

Fernley ceremony links generations at Wreaths Across America

By Robert Perea

Nevada Veterans Coalition President Rich Crombie opened his remarks at last Saturday's Wreaths Across America ceremony by thanking those in attendance who brought their children.

Along with military cemeteries across the nation, the Nevada Veterans Coalition has hosted Wreaths Across America at the Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Fernley since 2007, to remember and honor those who served.

But Crombie said there's another component to that mission.

"We appreciate that because that's the motto of Wreaths Across America: Remember, honor, and teach," Crombie said. "Today we show a united front of gratitude and respect across the United States as we remember the fallen, honor those who serve and their families, and teach the next generation the value of freedom."

Three generations of Steve Bell's family took that to heart.

Along with his daughter and son-in-law Shannon and Lucas Clark and their children, John and Cassidy, they laid a wreath on the grave of Steve's parents Robert and Virginia Bell and



Shannon Clark and her children John and Cassidy place wreaths during last Saturday's Wreaths Across America ceremony at the Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Fernley. Photo by Robert Perea

several others.

"Which flag was yours?" John Clark asked his grandfather, looking toward the flags representing each branch of the U.S. military flying above the columbarium wall at the northern edge of the cemetery.

Richard Bell served as an infantryman in World War II, and then was

part of the occupation forces in Japan at the end of the war. Steve Bell served as a door gunner in the Navy in the southern tip of Vietnam.

Robert Bell died in 2017, and Steve Bell said he and his family have been coming every year since.

Watching other children ask questions, Crombie said the meaning

of the event seems to grow stronger every year.

"That's what it is," Crombie said. "It spurs interest and you tell stories and maybe then they'll grow older and they'll be grandpa one day and tell their own stories. It's about honor and country, and it doesn't matter religion or what faith you have or anything. It's the idea we're all fighting to keep this country safe and the American way of life, and these are the people that, whether they died in wartime of peacetime, they still served and gave of themselves and their families sacrificed."

During the ceremony, representatives of each branch of the United States armed forces, each escorted by a U.S. Navy Sea Cadet, placed a wreath at the seal and flag of their respective service to honor those who served and are serving, and in honor of the 93,129 United States servicemen and women from all branches whose last known status was either prisoners of war or missing in action.

Before releasing the crowd to lay their own wreaths, Crombie asked them to say the name on the grave or the columbarium wall aloud.

Continued on PAGE 5 - WREATHS...

'Shop with a Sheriff' brings Christmas joy to Lyon County kids

By Robert Perea

The Lyon County Sheriff's Office hosted its largest "Shop with a Sheriff" event last Saturday, bringing Christmas cheer to the families of 53 children.

The Sheriff's Office partnered with Lyon County Human Services, Fernley American Heritage Girls, North Lyon Fire, Walmart, citizens from all over the county and, of course, Santa and Mrs. Claus, for its annual event to take underprivileged children Christmas shopping.

"The event has grown substantially over the past couple of years, and this year we were fortunate enough to work with 53 kids from all over Lyon County," Chief Deputy Mitch Brantingham said. "It was an incredible



Lyon County Sheriff's Deputies, Volunteer's in Policing, North Lyon Firefighters and volunteers from the Fernley American Heritage Girls joined Santa and Mrs. Claus to help make Christmas special for 53 kids at the Shop with a Sheriff event at Fernley Walmart last Saturday. Photo courtesy of LCSO

Continued on PAGE 3 - SHOP..

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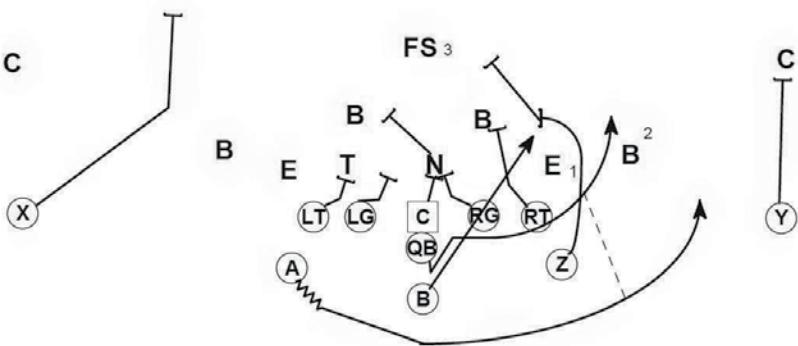
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LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

The Inside Veer



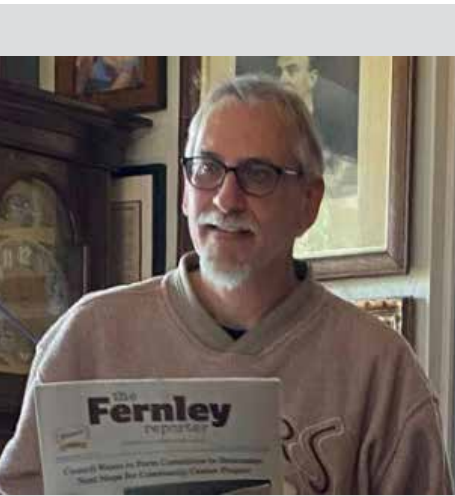
Christmas beyond the red and green

This is the time of year when the world sparkles in red and green, and the word Christmas seems to pop up in almost every conversation. But this column isn't really about Christmas. At least, not in the way you might expect.

This is the time of year when the holidays transform the calendar into a parade of traditions, but as I get older and my expectations change, it's not the presents, the tree, or the relentless playlist of carols that sums it up for me.

While there are obviously exceptions, my favorite part of the Christmas season has become the smaller, less obvious things. It's the small acts of kindness you see, the fleeting warmth in a stranger's smile when you say hello, in a situation where neither one of you would probably have even noticed each other at a different time of year.

I don't know if it's the influence of social media leaking into real life, or whether we are just losing our way as a people, but life seems so much more adversarial these days than it ever did before. Maybe it's always been this way, but our personal bubbles were smaller, so we didn't see as much. Like it's not necessarily occurring more, just that we're more aware.



ROBERT PEREA

Whatever the reason, that's why the small gestures stand out to me. These kinds of moments don't usually trend online, but they remind me what community looks like when we strip away the noise.

Don't get me wrong. I enjoy all the festive red and green, the presents and the carols as much as the next person, but that seems increasingly like makeup.

But underneath the makeup is the face of the community itself. That's what I've come to enjoy most about the season. Not the noise, the playlists, the glitter, but the pause it creates when we can see each other more clearly, and remember that community is made of small gestures repeated over time.

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

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Fernley Women's Golf Club Results, Dec. 9

- Game: T's & S's
- 1st: Linda Garrett, 33
- 2nd: Patty Liljeberg, 34
- 3rd: Val Montgomery, 36
(3/way card-off)
- Low Putts: Juneil Key, 31
- Closest to Hole #7:
Jana Garner, 28'6"
- Chip-In: Terry Richter, #14

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

New Year’s Eve Top Gun Xtreme Bull Riding is back

By Leanna Lehman

Dust off your boots and grab your hats. It’s almost that time of year when Busted Up Productions brings some of the Professional Cowboy Rodeo Association’s roughest, toughest bull riders to Rafter 3C in Fallon, all ready to take their chances on some of the sport’s biggest, baddest bulls.

The Roughy Top Gun New Year’s Eve Bull Riding is hosted by Nevada native Chad Denton. A former professional bull rider and National Finals Rodeo qualifier, Chad, who grew up in Round Mountain, knows firsthand what it means to chase rodeo dreams from rural Nevada.

Chad says bull riding grabbed hold of him early. “I started going to junior rodeos and then high school rodeos throughout Nevada ... I hit the professional ranks and moved up from there. I qualified for the NFR once, and the PBR [Professional Bull Riders organi-

zation] world finals three times,” Chad noted. “I rode in the PBR for many years. I made a living doing it, and really chased my dreams.”

That career came to an abrupt end when Chad broke his leg in the eighth round of the National Finals Rodeo. After retiring at 33, he transitioned to another high-risk profession, becoming a professional firefighter. But even as his riding days ended, a new idea took hold: bringing a high-caliber Xtreme bull riding event home to Nevada.

“From Round Mountain, it was a long way to go to any professional event,” Chad explained. “Pretty much the only thing was Reno Rodeo. I could go to the NFR, of course, but I couldn’t ever get tickets to that as a kid.”

With encouragement from friends in Fallon, Chad decided to build something for “kids like me, from the middle of nowhere.” The result was Busted

Continued on PAGE 6 - TOP GUN...



2024 Top Gun bull rider making a picture-perfect ride.
Photo by Wild Red Photography.

Continued from FRONT - SHOP...

event that highlighted the Christmas season for everyone involved.”

The Sheriff’s Office raises money throughout the year for the event through fundraisers and donations, then the deputies and firefighters help the children shop for presents

for themselves and their families. The event also helps foster positive interaction between youth and Sheriff’s deputies, while spreading the spirit of Christmas to those in need.

The children are selected through a process that includes Lyon County Human Services to identify children who would benefit from the event.



Lyon County Sheriff’s Office Volunteers in Policing help bag presents at the checkout lanes during Shop with a Sheriff at Fernley Walmart last Saturday.
Photo courtesy of LCSO



A Lyon County Sheriff’s deputy and a young shopper look at a Christmas list during Shop with a Sheriff at Fernley Walmart last Saturday. Photo courtesy of LCSO

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

WNC expanding nursing education opportunities in Fallon

Courtesy of WNC Public Relations

Western Nevada College is expanding nursing education opportunities in rural Nevada through a major renovation of the Piñon Building on its Fallon campus. Design and permitting are already underway, and construction will begin in January 2026.

When complete, the upgraded space will include modern clinical training areas, advanced simulation labs, and dedicated study and testing rooms, giving nursing students in Fallon greater access to hands-on learning close to home.

“In speaking about the expansion at our Advisory Board meetings, our clinical partners are excited about the prospect of educating more nurses in the rural community,” said WNC Nursing and Allied Health Director Dr. Audrey Auer.

Currently, WNC accommodates eight Associate of Applied Science Nursing students in Fallon, many of whom travel 140 miles roundtrip to Carson City to complete required coursework. Once the renovation is complete, the campus will be able to

serve 24 first-year and 24 second-year nursing students, significantly increasing access to healthcare education for students in Churchill County and surrounding areas.

“The goal is for Fallon students to have all required classes held on the Fallon campus,” Dr. Auer said. “The expansion will provide additional lab and simulation space and also open the potential for recruiting more students from Fallon and the surrounding areas.”

This project is made possible through support from the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) and generous philanthropic investments from the William N. Pennington Foundation and the E.L. Cord Foundation provided through the WNC Foundation. Their commitment to strengthening Nevada’s rural healthcare workforce has played a vital role in moving this project forward.

WNC President Dr. J. Kyle Dalpe emphasized the importance of this milestone.

“This renovation represents a tremendous investment in the future of healthcare in rural Nevada,” Dr.



Western Nevada College is expanding its nursing program on it Fallon campus. Photo courtesy of WNC

Dalpe said. “The organizations that support this project recognize how vital it is for local students to access education close to home. Together, we are expanding opportunities and strengthening the pipeline of skilled professionals who will care for our communities.”

FCTA awards \$79,612.33 in grant funds for community events

Staff Report

The Fernley Convention and Tourism Authority awarded \$79,612.33 in grant funding to nine community organizations for events to promote tourism. Proposals brought before the board ranged from public markets to heavy metal concerts.

The Fernley Convention and Tourism Authority was established in 2011 with the objective to distribute funds from collected Transient Lodging Taxes to special event organizers to better promote tourism in Fernley. These grants are intended to be seed money to foster the development of special events which will bring people to Fernley and stay in local hotels, shop at local businesses, eat at local restaurants and fuel up at local stations.

The awards granted during the FCTA Dec. 8 meeting were:

- Fernley Youth Softball Tournaments - \$15,500 for the Memorial Day Classic tournaments
- Fernley Jr. High and High School Rodeo - \$11,000 for the Fernley Jr. High and High School Rodeo
- Reno Over the Hill Gang - \$6,700 for the Reno OTHG 2026 Motocross Nationals
- Nevada Veterans Coalition - \$6,400 for the Memorial Day event at the Veterans Cemetery
- Fernley Community Foundation - \$4,000 for Foundation Fridays
- Fernley Art & Culture Event Squad (ACES) - \$13,333.33 for the InFERNo concert
- Danielle Donica - \$5,279 for the Public Market
- Fernley 4th of July - \$10,000 for the Fernley Fourth of July celebration
- Boys & Girls Club - \$7,400 for Passport to Party

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COMMUNITY

Continued from FRONT - WREATHS...

“And remember, we’re not here to-day to decorate graves, and these are not Christmas wreaths,” Crombie said.



Volunteers help open boxes of wreaths. Photo by Robert Perea



Fred Hernandez and Mary Sedgewick of the Nevada Veterans Coalition lay a wreath in honor of the 93,129 United States Servicemen and women from all branches of the services whose last known status was either Prisoners of War or Missing in Action. Photo by Robert Perea



Twenty-year Air Force veteran Staff Sgt. Wade Hollis, and Navy Sea cadet Lucia Perez prepare to lay a wreath in memory of those who served in the U.S. Air Force. Photo by Robert Perea

Public input sought for Nevada outdoor recreation planning

Staff Report

The Nevada Division of State Parks and the Nevada Division of Outdoor Recreation need your input on outdoor recreation in Nevada. The Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) is a ten-year plan that establishes priorities

to address unmet needs for public outdoor recreation land throughout Nevada. This plan establishes criteria for funding outdoor recreation projects in Nevada, through the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) program, and guides the acquisition and development of public parks,

trails, and other outdoor recreation sites. Public input is crucial for developing a comprehensive plan that addresses Nevada’s outdoor recreation needs. Please take this survey and share this survey with everyone! If you don’t live in Nevada but visit often

to utilize public land and recreation, you are also welcome to take it! [Parks.nv.gov/about/grant-programs/land-and-water-conservation-fund](https://parks.nv.gov/about/grant-programs/land-and-water-conservation-fund) For questions or comments regarding the SCORP or the survey, please email Janice Keillor, at jkeillor@parks.nv.gov.



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BUSINESS

Continued from PAGE 3 - TOP GUN...

Up Productions and its signature event, the Top Gun Invitational Bull Riding, held once a year in Fallon, even though Chad now lives and works in Northern California.

The first Top Gun Bull Riding kicked off in 2022. Now in its fourth year, Chad continues finding new ways to elevate the experience for fans. This year, he has partnered with Frey Ranch Distillery to introduce a new premium seating area, The Frey Ranch Corral, offering prime arena views along with two Frey Ranch cocktails per ticket.

VIP tables, which sell out every year, have also expanded, with 10 additional tables added for 2025. Troy's Double Shot Bar is handling the bars for the event and catering the VIP dinner, which is expected to serve around 600 guests.

According to Chad, by the time the bull riding started last year, stadium seating had completely sold out, leaving standing-room-only tickets for late arrivals. With tickets selling earlier this year, Chad encourages fans to purchase tickets in advance and avoid waiting at the doors.

On the production side, Chad is bringing in three top-tier stock contractors: Four Star, Western, and Legacy Rodeo. The event is sanctioned as a PRCA Division 1 Xtreme Bulls Event, drawing elite riders from across the country.

In addition to standard prize

money, Chad has added \$35,000 to the payout and will pay five places. Riders who score in the main event advance to the short go-round. Judges will combine scores from both rounds, with the two-ride average determining the top finishers of the night.

Following the bull riding action, country artist Chad Bushnell will take the stage at the Rafter 3C, keeping the New Year's Eve celebration rolling well past the final buzzer.

The fun starts even earlier with a pre-party at The Grid on Tuesday, Dec. 30, at 6 p.m. Chad is bringing in live music from Dwayne Hargo, a Northern California bullfighter and the son of a world champion bull rider. Hargo describes himself as a “bull-hand and wanna-be musician,” and promises an entertaining kickoff to the event.

The pre-party will also feature a Calcutta-style team auction in which teams are auctioned off prior to the competition, with buyers earning payouts based on how their teams place. Last year's Calcutta paid first and second place winners a total of \$7,941. Proceeds from the auction benefit Nevada Bighorns Unlimited.

Fans are encouraged to come early on New Year's Eve to check out the western vendor market and catch up with old friends. Doors open at 5:30 p.m., VIP dinner at 6 p.m., and bull riding at 8 p.m.

Tickets are available in person at Les Schwab, 3-D Shipping, and The Grid, or online at www.bustedupproductions.com




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REGIONAL NEWS

Farm Bureau urges Nevada producers to email Congress

By Sydney Trainor

More than 4,600 messages have been sent to Congress through the American Farm Bureau Federation's (AFBF) Action Request platform, as agricultural producers nationwide call for financial relief amid rising input costs and weak market prices.

According to AFBF staff who manage the platform, the emails are intended to emphasize the growing financial pressure facing farmers operating with negative margins. This challenge is driven by record-high production costs and commodity prices that remain below break-even levels.

Farm Bureau leaders expressed appreciation recently in their monthly newsletter for Nevada members who have already contacted their congressional representatives and the state's two U.S. senators, while encouraging others to add their voices. The organization is urging producers to use the Farm Bureau's online email tool, which provides a prewritten message that can be customized with personal details. Members are encouraged to explain how current economic conditions are affecting their own operations and to highlight that agricultural challenges extend beyond commonly cited Midwestern commodities.

Farm Bureau leaders emphasized that personalized emails carry greater weight than form responses. Messages that clearly describe skyrocketing input costs, declining market prices, and the absence of safety-net programs help lawmakers understand the depth of the issue across regions and commodities.

According to the Nevada Farm Bu-

reau Federation's weekly newsletter, "All agricultural producers impacted by rising costs and below break-even prices need help," stressing that congressional action is needed to prevent further strain on family farms and rural economies.

Write an email and make your voice heard by going to the Farm Bureau website at fb.org/action-center.



The American Farm Bureau is urging members to email Congress to explain how current economic conditions are affecting their own operations and to highlight that agricultural challenges extend beyond commonly cited Midwestern commodities. Photo Courtesy of UNR Cooperative Extension

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Ad # 2515

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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 ¼ 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 ½ 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.

DATED this 4 day of December, 2025. /s/ Alice S. Denton, Esq. State Bar No. 8420 Patrick S. Denton, Esq. State Bar No. 15399 411 E. Bonneville Ave., #300 Las Vegas, NV 89101 (702) 384-1723 filings@dentoncho.com Attorneys for Executor
Published in The Fernley Reporter
December 12, December 19, 26, 2025

Ad #2516



County Commission approves temporary clerk position for Fernley Justice Court

By Robert Perea

The Lyon County Commission approved a request for a temporary clerk position in the Canal Township Justice Court during its Dec. 4 meeting.

Justice of the Peace Lori Matheus requested the position due to the loss of two full-time clerks in 2025, and

the one remaining employee being on intermittent Family and Medical Leave. Her request stated that even with partial consolidation and the shared use of Fernley Municipal Court clerks, staffing levels remain temporarily insufficient. The city employs only three clerks, one of whom was also on intermittent leave prior to her resignation.

As a result, both courts are temporarily operating under significant strain, Matheus said.

The temporary position will be funded by fees the court collects and deposits into its special revenue fund. The court will play \$25 per hour for approximately 988 total hours over a 6- to 12-month period

Fernley students honored at SkillsUSA conference

Staff Report

Four Fernley High School SkillsUSA Chapter officers earned the Statesman's Pin at the Fall Leadership Conference last week in Elko.

The students honored were Vice President Issabella Wolverton, Secretary Trista Wyant, Treasurer Madeline Ditrich and Reporter Liliana Jackson.

This award is only given at Fall Leadership and recognizes exceptional leadership, professionalism, and commitment to SkillsUSA's mission of developing career-ready, community-minded student leaders.

SkillsUSA is a national career and technical student organization helping students to become skilled professionals, strong leaders, and responsible community members.



Fernley High School SkillsUSA Chapter officers Vice President Issabella Wolverton, Secretary Trista Wyant, Treasurer Madeline Ditrich and Reporter Liliana Jackson earned the Statesman's Pin at the Fall Leadership Conference last week in Elko. Photo courtesy of Lyon County School District

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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.8 –Dec. 14, 2025

MACKEY, MICHAEL – Area: Dayton, Bail: \$3,230.00, Charges: Disobey Peace Officer; Proof of Insurance Required; Driving with Revoked Driver’s License; Fictitious Vehicle Registration/Plate/Title; Speeding 11–15 mph over limit

CHOMES, WILLIAM – Area: Dayton, Bail: \$26,140.00, Charges: Grand Larceny (\$100,000+); Buy/Possess/Receive Stolen Property (<\$1200)

BOARDMAN, MICHAEL – Area: Dayton, Bail: \$1,505.00, Charges: Failure to Appear on Traffic Citation

WILCOX, BRANDON – Area: LYSO, Bail: \$0.00, Charges: Order to Produce

MYERS, JOANIE – Area: Fernley, Bail: \$5,000.00, Charges: Intimidate Public Officer/Others, with Threat of Force (1st)

STRATTON, JOHN – Area: Fernley, Bail: \$3,140.00, Charges: Domestic Battery (1st)

RENFRO, CHRISTOPHER – Area: LYSO, Bail: \$300,000.00, Charges: DUI with Death

DICKINSON, GWENDALYN – Area: Silver Springs, Bail: \$0.00, Charges: Felony Arrest for Violation of Condi-

tions of Parole

HERRERA-ROSAS, SALVADOR –Area: Fernley, Bail: \$2,500.00, Charges: Injure/Tamper with Vehicle (\$250–\$5000 damage)

JEFFCOAT, CODY – Area: LYSO, Bail: \$0.00, Charges: Court Commitment

DAVIS, MICHAEL – Area: Fernley. Bail: \$6,215.00, Charges: Possess Schedule I/II Controlled Substance <14g (1st/2nd); Use/Possess Drug Paraphernalia; False Statement to/Obstruct Public Officer; Assist other Agency – Hold; Failure to Appear After Bail (Misdemeanor Crime)

WILHELM, BEN – Area: Dayton, Bail: \$1,555.00, Charges: DUI (1st); Fail to Yield at Stop/Yield Sign or Controlled Intersection

GREEN, AUSTIN – Area: Silver Springs, Bail: \$4,280.00, Charges: Criminal Contempt (Failure to Obey Court Order); Possess Schedule I/II Controlled Substance <14g (1st/2nd); Use/Possess Drug Paraphernalia

CUMMINGS, JEREMY – Area: Fernley, Bail: \$1,140.00, Charges: DUI (1st)

DOUTRE, JAMES – Area: LYSO, Bail:

\$2,500.00, Charges: Criminal Contempt (Failure to Obey Court Order)

CORIA-FLORES, MARTIN – Area: Fernley, Bail: \$940.00, Charges: Failure to Appear on Traffic Citation

ADCOCK, ROBERT – Area: Silver Springs, Bail: \$3,140.00, Charges: Domestic Battery (1st)

KIDD, ALEXANDER – Area: Fernley, Bail: \$2,500.00, Charges: Criminal Contempt

LUDD, DARIUS – Area: Silver Springs, Bail: \$2,500.00, Charges: Provide False/Fictitious Info on Vehicle Registration Application

HEBERLE, ROBERT – Area: LYSO, Bail: \$20,895.00, Charges: Assist Other Agency Hold; Battery with Deadly Weapon, Resulting in Substantial Bodily Harm

VELAZQUEZ-ALMEIDA, RAMIRO – Area: Mason Valley, Bail: \$5,345.00 Charges: Driving Without License; Fictitious Vehicle Registration/Plate/Title; Proof of Insurance Required; Assist Other Agency Hold

BARKER, JACK – Area: Dayton, Bail: \$850.00, Charges: Failure to Appear on Traffic Citation

BERNAL, ALEXANDER – Area: LYSO, Bail: \$1,460.00, Charges: Failure to Appear on Traffic Citation

VITUG, EVANGELINA – Area: LYSO, Bail: \$940.00, Charges: Failure to Appear on Traffic Citation

GALINDO, HENRY – Area: LYSO, Bail: \$0.00, Charges: Court Commitment

CRUZ, DANIEL – Area: Dayton, Bail: \$4,280.00, Charges: Domestic Battery (1st); False Statement to/Obstruct Public Officer

ROBINSON, MONICA – Area: Fernley, Bail: \$3,640.00, Charges: Possess Schedule I/II Controlled Substance <14g (1st/2nd); Use/Possess Drug Paraphernalia

PECINA, ADRIAN – Area: Mason Valley, Bail: \$2,335.00, Charges: Reckless Driving (Disregard Person/Property Safety, 1st); Driving Without License; Resist Public Officer

HICE, JEREMY – Area: Fernley, Bail: \$1,725.00, Charges: DUI (1st); Possess/Consume Marijuana in Public Place/Store/Vehicle; Open Alcohol Container in Vehicle; Fail to Use Appropriate Visual Signal

Schlegelmilch to seek third term as district judge; Aberasturi announces retirement plans

Staff Report

Judge John Schlegelmilch has announced his intention to seek his third term as the Third Judicial District Court Judge in Department I. Schlegelmilch was originally elected to the position in 2014, and re-elected in 2020. He has served on a wide range of Judicial Improvement Commissions, and is currently serving on the Nevada Judicial Council and as Chairman of the Sierra Region of Judges. Schlegelmilch was certified as one of the original Nevada Water Law District Judges in the state.

“It has been an honor and a pleasure to serve the people of Lyon County as their District Judge for the past 11 years,” he said. “I am committed


to providing swift, equal and exact justice for our residents now and into the future.”

A Nevada resident since 1981, Schlegelmilch graduated from Incline High School and the University of Nevada, Reno, graduating with honors in 1988. Following his completion of law school at Willamette University, he moved to Lyon County in 1991 and began his professional career as a deputy District Attorney. In 1995, Schlegelmilch was appointed Lyon County Chief Deputy District Attorney, a position he held until December, 2000, when he left the DA’s office and opened a private practice serving Lyon County.

Third Judicial District Department II Judge Leon Aberasturi has announced that he will retire at the end

of his term on Jan. 4, 2027, and will not run for reelection in 2026. Aberasturi was elected to the District Court in Department II in 2006, 2008, 2014 and 2020. Prior to being elected to the bench, he served as the Lyon County District Attorney and as a deputy district attorney, in Lander and Lyon counties.

“It has been a tremendous privilege to serve the residents of Lyon County over the past two decades,” Aberasturi said. “I will miss working with our phenomenal courthouse staff. I cannot adequately express my thanks to all the people who have supported my career. The friendships and professional relationships I’ve built in Lyon County are something I will cherish in retirement.”



Third Judicial District Court Judge John Schlegelmilch announced he will seek reelection for a third term. Photo courtesy of John Schlegelmilch

Contact Your Elected Officials

Senator Catherine Cortez Masto 202-224-3542 Cortezmast.senate.gov	Lyon County Commissioner - 3 Tammy Hendrix – Vice Chair 775-461-6223 thendrix@lyon-county.org	Fernley City Council Ward 4 Councilman Albert Torres 775-784-9853 atorres@cityoffernley.org	Lyon County School Board of Trustees District 7 - James Whisler james.whisler@lyoncsd.org
Senator Jacky Rosen 202-224-6244 Rosen.senate.gov	Lyon County Commissioner - 4 Robert Jacobson 775-240-7267 rjacobson@lyon-county.org	Fernley City Council Ward 5 Councilman Joe Mendoza 775-784-9800 jmendoza@cityoffernley.org	Lyon County Assessor Troy Villines 775-463-6520
Congressman Mark Amodei 775- 686-5760 Amodei.house.gov	City of Fernley Mayor Neal McIntyre 775-784-9857 mayor@cityoffernley.org	Lyon County School Board of Trustees District 1 - Sherry Parsons parsons.sherry@lyoncsd.org	Lyon County Clerk/Treasurer Staci Lindberg 775-463-6501
Nevada State Senator Robin Titus Minority Leader Robin.titus@sen.state.nv.us	Fernley City Council Ward 1 Councilman Ryan Hanan 775-784-9852 rhanan@cityoffernley.org	Lyon County School Board of Trustees District 2 - Darin Farr dfarr@lyoncsd.org	Lyon County Recorder Anita Talbot 775-463-6581
Nevada Assemblyman Greg Koenig, Assistant Minority Floor Leader North Gregory.koenig@asm.state.nv.us	Fernley City Council Ward 2 Councilwoman Felicity Zoberski 775-784-9855 fzoberski@cityoffernley.org	Lyon County School Board of Trustees District 4 Tom Hendrix – Board President hendrix.tom@lyoncsd.org	Third Judicial District Court Judge John P. Schlegelmilch 775-463-6571 Ext. 1
Lyon County Commissioner -1 John Cassinelli 775-461-6296 jcassinelli@lyon-county.org	Fernley City Council Ward 3 Councilman Stan Lau 775-784-9854 slau@cityoffernley.org	Lyon County School Board of Trustees District 5 - Elmer Bull elmer.bull@lyoncsd.org	Judge Leon Aberasturi 775-463-6571 Ext. 2
Lyon County Commissioner - 2 Scott Keller - Chair 775-661-6283 skeller@lyon-county.org		Lyon County School Board of Trustees District 6 - Bridget Peterson peterson.bridget@lyoncsd.org	Lyon County District Attorney Stephen Rye 775-463-6511
			Canal Township Justice Court Judge Lori Matheus 775-575-3355



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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

Vaqueros fall just short in battle of North’s top teams

By Robert Perea

The Fernley High School boys basketball team has spent the past four seasons chasing the state’s biggest prize, falling short in the 3A state tournament against talented Southern Nevada teams each time.

To try to get over that hump, coach Cade Knutson is pitting his team against some of the toughest competition he can find this season. For most of their last two Saturdays, the Vaqueros were every bit the equal, and then some, of two of the best teams in the state in any classification. But both times, they came up short at crunch time of games they led most of the way.

Last Saturday, it was Bishop Manogue, considered by consensus to be the best team in Northern Nevada, made more plays down the stretch, and pulled out a narrow 48-46 win in Fernley. A potential game-winning 3-pointer fired on the run by Sheldon Jacobson bounced off the front of the rim as time expired.

The Vaqueros led most of the game, including by as much as 14 late in the second quarter. Manogue closed the first half with an 8-0 run and steadily narrowed the margin until taking the lead 38-37 with 5:10 left in the game.

“It’s hard to say one possession lost you a game, but when there’s three and four and five possessions that didn’t go your way and they were close, the compilation of those, you know, determined results,” Knutson said. “For us, it’s about learning from these situations.”

The Vaqueros had runs of 9-0, 10-2 and 10-3 in the first half while building a 29-15 lead. Bryce Dunagan-Stephens had four 3-pointers and 18 of his game-high 26 points in that first half. Fern-

ley led 35-28 with 2:39 left in the third quarter, but that’s when the Miners went on a 10-2 run to take a 38-27 lead.

A free throw by Jacobson, who finished with 12 points, tied the game at 38 with 4:53 left, but Manogue’s Jamahl Jackson scored 8 seconds later, and the Miners never relinquished the lead. A 3-pointer by Stephens with 7.2 seconds left pulled Fernley within 47-46, but Manogue’s Kade Snyder hit one of two free throws with 5.2 seconds left and Jacobson’s shot at the buzzer came up just short.

Stephens and Jacobson combined for 38 of Fernley’s 46 points.

“We’ve got we got to be better offensively in kind of in crunch time situations there,” Knutson said. “We can’t just be like, throw it to Bryce and Sheldon and watch them and hope they make a play. I mean, they make a ton of plays throughout the game, but we as coaches, we have to be a little more creative with how we get them loose in crunch time situations.”

Stephens also drew the defensive assignment against Snyder, the 6-foot-8 son of former Nevada star Kirk Snyder who has signed with Nevada. Snyder led the Miners with 13 points, but Knutson was particularly proud of the defensive effort.

“Bryce, from an individual standpoint, guarding a Nevada commit, I mean, held him to 13 points, and I don’t know if two or four of them were easy,” Knutson said. “The rest of them were tough, so just a heck of an individual effort there, and then collectively, I think in the first half, we held them to 23 points, 40 something for the game.”

The previous Saturday, the Vaqueros led throughout against Mojave, one of the top teams in the Southern 5A, but a 3-pointer at the buzzer by



Fernley’s Bodie Parsons scores a basket during the Vaqueros’ season-opening win at Reno High on Nov. 29. Photo by Robert Perea

Mojave sent the game to overtime.

“We had a 10 minute film session just on the last two minutes of the Mojave game. where we had a lead, felt like we should win, and it didn’t happen for us,” Knutson said. “We’re doing things that are detrimental in close games that you’ve got to clean certain things up and we’ve got to get better at it.”

In between, the Vaqueros went to South Tahoe on Tuesday and brought home an 82-52 win in a Northern 3A crossover game. Jacobson had 24

points and Stephens had 22 for the Vaqueros, who built a 20-2 lead in the first quarter and cruised from there.

“I wouldn’t say we played a perfect game, but to win a road game by 30 against a team that just beat Elko by 17 last night, that’s a good win,” Knutson said. “

The Vaqueros were scheduled to host Incline in a Northern 3A crossover on Tuesday, then host Spanish Springs, another of the top Northern 4A teams, at 6 p.m. Friday.

Vaqueros finish 3rd in Shadow Ridge Duals



Fernley’s Calvin Bacon scores a takedown in overtime to win a match against a Bishop Manogue wrestler while his teammates react behind him during the Earl Wilkens Invitational in Fallon.

Photo courtesy of Leanne Cruz, Cruz Down Memory Lane Photography

By Robert Perea

The Fernley High School varsity boys wrestling team was the only Nevada school to finish in the top five of last weekend’s Shadow Ridge Duals in Las Vegas, placing third among 32 teams.

“I thought the boys wrestled really well and took another step in the right direction,” coach Jake McCullar said. “I was very proud of the boys, traveling to Vegas and maintaining focus is never an easy task.”

The girls team traveled to Reed to compete in the Nevada Queens Tournament. Fernley finished seventh out of 24 teams and had two medal winners. First year wrestler Faith Mhondo took third place and team captain Bronwynn Garret was a tournament champion.

The prep team traveled to McQueen for their tournament and

medaled 14 wrestlers. Medal winners were: Darius Carney (3rd), Daniel Hiles (2nd), Bryan Rotor (3rd), Ayden Stolle (4th), Ivan Arias (2nd), Roverto Robles (3rd), Landon Monahan (2nd), Elijah Perez (4th), Alex Davis (4th), and Hayden Williams (2nd). Tournament champions were Devin Soliman, Wyatt McGinnis, Matthew McDowell, and Keon Kreller.

The previous weekend, five wrestlers went undefeated as the boys varsity wrestling team finished with a 9-1 record in duals at the Earl Wilkens Invitational in Fallon.

Archie Mendez, Isaid Solis, Nathan Pritchard, Riley McCullar, and Calvin Bacon were all undefeated for the Vaqueros.

“I was very happy with all three levels considering it was a varsity tournament,” coach Jake McCullar said.

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SPORTS

Fernley girls bounce back from first loss with comeback win

By Robert Perea

With just 11 points on the board halfway through the third quarter last Friday night, the Fernley High School girls basketball team looked to be headed to its second loss in two nights after winning its first seven games. Then they put up 30 points in the next quarter and a half to surge past Galena 41-37 and improve their record to 8-1. The Vaqueros trailed 23-11 halfway through Friday night's third quarter, and even after they generated some offense, still trailed 31-23 going to the fourth quarter. And 37-32 with 2:21 left in the game, before reeling off the game's last nine points. "We swapped up the defense and kind of gave them fits," coach Ralph Dunn. "Today we didn't have any energy until we started pressing." The Vaqueros started getting steals out of their press, leading to scoring opportunities before Galena set its defense. Taylor Tollestrup scored 17 of her 22 points in the final 12 minutes of



Fernley's Justice Martell-Artiaga, Sophie Mossner and Laura Rosales trap Kloe Kist of Trinity during a game in the Spanish Springs Winter Tip Off on Dec. 6. Photo by Robert Perea

the game after watching shot after shot roll off the rim through the first two and half quarters. She scored seven points in the closing 9-0 run. "We were looking inside for her because she's pretty dominant," Dunn

said. The night before against Damonte Ranch had been a similar story, without the game-closing run. The Vaqueros trailed 24-12 with 5 minutes left in the third quarter, but a 13-3 run got

them back within 27-25 in their only fluid offensive stretch of the game. "We just couldn't buy a basket and we turned the ball over," Dunn said. Justice Martell- Artiaga led the Vaqueros with 14 points, while Tollestrup scored 7 and Laura Rosales had 6. On Dec. 9, the Vaqueros beat South Tahoe 50-25. Offense came much easier that night, as the Vaqueros out-scored the Vikings 20-2 in the first half and were up 34-8 at the half. Tollestrup scored 19 points and grabbed 13 rebounds, Martell-Artiaga scored 7 and Tatiana Velazquez had 6. Dunn said being in tight games down the stretch against good teams like Damonte Ranch and Galena will benefit the Vaqueros as the season progresses. "There's a lot of learning from them," he said. "We've just got to make a goal on getting to the regionals, which we should be able to, and then hopefully get to the next step." This week the Vaqueros were scheduled to host Incline in a Northern 3A crossover game on Tuesday.

FAITH

Advent season brings message of hope, peace, joy and love

By John Poundstone

Recently I had the honor of giving the invocation at our County Commissioners' regular public meeting. At one point I heard something like this come out of my mouth: "This holiday season may our Lyon County employees and citizens experience peace on earth and good will among one another." Those words are familiar to anyone who's had the Christmas Story read to them from the Gospel of Luke. They're some of the words the hordes of heavenly beings famously heralded at the nighttime birth of The Christ. A few shepherds in a dark part of the world were among those who were divinely blasted by them. During much of my younger life, circumstances betrayed such words. I experienced anything but peace on earth. As for goodwill from others—let alone from me toward others—was pretty lacking too. The holiday season only amplified and sharpened those things. I dreaded the last eight weeks of every year. And every year the sea-

son lived down to my expectations. That is, until a certain beautiful woman whom I later married changed everything one Christmas many years ago. Her circumstances at the time provided even less reason to experience hope, peace, joy and love than mine did. Yet, the opposite happened. Thanks to her, I experienced a Christmas that overflowed hope, peace, joy and love. Every year since (and that is many), through thick and thin, lack or plenty, easy or not, our Christmas-es have been uncommonly special. There is an atmosphere beyond what we create. A divine presence not of our own making is tangible. Hope, peace, joy, love. One of those headlines the marquee for each week of a four-week season leading up to Christmas. That season is known worldwide as Advent. This year Advent started Nov. 30. Tradition is that a candle is lit and the headline changes—typically on Sunday. Advent is an ancient tradition dating back hundreds of years. It was renewed in the 20th century, largely

because it was generally felt Christmas was becoming too commercialized and too crazy. We find ourselves now in the 21st century. You sure don't need my help to describe what's up with commercialization and chaos surrounding us nowadays. The DNA of Advent is actively, expectantly waiting. Awaiting what? An arrival. A little like standing at the bottom of the escalators at the Reno airport, stealing glances upward for a special someone to appear in the flesh. Simply waiting... but not passively. Sometimes faith is believing in the future. Sometimes it is believing the future in. Engaging in Advent often produces a certain, beyond human confidence that, even in the face of all that's going on around us and in us, okay-ness will arrive. That I am okay. And I will be. And I will become okay-er. I'm getting a bit long in the tooth. Many former times I put my faith in material things, habits, lifestyles, "ism's", people and more, all of which turned out to be hollow. For many

years now I have looked to, and have found in, the Person of Christ for the hope, peace, joy and love for which I so deeply yearned. God hardwires that deeper yearning for something more in every one of us. May I suggest the remaining days of Advent might be one place to start. Advent is not exclusive to churchgoers. It is available to all. That said, many of our area churches are a great place to begin your search, or to deepen it. Also, you probably know someone somewhere who seems to carry the hope, peace, joy and love of Jesus. I hope you will reach out. One way or another, I hope you find or return to actively, expectantly awaiting the arrival of the something more. May you and unshakeable, unending, divine hope, peace, joy and love find each other and grow together, this Christmas / New Year's season. I love you. Yes, you.

John Poundstone is the Senior Leader of Joy! Church.

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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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

Wally & Polly are seeking a home for the holidays!

Meet Wally(m) & Polly(f). We are a bonded pair of siblings. Polly has 6 toes on each paw (Polydactyl kitten). We are a very playful pair and love to cuddle and get lots of kisses which in turn we give lots of very loud purrs. We love to do zoomies around the house too. 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.



Wally



Precious Paws Society of NV | 1085 Aster Ln, Fernley, NV 89408

775-575-0950 | preciouspawssocietynv@gmail.com



PET OF THE WEEK

Gravy is looking for his forever home!

Gravy is a labrador retriever and a sweet happy boy. Gravy came in as a stray and is believed to be 3-8 years old. Gravy patiently awaits a loving family to whisk him away! His favorite thing to do is receive lots of pets and affection and be super close with his people. 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

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The Office Shipping & Mailboxes

The Golf Club at Fernley

Fernley City Hall Clerk's Office

The Corner Niche

Fernley Swimming Pool

State Farm – Dan Glass Agency

REMAX at the Golf Course