

the Fernley reporter

FERNLEY'S HOMETOWN NEWS

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\$1.00 | The Week of December 26, 2025

School Board wants state to consider other assessment options for high school graduation

By Robert Perea

The Lyon County School District is preparing to ask the Nevada Department of Education to allow high school students to choose from multiple assessments for graduation, arguing that the state's current requirement doesn't reflect the needs or career paths of today's students.

The proposal, presented by Dayton High School principal Julie Bumgardner and Board of Trustees President Tom Hendrix, would give students the option of taking the ACT, the ACT WorkKeys Assessments or the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB), three assessments that measure different skill sets and align them with different post-graduation goals.

Bumgardner said the idea took shape last spring after Dayton High piloted the ACT WorkKeys exam.

"It was very eye-opening for me as an administrator to see students actually buy into an assessment," she told the board.

During a walkthrough, Hendrix asked Bumgardner how ACT WorkKeys was going.

"We started talking, and that just kind of planted this seed of what if kids had a choice, an option to choose between three different assessments based off of their career path?" Bumgardner said.

Nevada is one of only eight states that requires all students to take the



Fernley High School graduates toss their caps in the air at the end of the 2025 Commencement Ceremony.

Photo by Robert Perea

ACT for graduation, even though they are not required to pass it.

"As a result, we have one of the lowest scores on that test," Hendrix said.

Bumgardner said the ACT was never designed to measure every student's strengths, particularly those

pursuing career and technical education. She pointed to Pennsylvania and Mississippi, two states that already allow students to choose among multiple assessments and have completed the work showing how scores align across tests.

"I think this benefits our students

greatly, and it also gives students control of their path and that's what we're about, is that student ownership of their learning and them controlling their path," Bumgardner said.

She said it would also be a win for the state by changing how proficiency is measured and would improve the state's economic standing and education rankings.

"It's going to help us attract high quality teachers and all these things, and most importantly, it's going to get kids to feel successful and buy into their future," she said.

Bumgardner said she, Dayton High vice principal David Palmer and Hendrix developed a PowerPoint that they would like to present to the State Department of Education.

The Trustees agreed and unanimously approved a motion to present the idea to the State Department of Education. Trustee Darin Farr suggested they take it a step further and present it to the Nevada Association School Boards and the Nevada Association of School Superintendents to ask for their support.

"We complain about what the state's doing to us, what the legislature's doing to us, but if we don't take an active role and come unified, then it's going to continue to happen to us," Superintendent Tim Logan said. "So, thank you for bringing this forward, both of you."

Commission approves 4-year contract with County Manager

By Robert Perea

After an overall performance evaluation that meets, and in several areas, exceeds expectations, the Lyon County Commission approved a four-year contract with County Manager Andrew Haskin.

The performance evaluation was presented to the commission by Human Resources Director Ben Evans, who said each commissioner was asked to complete the evaluation, including written comments and goals, across several key areas of performance.

"The evaluation instrument is categorical rather than numeric, and after reviewing the evaluations individually and as a compiled review, the overall results reflect a performance that meets and in several areas exceeds expectations," Evans said.

Evans said specifically, several commissioners noted strong accessibility, responsiveness and preparedness, including proactive communication and availability beyond normal business hours.

"There's consistent positive feedback regarding financial stewardship, long-term planning and protecting

taxpayers' resources, along with identified opportunities for earlier communication on critical issues," Evans said.

Evans said the outcome of the evaluation makes Haskin eligible for a merit increase, if the board approves. As part of the evaluation, the commission approved a 2.5-percent merit increase, which is included in the starting base salary of \$226,980.54 in Haskin's new contract.

Compared to the current contract, the proposed agreement extends the term from three years to four years and adjusts the severance period from

six months to nine months in the event of termination without cause.

Commissioner Scott Keller questioned whether the county would still have to pay the severance if Haskin was fired and then took another job as a county manager.

Haskin said the clause only applies to termination without cause.

"I have no intention of going to another county and becoming a county manager somewhere else," he said. "I built my house here, I plan on staying here in Lyon County. It takes a bit of time to find another job, so that's what that's really about."



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the Fernley reporter

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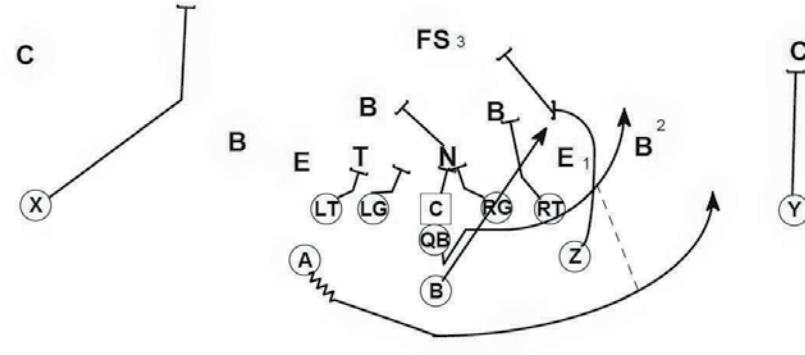
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LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

The Inside Veer



The other kinship of the season

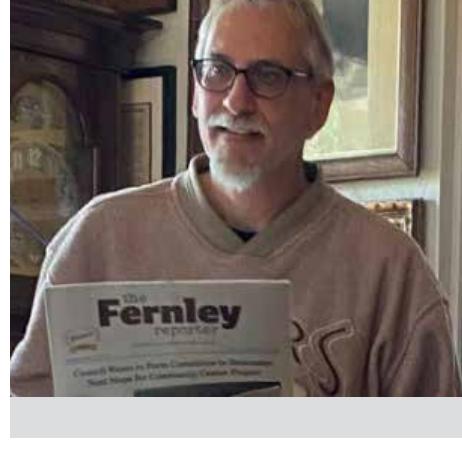
'Tis the season for kinship. Holiday parties, ugly sweater contests, ribbons and rituals, and that constant chorus of coughs and sneezes.

I've been battling it myself for more than a week now, and everywhere I went last week, someone either had it too, or was proudly announcing they'd finally shaken it. It wasn't the kind of togetherness I was looking for, but it was unmistakably communal.

What struck me wasn't the misery, though there was plenty of that, but the way people were comparing notes like we were all part of the same unofficial club. There was the conversation with the lady at the grocery store about which brand of cough drops was "the only one that works." There was the guy pumping gas at Pilot who just looked at me and said "Me too" when I started coughing.

I know Christmas is the season of giving, but no one meant giving this.

It is sort of oddly comforting, when you're feeling miserable, to run into others who are feeling the same way. I did try to stay away from others, only going out twice last week for the duties I couldn't avoid, but those who were either going through it themselves or have just gotten over



ROBERT PEREA

it were easy to spot. The same tired eyes, scratchy voices, and noses not quite as red as Rudolph, but close.

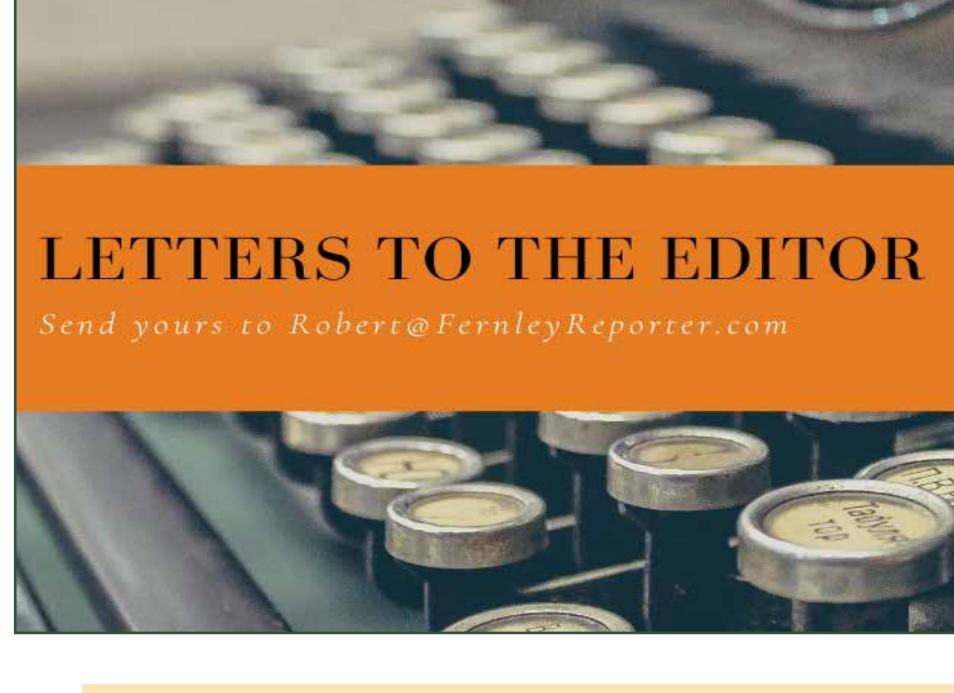
That's been as much of the kinship of this season as I've been able to share. I've had to decline invitations to holiday parties and skip gatherings I was looking forward to. It's not easy to sit out the social side of December, especially when the calendar offers many chances to celebrate. But even from the sidelines, there's a sense of connection in knowing everyone else is muddling through the same thing.

So if you've been fighting off the same bug, or are just now getting your voice back, consider yourself part of this season's unofficial club.

It's not the merriest membership, but it does come with a certain shared understanding that reminds us we're all doing our best.

So with that, here's wishing you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. May the coming days bring health, warmth and the kind of kinship that doesn't require cough drops.

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, Dec. 17**

Game: O. N. E. S.

1st: Linda Garrett, 31

2nd: Val Montgomery, 33

3rd: Loretta Bradley, 35

Low Putts: Linda Garrett, 31

Birdies: Linda Garrett, #7; Kathy Kennedy, #7

Chip-In: Kathy Kennedy, #15

FERNLEY NEWS MINUTE

**Get the latest in City of Fernley
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at 4pm with the Fernley News Minute.
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FEATURES

Mentorship is the core of the North Lyon Fire cadet program

By Robert Perea

North Lyon firefighter Jesse Richardson fought back tears the night of April 3, when he presented one of the department's fire cadets with the Chief Carr Award, an honor named for one of the mentors who shaped his own early years in Nevada.

Richardson, who served as a firefighter at North Lyon Fire for 13 years until leaving the department for a job with Storey County Fire earlier this month, created the cadet program in 2019 with three cadets. The program now has 12, a number that he settled on as the ideal size because of what he called the fire service span of control.

"In the fire service, span of control is anywhere from five to seven being optimal," Richardson said. "With my two lieutenants I can split that 12 into six, which is right in the middle of the five to seven. I can tell my lieutenant what I want and then they can delegate their responsibilities down to them."

Richardson said he created the

cadet program not as a recruiting tool, but as a way to give teenagers the kind of mentorship he believes too many go without. After more than two decades in the fire service, he wanted to give back in a way that reached beyond emergency calls. He said the program was his way of meeting kids where they are, offering structure, skills and a sense of belonging.

"It's just to be a mentor to these young kids and give them a foundation and ethics and morals of being a just all-around good person," Richardson said. "You don't have to be interested in firefighting. If you want to be part of a group and have camaraderie and friendships and hang out, that's pretty much what this program is."

For many cadets, that mentorship has already made a difference. Marcus Landa was in ROTC as a freshman at Reno High, and joined the cadet program after moving to Fernley. Now a senior, his goal is to become a mechanic in the Army, then either go into a career in firefighting or me-



Some of the North Lyon Fire Cadets helped run the program's annual golf tournament last June at the Dayton Valley Golf Course. Pictured are (Back, from left to right) Omar Adame, Travis Dodge, Otto Lynch, Kenneth Soonwing and Gunnar Beemer (Front row) firefighter Jesse Richardson, Rowan Willoughby, Marcus Landa, Kaleb Gardiner and J.D. Richardson. Photo by Robert Perea

chanics.

"This has helped me become self-responsible, disciplined and not give up easy," Landa said.

The cadet program is open to students ages 14 to 18 as long as they are in high school.

Once they join, cadets move through a wide range of training. They get exposure to fire, EMS, rope rescue, HAZMAT and wildland operations, along with practical household skills like plumbing basics, electrical troubleshooting, changing oil and tires, and even how to handle a job interview. Their certifications limit what they can do on emergency scenes, but they support the department through community service, such as helping with the Northern Nevada Children's Cancer Foundation fundraiser to doing yard work for seniors. At structure fires, they assist the Rehab Team, helping crews get equipment back in service.

For Jasmine Hidalgo-Gates, a junior at Silver Stage High School,

the program opened doors she didn't know existed. Hidalgo-Gates is interested in working in the fire service and she found out about the program while searching online for programs that could help her prepare for that. Now she commutes to Fernley for meetings and cadet activities.

"That's how good this program is," she said. "I think this program has definitely taught me a lot about what being a firefighter is and definitely helped me improve physical training."

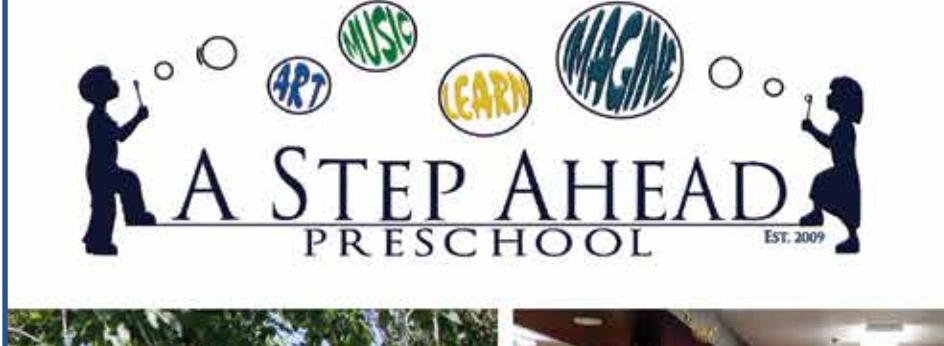
Hidalgo-Gates said she realized she didn't have the physical strength to be a firefighter and is now considering the Air Force after high school, but said the program has given her valuable skills and confidence.

Each cadet is assigned a task book which has four phases. Cadets earn red, white and blue pins for completing the first three phases, and a red, white and blue pin for completing the fourth. But completing them are op-

Continued on PAGE 4 - FIRE CADET...



Firefighter Jesse Richardson presented North Lyon Fire Cadet Gunner Beemer with the Chief Carr Award during the April 3, 2025 meeting of the North Lyon County Fire Protection District Board of Directors, acknowledging his exceptional performance and commitment to the cadet program. The award is named in honor of former NLCFD chief Steve Carr. Also pictured is Linda Carr.



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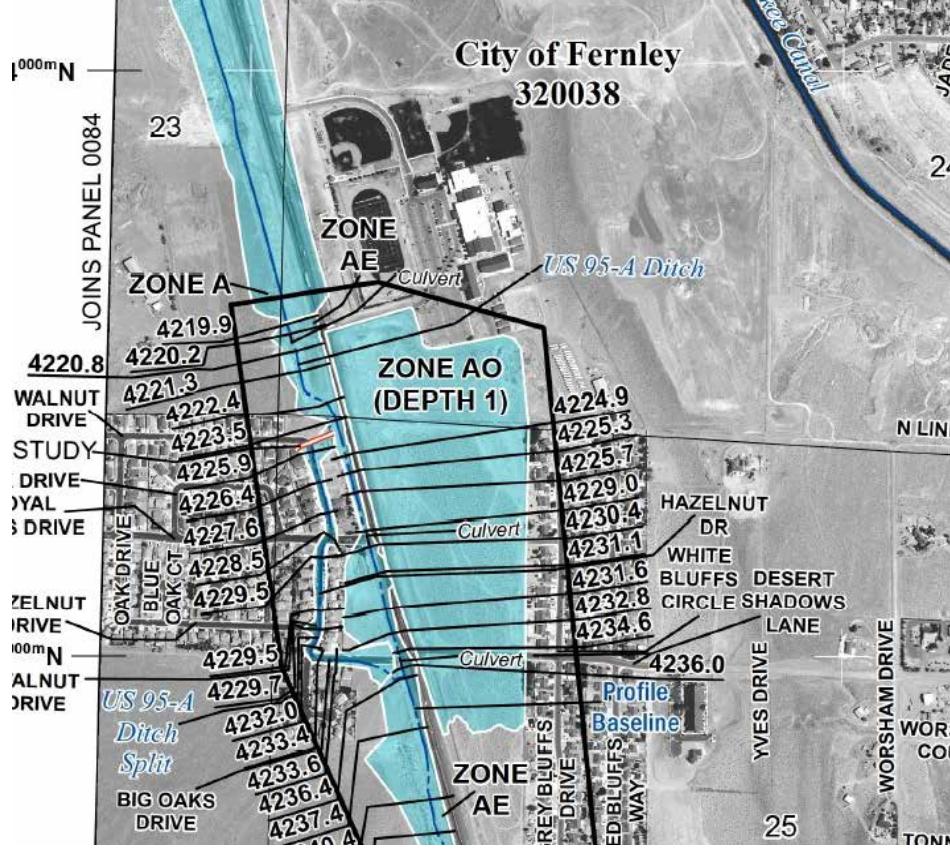
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ANNOUNCEMENTS

FEMA issues Letter of Map Revision for city of Fernley

Courtesy of City of Fernley

The City of Fernley is informing residents that the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has issued an update (or Letter Of Map Revision LOMR) to the flood maps for the City of Fernley.



What has changed: Certain areas along HWY 95A have been updated from a "Zone A" to "Zone AE", which now has defined flood elevations. The area on the east side has been designated Zone AO, meaning shallow flooding may occur in this area and new floodplain rules may apply.

Where can I find the data: Residents can view the revised maps at City Hall, on our City website, or by contacting the City Manager's Office.

Who to contact for help: Residents can contact the City at engineering@cityoffernley.org with questions or for assistance interpreting the maps.

Why it matters: The update affects property owners, insurance agents, and mortgage lenders, helping them understand flood risk and insurance requirements.

For more details, FEMA's official notice can be found here:

<https://www.cityoffernley.org/.../25-09-0167P-320038-2025>

<http://floodmaps.fema.gov/bfes/viewnotice.php>

FAQ's About FEMA Federal Emergency Management Agency Flood Maps For the City of Fernley:

1. **What is FOMR?** A FEMA Federal Emergency Management Agency-issued revision to flood maps based on improved data.
2. **Why was it issued?** Updated hydrologic/hydraulic analyses and topography provided improved accuracy.
3. **Which areas are affected?** HWY 95A Ditch, HWY 95A Ditch Split, and shallow flooding near Desert Shadows Lane.
4. **When is it effective?** April 13, 2026.
5. **Can residents appeal?** Yes - within 90 days after the second newspaper notice.
6. **Will this change insurance requirements?** Possibly. Properties newly mapped into Special Flood Hazard Areas may require flood insurance.
7. **Does this affect building requirements?** Yes. New development must comply with updated floodplain regulation.

City looking to fill seat on Senior Citizen Advisory Committee

By Robert Perea

The City of Fernley is accepting applications to fill one available seat on the Fernley Senior Citizen Advisory Committee.

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

The Senior Citizen Advisory Committee consists of five members. The term of office for each member is two years.

Committee members also 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.

The Senior Citizen Advisory Committee meets on the second Friday, every other month at 9 a.m. The next meeting scheduled is Feb. 13, 2026. The successful candidate may be required to attend other meetings or

volunteer at special events to promote the committee.

Applications must be received by the City Clerk's Office by 5 p.m. on Jan. 9, 2026. Interested persons should complete the Boards and Commissions Application Form, which can be found at: <https://www.cityoffernley.org/forms.aspx?fid=176>

Continued from PAGE 3 - FIRE CADET

tional, depending on how much time each cadet is able to dedicate, and so far none have completed all four.

Among the 12 cadets are two lieutenants, Travis Dodge and Otto Lynch, who earned their positions through a testing and interview process.

"And then also on how they act around the cadets," Richardson said. "If I see someone that is really trying to take someone under their wing and show them how to do things, that is a consideration on top of how they answer the questions."

Previous cadets who graduated have gone on to wildland firefighting, engineering, physical therapy, nursing, sports therapy and diesel mechanics.

Lynch, a senior at Fernley High School, was promoted to cadet lieutenant in September 2023 and is one of the cadets who is interested in

remaining in fire service. His father is a Lyon County Sheriff's deputy, but said his dad has tried to steer him away from a law enforcement career. Instead, he hopes to become a fire marshal.

"It's definitely matured me a lot more, being in charge of people," Lynch said. "I'm still a little immature, but that comes with being a teenager. It's forced me to be there to help people, when they need help."

Cadets meet weekly for three hours. The last hour is dedicated to physical training where they learn proper weightlifting and cardio techniques. They are also allowed to do 8-hour ride-alongs, any day of the week, mostly observing during incidents, but can participate in training alongside firefighters.

"Each one of them are given turnouts so they can do hands-on training, auto extrication and firefighter drills," Richardson said.

Gunnar Beemer, the cadet who

received the Chief Carr award, is also enrolled in the EMT class at Fernley High School and hopes to become a critical flight paramedic

"I took the chance to get First Aid certified and I realized that I'm good at applying the skills that I'm taught in a real world setting," he said. "This definitely gave me a head start."

The cadets can also earn scholarships through the program. In 2024, Richardson said four cadets graduated and he presented them with a total of almost \$10,000 in scholarships. Money for the scholarships comes from fundraisers the cadets do, like their annual golf tournament and car washes.

"So they're kind of working to earn their own scholarship money, in a way," Richardson said.

With Richardson's departure, the program is now being run by North Lyon Support Staff Captain Daniel Hiles, who has served the district for six and a half years as a volunteer

firefighter. Hiles said he intends to blend the cadet program in with the volunteers to expand mentorship opportunities.

"The cadet program is kind of like an introduction to volunteers," Hiles said. "It's a good segue going into that program."

For some, the program's impact is as simple as seeing someone they admire. Omar Adame said he became curious after seeing Lynch wearing his cadet uniform at school. Now he's considering either becoming a firefighter or going into plumbing while doing volunteer firefighting.

"I think Jesse has been a great role model," Adame said.

While breaking the news of his new job to the cadets, Richardson promised them he would remain in contact with them and with Hiles, a reminder that the legacy behind the Chief Carr award isn't leaving the district, or them, behind.



FERNLEY SENIOR CENTER MENU

105 LOIS LANE, FERNLEY, NEVADA | 775-575-3370

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

Monday, Dec. 29

*Baked Chicken
Tenders
French Baked
Potatoes
Steamed Carrots*

Tuesday, Dec. 30

*Salisbury Steak
Mashed Potatoes
Gravy
WW Roll
Peas
Frozen Fruit Cup*

Wednesday, Dec. 31

*Dixieland Shortcake
Summer Squash
Garden Salad
Banana*

Thursday, Jan. 1

*- Center Closed
for New Year's Day -*

Friday, Jan. 2

*Baked Crunchy
Pretzel Honey Balsamic
Chicken
Brown Rice
Zucchini
Lima Beans
Diced Pears*

COMMUNITY

Fernley ACES hosts Christmas Village Extravaganza

By Robert Perea

Revelers streamed through the Main Street Art Park last Saturday afternoon for the second annual Christmas Village Extravaganza hosted by the Fernley Arts & Culture Event Squad.

With Christmas music, hot cocoa and coffee and face painting, visitors were also able to take pictures with Santa and the Grinch, as well as check out the Christmas village display. Fernley ACES president Dana Uhlhorn said there were no new additions to the village this year, mainly because they weren't sure how much space would be available with the recent improvements being done at the Art Park.

This is the ninth year the Christmas Village has been displayed at the Art Park, and Uhlhorn said the hope has

always been to utilize the whole park, which could probably accommodate 40 to 50 houses. He's hoping to have at least a few more for next year's 10th anniversary celebration.

"It's got plenty of room to grow," he said.

After seeing the Christmas Village in Ogden, UT, which features more than 70 decorated cottages, mini train rides and a variety of activities, Uhlhorn came home with the idea to do something similar here, even if it's on a smaller scale.

The Christmas Village Extravaganza is one of many free events hosted throughout the year by the Fernley ACES.

"This is why we charge for some of our events, so we can do free events like this throughout the year," Uhlhorn said.



Santa Claus gets a hug from a youngster during the Fernley ACES Christmas Village Extravaganza last Saturday at the Main Street Art Park. Photo courtesy of Fernley ACES

City celebrates 11th annual Menorah Lighting

By Kerry Lyman

The City of Fernley celebrated the Festival of Lights with the 11th annual Menorah Lighting in front of Fernley City Hall on the second night of Chanukah last Monday, with Rabbi Levi Sputz of the Carson City Chabad reminding the three dozen or so celebrants in attendance that they are the light in a dark world.

Comparing attendees to the candles on the menorah, Sputz said,

"We are that little candle. When we do our part and we are the beacon of hope, the beacon of life, the beacon of goodness, in what sometimes can feel like a dark world, we know that more will follow."

"Here in Fernley, we really feel that. What started off as a small gathering of close friends over the years has grown to this beautiful gathering of community members, friends and family celebrating the festival of light here in Fernley," Sputz added.

Relating the historical significance of Chanukah, Sputz said that when Greek oppressors took over Jerusalem and refused to let the Jewish population practice their religion, a powerful group of Jewish warriors called the Maccabees fought back and won their freedom.

To celebrate the victory and give thanks to God, they wanted to light the menorah in the temple but could only find "one tiny flask" of the holy oil, and it would take eight days to produce

more. But they lit the menorah anyway, and it miraculously lasted eight days rather than the one day that was expected, Sputz said.

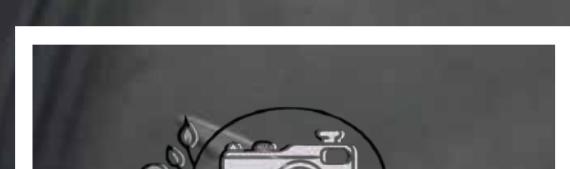
"In that spirit, we light the menorah to remember that when we do our part, which might seem like a tiny push against the ocean, it might not feel like that much, but God will fill in the rest," Sputz said.

Following the menorah lighting,

Continued on PAGE 7 - MENORAH...



About three dozen celebrants came out for the 11th annual Menorah Lighting on Dec. 13 at Fernley City Hall. Photo by Kerry Lyman



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Fernley Branch Library

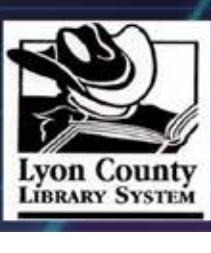
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BINGO

Free Event • All are welcome

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BUSINESS

New business licenses

The Fernley City Council approved the following new business licenses at its Dec. 17 meeting:

Krafty Creations LLC, Fernley, Hobby/Crafter
 JayLianna and Co. LLC, Fernley, General merchandise retailer
 Christine Millward, Fernley, Hair/Nail/Tanning/Spa
 Remi Roofing and Construction, Inc., Vineyard UT,
 Roofing contractor
 Wi-Fiber of Nevada, LLC dba/Rango Broadband, Carson City,
 Wireless telecommunications
 Winger Electric LTD, Hyrum UT, Electrical contractor
 Integrated Concepts LLC, Reno, General engineering contractor
 Weigl Concrete, LLC, Reno, Concrete/Excavating contractor
 KBP Handyman, Fernley, Handyman services

Meetings

Fernley City Council

1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month at 5 p.m.
 City Hall, 595 Silver Lace Blvd.
 Next meeting January 7

Fernley Planning Commission

2nd Wednesday of the Month at 5 p.m.
 City Hall, 595 Silver Lace Blvd.
 Next meeting January 14

Fernley Senior Citizen Advisory Committee

2nd Friday of even numbered months at 9 a.m.
 City Hall, 595 Silver Lace Blvd.
 Next meeting February 13

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 January 5
 (Rescheduled because of New Years Day)

Lyon County Planning Commission

2nd Tuesday of the Month at 9 a.m.
 Lyon County Administrative Complex
 27 S. Main St. Yerington
 Next meeting January 13

Lyon County Library Board of Trustees

4th Tuesday of the Month,
 9:30 a.m.
 Locations rotate between
 the 5 county libraries
 Next meeting TBA
 due to Christmas Holiday

Lyon County School District Board of Trustees

4th Tuesday of the month, 6:30 p.m.
 Locations rotate between
 each attendance area
 Next meeting January 26

North Lyon County Fire Protection District Board of Trustees

2nd or 3rd Thursday of the month
 195 E. Main St.
 Next meeting January 8

Fernley Swimming Pool

General Improvement District
 3rd Tuesday of the month, 5:30 p.m.
 Next meeting January 20

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to hear
from you.

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REGIONAL NEWS

House passes Amodei's bill to strengthen domestic mineral supply chain

By Robert Perea

The U.S. House of Representatives on Dec. 18 passed a bill introduced by Rep. Mark Amodei intended to unleashing domestic mining production.

A statement by Amodei said the bill restores regulatory clarity and stability for mining projects by establishing a new category of mill sites to ensure that operators can use federal lands for ancillary activities.

Amodei said strengthening the domestic mineral supply chain is needed to ensure the U.S. doesn't fall further behind China.

"Western states are sitting on a wealth of resources and a critical opportunity to break our dangerous reliance on foreign adversaries while powering our own economy," Amodei said. "The Mining Regulatory Clarity Act restores decades of established precedent, repairs a permitting process undermined by the Rosemont decision, and gives domestic mining operations the certainty they need to compete aggressively and win."

Rep. Steven Horsford co-sponsored the bill.

"Streamlining the hardrock mining process will create good jobs and strengthen our energy sector," Horsford said. "At the same time, this legislation delivers more resources for the Silver State to clean up past mining-related contaminants in our environment. The result is more jobs, a stronger economy, and an opportunity for a cleaner Nevada moving forward."

"The Mining Regulatory Clarity Act restores regulatory certainty that was lost due to the misguided 2022 Rosemont decision," said House Natural Resources Committee Chairman Bruce Westerman. "The bill reaffirms that mining support activities are an essential part of responsible mineral development. It encourages domestic mineral production at a moment when America's economy and national security depend on mining more than ever. I would like to thank Representative Amodei for his leadership on this important legislation."

Nevada Representatives Susie Lee

and Dina Titus voted against the bill. But Senators Jackie Rosen and Catherine Cortez Masto both support it. Cortez Masto said in a social media post that the bill is "common sense and it's key for communities across Nevada that count on mining for their livelihoods." Rosen helped introduce the Senate version of Amodei's bill.

The bill was also hailed by the National Mining Association and the Nevada Mining Association.

"This legislation offers clarity and represents an important step toward supporting Nevada's modern mining industry and strengthening domestic mineral production critical to national security, energy, transportation, and other essential needs," Nevada Mining Association President Amanda Hilton said.

In 2022, the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals issued a decision revoking an approved mine plan of operation for the Rosemont Copper Mine in Arizona. The decision limits the Forest Service's ability to approve support activities necessary for conducting mining operations on federal land, upending over 40 years of regulatory and legal precedent.

Amodei's statement said the Rosemont decision will thwart hardrock mining projects across federal lands, further jeopardizing domestic mineral supply chains, energy security, and national security if it is allowed to stand.

"The Mining Regulatory Clarity Act restores regulatory certainty that was lost due to the misguided 2022 Rosemont decision," said House Natural Resources Committee Chairman Bruce Westerman. "The bill reaffirms that mining support activities are an essential part of responsible mineral development. It encourages domestic mineral production at a moment when America's economy and national security depend on mining more than ever."

Amodei said the Mining Regulatory Clarity Act provides needed regulatory clarity by creating a new category of mill sites for activities ancillary to mining that operators can include within the boundaries of an approved plan of operations.

The bill also creates an "Abandoned



Congressman, Mark Amodei, Photo courtesy of house.gov.

Hardrock Mine Fund" to support the reclamation program established under the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. Claim maintenance fees will be used to fund a program to inventory, assess, and remediate abandoned hardrock mine lands.

The environmental group Center for Biological Diversity is among the opponents of the bill.

"Anti-conservation members of Congress are trying yet again to give away

America's much-loved public lands to corporate polluters," said Ashley C. Nunes, public lands policy specialist at the Center for Biological Diversity. "Hardrock mining is the top source of toxic pollution in the nation. It doesn't make a lick of sense to surrender countless acres of our public lands that provide clean water, wildlife habitat, cultural resources and recreation for millions of Americans just so mining conglomerates can make more profit."

LEGAL NOTICES

DISTRICT COURT CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

Case No.: P-24-122850-E

Dept. No.: PC-1 (26)

In the Matter of the Estate of EARL JOHNSON JR., aka BABY EARL JOHNSON, JR., Deceased.

NOTICE OF PRIVATE SALE 3781 e. 8TH Street, Silver Springs, Nevada 89429

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that BRAD JOHNSON, Executor of the Estate of Earl Johnson, Jr. ("Decedent"), will sell at private sale, to the highest bidder, upon the terms and conditions hereinafter mentioned, and subject to the confirmation of the above entitled Court, on or after 5:00 p.m., on the 1st day of January, 2026, all of the right, title, interest and estate of the above-named Decedent, which is a 1/4 interest in and to that parcel of real property situate, lying and being in the County of Lyon, State of Nevada, commonly known as 3780 E. 8th Street, Silver Springs, Nevada 89429, described as follows, to-wit: Parcel #45 Stockton Subdivision #1, situate in E 1/2 of Section 16, Township 17 North, Range 25 East MDB&M APN: 017-363-04. The Executor shall sell such property for cash, subject to the approval of the above-entitled Court, to the highest and best bidder. All bids or offers must be in writing, and may be left at the office of the Executor's attorneys, Alice S. Denton, Esq., and Patrick S. Denton, Esq., 411 E. Bonneville Ave., #300, Las Vegas, Nevada 89101, or may be filed in the Office of the County Clerk of the above-entitled Court at any time after the publication of this Notice and before the making of the sale. The Executor reserves the right to refuse and reject any and all bids.

Case Number: FL-25-002330

Superior Court of California, County of Stanislaus
Court Address: 800 11th Street, PO Box 1089 Modesto, Ca 95354

In re the Marriage/Nullity of:
Petitioner: William Carvalho
Respondent: Aundrea
Munoz-Browning

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If you fail to file a timely Response (FL-120/FL-220), the court may enter a judgment against you for the relief requested in the petition, Nullity of Marriage.

This summons is published by order of the Superior Court of California, County of Stanislaus granted on 10/01/2024 Publication is to be made in the following newspaper: The Fernley Reporter, once a week for four successive weeks.

Ad # 2515



Continued from PAGE 5 - MENORAH...

celebrants danced, feasted on coffee, latkes and other traditional Jewish foods. City officials attending the event included Mayor Neal McIntyre, Councilman Ryan Hanan and Acting City Manager Lydia Altick.

Asked after the menorah lighting why the name Chanukah has so many different spellings, with the most common spelling being spelled Hanukkah, Sputz laughed and said there are at least a dozen different spellings he knows of, but the reason is because there is no English equivalent to the "ch" sound in the Hebrew language.

The eight candles in the menorah represent the eight days of Chanukah, with the ninth, or middle candle, being used to light the other eight candles, one being lit for each day of the holiday, Sputz said.

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 9 am, the next scheduled meeting will be February 13, 2026. The successful candidate may be required to attend other meetings or volunteer at special events to promote the committee.

Applications must be received by the City Clerk's Office by 5pm on January 9, 2026. Interested persons should complete the Boards and Commissions Application Form which can be found at: <https://www.cityoffernley.org/forms.aspx?fid=176>

the Fernley reporter

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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.

Dec. 15 – Dec. 21, 2025

JACOBO SANDOBAL – Area: LYSO, Bail Amount: \$0.00, Charges: Felony arrest, Fugitive from Other State / Complaint / Warrant
CHASE BAKER – Area: Dayton, Bail Amount: \$1,900.00, Charges: FTA on Traffic Citation
TOMMY LOWRANCE – Area: Dayton, Bail Amount: \$30,000.00, Charges: Battery w/ Deadly Weapon
ERIC NEVAREZ – Area: LYSO, Bail Amount: \$2,500.00, Charges: Criminal Contempt – Failure to Obey Court Order

AUSTIN BAKER – Area: Fernley, Bail Amount: \$53,200.00, Charges: Burglary of a Motor Vehicle, 1st Offense; Battery; Aggravated Stalking; Child Abuse or Neglect, 1st Offense
DANIEL NEILL – Area: Fernley, Bail Amount: \$61,215.00, Charges: Obtain/Use Personal ID of Another to Avoid/Delay Prosecution; Possession of Schedule I/II Controlled Substance (42+ grams); Fail to Wear Safety Belt/Shoulder Harness; Use/Possession of Drug Paraphernalia; Felony Arrest for Violation of Probation / Conditions of Suspended Sentence

AUBREY OCHOA – Area: LYSO, Bail Amount: \$0.00, Charges: Court Commitment
KARI GIBBONS – Area: Fernley, Bail Amount: \$1,535.00, Charges: DUI (1st); Fail to Drive on Right Half of Road
NATASHA WHEELER – Area: Fernley, Bail Amount: \$29,280.00, Charges: Domestic Battery (1st); Resist Public Officer; Assault on Protected Person by Prisoner/Probationer/Parolee / 1st Responder; Battery by Prisoner/Probationer/Parolee
JACOB HETZLER – Area: LYSO, Bail Amount: \$0.00, Charges: Court Commitment

mitment
KELLY LUJAN – Area: Fernley, Bail Amount: \$17,780.00, Charges: Domestic Battery (1st); Assist Other Agency – Hold; Violation of Domestic Violence TPO
TYWAN JOHNSON – Area: Dayton, Bail Amount: \$388.00, Charges: Assist Other Agency – Hold
CHARLES CRIDLAND – Area: Silver Springs, Bail Amount: \$3,140.00, Charges: Domestic Battery (1st)
JEFERY MARTIN – Area: LYSO, Bail Amount: \$0.00, Charges: Court Commitment

Two-day old road rage incident leads to confrontation, arrest

By Robert Perea

A man was arrested on Dec. 15 after a confrontation stemming what Lyon County Sheriff Brad Pope said was a two-day-old road rage incident.

According to the Lyon County Sheriff's Office, deputies were dispatched at 2:25 p.m. on the 15th for a report of two to three gunshots in the Wendy's parking lot. The caller reported that the two vehicles were headed eastbound on Main Street, away from the restaurant.

One of the drivers, accompanied by his girlfriend, arrived at the Lyon County Sheriff's Office substation in Fernley and called 911, stating that he had fired his weapon in self-defense. Deputies were dispatched to the substation, and additional deputies were sent to Wendy's.

Deputies determined that on Dec. 13, there was an unreported traffic incident where Austin Baker's wife was cut off in traffic and the male driver of the other vehicle yelled at her. She took a picture of the vehicle and provided it to Baker, informing him of

the incident.

LCSO said that on Dec. 15, Baker was travelling westbound on Main Street in Fernley, Nevada with his wife and 2-year-old child in the vehicle when he saw a vehicle that he thought had cut his wife off two days prior. Baker followed the vehicle to the Wendy's parking lot, where he pulled in front of the other vehicle preventing it from driving away. The LCSO report says Baker exited his vehicle and began to aggressively yell at the other driver, making threats and becoming increasingly hostile.

The Sheriff's Office says the other driver retrieved a handgun and placed it in his lap. Baker began repeatedly hitting the man in the face and head, bloodying his hand. The man attempted to cover his face and his female passenger tried to shield him from the passenger seat. While Baker continued hitting him, the other man grabbed the handgun and fired two rounds through the vehicle's door toward Baker. One of the rounds became lodged in the door and the other missed Baker, striking a dirt mound

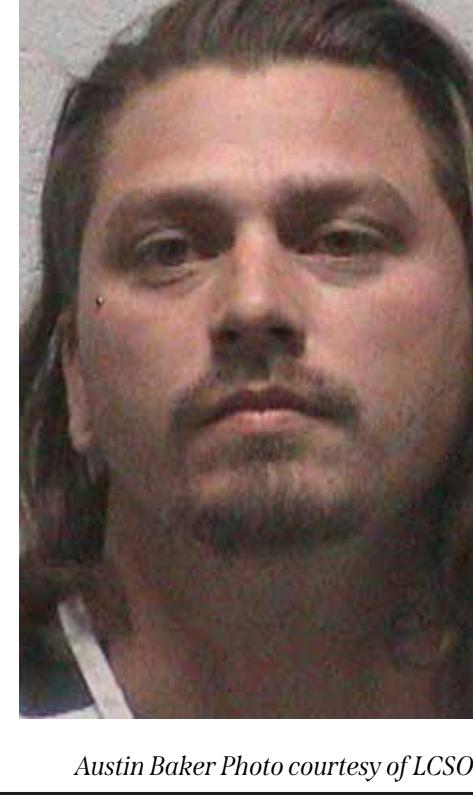
behind him.

Baker stopped the assault and the other driver was able to drive away. He drove to the Sheriff's Office substation where he called 911 to report the incident and seek help. Baker followed him eastbound on Main Street before turning off toward the In-Town Park. He did not contact the Sheriff's Office, but was later found by deputies and taken into custody.

Baker was arrested on charges of aggravated stalking, motor vehicle burglary, child endangerment and battery.

Pope told the Lyon County Commission during his report at the Dec. 18 meeting that the driver who fired the gun in self-defense was not charged.

Anyone who has information related to this incident is asked to contact the Lyon County Sheriff's Office at (775) 463-6600 to speak with Deputy Colosi in reference to Case Number 25LY04925.



Austin Baker Photo courtesy of LCSO

Contact Your Elected Officials

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

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

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

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

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

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Scott Keller - Chair
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Lyon County Commissioner - 3
Tammy Hendrix - Vice Chair
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thendrix@lyon-county.org

Lyon County Commissioner - 4
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Fernley City Council Ward 2
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fzoberski@cityoffernley.org

Fernley City Council Ward 3
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slau@cityoffernley.org

Fernley City Council Ward 4
Councilman Albert Torres
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atorres@cityoffernley.org

Fernley City Council Ward 5
Councilman Joe Mendoza
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Lyon County Clerk/Treasurer
Staci Lindberg
775-463-6501

Lyon County Recorder
Anita Talbot
775-463-6581

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

Judge Leon Aberasturi
775-463-6571 Ext. 2

Lyon County District Attorney
Stephen Rye
775-463-6511

Canal Township Justice Court
Judge Lori Matheus
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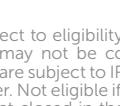


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This page is brought to the community through a partnership between Fallon Media Co. and Victory Logistics District, and is aimed at informing Fernley residents about local government, community development, and economic growth. Each week, we provide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

SPORTS

McCullar places 7th at Reno Tournament of Champions

By Robert Perea

Fernley's Riley McCullar became the first Fernley wrestler to place in the high school boys division at the Reno Tournament of Champions, with a seventh place finish at 175 pounds last weekend.

McCullar, a senior and returning 3A state champion, won six consecutive matches after losing his opening match before ultimately winning in the medal round.

"As a dad I couldn't be more proud of him and as a coach he deserves it," Fernley coach Jake McCullar said. "He works hard and it's paying off."

The tournament included more than 100 teams from 31 different states.

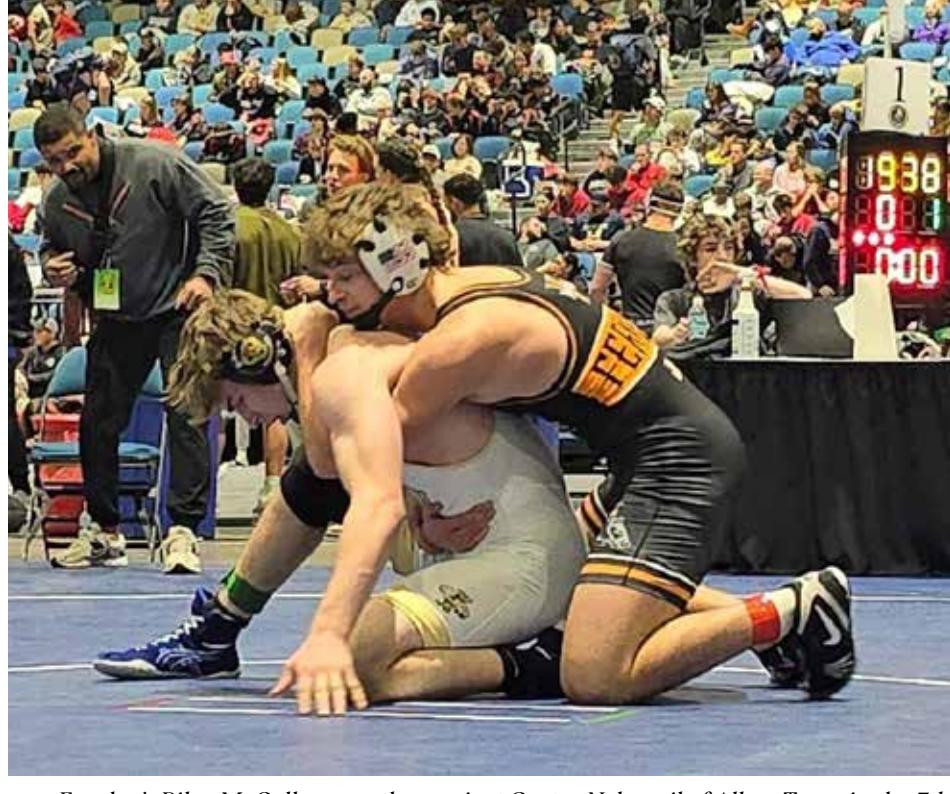
McCullar was tied with Niko Rotella of Omaha (Neb.) Skutt Catholic at 7-7 in his first match when Rotella pinned him at 5:46. But he bounced back to pin Evan Kincheloe of Nampa, Idaho, pin Micah Olsen of Northridge, UT, then he won a 13-1 major decision over Clay Heuer of Arlington, WA and a 14-1 major decision over Quinn Mosch of

Poway, CA. In the consolation quarterfinals he beat Tavier Garcia of Canyon View, AZ 10-4 and pinned Santiago Cabrera of SLAM after building a 12-0 lead. In the consolation semifinals, McCullar lost by technical fall to Isaak Chavez of Mullen, CO, placing him in the seventh place match, where he beat Nekvapil 4-3.

McCullar has committed to play college football at the university of Montana Western, but he is starting to receive interest from college wrestling coaches as well.

The program also sent several wrestlers to Lovelock to compete in a tournament and had several medal winners. Tournament champions were Archie Mendez, Jocelyn Escartin and Calvin Bacon. Josue Padilla was a tournament runner-up. Third-place finishers were Clayton Degoyer, Faith Mhondo, Brayden Cruz and Keon Kreller. Fourth-place finishers were Brendon Magill, Heath Davis and Wyatt McGinnis.

Next week the Vaqueros will compete in the Sierra Nevada Classic in Reno on Dec. 29-30.



Fernley's Riley McCullar wrestles against Carter Nekvapil of Allen, Texas in the 7th place match of the 175-pound weight class at the Reno Tournament of Champions.

Photo by Leanne Cruz, Cruz Down Memory Lane Photography

Vaqueros blast Incline, rally past Spanish Springs

By Robert Perea

After coming short in crunch time in games against Mojave and Bishop Manogue the previous two weeks, the Fernley High School boys basketball team turned that around in a big way against Spanish Springs.

The Vaqueros rallied from a 10-point first half deficit and dominated the fourth quarter in a 54-43 win last Friday night.

Bryce Dunagan-Stephens scored 19 points and Sheldon Jacobson added 15 to lead the Vaqueros.

A hot-shooting first quarter got the Cougars off to a 19-9 lead, with 12 of those points coming off of 3-pointers. But the Vaqueros clamped down on defense in the second quarter and got their own offense going, taking a 25-24 halftime lead on a 3-pointer by Jacobson with 6 seconds left in the quarter.

With the Vaqueros leading 35-32 heading into the fourth quarter, the

Vaqueros got 3-pointers by Skyler Ledesma-James, Stephens and Jacobson to kickstart a run that put them up 51-27 with 2:14 left in the game.

In their other game last week, the Vaqueros rolled past Incline, 64-29 in a Northern 3A crossover game.

After leading 22-12 heading into the second quarter, the Vaqueros outscored the Highlanders 22-1 for a 44-13 advantage.

Stephens led the Vaqueros with 18 points, Jacobson scored 11 and Leland Ketelaar added 10 points.

This week the Vaqueros are playing in the 35th Holiday Classic in San Diego, CA, which features five different divisions. Fernley is in the American Division, which is hosted at Carlsbad High School. They play at 8:35 p.m. Friday against ALA-West Foothills (AZ). In their second game, they would play either St. Monica or Lincoln (Stockton, CA). The 16-team bracket also includes Bishop Manogue and Douglas.



Fernley's Sheldon Jacobson was honored during last Tuesday's game against Incline for scoring his 1,000th career point earlier this season. Pictured with him are his parents Rob and DeAnn. Photo courtesy of Fernley High School

Vaqueros ride defense to easy win over Incline

By Robert Perea

The Fernley High School girls basketball team rolled out to a big lead behind a suffocating defense in a 58-10 win over Incline on Dec. 16.

The Vaqueros shut out Incline in the first and fourth quarters, and got plenty of playing time for their reserves, with 10 different players scoring at least two points.

Taylor Tollestrup led the way with 16 points and 11 rebounds. Tatiana Velazquez and Lillianna Young both scored eight points, while Laura Rosales, Justice Martell-Artiaga and

Zaelynn Wasson had six points each.

"All the girls got some minutes and did some pretty good things, especially on our defense," coach Ralph Dunn said.

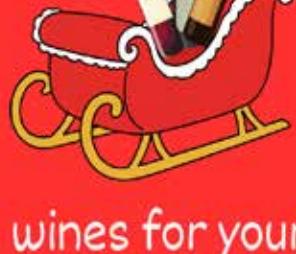
The Vaqueros still had trouble finishing shots close to the basket, making 28 of 76 2-point field goal attempts, and were 0-9 on 3-point tries.

The Vaqueros are now 9-1 overall, and resume play Saturday in the Hug Tournament, facing Hug at 9 a.m. Saturday. The tournament continues Monday and Tuesday next week, with a game against Carson at 10:30 a.m. Monday and at 1:20 p.m. Tuesday against Yerington.



Fernley's Justice Martell-Artiaga puts up a shot during the Dec. 16 game against Incline.

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COMMUNITY COLUMNS

A weary world rejoices: Christ

By Phil Christian

Advent leads us step by step—through hope, love, joy, and peace—toward its ultimate focus: Christ. All the themes of Advent find their fulfillment in Him. Without Christ, these virtues would be inspiring ideas; with Christ, they become lived realities.

In a season when cultural celebrations often overshadow spiritual meaning, Advent calls us to remember the center of it all—the arrival of God with us. The Gospel of Matthew quotes the ancient prophecy: “They will call Him Immanuel—which means, ‘God with us’” (Matthew 1:23). These three words contain the heart of Advent. God is not distant. God is not indifferent. God is with us—in our joy, in our sorrow, in our weariness.

A weary world doesn't simply need better circumstances; it needs presence. And the message of Advent is that God has come close.

Christ enters the world not in power or spectacle, but in vulnerability—in a manger, in a small town,

to ordinary people. His birth reveals something profound about God's heart: God meets us where we are, not where we pretend to be. He comes into humility, into mess, into the real world of real people.

Jesus' life continued this pattern. He moved toward the hurting, the overlooked, the exhausted, the brokenhearted. He brought hope to those who felt forgotten, love to those who felt unworthy, joy to those crushed by sorrow, and peace to those overwhelmed by fear. His presence transformed lives then, and His presence still does today.

Colossians 1:17 says, “In Him all things hold together.” For many, this is deeply comforting. When life feels scattered or uncertain, Christ holds what we cannot. He sustains, guides, strengthens, and restores. He invites us into a relationship not of obligation, but of grace.

Yet Advent also reminds us that Christ's coming was only the beginning. His birth points forward—to His teachings, His compassion, His

sacrifice, and ultimately His resurrection. Through Christ, God offers not just comfort but transformation. He brings light into darkness and invites us to walk in it.

So how do we center our hearts on Christ during Advent?

First, we remember. We retell the story, not as a distant event, but as a present hope. We reflect on what it meant for God to draw near in human form. We sit with the truth that Christ understands our humanity because He lived it.

Second, we receive. Christ offers rest to the weary, forgiveness to the guilty, purpose to the wandering, and hope to the discouraged. Advent is an invitation to receive these gifts with open hands.

Third, we respond. When Christ is at the center, our lives begin to reflect Him. We become bearers of hope, ambassadors of love, people of joy, and makers of peace. Christ doesn't just change our beliefs; He reshapes our way of being in the world.

In John 1:5, we read, “The light

shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.” This is Advent's promise. The darkness is real—but it is not final. Christ is the light that continues to shine, no matter how heavy or fractured the world may feel.

As Advent concludes, the final message is clear: Christ is the reason we can rejoice at all. Our hope has substance because Christ came. Our love has power because Christ first loved us. Our joy has depth because Christ brings good news. Our peace has strength because Christ reigns.

A weary world rejoices not because life is suddenly easy, but because Christ is here—with us and for us. Advent invites us to open our hearts once again to this truth: the Savior has come, and because of Him, the weary can rejoice.

Phil Christian is the campus pastor of Summit Church in Fernley

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

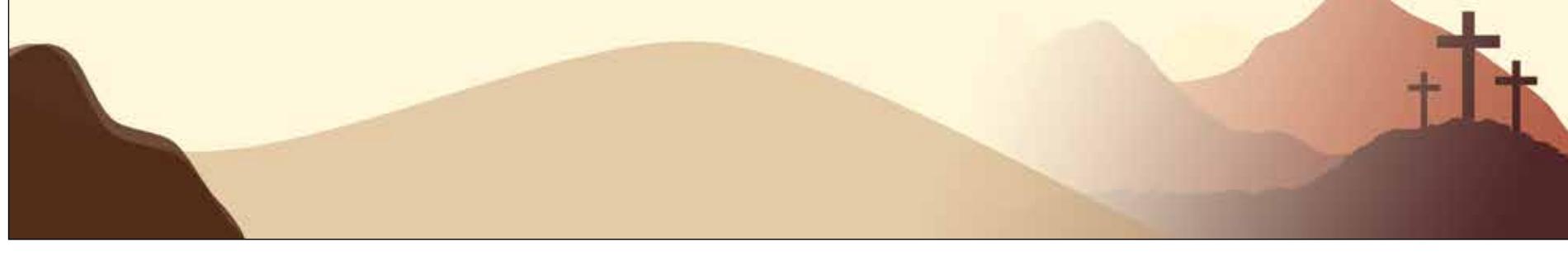
Joy! Alliance Fellowship
www.facebook.com/JOYchurchFernley

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



Food for thought

By Sherry Perea

Spiced Chai Tea

Baby, it's cold outside! Wintry weather is here. Brew up a piping-hot cup of this spiced chai tea to warm yourself up. It's spicy and sweet with just the right balance of both. Brew yourself a cup and enjoy!

Ingredients

- 8-10 Cardamom seeds
- 8-10 Whole clove
- 5 Black peppercorns
- 3 Cinnamon Sticks
- 1-1/4-Inch piece of fresh ginger
- 1 Teaspoon Vanilla
- 2-1/2 Tablespoons raw honey
- 2 Cups milk
- 1-3/4 Cups water
- 2 Teaspoons (rounded) broad black leaf black tea leaves

Instructions

1. Add cardamom seeds, cloves and peppercorns into a baggie and crush for full flavor.
2. Add the crushed seed combination, cinnamon sticks, fresh ginger, milk and water into a medium sized pot and bring it to a boil.
3. Remove the pot from the heat and add the tea leaves and steep for 5-10 minutes depending on desired strength.
4. Add the vanilla and raw honey, stir until honey is melted.
5. Strain and serve. Add more honey to taste if you prefer a sweeter tea.

Enjoy!

Sherry Perea has nearly 20 years' experience managing restaurants and creating 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.



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.

PETS OF THE WEEK

Stripes & Missy are seeking a home for the holidays!

We are Stripes(m) & Missy (f). We are 8 mos young. We are loving, friendly, playful little kittens. We have been waiting for our furrever families to come along and give us homes for the Holidays and forever after. We are fixed, vaccinated and microchipped. If you would like to set up an appointment to meet us, please call and leave a message with your contact info and Barbara will call you back asap! (775) 575-0950.



Precious Paws Society of Nevada is your local Fernley rescue.



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



PET OF THE WEEK

Koda is looking for his forever home!

Koda is a Border Collie mix and a sweet boy. Koda came in as a stray and is believed to be 3-8 years old. Koda patiently awaits a loving family to whisk him away! He loves to play with other dogs. Because he came in as an unclaimed stray, we don't know about any history with kids or cats. Contact us for more info!

You can contact the Lyon County Animal Services 775-577-5005. They are located at 3705 Highway 50 West in Silver Springs, NV

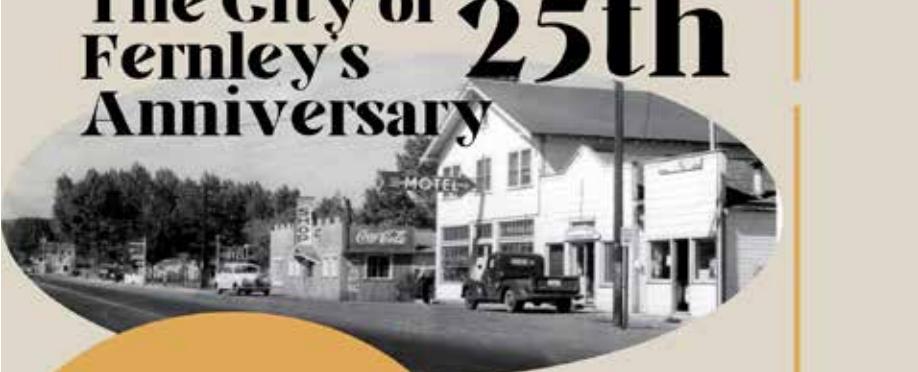


Lyon County Animal Shelter
3705 Highway 50 West in Silver Springs, NV 89429
775-577-5005

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The City of Fernley's 25th Anniversary



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Does your company want
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CONTACT
JESSICA
MURDOCK
FOR MORE
INFORMATION

jmurdock@cityoffernley.org
or 775-784-9850



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The Corner Niche

Fernley Swimming Pool

State Farm – Dan Glass Agency

REMAX at the Golf Course