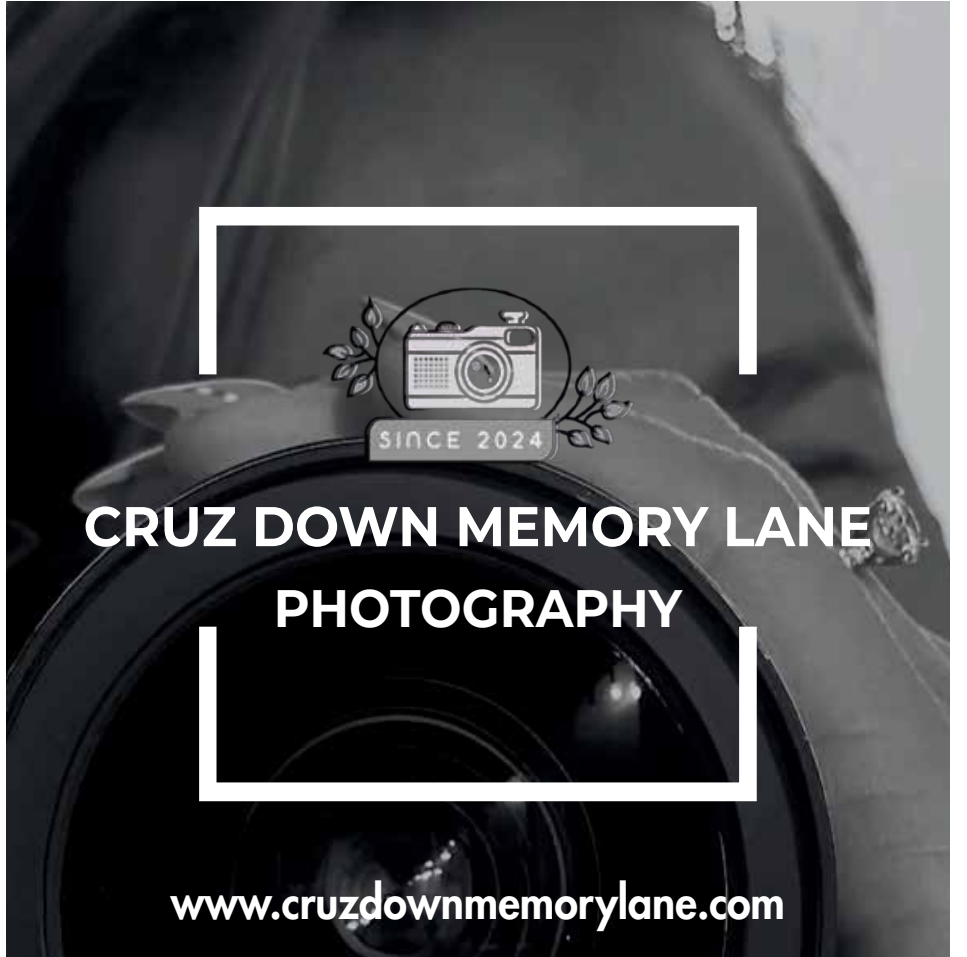
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- Fernley Wigwam Restaurant

- 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